

TULIP SHOWS.

WE have this year had the privilege of assisting at two of the principal Tulip Shows of Lancashire and Yorkshire, namely, that of the Royal National Tulip Society held in the Botanical Gardens at Manchester on May 27th, and that of the Wakefield Amateur Tulip Society, held at the Brunswick Hotel, Wakefield—the forty-seventh annual show—on May 29th. The sight was one of much interest beyond that arising from the intrinsic beauty of the flowers. How little, comparatively, of the enthusiasm which seems to mark the northern florist, is met with in the south. Doubtless the very necessity of fighting with the elements on behalf of his floral pets which the northern man experiences, deepens his love and regard for them, and leads to all those gentle and genial attentions by which he deserves and usually secures success. We were particularly struck with this on being warmly welcomed to see the garden of Mr. G. Gill at Wakefield, where we found two long and crowded tulip beds in all their glory, the plants vigorous, and the blossoms as thick as buttercups in a meadow, forming a most enchanting and attractive picture. But over and beyond all this was to be noted the arrangement which witnessed a loving regard for the flowers—a love which we

understood had endured through at least four succeeding generations. Mr. Gill is by trade a shoemaker; at one corner of his garden plot—not a very large one—stands his cottage, and at the other an apartment in which his trade is carried on. Over against the window of this one-story workshop are the two principal beds of the magnificently grown tulips above referred to, and through this opening Mr. Gill, while pursuing his daily occupation, can feast his eyes on the beauty of his flowers, the long vista formed by the path between the two beds being exactly opposite to it. No doubt the progress of the plants, from their first appearance above ground till the consummation of their glorious inflorescence, is closely watched, while sole and upper are being welted together, and no doubt a rich reward of satisfaction is thus day by day secured, while the necessary sweat of the brow is securing the daily bread. What source of satisfaction could possibly be purer and more ennobling? How could labour be sweetened by more ravishing and dainty delight?

Turning to the Exhibitions above referred to, we must note that the Royal National Society's Show was not equal to that of last year, owing to uncongenial climatic conditions. The great change of temperature which took place during

the spring months did much damage to the flowers in many instances, the warm weather of February and March exciting the bulbs into growth, which was afterwards arrested by the succeeding cold, which checked the natural development of the flowers, and led to crumpled petals and imperfect markings, the latter being more especially noticeable in the case of feathered flowers when the colouring is laid on at the edges. Moreover, the Lancashire beds had, in many cases, suffered from the "tulip disease"—an insidious evil, which seems to prevent the protrusion of roots from the bulbs, while the leaf and stem pushes forth as usual at the first, and then dies away long before the flowering period is reached. Notwithstanding these drawbacks the show was very fairly filled, and had the advantage over previous years in one respect, namely, that the flowers (except in the pans) were set up in dark-coloured bottles, uniform in pattern, having a thin neck to receive the flower stalk, and a broad flat base to ensure their standing firmly on the tables.

The Yorkshire florists, judging by the appearance of their flowers and by the free and healthy growth observed at Wakefield in Mr. Gill's bed above referred to, and in that of Mr. R. Sharpley, which was equally fine, had not suffered materially either from the cold of spring or from the disease, and hence the exceedingly gay appearance presented by their beds and the well-filled tables of the exhibition room. For the same reason, doubtless, the Wakefield flowers were of larger size than many of those staged at Manchester.

ROYAL NATIONAL TULIP SOCIETY.

RECTIFIED TULIPS.

Class I. 12 dissimilar, 2 feathered and 2 flamed of each class.—1st, Mr. Samuel Barlow, Stakehill House, Castleton, with a stand containing some flowers of excellent quality, notwithstanding the ungenial spring, including Heroine, feathered rose; Adonis, flamed byblöemen; Sir Joseph Paxton, flamed bizarre; David Jackson, feathered byblöemen; Dr. Hardy, flamed bizarre; Annie McGregor, flamed rose; and Talisman, flamed byblöemen—a fine bloom, but too densely coloured; the other flowers were Garibaldi, Ashmole, Friar Tuck, Mabel, and Modesty. 2nd, Mr. D. Woolley, Stockport, whose best flowers were Madame St. Arnaud, feathered rose, very fine; Mabel, feathered rose; Sir J. Paxton, feathered bizarre; Sovereign, feathered bizarre; and Dr. Hardy, flamed bizarre; the others being too small. 3rd, Mr. H. Travis, Royton. 4th, Mr. R. Sharpley, Wakefield.

Class II. 6 dissimilar, 1 feathered and 1 flamed of each class.—1st, Mr. John Parkinson, Derby, whose best flowers were Sir J. Paxton, feathered bizarre, very fine; Charmer, feathered rose; Talisman, flamed byblöemen; Dr. Hardy, flamed bizarre. 2nd, Mr. Samuel Barlow, who had a magnificent Talisman, flamed byblöemen; Storer's No. 4, feathered bizarre; Mrs. Jackson, feathered byblöemen, with a very rich black feathering on a pure white ground. 3rd, Mr. H. Travis, who had good blooms of Masterpiece, feathered bizarre; and Mabel, flamed rose.

4th, Mr. R. Sharpley. 5th, Mr. J. Thurstan, Wolverhampton. 6th, Mr. D. Woolley. 7th, Mr. J. Wood, Royton.

Class III. 6 dissimilar, 1 feathered and 1 flamed of each class (for 10s. 6d. subs. only).—1st, Mr. H. Housley, Stockport, with Royal Sovereign, feathered bizarre; Madame St. Arnaud, flamed rose; Heroine, feathered rose; Sir J. Paxton, flamed bizarre; Duchess of Sutherland, flamed byblöemen; and Violet Aimable, feathered byblöemen. 2nd, Mr. E. H. Schofield, who staged a very fine Masterpiece, feathered bizarre.

Class IV. 3 feathered, 1 of each class.—1st, Mr. H. Housley, who staged Royal Sovereign, bizarre; Mabel, rose; and Mrs. Pickerell, byblöemen. 2nd, Mr. Thomas Parkinson, with Adonis, byblöemen; Heroine, rose; and Royal Sovereign, bizarre. 3rd, Mr. E. H. Schofield. 4th, Mr. H. Travis. 5th, Mr. D. Woolley. 6th, Mr. S. Barlow.

Class V. 3 flamed, 1 of each class.—1st, Mr. D. Woolley, who showed Triomphe Royale, rose; Sir J. Paxton, bizarre; and Princess Royal, byblöemen. 2nd, Mr. J. Thurstan, with a very fine Sir J. Paxton, bizarre; Lady Constance Gordon, rose; and Duchess of Sutherland, byblöemen. 3rd, Mr. H. Housley. 4th, Mr. J. Martlew. 5th, Mr. S. Barlow. 6th, Mr. E. H. Schofield.

Class VI. 2, 1 feathered and 1 flamed of any class (for maiden growers only). No competition.

Class VII. 2, 1 feathered and 1 flamed of any class.—1st, Mr. H. Housley. 2nd, Mr. T. Parkinson. 3rd, Mr. J. Martlew. 4th, Mr. H. Travis. 5th, Mr. T. Baker Leigh. 6th, Mr. E. H. Schofield.

Class VIII. Single Blooms: Feathered Bizarres.—1st, Mr. T. Parkinson, with an unknown variety. 2nd and 9th, Mr. T. Parkinson. 3rd, Mr. R. Sharpley. 4th, Mr. T. Anson. 5th, 7th, 8th, and 13th, Mr. J. Morris, Bedford Leigh. 6th, Mr. B. Simonite, Sheffield.

Feathered Roses.—1st, Mr. T. Parkinson, with Charmer. 2nd, Mr. B. Simonite. 3rd, Mr. H. Travis. 4th, Mr. D. Woolley. 5th, Mr. E. H. Schofield. 6th, Mr. H. Housley. 7th, Mr. E. Woolley. 8th, Mr. J. Morris. 9th, Mr. J. Martlew.

Feathered Byblöemens.—1st, Mr. T. Parkinson, with Mrs. Pickerell. 2nd, 4th, and 6th, Mr. H. Housley. 3rd, Mr. J. Morris. 5th, Mr. T. Barker. 7th, Mr. T. Parkinson. 8th, Mr. H. Travis. 9th, Mr. E. H. Schofield.

Flamed Bizarres.—1st, Mr. H. Housley, with Sir Joseph Paxton. 2nd, Mr. T. Parkinson. 3rd, Mr. J. Martlew. 4th, Mr. S. Barlow. 5th, Mr. E. H. Schofield. 6th, Mr. D. Woolley. 7th, Mr. E. H. Schofield. 8th, Mr. S. Barlow. 9th, Mr. H. Travis. 10th, Mr. S. Barlow.

Flamed Roses.—1st, Mr. J. Thurstan, with Mabel. 2nd, Mr. S. Barlow. 3rd and 4th, Mr. D. Woolley. 5th, Mr. H. Travis. 6th and 7th, Mr. S. Barlow. 8th, Mr. T. Anson. 9th and 10th, Mr. J. H. Wood.

Flamed Byblöemens.—1st, Mr. D. Woolley, with Lord Denman. 2nd, Mr. D. Woolley. 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th, Mr. S. Barlow. 9th, Mr. D. Woolley. 10th, Mr. J. Hague, Stockport.

Class IX. Best Feathered in the show.—Mr. H. Housley, with Royal Sovereign; it was, however, run hard by Mr. R. Sharpley's Lord Lilford. *Best Flamed.*—Mr. T. Parkinson, with Sir Joseph Paxton.

BREEDER TULIPS.

Class X. 6 dissimilar, 2 of each class.—These always form an attractive class, on account of their rich self colours. 1st, Mr. S. Barlow, with excellent flowers of Excelsior and Sir J. Paxton, bizarres; Martin's 117 and Seedling, byblöemens; Lucretia and Lady Grosvenor, roses. 2nd, Mr. J. H. Wood, with Sulphur and Sir J. Paxton, bizarres; Industry and Mabel, roses; Alice Gray and Surpass le Grand, byblöemens. 3rd, Mr. B. Simonite, with five good Seedlings, and Mrs. Barlow, rose. 4th, Mr. R.

Sharpley. 5th, Mr. J. Thurstan. 6th, Mr. J. Morris.

Class XI. 3 dissimilar, 1 of each class.—1st, Mr. B. Simonite, who staged some pretty Seedlings of good promise. 2nd, Mr. H. Housley. 3rd, Mr. S. Barlow. 4th, Mr. J. H. Wood. 5th, Mr. D. Woolley. 6th, Mr. R. Sharpley. 7th, Mr. E. H. Schofield. 8th, Mr. J. Thurstan.

Class XII. Single Blooms: Bizarres.—1st, Mr. J. H. Wood, with Sir J. Paxton. 2nd, 3rd, and 8th, Mr. R. Sharpley. 4th, Mr. D. Woolley. 5th and 6th, Mr. H. Travis. 7th, Mr. S. Barlow. *Roses.*—1st, Mr. H. Housley, with Lord Derby; 2nd and 3rd, Mr. Housley. 4th, Mr. J. H. Wood. 5th, Mr. S. Barlow. 6th, Mr. J. Martlew. 7th and 8th, Mr. E. H. Schofield. *Byblæmens.*—1st, Mr. Housley, with Philip I. 2nd, 5th, 6th, and 8th, Mr. S. Barlow. 3rd, 4th, and 7th, Mr. E. H. Schofield.

Class XIII. Best Breeder in the show.—Mr. J. H. Wood, with Sir Joseph Paxton.

Mr. Barlow again won the Cup, as the most successful exhibitor at the show.

WAKEFIELD AMATEUR TULIP SOCIETY.

This, as we have already remarked, was a most successful exhibition, and evidently excited considerable local interest. The prize list was as follows:—

RECTIFIED TULIPS.

Pan of 6 blooms.—1st, Mr. T. Gill, Crigglestone, with Majestic, Lord Denman, Wallis, Sir J. Paxton, Industry, and Lady Catherine Gordon. 2nd, Mr. G. Gill, Eastmoor, with Sir J. Paxton, Lady Lilford, Lady Denman, Maid of Orleans, Minerva, and Aglaia. 3rd, Mr. R. Sharpley, Silver Street, with Lord Lilford, Sir J. Paxton, Adonis, Lord Raglan, Mrs. Lea, and Fanny. 4th, Mr. C. Gill, Crigglestone, with Napoleon, Sir J. Paxton, Bessy, Lord Denman, Lady Denman, and Aglaia. 5th, Mr. T. Spurr, Vicarage Street, with John Brook (2), Vicar of Radford, Aglaia, Mrs. Gill, and Maid of Orleans. 6th, Mr. J. Hardwick, Eastmoor, with Lord Lilford, Sir J. Paxton, Seedling, Lord Denman, Industry, and Aglaia. 7th, Mr. J. Netherwood, Warrengate, with Vicar of Radford, Mrs. Barlow, Lord Lilford, Sir J. Paxton, and Sylvesta (2). 8th, Mr. G. Lumb, Kirkgate, with Masterpiece, Duke of Hamilton, George Hardwick, Vicar of Radford (2), and Aglaia. 9th, Mr. J. Steel, Eastmoor, with Lord Lilford, Vicar of Radford, Grace Darling, John Brook, Triumph Royal, and Lord Denman. 10th, Mr. E. Lister, Warrengate, with Willison's Queen, Heroine, Lord Lilford, Seedling, Sarah Headly, and Sir Joseph Paxton.

Single Blooms: Flamed Bizarre.—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Sir Joseph Paxton. 2nd, with Mrs. Thornes. 3rd and 4th, Mr. C. Gill, with Sir Joseph Paxton. 5th, Mr. G. Lumb, with Sir J. Paxton. 6th and 7th, Mr. G. Gill, with Sir J. Paxton. 8th, Mr. T. Gill, with John Brook. *Flamed Byblæmens.*—1st and 2nd, Mr. T. Gill, with Lord Denman. 3rd, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Mrs. Jackson. 4th, Mr. T. Spurr, with Lord Denman. 5th, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Adonis. 6th, Mr. C. Gill, with Lord Denman. 7th, Mr. G. Gill, with Lord Denman, and 8th, with Mrs. Gill. *Flamed Rose.*—1st, Mr. J. Hardwick, with Mrs. Lea. 2nd and 3rd, Mr. T. Gill, with Aglaia. 4th, Mr. J. Netherwood, with Aglaia. 5th, Mr. G. Gill, with Vicar of Radford, and 6th with Aglaia. 7th, Mr. T. Spurr, with Aglaia. 8th, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Aglaia. *Feathered Bizarre.*—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Lord Lilford. 2nd, Mr. T. Gill, with Masterpiece. 3rd, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with George Hayward. 4th, Mr. C. Gill, with Masterpiece. 5th, Mr. T. Spurr, with Charles

the Tenth. 6th, Mr. T. Gill, with Sir J. Paxton. 7th, Mr. G. Gill, with Criterion, and 8th with Lord Lilford. *Feathered Byblæmens.*—1st, Mr. C. Gill, with Lady Denman. 2nd, Mr. T. Gill, with Lady Denman. 3rd, Mr. C. Gill, with Lady Denman. 4th, Mr. T. Gill, with Mrs. Gill. 5th, Mr. G. Gill, with Mrs. Gill. 6th, Mr. G. Gill, with Maid of Orleans. 7th, Mr. C. Lister, with Lady Denman. 8th, Mr. T. Spurr, with Lady Denman. *Feathered Roses.*—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Industry. 2nd, A Friend, with Agnes Mellor. 3rd, Mr. G. Gill, with Heroine. 4th, Mr. G. Lumb, with Industry. 5th, Mr. G. Gill, with Heroine. 6th, Mr. J. Hardwick, unknown. 7th, Mr. J. Hardwick, with Heroine. 8th, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Mrs. Lea.

BREEDER TULIPS.

Pan of 6.—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Queen of England, Lord F. Cavendish, George Hardwick, Sir J. Paxton, Mabel, and Geo. Hardwick's Seedling. 2nd, Mr. T. Gill, with Queen of England, Duchess of Sutherland, John Brook, Fancy, Orleans, and Catherine. 3rd, Mr. J. Nettleton, Warrengate, with Seedling (2), Mrs. Longbottom, Sir J. Paxton, John Bright, and Mrs. Jeffrey. 4th, Mr. G. Gill, with Sir J. Paxton, Louisa Brook, George Hardwick, John Brook, Catherine, and Mrs. Longbottom. 5th, Mr. E. Lister, Warrengate, with Mary Ellen Fawcett, Sir J. Paxton, Ethel, Mabel, Ariosto, and Mrs. Longbottom. 6th, Mr. J. Hardwick, Eastmoor, with Garibaldi, Dragonnette, Mrs. Jeffrey, Dr. Hardy, Dreadnought, and Mabel. 7th, Mr. T. Spurr, Vicarage Street, with Queen of England, Mary Ellen Fawcett, John Brook, Ariosto, Mabel, and Duchess of Sutherland. 8th, Mr. G. Lumb, with Seedling (2), Mabel, unknown, and Maid of Orleans.

Pan of 3.—1st, Mr. T. Spurr, with Mrs. Longbottom, Ethel, and John Brook. 2nd, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with George Hardwick, Dr. Hardy, and Lady Grosvenor. 3rd, Mr. T. Gill, with Catherine, Maid of Orleans, and John Brook. 4th, Mr. E. Lister, with Lord F. Cavendish, Queen of England, and Duchess of Sutherland. 5th, Mr. J. Netherwood, with Lady Mary, Seedling, and John Bright. 6th, Mr. G. Gill, with Criterion, George Hardwick, and Industry. 7th, Mr. G. Lumb, with Mary Ellen Fawcett, Mabel, and Seedling. 8th, Mr. J. Steele, with Seedling (2), and Catherine. 9th, Mr. J. Hardwick, with Beauty of Brighthouse, John Brook, and Mabel. 10th, Mr. C. Gill, with Mabel, Maid of Orleans, and John Brook.

Single Blooms: Bizarres.—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Pilot; and 2nd, with Emperor Nicholas. 3rd, Mr. G. Gill, with Charles Darwin; and 4th, with John Brook. 5th, Mr. T. Gill, with Fancy. 6th and 7th, Mr. J. Hardwick, with John Brook. 8th, Mr. T. Gill, with John Brook. *Byblæmens.*—1st, Mr. G. Gill, with Maid of Orleans. 2nd and 3rd, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with George Hardwick. 4th, Mr. E. Lister, with Ethel. 5th, Mr. J. Hardwick, with Van Hamburg. 6th, Mr. J. Netherwood, with Horatio. 7th, Mr. J. Steele, with Maid of Orleans. 8th, Mr. J. Netherwood, with Seedling. *Roses.*—1st, Mr. R. J. Sharpley, with Miss Hanson; and 2nd, with Lady Grosvenor. 3rd, Mr. E. Lister, with Catherine. 4th, Mr. G. Gill, with Catherine. 5th, Mr. J. Hardwick, with Miss Boot. 6th, Mr. T. Gill, with Lady Catherine Gordon; and 7th, with Catherine. 8th, Mr. E. Lister, with Nannie Gibson.

The premier flamed flower was Lord Denman, shown by Mr. T. Gill; the premier feathered, Lord Lilford, shown by Mr. R. J. Sharpley; and the premier breeder, John Brook, shown by Mr. T. Gill. Several prizes were also awarded to ferns shown by Mr. J. Steele, Mr. W. Meller, Mr. J. Netherwood, Mr. J. Hardwick, and Mr. G. Lumb.—T. MOORE.