bedding plants in tolerable order; but annuals were the most gay at the beginning of October. It ought also to be mentioned, that a bronze statue, said to be of great merit, of General Havelock, whom Sunderland relates as a townswoman, occupies the highest part of the ground; near this is also one of those trophies so often met with in towns of less note—viz., a Russian gun. The Havelock monument is, however, well placed, and is said to be a good likeness of the hero, and the view from its base is fine. The gardens rest on the banks of the river, with many houses in the foreground—further off the glittering ocean, dotted here and there with specks of human handicraft slowly making their way to their destined port; and the town itself, though less ornamented with church-spires and monuments than some of more ancient date, is seen to possess few of the dirty narrow lanes of old. In short, the place, as a whole, has been published by far as many cities of more renown. A peep at another public work will show that mere utility need not necessarily banish the beautiful, for in this both are combined.

SUNDERLAND WATERWORKS.—It is not usual that this class of undertakings is in any way connected with gardening matters, but the managers in this case have given their works such an ornamental character in the gardening way as to entitle them to notice—in fact, the floral beauties and good-keeping of the place make it a fashionable resort for those who do not object to a walk of a mile and a half from the town, and that mostly up-hill, for the waterworks are on very elevated ground, commanding the higher parts of the town. A good reason to behold the last with the same enthusiasm with which Professor Herbert was on his favourite subject of crossing. I called on him in London, and saw that he was very feeble. I wished to leave him, but he stopped me, and talked with much interest on this subject. An hour or two afterwards, as far as I could judge by the published account, he was found dead in the chair in which I left him.

But to return to the Pea-questions. An account of the various crosses made by Gartner (he selected the most constant varieties) between differently coloured Peas, with the results given in detail, will be found at page 81 to 83 in his "Bastarderzeugung." Gartner was led to try these experiments from doubting the correctness of Professor Herbert's crosses. Professor Herbert was one of the first to believe in the Pea case; not that Peas could be crossed with Vetches, to which other statement of Vigny was alluded. I may add that Gartner knew the account, published in vol. v., pages 222, 237 of the "Transactions of the Horticultural Society of London," on the influence of pollen on Peas. In an old volume of the "Philosophical Transactions," vol. xiii., page 525, there is a full account, with every appearance of truth, of Peas in adjoining rows affecting each other. The Rev. M. J. Berkeley has, as I have been informed, subsequently to the publication of Gartner's book, tried again the Pea-experiment with the same result.

—Charles Darwin, Down, Bromley, Kent.

GOOD-GRACIOUS PANSY.

We observed in your issue of 20th inst., a letter of protest against the name given to the Double Pansy now offered for sale by us, and we shall feel greatly obliged if you will insert the following in reply.

The plant was submitted to the notice of Mr. Beaton, and spoken of by him in No. 69 of your Journal, page 248, under the name of "Good-Gracious;" as follows:

"The 'Good-Gracious' Double Bedding Pansy was sent in the name of Messrs. Carter & Co., and had a first-class certificate from a flying quorum of the Floral Committee, for they all seemed on the wing; but besides the Sub-Committee, who were appointed to do the bungling, there was the Professor, the Earl of Sutherland, the Chairman, J. J. Blandy, Esq., and the Rev. J. Dix, who take the Chair in turns; the Secretary, Mr. Moore, and a lot of us; and we were unanimous in the award. Many ladies also seconded our resolve; and you may expect it next spring as cheap as it is good. But I have not yet had its genealogy, further than that it is a Swabian.—D.

When we gave the plant the name of "Princess Alexandra," we had forgotten that Mr. Beaton had already introduced it to the notice of the public in the pages of your Journal under the name "Good-Gracious;" and not wishing to confuse the public by offering the same plant under different names, we consented to revert to its originally-published cognomen. We do not, however, wish it to be inferred from the foregoing observations that we agree with your correspondent's opinion, and desire to