

## THE TRIAL OF GARDEN PEAS AT CHISWICK IN 1872.



THE great trial of garden peas, comprising 113 varieties, which was instituted last year in the Gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, at Chiswick, proved unusually successful; and we now propose offering a few remarks on those varieties which appear to be most worthy of general cultivation. We need hardly say that nothing like the number of varieties tested at Chiswick is required even in the largest-sized garden; but in gardens of a size sufficient to admit of a succession of peas being maintained throughout the season, several varieties must of necessity be cultivated. The peas which form the Chiswick trial, and our own trials in the experimental garden at Stoke Newington, are included in the subjoined selection, which, it is desirable to state, contains the names of a few varieties which are new, and now in course of distribution for the first time, at a comparatively high price, and also some which are not yet in commerce. The new varieties mentioned are all of considerable excellence, quite distinct, and superior to others of the same class. They are arranged in seven groups, according to their respective characters. The seed of all the varieties was sown February 23, and the date given at the end of the description indicates the period of their being fit for use. Such as are not in commerce are distinguished by an asterisk.

No. 1.—FRAME PEAS.—Ripe seed white, almost round, small, smooth, and occasionally pitted; foliage pale green, not blotched.

*Dillistone's Early* (3 feet).—Carter's First Crop and Sutton's Ringleader represent true stocks of this pea, which is the earliest in cultivation. June 9.

*Sangster's No. 1* (4 feet).—This is three days later than the preceding, of a similar character, but more productive. June 12.

*Early Ringwood* (3 feet).—A productive second early pea, of good quality. June 17.

*Bishop's Long-podded Dwarf* (2½ feet).—A heavy-cropping second early pea, of good quality. June 24.

*Nabob*,\* *Laxton's* (20 inches).—A dwarf productive variety, requiring no stakes. This is the most handsome and largest pea of its class, and exceedingly valuable. June 24. New.

No. 2.—MARROW PEAS.—Ripe seed white, large, smooth, uneven, compressed, irregular; skin thick; foliage blotched.

*Paradise Marrow* (5 to 6 feet).—An early and productive marrow pea of great excellence; and where peas of this class are preferred should be grown to succeed Sangster's No. 1. June 24.

*Princess Royal* (4 feet).—A heavy-cropping pea, of good quality, producing large handsome pods. June 25.

No. 3.—GREEN MARROWS.—Ripe seed of a mixed white and olive colour, either small, round, and pitted, or large, irregular, and uneven; foliage dark green, and blotched; pods dark bluish green and glaucous.

*William the First* (4½ feet to 5 feet).—A desirable and productive

variety, producing long, handsome, curved, and well-filled pods. This is the earliest green marrow pea, being fit for use June 14, and therefore only two days later than Sangster's No. 1. It was awarded a first-class certificate.

*Unique*\* (15 inches).—A valuable dwarf variety, in the way of Tom Thumb and Little Gem. The pods are large and well filled, and the peas are of the most excellent flavour and colour. A valuable addition to the list of varieties which require no stakes; and it was awarded a first-class certificate. June 19. New.

*Prizetaker* ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet).—A productive and desirable variety. The pods are large and well filled, and the colour and flavour of the peas are exceedingly good. One of the best of the class in cultivation. June 23.

*Lawton's Supreme* (5 to 8 feet).—A very large and handsome podded pea, quite second-rate in flavour, and not desirable, excepting for exhibition purposes.

No. 4.—PRUSSIAN PEAS.—Ripe seed, small, almost round and smooth; skin blue; foliage dark green, and blotched.

*Harbinger*\* ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet).—Similar in habit to Dillistone's, and fairly productive; the pods are rather small, but exceedingly well filled with peas, which when cooked are of fine flavour and colour. This is the earliest pea in cultivation, coming into use three days before Dillistone's Early, and six days before Sangster's No. 1. It was awarded a first-class certificate for its earliness. June 6. New.

*East's Kentish Invicta* (3 feet).—This is the same in every respect as the preceding, excepting that it is seven days later. It can be heartily recommended for its good qualities as an early pea, especially as it is now procurable at the ordinary price.

*Blue Peter* (18 inches).—This may be considered a fine productive and large podded form of Tom Thumb, with round blue seed. It is a valuable addition to the list of peas requiring no sticks. A first-class certificate has been awarded to it. June 18. New.

*Filbasket*\* (3 feet).—Robust, vigorous, and productive. The pods are very long, curved, well filled, and handsome, and the peas are of a fine green colour. It was awarded a first-class certificate for the prolific character of the plant and handsome appearance of the pods. June 26. New.

*Flack's Imperial* (3 feet).—A well known, useful, and productive pea, quite superseding Bedman's Imperial, June 25.

*Supplanter*\* (3 feet).—A very robust and productive pea; the pods are large and well filled with large peas of a deep green colour. A certificate was conferred upon it for its handsome appearance and prolific character. July 1. New.

No. 5.—WRINKLED WHITE MARROWS.—Ripe seed, white, compressed, and wrinkled. Foliage most frequently dark green and much blotched, but occasionally light green, or not at all blotched.

*Nutting's No. 1.* (2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet).—Vigorous and branching in growth, very productive, the pods being borne almost close to the ground; peas rather large and very sweet and excellent in flavour. June 18.

*Wonderful* (3 feet).—A first-class variety, with large well-filled pods; the peas are large, pale green, and most excellent in flavour; a desirable variety. June 26.



*McLean's Prolific* (3 feet).—This resembles the preceding in its general characters, but having larger pods. The latter are broad, slightly curved, and contain six or seven peas each, which are of most excellent flavour. June 28.

*British Queen* (6 feet).—A well-known pea of the most prolific character and finest flavour; in mild seasons it will continue in bearing until quite late in the autumn. It is known under a host of other names, and is undoubtedly one of the best late varieties. June 30.

*The Prince* (3 feet).—A capital variety, of a robust branching habit. The pods are about the same size as Veitch's Perfection, and it may be considered an exceedingly fine form of that pea, and when it can be obtained true is superior to it. Not unfrequently both varieties are supplied from the same bag. June 30.

*McLean's Premier* (3 feet).—An excellent pea, producing large and handsome pods, containing from six to seven large fine peas of fine colour and excellent flavour. It is rather earlier and less tender than Veitch's Perfection.

*James's Prolific* (3 feet).—Robust and branching, with long succulent stems, producing a profusion of very large, handsome, well-filled pods. The pods contain from six to eight peas of a pale green colour and rich sugary flavour. One of the finest peas that has been introduced for some years. It was raised by Mr. James, of Isleworth, and will undoubtedly be grown exclusively for main crops in many gardens as soon as it is plentiful enough. A first-class certificate was awarded it for its general good qualities. Sown March 1, it was fit for use July 14. New.

No. 6.—WRINKLED GREEN MARROWS.—Ripe seed, mixed white and olive. Foliage dark green, and blotched pods dark dull green; very glaucous.

*Dr. Hogg\** (3½ feet).—This resembles Sangster's No. 1 in habit, and produces, rather freely, long and narrow well-filled pods. The peas are of a fine flavour, and bright green colour. It is the earliest green wrinkled marrow, being only four days later than Dillistone's Early. June 16. New.

*Ne Plus Ultra* (6 feet).—A first-class tall pea for late main crop, that can be highly recommended for productiveness and excellent quality. June 29.

*Omega* (3 feet).—A fine, erect, robust-growing variety, of the most productive character; the pods are large, nearly straight, and very closely filled. The peas average eight in a pod, are very large, of a deep green colour, and most excellent flavour. It stands the dry weather well, and is quite first-rate. It was awarded a first-class certificate. June 30. New.

No. 7.—WRINKLED BLUE MARROWS.—Ripe seed, blue and wrinkled. Foliage dark green and much blotched.

*Alpha* (3 feet).—A very early and excellent wrinkled marrow, coming into use two days later than Sangster's No. 1. June 14.

*Little Gem* (15 inches).—One of the very best of the dwarf varieties, requiring no stakes. It is moderately productive, and of excellent quality. June 16.

*Popular* (6½ feet).—Excellent tall-growing pea for general crops.

*Champion of England* (5 feet).—A tall-growing variety, well known for its productiveness and excellent quality. The best stock of this pea is sold under the name of "Huntingdonian."

*G. F. Wilson* (4 feet).—This resembles Veitch's Perfection in appearance, and produces very large pods of a light green colour. The peas are large, closely packed together, and of the finest colour and flavour. Awarded a first-class certificate. June 27. New.

*Tall Green Mammoth* (7 feet).—A good variety, but too tall for small gardens. July 1.

*Veitch's Perfection* (3 feet).—This is undoubtedly a good pea, but is not required where the Prince is grown.

### THE CLEMATIS AS A BEDDING PLANT.



HAVE no doubt the Clematis is known to every one of the readers of the FLORAL WORLD as one of our most showy and hardiest of out-door creepers, and yet I expect very few have seen them grown in their most uncommon but handsomest style, and that is as bedding plants. For this purpose, I can confidently say, there are no plants that will remain out-of-doors all the year round to equal them (or, indeed, even put out in summer). We have none for mass bedding of which the blooms can come near in size to the Clematis. I had been told what an excellent plant it was for this purpose, but had no idea of the effect until I saw it myself this summer, and think for large beds on lawns nothing can be handsomer.

The most or indeed, I think, nearly all the beds I saw were of one colour, and this was the only fault I could find with them, as in the very large beds I thought the masses of blue and purple looked too heavy, but in the small circles I should most decidedly prefer each bed to be filled with one distinct colour. I shall fill some large beds of mixed colours myself this season, that I have been in the habit of filling with verbenas. Where there is a large amount of summer bedding done, such plants as the above are quite a boon, as they remain out all the winter, and at this season every one knows how valuable every inch of spare room under glass is, and of course it leaves one the room free that would otherwise be occupied with plants for summer bedding. For those who have no glass they would be quite as acceptable, also for growing wild on rock-work, covering walls, or dead stumps of trees in the shrubbery, or as a creeper of any kind they are very handsome; but, above all, I prefer them when employed as bedding plants, pegged down. I am sure for a basket-shaped bed that one sometimes sees in gardens the wire-work covered with one colour and the bed filled with another, would look very effective. For those who do spring bedding, they can plant their bulbs through them, as the Clematis will not in any way interfere with them. One of the best for bedding is *Clematis Jackmanni*, which bears dark bluish purple flowers.

*Upper Norwood.*

A. H.