The Romance of the Apothecaries' Garden at Chelsea

FREDERIC DAWTREY DREWITT



CONTENTS

Introduction

p. xv

CHAPTER I

CHAPTER II

CHAPTER III

Plants transferred from Westminster to the Chelsea Garden.---Visit of Professor Herman of Leyden.---Cedars planted in 1683, and produce cones in 1732.---Sloane's letter to Ray on the Garden.---Evelyn's visit to the Garden.---Cinchona trees.---Earl of Clarendon's visit.--Proposals to abandon the Garden.---Doody.--Petiver.---Natural history illustrations.---Members of the Apothecaries' Society to be taxed to maintain Garden.---Sir Hans Sloane presents the Garden to the Apothecaries in February, 1722.

pp. 31-47

CONTENTS

CHAPTER IV

Sir Hans Sloane; born in North of Ireland; delicate boy; attends lectures at Apothecaries' Hall, Chelsea Physic Garden, Paris and Montpellier; accompanies Duke of Albemarle to Jamaica; returns with large collection of flora and fauna; practises as a physician in Bloomsbury; created a baronet by George I; purchases the Manor of Chelsea; dies in 1753, leaving his collection (under conditions) to form a British Museum.— Horace Walpole a trustee.—Statue placed in Physic Garden.—Sloane had saved the Physic Garden, and the right of residents in Chelsea to use King's Road.—Sloane Street represents his life . . . pp. 48-61

CHAPTER V

CHAPTER VI

Peter Kalm, pupil of Linnæus, visits Garden in 1748; walks in footsteps of Linnæus to Putney Heath to see yellow Furze; describes the greenhouses; visits Sir Hans Sloane and Museum; considers Chelsea Garden a rival of Gardens of Paris and Leyden. —News of Kalm's arrival in Sweden cures Linnæus of gout.— Linnæus' pupil, Fabricius, arrives in Edinburgh, 1767; rides to London, collecting plants and insects on the way: sees Banks off on Cook's first voyage.—Fabricius again in England in 1775 and 1787; visits Chelsea, and describes 200 new species of butterflies from the drawings of William Jones in Manor Street; becomes the "founder of scientific entomology."—William Hudson appointed Demonstrator.—Philip Miller pensioned.—Two Cedars cut down in 1771

CHAPTER VII

Death of younger Linnæus.—Offer of Linnean Collections to Banks. —Sir J. Smith purchases Linnean Collections.—Their arrival in Chelsea.—Smith an F.R.S.—His European tour.—His letters to William Jones on foreign natural history collections, plants, and Professors.—The proposed Linnean Society ; Jones suggests delay, a quarterly science-breakfast first, later on a society ; learned societies sometimes promote "acerbity."—Linnean Collections removed from Chelsea to London.—First meeting of Linnean Society, seven Fellows attend.—The Demonstrator, past Demonstrators and the Gardener of the Physic Garden, among its first Fellows. pp. 97-108

CHAPTER VIII

Sir Joseph Banks as a boy at Physic Garden, fishing with Lord Sandwich; at Eton and Oxford; sails with Captain Cook, 1768; collects plants in Botany Bay; typical old-world naturalist; brings back lava from Iceland for rockery in Physic Garden.-Stanesby Alchorne contributes stones from Tower of London.-Banks and Solander present seeds.—Forsyth, Gardener.—Curtis, Demonstrator.-The Botanical Magazine.-Additional tax on Apothecaries.-Botanical excursions.-Thomas Wheeler, Demonstrator; successful teacher; long life.—John Lindley, Professor and Demonstrator, 1835, teaches "natural" system of botany .---"Artificial" system of Linnæus only a link in chain of attempts at a "natural system."-Lindley's energy.-Robert Fortune, Curator, leaves Garden to introduce tea into India.—Expense of the Garden.-Professorship abolished in 1853.-Labourers discharged to reduce expenditure.-Nathaniel Ward introduces "Wardian cases"; attempts to revive Garden.--"Wardian cases" used throughout world. pp. 109-131 .

CONTENTS

CHAPTER IX

Chelsea Embankment opened in 1874.—Loss of Thames water and damage to trees.—Embankment now keeps salt water from Garden.—Old Maidenhair-tree among the survivors.—Extraordinary antiquity of Maidenhair-tree.—A sacred tree in China and Japan.—Old Mulberry-trees, monuments to attempts at silkculture.—Oriental Plane.—Monotony of London Plane.—Ilex.— Catalpa.—Age of Gray's Inn Catalpa.—Catalpas bruised by other trees.—Manchester Square Catalpa driven on one side by London Plane.—Persimmon.—Loquat.—Wistaria.—Kœlreuteria.

pp. 132-148

CHAPTER X

CHAPTER XI

Railings and wall built on Chelsea Embankment.—Thomas Moore, Curator.—Garden passes to Charity Commissioners.— Trustees of London Parochial Charities undertake its management. —Rebuilding of Curator's house, laboratory, lecture room, greenhouses, stove houses.—Pitcher-plant.—Sundew.—Euphorbia.— Banana.—Present work on botanical research.—Teachers and students.—Advantage of some knowlege of botany. pp. 159–167

Index

p. 168

xii