

ler, London, \$3; 3rd do J. Pegler, London, \$2.

**EXTRAS IN VEGETABLES.**—William Hawes, Lumbeth, English potato onions, 50c; R. Bugler London, white egg plants, 50c; Daniel Falconer, Fullarton, collection of garden seeds, \$1; J. D. Humphreys, Toronto, green peas, 50c; do Beans, 50c. D. Kempster, London, Strawberry Tomatoes, 50c. J. M. Hirschfelder, Toronto, Asparagus Beans, 50c; do Prussian peas, 50c; do poor man's potatoes, 50c. A. McDougal, London, pop corn, 50c. R. Bugler, London, miniature garden, \$2. David Anderson, London, red currants, 50c; do Okra pods, 50c. James Gridin, London, intermediate carrot, 50c; do Roan parsnips, 50c. E. Paine, Talbotville, potato onions, 50c. M. Essery, London, winter cucumbers, 50c; Thomas McBroom, London, top onions, 50c, do pickling onions, 50c. W. L. Lawrason, London, cucumbers, 50c. H. Girouard, Hamilton, cucumbers, 50c. J. C. Small, Toronto, capsicums, 50c. Bruce and Murray, Hamilton, Dioscorea Batatas, 50c.

**NOTE BY JUDGES.**—The judges in closing their report upon the class of vegetables, consider it a very creditable show in the several sections. They would particularly notice a very large collection of potatoes of 42 varieties.

### Miscellaneous.

**IMPROVEMENT IN HORTICULTURE.**—It cannot be denied by any one that there has been an immense progress in all departments of Horticulture within the past few years. In fruits we have for the dry, choking summer pears, and the large but tasteless autumn varieties, an endless list of delicious tender and juicy sorts, any of which would grace the dessert of a king. For grapes instead of the two varieties of a few years since, the Isabella and Catawba, we have a great number of luscious varieties, all superior to those sorts. And so of all kinds of fruits. The Strawberry, Raspberry, Blackberry, rarely known except as wild plants twenty years since, are now cultivated in every garden, and are found quadrupled in size and fruitfulness by the attention of the gardener.

But it is not in fruits alone that we see the evidences of the great advance which has been made. The flower garden bears evidence to a still greater improvement. Any one who can recall the appearance of most gardens of twenty years since, will remember the limited number of varieties of shrubs and flowering plants of those days. The Lilac, the Syringa, the Snowberry,

the A'lthea, with a very few others, composed the shrubberies; herbaceous plants were represented by one or two varieties of P'lox, the Columbine, the Larkspur, the Iris, the Meadow Sweet; of annuals single Balsams and Asters, Cockscombs, Cereopsis, Marigolds, and a few varieties of Pinks, held the places of honor. Now behold the change; the seed-men's catalogues register the names of hundreds if not of thousands of annuals, and the quality as well as quantity has been greatly improved. No one would recognize in the splendid double German Asters and the Camelia flowered Balsams of the present day, the same plants as the single varieties of a few years ago.

In shrubs we can now show dozens, remarkable for beauty of foliage and flowers, for one of that time. Bedding plants, almost unknown then, are now sold by every florist in thousands and tens of thousands. Every year witnesses the introduction of novelties in every department of floriculture and the improvement of old sorts. Every corner of the earth, no matter how remote, is visited by the enthusiastic amateur or the salaried servants of enterprising nurserymen. No expense is thought too great, no labour too severe to deter men from the pursuit of new plants. Nor are these labours unrewarded. Rich men lavish money on the adornment and enrichment of their green and hot houses and their grounds; the man of moderate means must have his well ordered and well furnished garden, and even the poor man spares a few of his hard-earned pence for the purchase of a few packets of seeds of annuals to beautify the few square feet he calls his own.—*Country Gentleman.*

**FLYING FISH.**—The usual length of this fish is from ten to twelve inches, but at the island of St. Helena I have seen it offered for sale from fifteen to twenty inches long, where it is used, as in the West Indies, for food, and is of very delicate flavor. This species is named the Solitary Flying fish (*Exocetus Solitarius*), from not being seen in large flocks like the others; and it appears to have other specific differences. When watching these fishes close, as they passed under the stern of the ship, I remarked that the extension of both the pectoral and ventral fins as effected with an audible rustling noise, and only a vibratory motion was perceptible afterwards; nor was there any expansion and contraction of those organs during flight, after the first effort. Had there been any percussion of the pectoral fins, it would have been distinctly visible, owing to the proximity of the fish; indeed, to procure percussion of the fins it would be requisite to have an elaborate muscular apparatus; and as on dissection such is not found, the theory of that action of the fins may be considered unsupported by fact.

It was also remarked that the fish, when keeping in a direct line of flight, proceeded for a great distance; but when this was deviated from,