

ranged with the same skill and good taste. Flanking the sides were natural pieces of shrubbery composed of lilacs in blossom, various trees and shrubs, the irregular marshes being formed by the spring flowers, such as hyacinths, tulips and daisies.

As a contrast between the fountain and the bank of lilies, before the mirror was an oval bed of cinerarias, composed of some 200 plants, the smallest plant of which was at least a foot in diameter. The crimson and blue shades of this group gave a prismatic effect equal to a rainbow.

The font, four feet high and nearly as many feet in diameter, composed of more than \$200 worth of flowers, was such an attraction as to impede the visitors materially in their efforts to see all there was to be seen.—*The American Florist.*

At the June meeting of the Germantown, (Pa.) Horticultural Society, there were exhibits of cut roses, the best ever seen at any of the meetings. As showing what sorts are considered the best, the annexed is a list of those in the collection of Messrs. Lansdale and Burton, to which was awarded first premium; with one exception—hybrid perpetuels.

Miss Hassard,  
Louis Van Houtte,  
Fisher Holmes,  
Alfred Colomb,  
Prince of Wales,  
English Moss,  
Gloire de Dijon,  
Marie Baumann,  
Marquise de Castellane,  
Rev. J. B. Cunn  
Paul Neyron,

Anna de Diesbach,  
Mlle Eugenie Verdier,  
La Reseille,  
Francis Michelin,  
Captain Christy,  
Magna Charta,  
Mad. Gabrielle Luizet,  
Prince Camille de Rohan,  
John Hooper,  
M. Isaac Ferrer,  
Baroness Rothschild.

The Sharpless strawberry still keeps its place as the best for general culture, its ample, luxuriant foliage ensuring a full supply of large fruit, in ordinary seasons, and of its flavor nothing but praise can be said. At this meeting it was the leading sort in every collection exhibited. Alongside of it in many cases was the Captain Jack, a sort that stands high in the estimation of the cultivators, as well for its perfect form as for its general good qualities. Boyden, Cumberland and Longfellow are also favorites, the latter for its very superior flavor.

#### EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS A DAY.

Benj. P. Ware's remark in an essay on "Corn Culture," that the corn of this country, during the one hundred days required for its maturity, grows to the extent of \$8,000,000 per day, amazes one at first thought. He places the corn crop at 2,000,000,000 bushels, and at an average price as worth \$846,000,000. This sum is twice the value of the wheat crop for 1883, three times the value of the cotton crop, and more than ten times the value of the products of the gold and silver mines together.

Farmers will never strike for eight hours. How the weeds would laugh if they did! - *Hartford Times.*

#### TOO MUCH WHEAT.

"Too much wheat!" So the dealers say,  
Millions of bushels unsold  
Of last year's crop; and now, to-day  
Ripe and heavy and yellow as gold  
This summer's crop counts full and fair;  
And murmurs, not thanks, are in the air,  
And storehouse doors are locked, to wait,  
And men are plotting, early and late.  
"What shall save the farmers from loss  
If wheat too plenty makes wheat a dross?"  
"Too much wheat!" Good God, what a  
word!

A blasphemy in our borders heard.

"Too much wheat!" And our hearts were  
stirred,  
But yesterday, and our cheeks like flame.  
For vengeance the Lord his loins doth gird.  
When a nation rears such a tale of shame,  
Hundreds of men lie dying, dead,  
Brothers of our ours though their skins are  
red;

Men we promised to teach and feed.  
Oh, dastard nation! dastard deed!  
They starve like beasts in pen and fold!  
While we hoard wheat to sell for gold.  
"Too much wheat!" Men's lives are dross!  
"How shall the farmers be saved from loss?"

"Too much wheat!" Do the figures lie?  
What wondrous yields! Put the ledgers  
by!

"Too much wheat!"

Oh, summer rain,  
And sun, and sky, and wind from west,  
Fall not, nor shine, nor blow again!  
Let fields desert, famine guest  
Within our gates who hoard for gold  
Millions of bushels of wheat unsold,  
With men and women and children dead  
And daily dying for lack of bread!  
"Too much wheat!" Good God, what a  
word!

A blasphemy in our borders heard.

—Helen Jackson.

#### A CAR OF FLOWERS.

California flowers are rarely seen in New York, notwithstanding our excellent express facilities. Yet an entire car of floral designs and loose flowers were actually transported across the continent, a distance of 3,000 miles, to decorate the tomb of General Grant at Riverside Park, New York, on Decoration day. The car, which started from Oakland, Cal., in charge of Mr. Sandborn, with James Hutchinson, a well-known florist of that city, contained some thirty designs, some of them very elaborate. The most noticeable was a representation of General Grant on horseback, larger than life size. The horse was almost entirely of candytuft, with the mane and tail of pampas plumes. The saddle was of red geraniums and the stirrups of calendulas. The face of the rider was made of white stocks, and the under side of the broad-brimmed hat of blue ageratum, while the crown was composed of roses. The trousers were made of candytuft, and the coat of blue ageratum. The design was shipped in three pieces, being too large to go into the car entire. Other designs were a wreath four feet in diameter, a Grand Army badge four by five feet, flag three by

four, a large "faith, hope and charity," four large pillows, a broken column, and numerous other small designs. A very handsome design was packed in a large flat box with a large top. It was a sword and scabbard of immortelles, crossed in the centre of a large wreath of California laurel, which was embellished with a few sprays of stephanotis, eucliaris and adiantum ferns, a bunch of which was tied to the wreath with a bow of wide satin ribbon. Though not showy it was an elegant piece of work. In addition to the designs there were about fifty buckets of loose flowers in water, such as callas, roses, marguerites, stocks, prionias, candidum, lilies and carnations. The car was well supplied with ice, and the flowers were sprinkled several times each day while on the way. An inspection of the car when it reached Chicago May 27, showed that the candytuft, marguerites and callas had stood the severe test with the least damage, the candytuft particularly was apparently as fresh as though cut the previous day. Many of the other flowers, especially the roses, had suffered severely, though many of them were still presentable. We think this is the longest shipment of fresh flowers in quantity which has ever been made, and it marks the possibilities of the future. What a delightful fairy story it would have seemed to the florist of fifty years ago had he been told that fresh cut flowers would yet be shipped from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and yet such is a realized fact.

#### TRY THE NOVELTIES.

(From *The American Gardener*.)

Experience being the best of teachers, I would advise testing the novelties before investing largely upon the recommendations of the introducers. Give them a fair and impartial trial beside varieties which are known to be good from experience. Try a small quantity: as many will fail, the loss will not be so great, and the experiment just as instructive. I once knew an extensive berry grower who made it a rule to try every novelty that came to his notice, regardless of cost or recommendations. Many proved a failure, but a few successful. When the Sharpless Strawberry was introduced, he invested \$10 in 100 plants; likewise as to the Glendale and Longfellow. The two last were failures, the former a success. He always obtained from two to four cents more per quart for them than he could for his Wilsons. He controlled the market for five years, easily competing with his slow neighbors, who still stick to the Wilson because the newer kinds were too expensive. I do not wish to be understood that the Sharpless is the best berry for all soils. One must try the different varieties on his own soil, and he will surely find some of them of value in his locality. The knowledge gained by these experiments will well repay the cost of those varieties that fail. JOHN JEANNIN, JR.