

**31269 to 31271. MECONOPSIS spp.**

From Liverpool, England. Presented by Bees Ltd. Received June 9, 1911.

Seeds of the following:

**31269. MECONOPSIS INTEGRIFOLIA (Maxim.) Franch.**

"This striking plant was first discovered by the celebrated Russian traveler, Przewalski, in 1872-73, in the extreme northwest of the province of Kansu, and he subsequently collected it in several different localities in the same region. Potanin also collected it in Kansu, in 1885. In 1887 it was collected by Delavay in the Snowy Range of Likiang, Yunnan, at an altitude of 13,000 feet; and in 1890 Mr. A. E. Pratt obtained very fine specimens in the neighborhood of Tachienlu. Its first appearance in European gardens seems to have been due to the Abbé Farges, who sent seed to Mr. Maurice L. de Vilmorin in 1895, with whom it flowered in 1897, but it produced no seed and was consequently lost to cultivation.

"In 1903 Messrs. James Veitch & Sons sent Mr. E. H. Wilson on a second journey to China, one of the principal objects being to collect seeds of *Meconopsis integrifolia*. He 'found it in millions' in the mountains west of Tachienlu at elevations of 11,000 to 15,500 feet; never lower. As may be expected, it is perfectly hardy in the open ground, but, what was less to be expected, it flourishes and flowers freely without any special treatment. Whether it will seed, time will prove. Under the most favorable conditions in a wild state, Mr. Wilson observed plants about 3 feet high, bearing as many as 18 flowers, while at its greatest altitudinal limit it is reduced to a rosette of leaves with one flower nestling in the center.

"It is a robust biennial, usually 1½ to 3 feet high, densely clothed with long silky hairs varying in color, but usually yellowish brown. Stem stout; branches and peduncles in whorls. Leaves numerous, mostly linear-lanceolate, 6 inches to 1 foot long, shorter on the stem. Peduncles longer than the leaves, one-flowered, clothed with reversed hairs. Flowers yellow, usually 5 to 6 inches in diameter, sometimes as much as 10." (*Extract from Curtis's Botanical Magazine, vol. 1, ser. 4, 1905.*)

*Distribution.*—Slopes of the mountains in the provinces of Kansu and Yunnan in China.

**31270. MECONOPSIS DELAVAYI Franch.**

"This beautiful little plant was first discovered by Pere Delavay in 1884 on the eastern flank of the Lichiang Range, northwest Yunnan, at about 12,500 feet altitude. In height it varies from 5 to 9 inches, reaching the latter only in the most favorable situations. The roots are long, thick, and fleshy. Flowers solitary, semipendulous, 1½ to 2 inches in diameter, color deep, satiny, purple-blue. Mature capsule, erect, 2 to 3 inches in length by ¼ inch in diameter. This charming species flowers in June or July, and there is little doubt of its proving perfectly hardy in this (Scotland) climate. The flowers, with their shining, deep-colored petals and orange-colored anthers, form a delightful contrast to the glaucous green of the foliage and scapes. The species is gregarious, and delights in open, sheltered situations. The first specimens found by me formed small, scattered colonies along the base of a series of ragged limestone cliffs, at about 11,000 to 12,000 feet. These were growing on poor, patchy pasture, in the shelter of dwarf bushes and under the lee of rocks. The soil was composed of limestone, gravel, and chips of varying size. The roots of the species are thick and fleshy and, in the exceedingly free formation, penetrate to quite a considerable depth, in many instances as much as 12 to 18 inches. Later in the season the species was met with in greater abundance at a higher