

# THE POWER OF THOUGHT

Flowers and Shrubs  
Their Care and Cultivation



Cypripedium Lesanum.

## ORCHIDS IN THE HOUSE

By FRANK H. SWEET  
During the winter months in the greenhouse I find no plants so interesting as the orchids. Each succeeding season is making this exquisite, fantastic plant more popular with commercial florists and private collectors who have greenhouses of their own.

The increasing demand for the cut flowers and the fact that, in spite of popular belief, orchids are easily grown and very little trouble, are sufficient inducements for many enterprising growers to include them among their plants.

But as yet the ordinary house grower has been unable to overcome her fear of these beautiful, curious productions of nature. To her they are something extremely delicate and fragile—something that an ordinary draft of air will shrivel and destroy. She looks at them longingly on her rare visits to the neighboring greenhouse, but shudders her head when approached by the subject of purchasing.

They are too tender, she declares, with conclusive regret in her voice. They would be out of place among her window collection of sturdy carnations and begonias and callas and geraniums, and rarely do the persuasive arguments of the florist weaken her deep-rooted belief.

However, there is now and then one who yields to the fascination of an exquisite dendrobium or odontoglossum, and bears the treasure home with the shrinking conviction that it will live under her care but a few days.

Still even for those few days of possession she is willing to pay the purchase money, and she places the orchid among her plants and glazes it with the joy of an ignorant connoisseur—if the term may be used.

And it goes without saying that having once begun she will not cease until she discontinues growing plants. But the days and weeks and the months go by, and the beautiful, fantastic foreigner shows no disposition to die, or even to languish.

Long spikes of beautiful flowers, wonderful ferns, creep down among the geranium leaves, and other spices rest carelessly against the rich green of the callas. Indeed so long as it is plentifully supplied with water the little stranger is apparently well satisfied with the surroundings.

It fills the room with fragrance, and its curious, white, finger and toe-like roots cling tightly to the small boards that hang suspended above the other plants.

But not all orchids are so complaisant. Many will not thrive outside of greenhouses, and many others would best be left alone, even by florists.

However, among the hundreds of varieties, there are plenty that will accommodate themselves to their surroundings. I have had orchids that were far less trouble than ordinary bedding plants, and whose flowers were especially beautiful and fragrant.

The great secret of their cultivation is the resting. Many species that are considered hard to grow and flower, suffer much from too frequent watering when they should be left entirely alone in a cool temperature.

During the winter a single watering of plants is sufficient, and during the hot months fresh water evaporated several times a day makes a much better moisture than that of stagnant water.

As a rule, orchids do better when suspended, and apple wood with very little or no moss at all is preferred by the majority of growers. Often stumps, some of them one and a half feet long, hang in bunches far

# The Power of Thought

By H. M. EGBERT

(Copyright, 1914, by W. G. Chapman.)  
Dr. J. J. Dyce looked down on the unconscious man lying on the bed. The man had passed to flutter and to his delirium, and now lay in that stupor which is itself the crisis. In eight hours he would be dead or on the road to recovery.

Beside the doctor stood the white-capped nurse, almost as silent and still as the figure of death on the bed and pillows. The mental crisis through which the two watchers were painfully struggling was almost as acute as the physical crisis of the typhoid victim.

It was not a severe case, but the man's system, weakened by years of debauchery and months of poverty, seemed unable to fight against the attack.

Doctor Dyce beckoned the nurse outside the room. They stood face to face together. There was on the doctor's look a look of grave inquiry.

"That is the man who was your husband's friend, is it not?"  
"Who is, she answered."  
"And you refused to marry me because of him?"

"You say, Charles, she answered, in low, passionate protest, 'It is because he is what he is that I know my life is toward him. He recognized my poverty, and he loved me. I cannot desert him, in spite of all.'"

"You love him," sneered Dyce, and then suddenly caught her in his arms. "Molly," he whispered, "you are never going to ruin our two lives for that man's sake, are you?"

She let him kiss her, but she withdrew from his arms and stood still facing him, still pale and expressionless.

"I cannot do wrong toward him, much as I love you," she replied. "If—oh, Charles, it would be a mercy for all of us, and none would be better off than he if he were to die."  
The doctor, who seemed to be restraining himself by a mighty effort of his will, became the professional man again.

"We will try atropin," he said. "I believe it will give him his fighting chance. I shall mix the prescription myself. It is dangerous, but it is a case where heroic measures are needed."

"Yes, doctor. At what time should it be given?"  
"In four hours, when the crisis is imminent. When do you go off duty?"  
"When the crisis is over."  
"Yes, doctor Dyce," she answered in a mechanical manner.

Doctor Dyce ate his supper in his office. He made his rounds of the patients, and, in the meantime, his mind was working, adjusting, while his hand was busy with his pen. At last he stood alone before his medicine chest, where the deadliest drugs were kept, dispensed only under his supervision.

He had mixed the medicine before his mind was made up. He remembered the words of the doctor who was in the same ward that he was working in, and he felt that his brain, cool and singularly clear, seemed animated by an infernal will.

Slowly he examined the bottle, labeled macinate and set it upon the table side by side with the atropin.

He had mixed the medicine before his mind was made up. He remembered the words of the doctor who was in the same ward that he was working in, and he felt that his brain, cool and singularly clear, seemed animated by an infernal will.

He looked down at the face of the unconscious man. There was a light up at the door. Dyce sprang to his feet and opened it. Before him stood the nurse.

"Come at once," she whispered, "something is happening to him, doctor."  
"He hurried up the stairs and into the room. A single glance showed him that the man was dying. The doctor had come and passed. There was hardly a flicker of life. At that instant, Dyce was afraid more than 300 times in his life. He was afraid that the living man would open his eyes

# THREE PRIME ESSENTIALS IN HOG RAISING

These are three essentials for health, thrift, and gain to be considered in the management of hogs. They are clean food, pure water, and dry, comfortable sleeping places.

The food of the pig should be as clean as for any other farm animal—contaminated with any substance that contains no food value. Dirt and filth taken into the stomach along with the food, also affect the appetite and general health of the pig.

It is a law of nature that the excrement of all animals is poisonous to themselves, and white pigs are particularly so. This means that pigs should never be fed on the ground in a yard or pen where their own excrement abounds.

Brooders should prize above all others those big, sturdy, long-bodied, rather loosely made young sows, no matter if they have big ears and rather coarse heads.

It does not require great ability in figures to show that there is a great deal to be gained in selling hogs when they are only half fed out.

As a general proposition the pig of 200 to 250 pounds in weight every year or so should aim at, and it is the pig that pays both killer and feeder better than any other.

USE OF SPRAY FOR PROTECTING STOCK  
Files Are Very Troublesome to Farm Animals, Especially Nervous Dairy Stock.

At this season flies are very troublesome and are a source of much bother among stock, especially the nervous dairy cattle. A preventive in the United States is not available.

GOOD METHODS OF PRESERVING EGGS  
Solution Recommended Is One Part Water Glass to Ten Parts of Pure Water.

These are several good methods of preserving eggs but the water glass method is best. Water glass can usually be purchased at a local drug store for less than \$1 a gallon.

ROUGHAGE IS NOT RELISHED BY HOGS  
Doubtful Whether Animals Will Consume More Than Grain and the Sotter Parts.

The digestive apparatus of the hog does not permit it to consume large quantities of roughage. Corn and silage do not as a rule prove a very satisfactory feed.

ONE REMEDY RECOMMENDED IS TO OIL TEA FREELY TO SOFTEN SKIN, THEN USE CREAM.

Some cures are naturally hard to milk; others are made hard by weak-handed milking. A woman or child who reads too long on becoming for milking causes a cow to become hard for anyone to milk.

Don't Lay Many Eggs  
Yearling and two-year-old hens do not lay many eggs in the fall, as they are molting at that time.

Sound Stable Floors  
To make the stable floors sound and solid costs far less than to let a horse go through and perhaps break a leg or become lame.

Lamb's of High Type  
The first cross of a good, high-class ram on a native inferior lot of ewes, will bring lambs of much higher type.

Reliable Cow Test  
Signs often fall in the selection of a cow, but the scales are the Babcock test can always be relied upon.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford, a New Rare White Orchid.