by able botanical artists, although presumably the cost of good colour printing is often a deciding factor, as is the cost of the artist!

Two keys to the species are provided. One is based mainly on vegetative characters and the other uses mainly floral characters. The keys work well, although the inclusion of only geographical characters in some leads is useless when cultivated plants of unknown origin are being identified. However, it can be argued that the identification of garden plants is not one of the objectives of a monographer.

The cytological studies carried out with C. G. Vosa of Oxford have been incorporated, and mention is made of the considerable ecological data gleaned from extensive fieldwork—Miss Snijman has herself seen and collected 15 of the species.

This admirable revision will please both growers who specialize in the more unusual bulbs, and taxonomists who wish accurately to name plants in the field and in their herbarium collections.

V. A. MATTHEWS

Flora of Turkey vol. 8. This volume* contains the petaloid monocotyledons, leaving for volume 9 the Glumiflorae.

Turkey must be considered as one of the centres of distribution for the bulbous monocotyledons so popular as garden plants, with a strong representation from the Liliaceae, the Amaryllidaceae and the Iridaceae, three horticulturally important families. Indeed, it is probably fair to say that this volume contains more horticulturally important species than all the other volumes of the Flora put together.

As with previous volumes the quality of the accounts is enhanced by the liberal use of external contributors as will be seen in the accounts of: *Tulipa* (by W. Marais), *Fritillaria* (by E. M. Rix), *Muscari* (by D. Stuart), *Chionodoxa* (by R. D. Meikle), *Colchicum* and *Galanthus* (by C. D. Brickell), *Sternbergia, Iris* and *Crocus* (by B. Mathew) and *Allium*, with 141 plus species the largest genus in the volume (by F. Kollman). In addition, there is an admirably detailed account of the Orchidaceae by J. Renz & G. Taubenheim who have used their extensive field experience in Turkey to the full.

The volume is adequately though not lavishly illustrated by line drawings and there are distribution maps for over a third of the species. The general format stays the same as that used in volume 7 with some irksome compromises, especially in the genus headings, demanded presumably by the use of an 'in house' composer. It is also a pity to note the steep increase in the cost per page as compared with volume 7. However, these are minor irritations in view of the continuing high standard of the work.

D. F. CHAMBERLAIN

Flora Iranica Papilionaceae. With the publication of part II of Papilionaceae (part I, the Vicieae, came out in 1979) the family, excluding the gargantuan *Astragalus*, is now complete. This is another massive contribution to floristic knowledge in SW Asia, the two parts dealing with c.638 species and 64 genera. The present volume†, as other recent large family accounts of *Flora Iranica*, is 2-partite, one text, the other of very useful, if unaesthetic, photographs of herbarium specimens covering a good percentage (c.80%) of the species in the text.

Eight specialists have contributed accounts with K. H. Rechinger, as usual, bearing the heaviest brunt in writing accounts and in latinizing and editing accounts from external contributors. Selecting and asking botanists to provide Flora accounts is fraught with worry

**Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands,* volume 8. Edited by P. H. Davis, assisted by R. R. Mill and Kit Tan. xx+633 pp., 19 figs, 110 distribution maps. 1984. Edinburgh University Press. ISBN 0 85224 494. Price £65.

†*Flora Iranica* ed. Karl Heinz Rechinger. Papilionaceae II. No. 157 auct. K. H. Rechinger, S. I. Ali, K. Browicz, A. Chrtková-Žertová, D. Heller, C. C. Heyn, M. Thulin, I. T. Vassilczenko; text 499 pp., tabulae 424. Akademische Druck- u. Verlagsanstalt Graz, Austria. December 1984.