

England, is famous for his horticultural books, and all the result of his delight in gardening. And here is another Canadian minister, the Rev. J. Pullman Pilcher, of Smith's Falls, Ont., whose success is evident, who kindly sends us a photograph of his garden with the accompanying letter.

SIR.—By this mail I forward a photograph of my flower garden. I am the pastor of a very large congregation, yet for my pleasure and health I find time to cultivate a large garden. The work is all done by myself before breakfast. One hour a day will keep a garden in good order, will supply fresh crisp vegetables for the table, flowers for the church, neighbors and friends and appetite for the gardener.

#### OUR EXHIBIT AT THE INDUSTRIAL.

THE display of fruit from our fruit stations was exceedingly good this year. Each of our experimenters arranged his fruit in alphabetical order, for convenience of singling out any variety under consideration; and the labels, being written out boldly with a shading pen by our assistant, were a most important feature. The number of varieties of grapes shown by Mr. M. Pettit was limited, owing to the lateness of the season, but the apple collection from Mr. Dempsey, the pears from Mr. Huggard, and the plums from Mr. Mitchell, were unusually interesting.

#### THE CHABOT.

THIS plum (pronounced "shabbot") is coming to the front rank among the Japan varieties. It fruited this year for the first time at Maplehurst, and we first noted that the tree was fairly productive, and the fruit large and most attractive in color. Next we tested its flavor and were surprised at its excellence; it was tender, juicy and of a delicious flavor, and were almost convinced that it was the best Japan plum we had yet tasted. Surely this belongs to the first rank of Japans.

It was a little disappointing, however, to see this plum as grown in the Beaver Valley in the Georgian Bay District, and shown by

Mr. John Mitchell, our experimenter there, for in his exhibit it was much smaller and apparently quite inferior. Conditions of moisture, richness and cultivation of soil must have much to do with these differences, and should be further investigated. "In my opinion," said Mr. Orr, of Fruitland, "the best three Japan plants are Red June, Burbank and Satsuma.

"I do not know the Chabot, and of course it may displace one of these. Satsuma is blood red in flesh, and very desirable for canning purposes."

"In my opinion," said Mr. John Mitchell, our Clarksburg experimenter in plums. "the three best Japans are Red June, Chabot and Burbank. I also think very highly of the Satsuma, and would place it fourth on my list, for it is productive, quite hardy, and a splendid preserving plum.

#### FINE FRENCH PEARS FOR ONTARIO.

WE have noticed in our experimental plot several varieties of pears worthy of the attention of our fruit growers. One is Triomphe de Vienne, which is of about the same season as Bartlett, but larger in size, and another is the Hoosic, which is a trifle later, but is not only larger than the Bartlett but has a fine red cheek and is of excellent quality. Dr. Charles Saunders, of Ottawa, was particularly taken with a beautiful dwarf tree of this variety at Maplehurst, which was bending down with its tremendous load, and took a photograph of it for the exposition at St. Louis. Surely it would be a splendid export variety.

"I have an excellent French pear here at the Industrial," said Mr. W. M. Robson, of Lindsay, "which is worthy of notice. I procured the cions from the late J. K. Gordon, of Whitby, who was so well known for the large collection of foreign pears and plums in his garden. It is Beurre de Mortillet." It was truly a magnificent pear, averaging  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in