

ENGLISH HORTICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE.

By the Californian mail we are in receipt of English horticultural periodicals to 27th December. The *Gardeners' Chronicle* commences its last number for the year with a notice of a work on Dr. Erasmus Darwin, translated by W. S. Dallas, from the German of Ernest Krause, giving a sketch of his life and work, and prefaced with a notice by his grandson, the celebrated Charles Darwin, who furnishes fuller biographical details than were accessible to the original writer. Dr. Darwin was a celebrated physician, and also an accomplished and speculative botanist. Among several works which he wrote on Botany and kindred subjects, his "Botanic Garden" and "Loves of the Plants" are the most celebrated. But at the time of publication the subject was ill-understood and *Loves of the Plants* excited a large amount of ridicule. Of late years his works have been little read, but now that his celebrated grandson has, by the process of induction, with most remarkably patient experiments, laborious accumulation and consummately skilful marshalling of details, proved the truth of many of the speculations and deductions of his progenitor, the works of the latter are again becoming read by the curious and studied by the philosophic. The next article is headed *The Lost Grapes*, a Christ-