

W. Taylor. Currants, white, 1st and 2nd, S. Burner, Gardener to P. Grant, Esq. Currants, red, C. Meston; 2nd, S. Burner. Gooseberries, red, C. Meston, 1st and 2nd, H. Shaw. Gooseberries, Green, 1st, H. Shaw; 2nd, R. Murray. Gooseberries, yellow, 1st, H. Shaw; 2nd, Thos. Buchanan, Esq. Raspberries, red, 1st, H. Shaw; 2nd, W. Chapman. Raspberries, white, 1st, T. Burner; 2nd, H. Shaw. Raspberries, black native, 1st, J. Freed; 2nd, W. Taylor. Tomatoes, 1st, Jas. Wildes; 2nd, C. Meston. Mr. Meston exhibited 30 varieties of gooseberries imported from Scotland last fall. Some of the fruit was of good size, and highly recommended by the judges.

**Vegetable Department**—Beans, French, 1st, Thos. Buchanan; 2nd, Jas. Wildes. Beets, blood, 1st, J. Wildes, 2nd, D. A. MacNab, Esq. Cabbages, 1st, Thos. Buchanan; 2nd, H. Shaw. Carrots, W. Taylor. Onions, Potatoes, 1st, Jas. Wildes; 2nd, W. Taylor. Cauliflower, 1st, W. Taylor; 2nd, Jas. Wildes. Onions, spring sown, 1st and 2nd, Thos. Buchanan. Parsley, 1st, C. Mills; 2nd, J. Wildes. Peas, 1st, W. Chapman; 2nd, W. Taylor. Potatoes, kidney, 1st, Jas. Wildes; 2nd, W. Taylor. Potatoes, Meshanoe Chas. Mills, Esq. Radishes, 1st and 2nd, W. Freed. Turnips, white and yellow, Jas. Wildes. Discretionary, Beans, Windsor, 1st, A. Stevenson; 2nd, C. Meston.

GEORGE LANG

Hamilton, Aug. 1861.

### Orchard Houses.

EDITOR OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—The enclosed paper on the cultivation of fruit trees in pots was read by Mr. Murray, Nurseryman, in this city, at last monthly meeting of the Horticultural Club. The subject is one that has been receiving considerable attention at home for some years—and although little has been done this side the *Atlantic* towards this mode of fruit culture—a start has been got, and I have no doubt that it wants only to be known to be appreciated.

Yours, &c.,

CHAS. MESTON.

Hamilton, August 6, 1861.

#### THE ORCHARD HOUSE, OR THE CULTIVATION OF FRUIT TREES IN POTS.

This mode of growing fruit trees has been practised in Great Britain for the last twelve years; it was first introduced by Thomas Rivers, Sawbridgeworth Nurseries, Herts, England. Much is due Mr. Rivers for the unwearied zeal and attention that he has bestowed on it for years; he has brought it to much perfection in that country. Of late the system has been introduced into the United States, and successfully carried on; but in Canada, as yet, few have been able to see its worth. It is wise to consider

well in all things, but not to be backward, particularly in such an important branch of horticulture as this. I hope, before many years pass over our heads, that all the wealthy portion of our community will have their "Orchard House;" and not they alone, but every farmer, merchant and mechanic, set under his own vine and fig-tree. I am happy to state that W. F. McLaren, Esq., has set the example in this city. May it be followed by many of our enterprising citizens. In stating my views on this subject shall in the first place consider the necessary accommodation in the way of houses, notice the most approved kinds, and cost of erection, then conclude at this time with a few short remarks on the culture and management.

Orchard houses may and can be erected of any size, model, or plan, to suit the taste and requirements of the individual or party.

The most approved is the span roofed, ranging north-east and south-west, thus embracing both morning and afternoon sun, you will observe that in this position the hot mid-day rays are in a manner rendered ineffectual in scorching or burning the foliage; thus being partly broken by the rafters and bars, and thrown off of the glass as it were on a tangent. In England large squares of glass are used in a glazing 20 x 12 inches, sometimes more; this they term "orchard house glass," but in such cases they use no rafters; the glass is set on the bars. This plan is thought economical, and to afford more light and heat. In this country we are differently situated, and therefore small glass 7 x 9 inches, with rafters and bars, are more commendable, for the reason already noticed. A span-roofed house 40 feet long, 20 feet wide, 13 feet high; sides three feet, partly glass, ventilated top and bottom, substantially built, and well finished every way, will cost about \$450 without artificial heating; and if heated, the cost depends upon the system adopted, whether by a hot-water apparatus or brick flue. An sized house may be built at a proportionate cost. Such a house as the above will contain with ease, 70 peach trees or from 80 to 90 grape vines in pots. Trees three years old, at a moderate rate, will produce, say of peaches, 10 dozen fruit; of grapes, five pounds, to each vine, and, as they advance in years, by good management, will increase in fruitfulness.

Taking a pecuniary view of this matter, calculating on very moderate returns, allowing largely for all outlay and labour, the conclusion we must arrive at is very encouraging.

Few trees give more satisfaction in the orchard house than a choice selection of peaches, nectarines and grapes; and to obtain this, secure early in the fall, good maiden plants, making sure that they have all short fibrous root, clean stem and well balanced top, well ripened wood, and free of disease, whether as pyramid or bush, to have a clean stem of 1 inch at the bottom. To form a pyramid, 1