

ered, intending thereby to set forth that they are so double that they resemble these flowers.

There is an opinion current among gardeners that old balsam seed is more likely to produce double flowers than the seed of last season's growth. But we do not know of any experiments that have been recorded which establish this as a fact. Perhaps some of our readers may have made experiments in this direction; if so, they would be interesting as tending to throw light upon this point.

ENGLISH SPARROWS.

Our attention has been called to the article under this title in the May number, page 108, where the eggs are spoken of as being of a *pale blue*. This is not the color of the eggs of this bird as they appear here. The young gentleman, who laughed at the description given, brought us some of the eggs, which are so nearly covered with rusty brown spots as to be almost brown in color, without any perceptible blue whatever.

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE BLACK WALNUT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST.

SIR,—It is very gratifying to find so many "anxious enquiries" for information respecting the Black Walnut tree, but at this time of the year it becomes too great a task to reply to all letters on this subject, and, as many persons ask nearly the same questions, the constant writing of answers becomes somewhat monotonous. Will you, therefore, permit me to reply to a

few of the most pertinent questions through the columns of the *Canadian Horticulturist*? By doing which, I think you will oblige many of your readers, as nearly all of my correspondents are members of the Fruit Growers' Association.

1. Can the cultivation of the Black Walnut tree be profitably pursued as a commercial enterprise?
2. Are the Canadian walnuts as good a desert nut as the English?
3. What is the style of growth of the Black Walnut? and have the trees long or short trunks?
4. What kind of soil is most suitable to produce a healthy and vigorous growth?
5. What extremes of temperature will it survive?
6. Is it a rapid or a slow growing tree?
7. What time do the nuts ripen?
8. Can the trees be easily transplanted?
9. I intend planting several acres of Walnut trees. Would you recommend the nuts or the young trees? When—in the spring or fall?
10. Where can young Walnut trees be obtained, and at what price?
11. Where can the nuts be obtained suitable for planting?
12. How far apart should Walnut trees be planted?
13. What preparation of the soil is needed, and what is the best manure for that purpose, if any is required?

REPLY.

1st. There can be no doubt respecting the profitableness of an investment in the cultivation of the Canadian Walnut tree, provided an average amount of intelligence is brought into play in the planting and culture of the