

ous vapours of coal gas. We wish some of the successful cultivators would let the readers of the *Agricultural Journal* into the secret of how to keep plants in rooms over winter.

Those who have not been very successful will now be looking about for supplies for summer flowering and for bedding purposes. We lately paid a visit to the Horticultural Gardens, and found great preparations going on there to meet the spring wants of the gardening public. Mr. Hutton is growing large quantities of bedders,—robust plants, that are likely to give satisfaction. Fuchsias, Geraniums, Verbenas, and hundreds of other things, are being propagated in such quantities that one might imagine our population were to become vegetarians and live upon green food all next summer. This is a very healthy sign, as indicating a rapidly growing taste for floriculture in our community, which is in fact apparent at every turn.

Mr. Harris, of the Halifax Nursery, has long been an active cultivator, and to him our gardens are indebted for many of the newer varieties of bedding and green-house plants now grown in the city. During the past season he has erected an additional hot-house, of large size, which will afford greatly increased facilities for producing saleable stock; he will thus be enabled greatly to increase his business, and to keep pace in some measure with the steadily increasing demand for plants and flowers. We wonder if Mr. Harris ever has the trouble to contend with of which the New York German florist complains so bitterly:—"I have so much drouble with the ladies when dey comes to buy mine rose; dey wants him hardy; dey wants him doubles. dey wants him moonldy, dey wants him fragrand, dey wants him nice goulter, dey wants him eberydings in one rose. I hopes I am not what you call one uncillant man, but I have somedimes to say to dat ladies: Madam, I never often sees dat ladies dat was beautiful, dat was rich, dat was good tember, dat was youngs, dat was clever, dat was perfection in one ladies. I sees her much not!"

We have to acknowledge the Annual Catalogue of Seeds sent out by Messrs. Avery, Brown & Co., which is a great improvement upon the Catalogues issued in Halifax in former years. It contains lists of all the flowers and vegetables likely to be required, either for garden or field culture, and we notice a considerable number of novelties. Our readers can obtain a Catalogue by calling at Avery, Brown & Co's., 7 George Street, Halifax.

Mr. Alfred Saunders, 192 Argyle Street, has also sent in his Catalogue, and his advertisement will be found in the present number.

During the last few years he has taken considerable pains to encourage the introduction of new Field Crops, Saintfoin, Alsylke Clover, Orchard Grass, Vetches, &c., and has recently taken charge of the Grain Seeds imported by the Board of Agriculture. Mr. Saunders is always very obliging in giving his purchasers the benefit of his own extensive experience in cultivating the various crops.

We have received a copy of Vick's Floral Guide for 1873,—an elegant publication, in which business and beauty are combined in the most surprising manner. We have here excellent suggestions on the choice and sowing of seeds, transplanting, management of hotbeds, hand glasses, laying out of pleasure grounds, walks and gardens, flower-beds, rockeries, pot brackets, window gardens, ivy training, dining table decorations, ribbon beds, exhibiting flowers, and so on,—the whole followed up by a classified catalogue of seeds, fully illustrated with excellent and remarkably well printed wood engravings of the various flowers and plants. We would willingly transfer some of the suggestive paragraphs to our columns; but any of our readers can obtain the Guide for a year for 25 cents, and the coppers will be refunded to those who afterwards order seeds. The address is James Vick, Rochester, New York State.

We have also to thank Messrs. P. Henderson & Co., 35 Cortland Street, New York, for their Annual Descriptive Catalogue of Flower, Vegetable and Agricultural Seeds. The frontispiece is an exquisite drawing of the new Fountain Plant (*Amaranthus salicifolius*), and the Catalogue is well filled with useful drawings of all the more interesting flowers, and especially of Garden Vegetables, Implements and Requisites. The Catalogue is well arranged, excellent hints are given throughout on the various crops, and we need hardly say that Mr. Henderson's long experience render these of the greatest value to every would-be successful cultivator. The Catalogue is sold for 25 cents, to be refunded to purchasers of Seeds. P. Henderson & Co., 35 Cortland Street, New York City.

Messrs. B. K. Bliss & Sons, New York City, also send a splendid Catalogue, replete with useful information respecting Flowers and Vegetables, new and old, which they offer for Sale. The frontispiece picture of new Flowers is by far the finest Chromo that has ever been sent out in a Seedsman's Catalogue, and Messrs. Bliss's Flower Seeds must be very fine if there is any hope of the plants yielding blossoms equal to those depicted on the paper. The Catalogue is rich in novelties, and sure to tempt every one who looks into it to order something. B. K. Bliss & Sons, 23 Park Place, New York City.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

BY I. LONGWORTH, ESQ., MARCH 26, 1873.

In the neighbouring Republic it is a matter of surprise and regret to leading public men, that it is but recently that the Claims of Agriculture have received national recognition, and that the government should not have appreciated at an earlier date the necessity of applying a portion of the national wealth to such development of the resources of the country. American statesmen are now fully alive to the vast importance of this great question to their country's welfare, and, by their liberal promotion of it from the public funds, are making ample amends for the lack of foresight manifested towards it by their predecessors, and the soundness of their agricultural policy is more than verified by the rapidly increasing colossal grandeur of that great country.

But how is it with Nova Scotia?

Should I attempt a solution of the inquiry, pray do not consider it done with a disposition to reflect upon our government and legislators for their treatment of a subject of paramount provincial importance, but rather believe me when I say that my earnest desire is that our public men should manfully grapple with the great question, and put their shoulders to the Nova Scotian agricultural wheel of fortune, and inaugurate an agricultural era, in the history of the country, something like what has taken place in, and has done and is doing so much for the people and revenue of, the United States. I wish nothing worse may happen to our government than that it may live to see the day when the farmers of Nova Scotia will reap and enjoy all the inestimable benefits that will follow in the wake of an advanced agriculture, and when the good time arrives I have no doubt but that the revenue of the Province will be largely increased from such a happy state of things. In the meantime let us not censure the men who are following in the same shallow agricultural furrow ploughed out by the Howes, the Youngs, the Johnstons, the Archibalds and the Tupperes—who thought more of Responsible Government, Roads and Bridges, Railroads, the Fisheries, and Free Education, than anything else,—but let us ask them to get out of it and make a deeper furrow for themselves, and treat the subject in a manner in keeping with the requirements of the age in which we live, in the way in which it is being handled in the more populous and more intelligent countries of Christendom, and with such a spirit of liberality as will best subserve the most material interests of Nova Scotia.

Dean Swift said, "The first cause of a country thriving, is the fruitfulness of the soil to produce the necessaries and conveniences of life." Adam Smith said, "Whatever increases the fertility of land in producing food not only enhances the value of the land itself, but increases that of other lands by creating a new demand for their produce. Food not only constitutes the greater part of the riches of the world, but it is the abundance of food which gives the chief part of their value to other sorts of riches." Dr. Liebig said, "Every step in advance made