

gooseberry bush bearing the name of "Highland Lassie," and it turned out to be the Downing, which any home nurseryman would have sold for five, or, at the most, ten cents. Another got twenty apple trees, for extra fine sorts and lived to reap seedling fruit of the meanest kinds. He paid a high price and his expectations were high, but time proved that he did wrong in giving his order to a *broker* instead of a legitimate nurseryman. If people think American grown stock is best, our advice is to send their orders direct to Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, or some other well-known firm there, and they will get what they order. But they might better throw their cash into the fire at first rather than invest with any tree broker, for the end of dealing with these gentry is "vexation of spirit" and loss of time and money. The Fruit Growers' Association is possessed of information and statistics sufficient to satisfy any reasonable man that putting faith in tree brokers is a delusion and a snare. Every fruit-grower should join this valuable Association, and keep posted so as to avoid delusions. Our advice to all is to give a cold shoulder to tree agents representing foreign firms who are not known, and order only from home, well known nurseries, who have a character to sustain, and will not, therefore, attempt to gull or abuse the public confidence. It should not be necessary for us to caution the Huron public so often, as so many instances of swindles have been seen, through confiding and unprincipled agents, that every one should be sufficiently on guard. We expect to hear from Rochester in regard to the firm already mentioned very soon, when we will give the public the news, good or bad. We enquired of two gentlemen from Rochester, who were attending the Toronto exhibition, but they did not know of any such firm of nurserymen as S. & W., and did not believe there was any such in Rochester. If the firm referred to are actually nurserymen, why are not their agents posted and able to tell us when this firm became nurserymen, how many acres they have under nursery, what stocks they actually grow, &c., eh?

"BEWARE."—We promised our readers full particulars regarding the firm of Stone & Wellington, who have been representing themselves as nurserymen. We already intimated that they are not nurserymen in Toronto, and now we have received reliable information, stating that they have no nursery in Rochester either, but that they are merely *brokers* who buy stock where they can get it the cheapest. Mr. Alex. Watson told us the other day that he can supply the same kind of roses for 50 cents each that the agent of the above firm sold here for \$1 each, and Mr. Watson will guarantee them, and his guarantee is good. We presume the stock which the above firm will supply will be the overgrown, forced stock which most American nurserymen grow and are always anxious to dispose of. We have now done our duty in exposing this matter and any who are gulled into purchasing such stock as is sold by "plate book gents" well deserve the result—disappointment and loss of money.

#### W. B. HAMILTON'S SEEDLING PLUMS.

I have some rare seedling plums, one of them I think will be the earliest plum in Canada.

Another produces prunes—they will dry on the tree or off, without sugar or any trouble whatever, not even sun, and have the flavour of the French prune. This is the first year of bearing of both,—the first is a beautiful peach bloom, but not highly flavoured, fair size, not so large as an egg; commenced to ripen before the 15th "August," and not in a favoured position either. I shall watch these trees with great interest.

W. B. HAMILTON,  
*Collingwood.*

#### A PLATE OF PEARS.

*From an Epicurean Point of View.*

Whether we consider its delicious flavour, easy culture, and excellent keeping qualities, or its long continued supply of beautiful fruit, the Pear in its many varieties may justly lay claim to the title of the fruit *par excellence*.

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