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however, much gratified by the able and judicious critical remarks of the gentlemen whose contributions to the discussion were read by the Honorary Secretary.

NOTE

With regard to the question of nectarines growing on peach-trees referred to in this discussion and in Darwin's *Variation of Animals and Plants* under domestication, vol. i., pp. 357-365:—Being aware that Messrs. T. Rivers & Son, of Sawbridgeworth, were the greatest nectarine and peach growers in the United Kingdom, and that they would be able to speak from experience,—the firm having cultivated the fruit for over a hundred years,—the point was submitted to it. Mr. T. Francis Rivers has most courteously replied as follows:—"The nectarine is merely a form or variety of the peach, and there is no more special difference than between a rough and smooth terrier. I have heard it asserted that a peach-branch had produced nectarines, but this assertion has never been to my knowledge on actual observation, but has been merely hearsay. I have had thousands of trees under my notice and have never seen the fact; it may have happened, but I believe the cause of the variations may be very easily solved, that is, that a bud of a nectarine had been inserted in the peach-branch and forgotten. The variation from seed is frequent, and indiscriminate peaches from seed produce nectarines, and *vice versa*. I send an example by this post. The peach and nectarine are raised from stones of the Advain nectarine, a very early sort. One can see that the peach is late and the nectarine hard. I have raised hundreds of seedlings with the same result.—Aug. 22, 1888."*

* To those who examined the specimens sent, the skin of the peach appeared less woolly than usual, and with a slight blush of the nectarine in one part.—ED.