

by some landscape gardeners as worthy of a place in the lawn. Mr. Geo. Nicholson in his "Illustrated Dictionary of Gardening," says: "The Golden Elder (*Sambucus nigra aurea*) is a fine ornamental plant for shrubberies or for use in sub-tropical gardens. If the shoots are regularly pinched off at the tips, the plants may be kept dwarfed and of a fine golden color all summer.

#### BUTTER AND EGGS.

**519.** SIR,—I enclose you a weed that I planted in my garden last year, and this year it has spread in every direction. The root goes down about a foot and breaks easily, so I do not know what to do with it.

J. M., *Sturgeon Falls, Ont.*

The plant is *Linaria Vulgaris*, commonly known as Toad Flax, or Butter and Eggs, and is difficult of eradication. Digging or plowing the ground in summer, when the plant is in full bloom, should destroy it.

#### A HYBRIDIZED GOURD.

**520.** SIR,—Last year I grew some mock oranges and saved one of them for seed which I planted this year, but, instead of bearing mock oranges it has something resembling vegetable marrow, in color, size and shape. As I cut the orange open and planted the seed at once, there was no chance for a vegetable marrow seed to get in with the others. Do you think it would be safe to eat it? Possibly the bloom of the mock orange was affected by bees last year.

HENRY BENNER, *Ayr.*

The mock orange belongs to the gourd family, and so does the vegetable marrow, pumpkin, musk melon and Hubbard squash. These, when growing near each other, very often cross, and, either on this account, or through the agency of bees, the curious instance before us has come about. Probably the mock orange from which the seeds were taken was grown near a pumpkin vine, or a vegetable marrow, and was fertilized by its flower. The seeds therefore produced what is neither the one thing nor the other.

### \* Open Letters. \*

#### ERRATA.

SIR,—I beg to correct some typographical errors which appeared in my apiarian article in last issue, and which naturally alter the sense. In the last line on p. 317 read wire gauze instead of wire "gauge." In the next sentence (on following page) read broad section frames instead of "brood" section frames; and tin separators instead of "ten" separators.

ALLEN PRINGLE.