

FLORICULTURE.

The cultivation of house and garden plants has been carefully attended to by not a small number of ladies, chiefly, for many years past in Kings' County. These plants were slipped and thus divided among neighbors till many of the more, delicate, tender varieties, which had found their way into the country from the Prescott Conservatory, and from other sources, had become extinct. There had come to be a little variety, and no competition. As the demand became apparent the want was supplied by a new green-house and nursery situated in the centre of the County, where plants, seeds, vines, small fruits, &c., can be purchased much cheaper than each one can raise their own.

The Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association, for the year 1874, was the first one at which prizes were offered for pot plants. The shew far exceeded all expectation; but as the prizes were small and limited, on account of the shortness of funds, they did not induce such sharp competition as would doubtless have been the case had the pecuniary inducements been greater. May we not look forward to future exhibitions with as much prospect of success as has attended the laudable striving for the first places which has been manifest by the cultivation of apples and pears, and which so largely assisted in placing various sections of Nova Scotia foremost (in raising their fruits) in the Dominion, if not in the world.

The mild climate and sunny skies of the Cornwallis and Annapolis Valley have been acknowledged to belong to the finest spot in the Province for the cultivation of plants.

Verbenas have, of late years, been destroyed by rust and the aphid; but choice *Petunias* and double *Portulaca*, &c., have nearly filled the vacancy. The old *Cinnamon Rose*, *Lilac*, and other coarse shrubs, are being supplanted by the more delicate varieties of roses, *Weigelia*, *Tartarian Honey Suckle*, &c.

The extremely hardy perennials, such as *Evening Primrose*, *Day Lily*, *Butter and Eggs*, coarse *Columbines*, *House Leek*, &c., with which we were so familiar in our childhood days, and which bloomed but for a short season, find their places occupied by choice *Geraniums*, which bloom during the entire season, and rich annuals of various kinds.