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Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturæ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero: de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

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Halifax, 1st. March, 1876.

In announcing the sudden death of WILLIAM BARRON, which recently startled our community, the daily papers paid a just tribute of respect to his memory, and united in expressing, what was very generally felt, that we had lost one of our most useful citizens. He was a kind and generous man in private life; he had the virtues needful for the successful merchant, he was an active politician and a spirited citizen, willing at all times to promote the public good, not seldom in a laborious way, but ever without ostentation. It is our place to speak of him here as a Horticulturist. Although

actively engaged in business, he found spare time in the early mornings and evenings to cultivate successfully with his own hands a large and valuable collection of chiefly greenhouse plants. To those who appreciate their beauty, growing plants are a never-ending source of pleasure, and Mr. Barron entered thoroughly into the horticultural spirit, watching with an interest that no one but a horticulturist can understand the opening of every new flower and the evolution of every new froud. At first, commencing with the more ordinary flowering greenhouse plants some dozen, or it may be more, years ago, Mr. Barron afterwards, when the exquisite race of tricolor Geraniums came into existence, was attracted by their singular beauty, and prosecuted their cultivation for some years with great earnestness, collecting all the best varieties, and growing them with success. At a later stage, captivated by the beautiful forms of the Ferns and their delicate tracery, he entered upon their culture, and had already, during the Summer preceding his death, brought together a large, and what may be described, as a very "choice" collection, including some of the best Bermudian and many of the most fashionable English sorts. Mr. Barron loved his plants as passionately as any horticulturist possibly could, and

yet he was liberal to his horticultural friends, ever willing to let them share in the pleasure of a novelty. His generous contributions to the Public Gardens in past years were very extensive, and their full extent may never be really known to the public. From the very first he worked hard to establish the Public Garden. No one took a warmer interest in it and no one did more to promote its success and enable its Superintendent to make it what? now is, a credit to our city authorities and a perennial source of pleasure to our citizens. Many a one will think of Barron's familiar face, in years to come, when walking through its grounds.

WE noticed the other day, in the Public Gardens, a nice pot of bulbs of our native Lily, *Lilium Canadense*, that had been obtained at Whycoconagh, in Cape Breton, last summer, by R. G. Fraser, Esq. It will be well for the discoverers of new or rare plants to recollect that by sending roots or seeds to the Public Gardens they insure the perpetuation of the plant, and enable the public to share in the pleasure of their discoveries. It still remains to be decided whether we have more than one species of Lily in the Province. Of "Water Lilies," which are of a totally different race, we have three distinct species.