



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Archives Center - NMAH*

## **Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 57, 1936 to 1937**

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 12:07:34

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The advice of George to take Psyllium Seed twice a day, so as to have easier peristaltic action of my bowels, has proved very valuable to me. I believe my excellent condition is greatly due to this. Am sorry did not use it sooner.

July 5 (Sunday). Left early for the Kew Botanical Gardens. Was more impressed than ever by the charm of the whole landscape gardening as well as the ~~int~~ enormous number of exhibits Kew Gardens Lawns, trees, roads, and green houses are admirably well kept. People are allowed to walk over the lawns, sit down in the grass and take a rest or eat their lunch or read. But there is no litter of newspapers etc and no disturbing noise as is often the case in New York. Adults and children of whatever class are better behaved and strive to conduct themselves in a way which does not offend others.

The enormous tropical green houses contain large and small samples of palms, tree-ferns, orchids and

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cacti and other tropical plants gathered from everywhere Everything well kept and in charge of polite attendants

I noticed one plant, which was suspended in a wide pot and ~~seemed~~ was unusually graceful, showing creeping hanging branches bearing ~~hanging a~~ very pretty flowers with red petals and a jet black glistening round little sphere.

hanging flower

Its name is "Climacanth Dampiera"

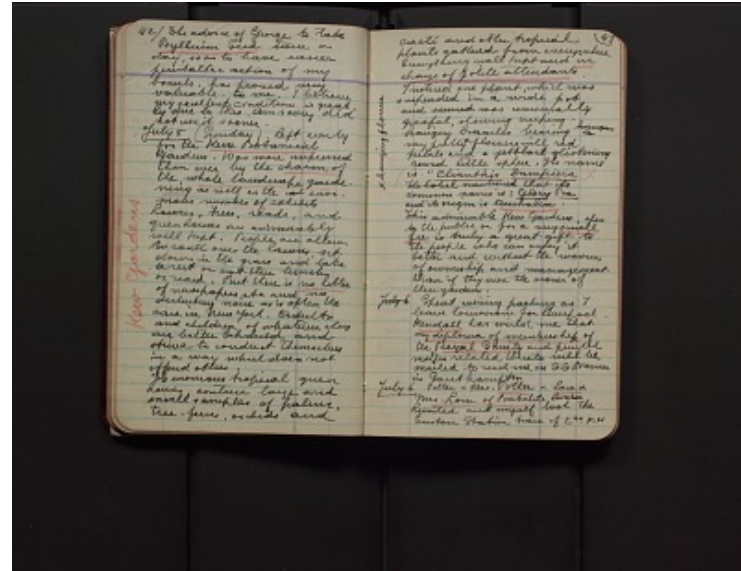
The label mentioned that its common name is: Glory Pea and its origin is Australia

This admirable Kew Gardens, open to the public or for a very small fee is truly a great gift to the people who can enjoy it better and without the worries of ownership and management than if they were the owner of these gardens.

July 6 Spent evening packing as I leave tomorrow for Liverpool Kendall has wired me that my diploma of membership of the Royal Society and printed matter related thereto will be mailed to reach me on S. S. Bremen in Southampton

July 6 Potter & Mrs. Potter & Low & Mrs. Low of Bakelite Limter Limited and myself took the Euston Station train of 2:40 P.M.

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