NARCISSUS

"Prince," and conducted himself with such conspicuous valour at the battle of Solebay (Southwold Bay) in May 1672 that he won special approbation, and shortly afterwards was made rear-admiral and knighted. In 1675 he was sent to suppress the Tripoline piracies, and by the bold expedient of despatching gun-boats into the harbour of Tripoli at midnight and burning the ships he induced the dey to agree to a treaty. Shortly after his return he undertook a similar expedition against the Algerines. In 1680 he was appointed commissioner of the navy, an office he held till his death in 1688. He was buried at Knowlton church, Kent, where a monument has been erected to his memory.


**NARCISSUS**, in Greek mythology, son of the river god Cepheus and the nymph Leiriope, distinguished for his beauty. The shepherd Teleias told his mother that he would have a long life, provided he never looked upon his own features. His rejection of the love of the nymph Echo (g.v.) drew upon him the vengeance of the gods. Having fallen in love with his own reflection in the waters of a spring, he pined away (or killed himself) and the flower that bears his name sprang up on the spot where he died. According to Pausanias, Narcissus, to console himself for the death of a favourite twin-sister, his exact counterpart, sat gazing into the spring to recall her features by his own. Narcissus, representing the early spring-flower, which for a brief space beholds itself mirrored in the water and then fades, is one of the many youths whose premature death is recorded in Greek mythology (cf. Adonis, Linus, Hyacinthus); the flower itself was regarded as a symbol of such death. It was the last flower gathered by Persephone before she was carried off by Hades, and was sacred to Demeter and Kore (the cult name of Persephone), the great goddessess of the underworld. From its associations Wieseler takes Narcissus himself to be a spirit of the underworld, of death and rest. It is possible that the story may have originated in the superstition (alluded to by Artemidorus, *Oneticonicita*, ii. 7) that it was an omen of death to dream of seeing one's reflection in water.


**NARCISSUS**, a genus of bulbous plants belonging to the family Amaryllidaceae, natives of central Europe and the Mediterranean region; one species *N. Tazetta*, extends through Asia to Japan. From these, or rather from some of these, by cultivation and hybridization, have arisen the very numerous modern varieties. The plants have long narrow leaves springing from the bulb and a central scape bearing one or more generally large, white or yellow, drooping or inclined flowers, which are enclosed before opening in a membranous spathe. The flowers are regular, with a perianth springing from above the ovary, tubular below, with spreading segments and a central corona; the six stamens are inserted within the tube. The most interesting feature botanically is the "corona" or "cup," which springs from the top of the tube, being a large modification of the segments. The most probable supposition is that the cup is simply an excrecence or "enation" from the mouth of the flower-tube, and is connected with the fertilization of the flowers by insect agency.

There are five well-marked sections.

1. The hoop-petticoat narcissi, sometimes separated as the genus *Coronarius*, are not more than from 3 to 6 in. in height, and have grassy foliage and yellow or white flowers. These have the corona in the centre of the flower very large in proportion to the other parts, and much expanded, like the old hoop petticoats. They are now all regarded as varieties or forms of the common hoop-petticoat, *N. Bulbosodium*, which has comparatively large bright yellow flowers; *N. tenuifolius* is smaller and somewhat paler and with slender erect leaves; *N. cinnabarinus* is pale lemon yellow and larger; while *N. monophyllus* is white. The small bulbs should be taken up in summer and replanted in autumn and early winter, according to the state of the season. They bloom about March or April in the open air. The soil should be free and open, so that water may pass off readily.

2. A second group is that of the Pseudonarcissi, constituting the genus *Ajax*, of some botanists, of which the daffodil, *N. Pseudonarcissus*, is the type. The daffodil (fig. 2) is common in woods and thickets in most parts of the north of Europe, but is rare in Scotland. Its leaves are five or six in number, are about 1 ft. in length and 1 in. in breadth, and have a blunt keel and flat edges. The stem is about 18 in. long and the spathe single-flowered. The flowers are large, yellow, scented and a little drooping, with a corolla deeply cleft into six lobes and a bell-shaped corona which is crisped at the margin; they appear in March or April. In this species the corona is also very large and prominent, but is more elongated and trumpet-shaped, while the other members are regarded as subspecies or varieties of this. Of this group the most striking one perhaps is *N. bicornis*, which has the perianth almost white and the corona deep yellow: it yields a number of varieties, some of the best known being Empress, Horsfield, Grandee, Ellen Willmott, Victoria, Weardale perfection, &c. *N. moschatus*, a native of the Pyrenees and the Spanish peninsula, is a cream-coloured subspecies of great beauty with several forms. *N. cyclamineus* is a pretty dwarf subspecies, native of Portugal, with narrow linear leaves and drooping flowers with reflexed lemon-yellow segments and an orange-yellow corona. *N. major* is a robust form with leaves 1-2 ft. broad and bright lemon-yellow flowers 2-2½ in. long; *maximus* is a closely-related but still finer form; *obvallaris* (the Tenby daffodil) is an early form with

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**Fig. 1.**—Flowers of Narcissus base of the flower-segments (*Narcissus Tazetta*) bursting from this gives the special character the sheathing bract or spathe, b. actor to the flower, and the members of the genus are classified according to the length of this organ as compared with that of the segments. The most probable supposition is that the cup is simply an excrecence or "enation" from the mouth of the flower-tube, and is connected with the fertilization of the flowers by insect agency.

**Fig. 2.**—Daffodil (Narcissus Pseudonarcissus).
1. Flower cut open; 2. pistil; 3. horizontal plan of flower.
uniformly yellow flowers. *N. minor* and *minimus* are miniature repetitions of the daffodil. All these grow well in good garden soil, and blossom from March onwards, coming in very early in genial seasons.

3. Another group, the mock narcissi or star daffodils, with coronets of many petal-like segments, includes the fine and numerous varieties of *N. incomparabilis*, one of which, with large, double flowers, is known as butter-and-eggs; *N. odorata*, known as the campanelle jonquil, has two to four uniform bright yellow flowers, and is considered a hybrid of *N. aureo-arcuata* and *N. triandrus*. A sweet-scented double flower is known as Queen Ann’s jonquil; *N. juncifolius*, a graceful little plant from Spain, Portugal and southern France, has one to four small bright yellow flowers on each scape. The hamamelis we grow thrive in the open border, the smaller sorts, like Queen Ann’s jonquil, are better taken up in autumn and replanted in February; they bloom freely about April or May. *N. triandrus*—Gaynemede’s Cup—is a pretty little species with white or yellow flowers, and the leaves of its hybrid are a shade larger; its flowers are a pale or deeper yellow; they make attractive pot plants.

4. The polyanthus or bunch narcissi form another well-marked group, whose peculiarity of producing many flowers on the stem is induced by grafting. These are smaller in all but size, as compared with the perianth. Some of the hardier forms, as *N. Tazetta* itself, the type of the group, succeed in the open borders in light well-drained soil, but the bulbs should be deeply planted, not less than 6 or 8 in. below the surface, to escape risk of injury from frost. Many of this form are represented in hybrids—e.g. Monarque, Papier white, Soleil d’or—are grown. They admit of being forced into early bloom, like the hyacinth and tulip. They vary with a white, creamy or yellow perianth, and a yellow, lemon, primrose, or white corona. They are of marked beauty. Some of these are general favourites amongst spring flowers. Many tons of these flowers are exported from the Seil Isles to the London markets in spring. The “Chinese sacred lily”, or “joss flower”, is a form of *N. Tazetta* which exists in the flower markets of the south European and Algerian, of which there are single and double flowered varieties, is also grown in pots for early flowering, but does mostly well outside a warm border.

5. There remains another little group, the poet’s or pheasant’s-eye narcissi (*N. poeticus*), in which the perianth is large, spreading and conspicuous, and the corona very small and shallow. These pheasant’s-eye narcissi, of which there are several well-marked varieties, such as *T. silvicola* and *T. Candidum*, have a long history. They have been much used in the garden and in the wild, during April and May, and all do well in the open borders as permanent hardy bulbs. *N. biflorus*, the primrose peerless, a two-flowered whitish yellow-cupped species, equally hardy and easy of culture, is a natural hybrid between *N. poeticus* and *T. Candidum*. *N. flammeum*, a yellow-flowered species, has also been regarded as a hybrid between *N. Tazetta* and *N. juncifolius*, and blooms later.

Of late years some remarkably fine hybrids have been raised between the various distinct groups of narcissi, and the prices asked for the bulbs in many cases are exceedingly high. One of the most distinct groups is that known under the name of “Poetaz” —a combination of *poeticus* and *Tazetta*. The best forms of *poeticus* ornitho-lychnum have been selected, and some of the flowers have resulted in producing varieties with large trusses of exquisite flowers more or less resembling the ornitho parents, and varying in colour from the purest white to yellow, the rim of the corona being in most cases dark crimson or crimson: N. Vagnara is one of these. This is an excellent group for cut flower purposes, but it will take a few more years to make the varieties common.

For an account of the history and culture of the narcissus see W. G. Dutt. The name Narcissus the corona is small and shallown, and the treatment of the genus will be found in J. G. Baker’s *Handbook of Amaryllideae* (1888); see also Nicholson, *Dictionary of Gardenining* (1886); and J. Weathers, *Practical Guide to Garden Plants* (1901).

NARCOTICS (Gr. πάπωτικος, making numb), a general term for substances having the physiological action, in a healthy animal, of producing lethargy or stupor, which may pass into a state of profound coma or unconsciousness along with complete paralysis, terminating in death. Certain substances of this class are used in medicine for the relief of pain, and are then called anodynes, whilst another group produce profound sleep, and are consequently known as hypnotics. In one sense, anaesthetics, such as chloroform and ether, may be held to be narcotic, but, as they are usually volatile substances causing unconsciousness for a comparatively short time, they are conveniently separated from the true narcotics, the effects of which are much more lasting. These distinctions are to a great extent artificial, as it is evident that a substance capable of producing partial insensibility to pain, or sleep, will inevitably in larger doses cause profound coma ending in death. Hence we find the same substances sometimes classed as anodynes and at other times as hypnotics. For example, small doses of opium, or of one or other of its preparations, relieve pain, whilst larger doses act as hypnotics, causing deep sleep passing into coma. Cannabis indica, belladonna and hyoscyamus, are also anodyne in their action. The chief narcotics are mentioned below.

*Opium* is the ininspired juice of the *Papaver somniferum*, containing about 10-15% of an active principle, morphine. Some of the other alkaloids contained in it are of a narcotic nature, notably papaverine, narceine, meconine, cryptopine and narcoine, but the principal anodyne and narcotic effects are due to the morphinic alkaloids. Though the human body can tolerate doses of 30-35 grs. without noticeable effects, 1 to 3 grs. produces marked symptoms in the western races. Idiosyncrasy is marked in regard to the amount of opium a person can safely take. The medicinal dose is up to 2 grs., and the smallest dose that has been known to cause death is 0-5 grs. Doses of 3 grs. of Morphine vary as to whether it is taken by the stomach or injected under the skin; 2 grs. by the stomach is dangerous, and a safe medicinal dose by the skin is ½ to 1 gr. The smallest dose that has produced death in an adult human being is given over a period of 24 hours. The brain and spinal cord are first stimulated by opium and morphine and later depressed; death in fatal cases being from paralysis of the respiratory centre of the medulla. For the treatment of poisoning see under Opium.

*Cannabis indica* or Indian Hemp (see Hemp).—The part used in medicine is the non-fertilized female spikes of the Cannabis sativa. The active constituent is the resin containing cannabin in the active principle, cannabin, which forms the canna- nocaine. Cannabis indica is sold in the East under various names. A confutation of the drug made in Arabia is called hashish. Churrus is the resin scraped off the leaves, and the dried leaf is called bang, qammar, and is being taken to hold up the drug for smoking. The medicinal dose is ½ to 1 gr. of the extract, 2 to 3 grs. is a poisonous dose, but there is no recorded fatal case in man. In Eastern countries the smoking of Cannabis indica produces a form of intoxication called 'sugar'. The drug possesses a pleasant character, exaltation, hallucinations and delirium, later dilatation of the pupils, drowsiness, sleep and coma. Indian hemp is an uncertain anodyne and hypnotic. When large quantities have been given as a purgative or emetic effect the human body is ined for some 12 hours. The mental effect is produced and endeavour to allow excitement until the effects have passed off.

*Belladonna and Atropine.*—The leaves of the Atropa Belladonna or deadly nightshade of which the active principle is atropine practically as a stay with the heart, and, as Atropine causes dryness of the throat and mouth, dilatation of the pupils, dizziness of vision except for distant objects and often double vision. The pulse becomes quick, rising, in an adult, from 80 to 120 or 160 beats per minute; and there is often a bright red flush over the skin. The intellectual powers are at first acute and strong, but they soon become confused. There is giddiness, confusion of thought, excitement, a peculiar talkative wakeful restiveness, in which the person is conscious of being able to do anything, can write pages of poetry, and can solve difficult problems. Poisoning is usually due to children eating the seeds; the lethal dose is unknown. The symptoms produced are divided into three stages—delirium, sleep and deep coma. In case of slight poisoning a rush is given to give emetic, wash out the stomach and give stimulants and pilocarpine subcutaneously, also to apply warmth and to use artificial respiration if necessary.

*Hyoscyamus,* the leaves of the *Hyoscyamus niger* or henbane (q.v.). The active principle is hyoscyamine. The physiological action is almost similar to belladonna, with excitation and cardiac stimulation and afterwards depression and stupor, but the action of hyoscyamine is more prolonged. The drug may be administered by a train of fancies or is hastened by strong cerebral depressant, and produces dilatation of the pupil; ½ gr. of hyoscumamine produces marked effects, sleepiness and dryness of the mouth; ½ gr. by subcutaneous injection has produced fatal results. The administration of hyoscyamine poisoning is similar to that of stramonium.

*Heps* (the *Hamus Lupulus*), containing the active principle lupulin, and *Lactuca azurea* (the juice of the *Lactuca virosa* (lettuce), containing an alkaloid called lactocarpine, causes nausea, vomiting and delirious, causing heaviness and sleep if taken in large doses.

*Chloral Hydrate* is a pure hypnotic which in larger doses is a powerful narcotic, producing prolonged sleep with depression of the cardiac and motor centres. It is an intrinsic cardiac poison, the