

England, Mauritius, the Cape of Good Hope, the East Indies, and America. The flower-gardens at and in the neighbourhood of Sydney would do credit to any part of the world.

The Norfolk Island pine, and that from Moreton Bay, (the *Araucaria Cunninghamii*,) thought by some to be as handsome a tree as the one from Norfolk Island, were also among the plantations. From the flower-garden a walk leads through a lattice-work bower, covered with native *Bignonias* and passion-flowers, into the kitchen and fruit-garden. These we found well stocked with fruit and vegetables of almost all European kinds, which seem to thrive particularly well here. The kindness, attention, and hospitality, with which we were received and treated, will long be gratefully remembered. To Mr. M'Leay, the Expedition is indebted for much aid, and through him our collections were increased. The English oak thrives well, and many fine specimens of it were seen. From the information I have received, very many of the Australian plants succeed admirably in England.

The soil of Sydney consists of black mould, mixed with a clean white sand. The quantity of sand is such, as in the dry seasons to affect the vegetation. This sand I understood is now exported to England at a great profit, being found a valuable article in the manufacture of plate glass. This soil, however, is made to yield a plentiful supply of fruits and vegetables; and the display exhibited at the Horticultural Exhibition was highly creditable, not only for the perfection to which the productions had been brought, but for their great variety. The exhibition was held in the large market-house in George Street, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion with branches and festoons of flowers. In front of the door was an arch formed of beautiful flowers, with the motto "Advance, Australia!" surmounted by a crown, and the letters V. R. in yellow flowers. Behind this the band was stationed, which, on our entrance, struck up Yankee Doodle. Tickets were sent to the consul for those belonging to the squadron. There were a great many South American plants in pots. A premium was received for *Tropæolum pentaphyllum*, *Maurandya Barclayana*, and for two species of *Calceolaria*. There were likewise *Amaryllis belladonna* and *umbellata*, *Bouvardia triphylla*, *Cobæa scandens*, and several *Passifloras*, and a variety of hyacinths, dahlias, tuberoses, &c., all fine.

The grapes exhibited were beautiful, and some of them in very large clusters. Nectarines, peaches, apples, pears, small oranges, shaddocks, pine-apples, chestnuts, and walnuts, were also in abundance.

After viewing the fruit we examined the vegetables, which consisted