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HALIFAX, 1st June, 1875.

THE Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture leaves by the Steamer to-day for England. During his absence, any information connected with the Board, or its operations, may be obtained on applying to Members of the Board in the respective Districts.

The Address of the Secretary for the next three months will be: *Professor Lawson, Newport, near Dundee, Scotland.*

THE fine clump of *EUCHARIS AMAZONICA* in the Conservatory of the Hon. Provincial Secretary at Oakland, which was noticed some time ago, is sending up another crop of its magnificent blossoms. It is obvious that this plant flowers very freely when properly managed. The following extracts, culled from various numbers of *The Garden*, (an excellent English periodical lent to us by Mr. Jack), may be useful to those of our readers who wish to see the nodding bells of *Eucharis* in their conservatories:

"So rapidly has this noble stove plant grown in the estimation of the plant-growing public, that it is already almost as indispensable to the stove collection as the lily of the valley and the white camellia to the bouquet-maker. Indeed, the *Eucharis* bids fair to rival either of these, even with the Covent Garden people, and it is very extensively used among cut flowers. For room, stove, and, in the summer, conservatory decoration, it is equally valuable. To this we have to add that the best plants of it ever shown

were grown by Mr. Howard, gardener at Bedford Hill, Balham, and that his success resulted from heavy waterings occasionally with mild liquid manure, a genial stove temperature, and repeatedly syringing them when in a state of growth. It is another illustration of the fact that cultivators generally have a poor idea of the true requirements of plants as regards moisture at the root when in a growing state. The splendid specimens we allude to, like other things grown by the same skilful cultivator, were not, when in want of water, simply watered once, but the first was considered merely a preliminary dose, and two others given. The fact is that, instead of the common statement, made so repeatedly in the gardening journals, that most plants perish from over watering, being true, the opposite is the case. Most pot plants that die perish from insufficient watering. Let it not be inferred from this that we recommend frequent waterings, one thorough one will save a dozen dribblings such as gardeners too often give, and therefore save time, and be far more effective and wholesome for the plants."

"I have grown this plant for four or five years, but have not been able to flower it. Can you or any of your readers help me?—*Amateur*. [Mr. Howard, of Balham, replies as follows: The *Eucharis Amazonica* should be placed in a stove or warm frame, well exposed to the light. An ordinary warm dung frame will do. Let the temperature be from eighty-five to ninety-five degrees, giving little air, and syringe the plant well early in the morning, and at 2 p. m., when the air should be taken off, no matter how hot the sun is. Under such conditions the plant will throw up flower spikes in ten days if in a healthy state."

"This is one of the most valuable of winter flowering plants, not that it usually flowers during the dull season of the year, but it is one of those accommodating plants that may be forced into flower at any time by the use of bottom heat and a little judgment. Some ten or twelve plants potted and placed in a tan bed a month ago, are now throwing up flower spikes. Their great waxy blooms are well nigh invaluable for bouquets, floral decorations, or for ladies' hair. For the last mentioned purpose they stand unrivalled, *Phalenopsis* blooms even not excepted."

It may be well to explain that the *Eucharis*, like all other plants, must have its period of rest after blooming, and that then the copious waterings, syringing and bottom heat have to be carefully avoided.

THE *Amherst Gazette* quotes a few HORSE ITEMS that may well bear repetition:

A writer in the "Spirit of the Times" claims for Geo. M. Patchen, the sire of Godfrey's Patchen, the credit of having made the fastest two mile time in harness ever made, except Flora Temple's. She made it in 4.50½ and Patchen made it in 4.51½.

J. R. Keene, of California, has sold to C. W. Kellogg, the San Francisco millionaire, the trotting stallion Sam Furdy, for \$50,000. This is the highest figure ever paid for a trotting stallion.

At the meeting of the Pacific Jockey Club, San Francisco, in November next, a purse of \$30,000 in gold will be offered for a four-mile and repeat race, open to the world; \$15,000 to the first horse,