

Eclat.—Bright orange, lobes heavily blotched with a rich and very dark maroon, the lower part of the throat thickly spotted with a palish crimson.

Glowworm.—Bright golden yellow, all the lobes heavily and largely blotched with a brilliant maroon spotted throat, a very attractive variety.

Heroine.—Ground colour citron, heavily blotched and regularly spotted with crimson maroon. The flowers of this variety are frequently edged and banded with light crimson.

Incomparable.—Orange, prettily spotted and maculated with crimson, the lower lobe blotched with a glowing maroon.

Liveliness.—Bright yellow, lobes blotched and pencilled with a very rich velvety crimson, and frequently banded with brownish red.

National.—Lemon, marbled with intense maroon round the lobes, the lower one blotched with deep crimson.

Royalty.—A deep golden variety, the lower lobe prettily marbled with bronze and blotched with beautiful velvet crimson, the throat thickly studded with spots of the same hue, very showy and fine.

Wandsworth.—Orange yellow ground, blotched on the lower lobe with dark vermilion, the upper lobes thickly spotted with the same colour. The throat also faintly spotted.—*The Farmer*.

THE NEW SPOTTISWOODE RAT-TAIL OR POD RADISH OF JAVA.

At the third Great Exhibition for the present season of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park, (5th July) Mr. Bull, the London Nurseryman, exhibited "a new Radish, in which instead of the root the seed pods, which have the flavor of a radish, are eaten. Its pods are stated to grow three inches in a night, and when fully grown attain a length of between three and four feet. It comes from India, but it is said to succeed in the open ground during summer in this country."—(*Gardeners' Chronicle*, 8th July, 1865.)

The vegetable referred to in the above paragraph is no doubt the same as "the Spottiswoode Rat-Tail Radish," of which a full description and engraving were published by Dr. Lawson in *Downing's Horticulturist*, (New York), August 1860. It had been referred to in the *Revue Horticole* by M. Courtois Gerard, as the Madras Radish. It had been in cultivation for some years at the Edinburgh Botanic Garden and in Canada. It is a delicious veget. etc, a native of Java (not of India,) and appears to have been in cultivation in some parts of India for a considerable time, particularly in the neighbourhood of Benares. However, in *Hoitus Madraspatensis*, it is not referred to, and the name Madras Radish must be dropped as having probably originated in some error. It was introduced to Europe by Mrs. Colonel Spottiswoode, who, on Dr. Lawson's suggestion, sent seeds to Professor Balfour, and it was successfully reared by Mr. McNab, in the Edinburgh Botanic Garden.

Cultivators of this Radish regard it as one

of the most valuable vegetables that have been introduced for many years, being far superior in delicacy of flavor to the best varieties of Root Radish. The pods have a peculiar pungent yet delicate flavor, and are perfectly succulent, and may be used either as salad or to form a pickle. Its cultivation is extremely simple, very much that of the common Root Radish.

Notwithstanding the opinions expressed by writers in the *Revue Horticole*, we believe the plant to be identical with the *Raphanus caudatus* of botanists. The French horticulturists seem to find their pods comparatively short, while those of *R. caudatus* are described by botanists as three or four feet in length. It must be observed, however, that there are many varieties of the Rat Tail Radish, varying in the length of their pods, and that a good stock is only obtained by carefully saving seed from the very long attenuated podded sorts. Fourteen or fifteen inches was found to be a good length for the pods in Canada. In moister climates they will no doubt grow much larger, under good management, and in Nova Scotia we need not despair of obtaining pods that will approach De Candolle's description. "*Silqua tota planta longior, imo 4-5 pedalis,*" &c. We are sorry to see the root referred to as edible. In the true large podded varieties, the root is quite worthless, and the pods alone should be used. The young leaves, however, are succulent, and edible, and have the same flavor.

WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION OF TIMBER TREES BY BEETLES.

Mr. Gorrie has called attention to the destructive effects of beetles on young plantations, as shown in several localities in Scotland. At Wraes the young trees are so much injured that nothing can be done to save them, and cattle have been turned into the plantation. In Kirkton more than one-half of the trees are killed, while in Borthwickfield the number destroyed is considerably less than the half. The beetles attack the plants first at the base of the stem, eating and then puncturing the bark upwards. The plants destroyed are Scots fir, larch, spruce, Austrian, Weymouth, and other coniferous trees and a few beech, birch, oak, and mountain ash. The beetles occur in great profusion, and Mr. Myles gave a description of what he had done to diminish their numbers. Three boys were able to collect for some time between 1300 to 1400 each day in the plantation, but the beetles had so far diminished that the boys could only gather 600 or 700 a day. Mr. W. R. McNab, who had examined the insects, finds three different species—viz., *Hylurgus piniperda*, *Hyllobius Abietis*, *Otiobrychus notatus*.—*Proceedings Bot. Soc., Edin.*

WILD FLOWERS OF NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mrs. Miller, whose talents as an artist are well known in Nova Scotia, intends to issue a new series of coloured drawings of our Wild Flowers. We have had an opportunity of examining these drawings very carefully, and are pleased to find that they not only display much artistic taste, but are likewise very accurate in a scientific point of view. The present series of drawings are, in fact, the

best set of botanical drawings we have seen for several years, as regards drawing, artistic effect and colouring combined. Our only fear is, that it will be difficult, even in England, to find an engraver sufficiently accurate, painstaking and conscientious, to give a faithful rendering of the originals. We understand that subscribers names will be received by Mr. Gossip and Miss Katzman.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.—Fifth annual report of the Board of Agriculture of New Brunswick, 1865; *Journal of Agriculture and Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland*, Oct. 1864 to July, 1865; *American Agriculturist*, Nov.; *Journal de l'instruction publique (Bas-Canada)*, Octobre et Novembre; *Canada Farmer*, November; *Meehan's Gardener's Monthly*, Nov.; *Honeyman on the Geology of Arisaig*, (from *Pro. Geol. Soc.*); *Monthly report of Agricultural Department, Washington*, Sept.; *Report of Superintendent of Education for Lower Canada for 1864*; *The Farmer*, (Edinburgh) Nov. 1st, (from *Prof. Balfour*); *The Horticulturist*, (New York), Nov.

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By order of the Board of Agriculture,

GEORGE LAWSON, L. L. D.,

Secretary.

Halifax, Nov. 30th, 1865.

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