

edges, which remained constant for years, and bore flowers of a deeper red than usual. Generally speaking, such branches present little or no difference in their flowers: thus a writer²⁴ pinched off the leading shoot of a seedling *P. zonale*, and it threw out three branches, which differed in the size and colour of their leaves and stems; but on all three branches "the flowers were identical," except in being largest in the green-stemmed variety, and smallest in that with variegated foliage: these three varieties were subsequently propagated and distributed. Many branches, and some whole plants, of a variety called *compactum*, which bears orange-scarlet flowers, have been seen to produce pink flowers.²⁵ Hill's Hector, which is a pale red variety, produced a branch with lilac flowers, and some trusses with both red and lilac flowers. This apparently is a case of reversion, for Hill's Hector was a seedling from a lilac variety.²⁶ Here is a better case of reversion: a variety produced from a complicated cross, after having been propagated for five generations by seed, yielded by bud-variation three very distinct varieties which were undistinguishable from plants, "known to have been at some time ancestors of the plant in question."²⁷ Of all Pelargoniums, Rollisson's Unique seems to be the most sportive; its origin is not positively known, but is believed to be from a cross. Mr. Salter, of Hammersmith, states²⁸ that he has himself known this purple variety to produce the lilac, the rose-crimson or *conspicuum*, and the red or *coccineum* varieties; the latter has also produced the *rose d'amour*; so that altogether four varieties have originated by bud variation from Rollisson's Unique. Mr. Salter remarks that these four varieties "may now be considered as fixed, although they occasionally produce flowers of the original colour. This year *coccineum* has pushed flowers of three different colours, red, rose, and lilac, upon the same truss, and upon other trusses are flowers half red and half lilac." Besides these four varieties, two other scarlet Uniques are known to exist, both of which occasionally produce lilac flowers identical with Rollisson's Unique; ²⁹ but one at least of these did not arise through bud-variation, but is believed to be a seedling from Rollisson's Unique."³⁰ There are, also, in the trade³¹ two other slightly different varieties, of unknown origin, of Rollisson's Unique: so that altogether we have a curiously complex case of variation both by buds and seeds.³² Here is a still more complex case: M. Rafarin

²⁴ 'Journal of Horticulture,' 1861, p. 336.

²⁵ W. P. Ayres, in 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1842, p. 791.

²⁶ W. P. Ayres, *ibid.*

²⁷ Dr. Maxwell Masters, 'Pop. Science Review,' July, 1872, p. 250.

²⁸ 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1861, p. 968.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, 1861, p. 945.

³⁰ W. Paul, in 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1861, p. 968.

³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 945.

³² For other cases of bud-variation in this same variety, see 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1861, pp. 578, 600, 925. For other distinct cases of bud-variation in the genus Pelargonium, see 'Cottage Gardener,' 1860, p. 194.