

plants inevitably perish; therefore, the disuse of iron vases should be recommended.

Returning to the earthen-ware vases, I will endeavour to explain our practice with them, that with the wooden ones being after the same fashion. It is to our advantage to have the plants established in the vases before bedding out time, when a furnished appearance is at once obtained, and there is no fear of anything being checked by sun or transplanting, as would probably be the case were the planting performed when time came for placing them out of doors. In view of this consideration, we fill our cases in the first or second week in April, keep them in a growing temperature till early in May, when we gradually harden them off, prior to transferring them to their summer quarters in the last week of the same month, weather permitting. We use a soil consisting of good turfy loam, with fully one-third of decayed manure, for other than a rich soil would soon become exhausted by the heavy summer watering we apply almost daily. A sod placed being over the draining hole, some soil is filled in, and the central plant planted or plunged in the pot it has been growing in, then the pendant, and perhaps an erect growing plant or two, planted around within the margin. When all is finished, they are placed at regular intervals in ainery "at work," some small bedding plants carpeting the floor about them.

As centres, we use the variegated and green leaved American Aloes, which, having been wintered in a cellar, require a thin shading from bright sunshine for a week or two; the New Zealand Flax, *Centaurea gymnocarpa*, *Abutilon Thompsoni* variegata, young but good plants of *Gloire de Nancy* Pelargonium, (double scarlet), and the same of a single unnamed scarlet Pelargonium we have here. Young Pelargoniums we prefer to old ones, as they grow and flower well, but the old ones, although they bloom freely enough, grow but little, and in the fall have a naked and shabby appearance. Two years ago a foot high specimen of *Yucca aloefolia* variegata was used as a centre to one of these vases, and it had a charming effect, but it is too big now for the same purpose. Last year many of the coloured leaved *Dracaenas* were used for the same purpose, but they preformed their task badly. They will not stand the strong sun. The green-leaved *Dracaenas*, however, such as *Indivisa*, *Veitchii*, *Brazilensis*, and *Congesta*, grow and flourish freely under these conditions. We have some fine Palms, and a few other suitable plants for vase work in shady nooks, but we cannot trust them in front of the sun. *Chamærops Fortunei* has been tried in the vases, and it does well, but the wind fringed the leaves very much. The finer kinds of Zonal

Pelargoniums, tricolors, bicolors, white and yellow variegated leaved sorts, are very efficacious for this work in England, but here, as far as our stock of kinds extends, they are useless either for vases or flower beds. There is one exception, however, Crystal Palace Gem; it grows and maintains its character well under the hottest sun. The plunging of the central specimens in our care is mostly to be preferred to turning them out of their pots, in which case the roots so ramble that it is only with great mutilation of the same that the plants can be potted in the fall. Where there is extensive convenience for wintering these plants in warm glass houses this mutilation would signify but little, as, with some kindly treatment fresh roots would soon be produced; but as we winter Aloes, Phormiums, &c., in a dark cellar, we cannot afford to rob them of any more roots than we can possibly help, as otherwise the plants would almost certainly damp off before spring. The smaller plants used in the vases consist of some of the single and double scarlet Pelargoniums already referred to, Ivy leaved Pelargoniums, *Centaureas*, *Tradescantia Zebrina*, and the green and variegated kinds of the same; *Tropaeolum*, *Coleus Verschaffeltii*, *Iresine Lindenii*, sometimes single *Petunias*, but these grow so weedy and are so common here that we use but few of them; German Ivy (*Mikania scandens*), one of the freest growing of plants; and occasionally a plant or two of *Gazania splendens*. The *Gazania*, however, we find does not thrive very satisfactorily, even although it likes a dry sunny place in summer. The Creeping Jenny, so valuable for vases in England, does not succeed, and although *Lobelia*s have been repeatedly tried for that purpose, failure was the result. This is rather vexing, considering how well they thrive in England, and how destitute we are of blue-flowering plants for our vases. The Irish Ivy and several of the fine green and variegated leaved sorts of Ivies are excellent for this purpose, more than doubling their growth every year, and hanging down in graceful festoons to the ground. The *Mesembryanthemums* of the blandum section, I feel confident, would be a good addition to this list, as they bear sun and drought almost with impunity, and the drier they are kept the more determined are they to unfold their pretty flowers. They are free growing and pendant too, both worthy qualities; we have not, however, any of them, consequently I am unable to test their worth in this neighbourhood.

Five hundred imported singing birds have been recently set at liberty in Burnt Woods Cincinnati, by the President of the Acclimatization Society of that city, at his own expense.

WOOD PULP AND PAPER MILLS.

As Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures are mutually dependant on each other, our readers will be glad to learn that Mr. Ellershausen of Ellershouse, has succeeded in starting an enterprize quite new in this country. Some two hundred tons of machinery arrived by the steamship *Olympia*, and are now being forwarded to the St. Croix River, near Ellershouse, where buildings are already erected for its reception. The intention is to grind wood into pulp and manufacture this into paper. By the "process" which will be used in this establishment, wood without mixing it with any other fibre, can be manufactured into a strong and handsome brown paper. The machinery is exceedingly heavy, and will require in its operation immense power, but we are told that the turbine in the pulp mill has an effective 300 horse power. All honor and success to men of enterprize.

Reports on the Crops.

FROM O. M. TAYLOR, ESQ., EASTERN ANNAPOLIS.

Middleton, June 17th, 1874.

DEAR SIR,—I have the honour to state that a large breadth has been planted and sown, and has come up well. Farmers think the late rains will ensure a good crop of hay.

The orchards bloomed well, and as we have had no frosts, an abundant crop is expected.

Yours,

O. M. TAYLOR,
Sect. of E. A. Ag. S.

FROM CHARLES B. WHITMAN, ESQ.,
BRIDGETOWN, ANNAPOLIS.

Bridgetown, June 16th, 1874.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your request of the 10th inst, I beg to hand you the following report of the Crops of this District. The Hay crop promises to be above an average. The Apple crop also promises to be an abundant one, unless some unforeseen accident, such as insects, frost, &c., should occur. Potatoes have been largely planted, and are just coming up, therefore, we cannot speak with any certainty in regard to yield. Wheat is not much sown, but where sown is looking very well. Barley, Oats, and Buckwheat, are generally sown, but it is too early to form any opinion with regard to the prospects of these crops. The promise for the products of the Kitchen Garden is encouraging. Seeds generally coming up well. Turnips and Mangolds are more sown in this district than in former years. Indian Corn is backward for the season. But, judging from the appearance of all the