

kind was propagated in the usual manner by eyes, and kept true to its new colour, and, being found a more productive variety, soon became widely known under the name of *Taylor's Forty-fold*.⁷⁴ The old *Forty-fold potato*, as already stated, is a purple variety; but a plant long cultivated on the same ground produced, not, as in the case above given, a single white eye, but a whole white tuber, which has since been propagated and keeps true.⁷⁵ Several cases have been recorded of large portions of whole rows of potatoes slightly changing their character.⁷⁶

Dahlias propagated by tubers under the hot climate of St. Domingo vary much; Sir R. Schomburgk gives the case of the "Butterfly variety," which the second year produced on the same plant "double and single flowers; here white petals edged with maroon; there of a uniform deep maroon."⁷⁷ Mr. Bree also mentions a plant "which bore two different kinds of self-coloured flowers, as well as a third kind which partook of both colours beautifully intermixed."⁷⁸ Another case is described of a dahlia with purple flowers which bore a white flower streaked with purple.⁷⁹

Considering how long and extensively many Bulbous plants have been cultivated, and how numerous are the varieties produced from seed, these plants have not perhaps varied so much by offsets,—that is, by the production of new bulbs,—as might have been expected. With the Hyacinth, however, several instances have been given by M. Carrière. A case also has been recorded of a blue variety which for three successive years gave offsets producing white flowers with a red centre.⁸⁰ Another hyacinth bore⁸¹ on the same truss a perfectly pink and a perfectly blue flower. I have seen a bulb producing at the same time one stalk or truss with fine blue flowers, another with fine red flowers, and a third with blue flowers on one side and red on the other; several of the flowers being also longitudinally striped red and blue.

Mr. John Scott informs me that in 1862 *Imatophyllum miniatum*, in the Botanic Gardens of Edinburgh, threw up a sucker which differed from the normal form, in the leaves being two-ranked instead of four-ranked. The leaves were also smaller, with the upper surface raised instead of being channelled.

In the propagation of *Tulips*, seedlings are raised, called *sels* or *breeders*, which, "consist of one plain colour on a white or yellow bottom. These, being cultivated on a dry and rather poor soil, become broken or variegated and produce new varieties. The time that elapses before they break varies from one to twenty

⁷⁴ 'Gard. Chron.,' 1841, p. 814.

⁷⁵ Ibid., 1857, p. 613.

⁷⁶ Ibid., 1857, p. 679. See also Philips, 'Hist. of Vegetables,' vol. ii. p. 91, for other and similar accounts.

⁷⁷ 'Journal of Proc. Linn. Soc.,' vol. ii. Botany, p. 132.

⁷⁸ Loudon's 'Gard. Mag.,' vol. viii., 1832, p. 94.

⁷⁹ 'Gard. Chron.,' 1850, p. 536; and 1842, p. 729.

⁸⁰ 'Des Jacinthes,' &c., Amsterdam, 1768, p. 122.

⁸¹ 'Gard. Chron.,' 1845, p. 212.