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[We insert this, because it is curious in itself, and will be interesting to persons fond of Botanical pursuits and enquiries.]

BOTANY OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

DR. JAMES MITCHELL has given, at the City of London Literary and Scientific Institution, a lecture on the botany of the City of London. This was a sequel to his lectures on the natural history, including the zoology, entomology, and animal life, of the metropolis. In this lecture on the vegetation of the metropolis, he confined his observations to those plants, which grew within the boundaries of the City, strictly so called; because the circumstance of plants growing there would show that the same plants would thrive in any other town in England, enveloped in an atmosphere of sea-coal smoke. Hitherto no researches had been exclusively directed to this subject. Some periodical publications, had contained papers professing to give lists of plants which grew in large towns, but they had been drawn up from the observations of persons living in the great country towns, and although in the closest parts of some of them, the same causes which affect vegetation in London, might also exist; yet in the greater part of the large towns, the air more nearly resembled the air of the country, than it did that of London, and observations in these places were of no further use than those taken from Islington, Paddington, or Pentonville. Mr. Fairchild, a gardener of Hoxton, had published a small pamphlet, 106 years ago, called "The City Gardner," and assigns as his motive for the publication of it: "That every one in London, and in other cities where much sea-coal is burnt may delight themselves in gardening, though they have never so little room, and prepare their understanding to enjoy the country, when their trade and industry has given them riches enough to retire from business." The Herbal of Gerard, mentioned many plants which in his time grew about Holborn, and also near Coleman-street. But in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when that work was written, partridges and snipes might have been shot in and about Holborn, and Coleman-street was near the outside of what, as compared with London now, was only a small town. In the course of his lecture Dr. Mitchell noticed the following plants:

The *Lime Tree* or *Linden Tree*, is the principal vegetable ornament of the City of London. Two very fine limes grow in the garden of the interior of the Bank of England, though probably but little noticed by the thousands who constantly pass and repass