

had only been partly killed back by the cold weather. The accompanying cut of Jackson square, which gives also a birdseye view of the French market and part of the river, will illustrate the appearance of the city at this season of the year. In visiting the market we found little fruit besides oranges, lemons, bananas and Japanese plums; and very surprising it was to us to find that the oranges were either from Cuba or the Mediterranean. The vegetables were cabbage, lettuce, onions and garlic. The peas and beans could hardly be said to have arrived, a peck here and there being all we could find, with a few half grown carrots and beets. The meat market would bear but poor comparison with any meat stall in the smallest town in Canada. The beef seems to be coarse grained, thin and lean, with a dark bluish cast, anything but inviting to the palate of one accustomed to the use of Canadian beef. The fish market was more bountifully supplied with a considerable variety of fish, many of them new to us. On inquiring their names we found that they give the name of trout and pike and bass to fish very unlike those which are called by these names with us, while others, such as redsnappers, redfish and the like, were wholly new, both in name and appearance. Judging from our experience of the fish when brought upon the table, we would say that in richness of flavor, fineness of grain and firmness of flesh, they are not by any means equal to the fish of our Canadian waters; and even the oysters, of which so much has been said, lack the flavor of the oysters of Long Island Sound. This city seems to be growing in commercial importance. Ocean steamers lie at its wharves, taking in cargoes of cotton, rice and sugar, and discharging cargoes brought from foreign ports, and a general activity seems to pervade the whole city, which denotes business thrift. We had

not time to visit the manufactories of ice and sugar, for which the place is famous. On the whole the city presents many attractions to the Northerner for a sojourn during a part of our cold winter months; but for variety of horticultural productions in fruits and flowers, which contribute so much to home enjoyment, and for healthfulness of climate, this part of the world will hardly allure the Canadian from his northern home for more than a small period of the year.

#### MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We called the attention of the members of our Association, at their winter meeting, to the proposed meeting of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society, to be held in the city of New Orleans, on 21st to 24th February last. The writer availed himself of the excursion rates offered of attending the meeting of this society, and proceeded, in company with the Vice-President of the Association, to attend the meeting, and gather up what information gave promise of being valuable in our more northern, and therefore more severe climate. It is to be remembered that the Mississippi Valley, extending to the city of New Orleans, with its June like weather in February, also includes the arctic climate of St. Paul's. We found on reaching the place of meeting that we were not the only persons coming from ice bound regions, but that there were representatives from yet higher latitudes than ours. The society met in Grunewald Hall, on Wednesday, the 21st February, where the members were gracefully welcomed by Mr. E. M. Hudson, Vice-President of the Fruit Growers' Association of the Gulf States; to which the President, Mr. Parker Earle, responded on behalf of the society. He stated that the horti-