

himself understands that), or they may not be blessed with the pen of the ready writer; but let me assure them our Editor is, *even if he does not understand the Scotch dialect*. Let us have the results of your experiments, your failures and successes; he'll bring them all out in shape becoming his sheet.

JOHN CROIL.

Aultsville.

#### KIND WORDS.

It is gratifying to observe how very much the *Horticulturist* has improved. The Association is deserving of high credit. No florist or horticulturist should be without it, for it contains a very large amount of valuable information.

THOMAS BRIGGS.

Kingston.

I received the Annual Report for 1881, and am very much pleased with it, and think its outside appearance is much improved.

#### FRUIT IN THE ALGOMA DISTRICT.

My home is here, on St. Joseph's Island, in the District of Algoma. We expect to have a fine country here for fruit growing. I planted some small fruits last fall, such as grapes, berries, &c.; my neighbors have also planted more or less. We settlers have only been here three or four years, so not much fruit has come into bearing yet; but we have as good land for fruit-raising as there is in Canada—rolling land, mellow soil, slightly mixed with limestone gravel, easily cultivated when rid of stumps. Of course we have a great variety of soil, some good and some inferior. It is my humble opinion that time will bring us to the front as a fruit-raising section.

Yours truly,

STEPHEN CADHAM.

#### GLADIOLUS BULBLETS.

DEAR SIR,—In your January number, in treating upon Gladiolus culture, you state that the small bulbs which are found adhering to the large bulb should be kept out of the ground one whole season. Please give the reason for this in your next. W.

An old Latin maxim, learned in boyhood, seems to be the best answer to our friend's inquiry: *Experantia docet*—Experience teaches. It has been found by trial to be a fact, that these bulblets do grow much better when kept out of the ground and allowed to dry for one whole season; but why this should be, what reason is to be assigned for this fact, is probably not known. It is very natural to ask the reason why, and the inquisitiveness that prompts the question, and will not be satisfied until it is answered, has led to the discovery of most important natural laws, which have been as keys to unlock vast treasures of knowledge. Will "W." please undertake the solution of his own question; it may open up the way to results of great practical value.

#### EVAPORATION OF FRUIT.

BY J. M. L'AINSE, MISSOURI, ONT.

The question of evaporating fruit, especially apples, is now pressing itself very forcibly upon the attention of fruit growers. In by-gone years, while good fruit was scarce, even summer and fall apples could be readily sold at remunerative prices. But now, while good winter apples find a ready sale to ship to distant markets, summer and fall apples are a drug. In this locality it is not uncommon for parties to sell good summer and fall apples at twenty cents a bag, and peddle them from house to house at that. The old process of drying them on strings is a very slow and imperfect one, but by