

"The various ways of root and top grafting were explained and practised by the students; also, the mode of propagating greenhouse and other plants; the watering, temperature and moisture required; the different systems of heating, and the potting, growing, hybridizing, and selection of plants generally; the composition of desirable soils for potting purposes; the insect pests that usually attack inside plants, with the means of getting and keeping clear of them; also the common and technical names of the plants we have, with the natural orders to which they belong. In all this the students generally manifested considerable interest, and, indeed, passed a very creditable examination at the close of the session; and not a few have so expressed themselves as looking upon these exercises of more real value to the practical man than the more tedious study of systematic Botany or Vegetable Physiology. It seems surprising how little the majority of intelligent young men know of the pot culture and management of plants. In this I believe that many could profitably take lessons from their elder or younger sisters. It is perhaps to be regretted that these practical lessons cannot be carried out to a greater extent into the Kitchen and Flower Gardens, the Orchard, the vineyard; and arboretum. This, however, cannot be done during the spring and summer months, unless more skilled labour is employed. One of the principal difficulties to be contended with in this department is to get the amount of work accomplished by student's labour, with advantage to them and justice to what is required of them—that is, to get the work accomplished in a satisfactory and workmanlike style; and with a growing demand for skilled labour, this want is greatly on the increase."

JAS. FORSYTH,
Superintendent.

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