

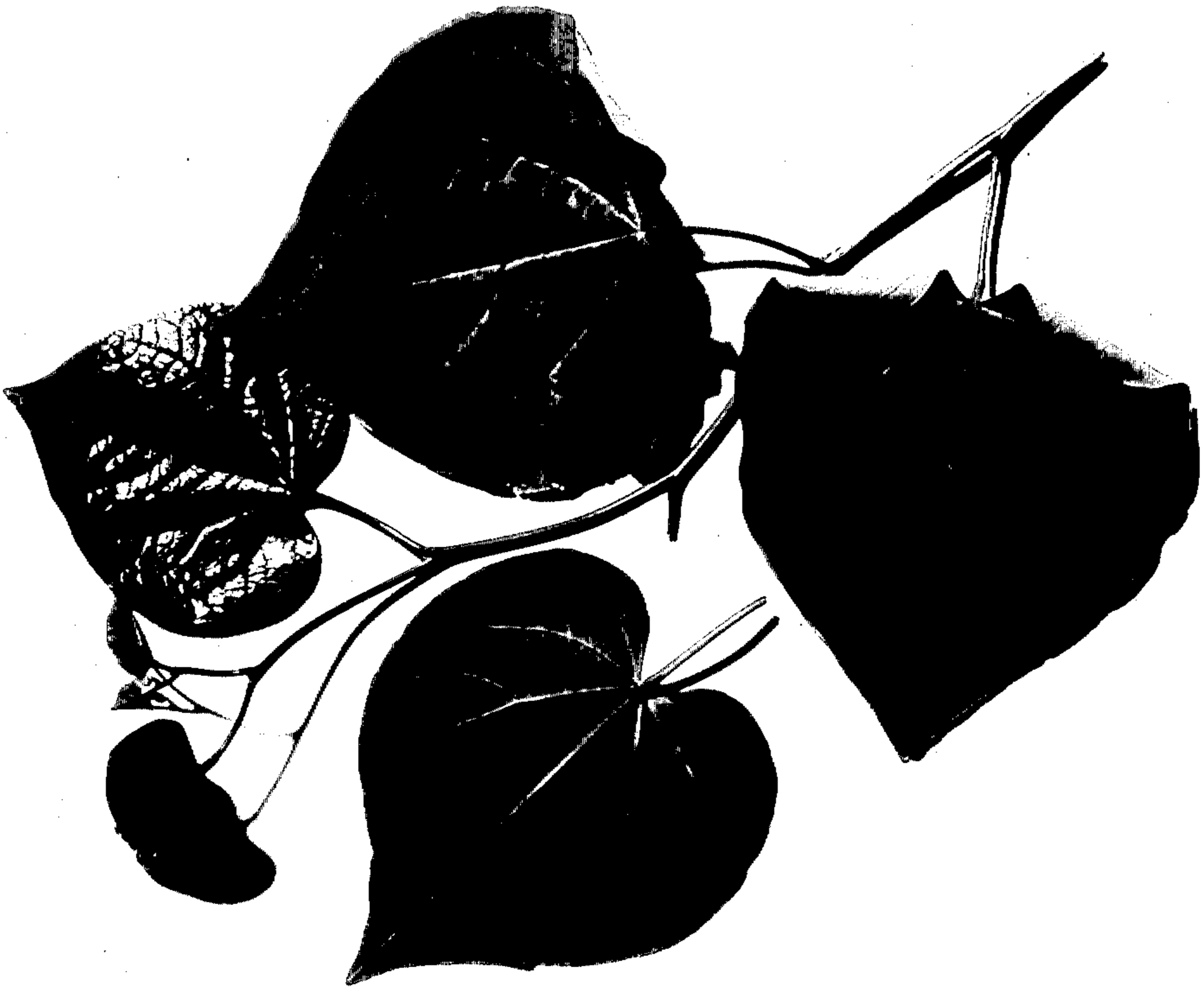
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C. KEEL ETAL

Plant Pat. 2,556

REDBUD PLANT

Filed June 26, 1964



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2,556

REDBUD PLANT

Charles Keel and Eugene Nunley, McMinnville, Tenn.,
assignors to Forest Nursery Co., Inc., McMinnville,
Tenn., a corporation of Tennessee

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1 Claim. (Cl. Plt.—51)

The present invention relates to a new and distinct
variety of redbud plant of the species botanically known
as *Cercis canadensis*, which originated as an open-pol-
linated seedling discovered by us amongst a block of red-
bud plants of the regular *Cercis canadensis* species being
grown under our direction and care in the nursery of our
assignee at McMinnville, Tennessee.

Our attention was initially attracted to this new variety
by its unusually attractive and distinctive brilliant Pansy
Purple foliage which differed materially from the normal
green-colored foliage of the other plants in the block,
with the additional difference characterized by darker
colored twigs, corresponding in color to Oxblood Red.
Except for these principal differences, the new variety
otherwise generally corresponded to the usual character-
istics of the regular *Cercis canadensis* plants. Continued
observations of the original seedling, as well as progeny
thereof derived by budding, as performed by us in the
nursery aforementioned at McMinnville, Tennessee, con-
vinced us that they represented a new and distinct variety.

Asexual reproduction of our new variety by budding,
as performed at McMinnville, Tennessee, shows that the
foregoing characteristics and distinctions come true to
form and are established and transmitted through suc-
ceeding propagations.

The accompanying drawing shows a typical specimen
plant of our new redbud variety, together with typical
specimens of the wood and foliage on a somewhat en-
larged scale, as depicted in color as nearly true as it is
reasonably possible to make the same in a color illustra-
tion of this character.

The following is a detailed description of our new
variety, with color terminology in accordance with the
Horticultural Colour Chart, issued by the British Colour
Council in collaboration with the Royal Horticultural
Society, except where general color terms of ordinary
dictionary significance are obvious:

Locality where grown and observed: McMinnville, Ten-
nessee.

Plant

Growth: Vigorous under good cultural conditions.

Form—typical of common redbud, developing into a
small tree with upright spreading branches.

Trunk: Smooth.

Branches: Smooth. Color—Oxblood Red.

Twigs: Slightly zig-zag form. Color—Purple Madder,

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Plate 1028, with whitish bloom, changing to Oxblood
Red, Plate 00823/1, these colors darkening with age
and becoming in the case of two-year-old twigs Garnet
Brown, Plate 00918/2, with numerous, prominent,
small, light tan lenticels.

Foliage:

Leaves. — Alternate; deciduous; simple; medium
thickness; rounded cordate. Length—from 4 inches
to 6 inches. Width—from 3½ inches to 6 inches.
Margin—entire. Petiole—from 1½ inches to 2
inches. Color: New tip leaves—upper surface—
shiny Garnet Lake, Plate 828; under surface—
Garnet Lake, Plate 828/3. New mature leaves—
upper surface—non-glossy Pansy Purple, Plate
928, with prominent veins showing a green coloration;
lower surface—Pansy Purple, Plate 928/3,
with veins of same color and petioles being Pansy
Purple, Plate 928. Mature summer leaves—up-
per surface—Spinach Green, Plate 0960/1, with
fusing of light Pansy Purple still prominent, espe-
cially in center and lower portion of leaf and with
prominent veins of light green color; lower sur-
face—Willow Green, Plate 000862/1, with fusing
of very light Pansy Purple, and petioles showing
a blending of Garnet Brown, Plate 00918 and
Pansy Purple, Plate 928.

Flowers

Flowers: Sparse; appear before the leaves; pea-shaped;
borne in clusters.

Size.—Same as *Cercis canadensis*.

Color.—Rosy magenta.

Fruit

Fruit: Linear-oblong; legume; from 2 inches to 3 inches
long.

General observations

Disease and insect resistance: Comparable to that of com-
mon *Cercis canadensis*, as determined by comparison
therewith when grown under the same field conditions
at McMinnville, Tennessee.

Hardiness: Very good; has withstood temperature con-
ditions as low as minus 14° F. without damage, even
without special protection, as occurred in the nursery
aforementioned at McMinnville, Tennessee.

We claim:

A new and distinct variety of redbud plant, substan-
tially as herein shown and described, characterized par-
ticularly as to novelty by its distinctive and attractive
brilliant Pansy Purple foliage, with twigs of Oxblood
Red color.

No references cited.

ABRAHAM G. STONE, Primary Examiner.