

to see *The Canadian Horticulturist* lend prominent space to the foisting on a gullible public something, which as yet is vague, indefinite, untested and may prove a fake so far as adding anything substantial and useful to our fruit lists.

By the way, is this company proceeding along the lines of those who, before selling, first prove the value of their acquisition by actual trial? Are the experiment stations to be given an opportunity to pass on the merits of the variety, or is this extensive advertising to proceed coincidentally with the propagation and sale of the trees? It would seem that the latter method is to be followed. Although the writer was promised specimens for examination last fall, they did not arrive for some reason; and unless I am misinformed, the samples exhibited in St. Louis were safely embalmed in antiseptic fluids and shown through a glass covering.

There is before me a copy of the *National Fruit Grower*, of St. Joseph, Mo., in which an extension or elaboration of the stock article published in last month's *Horticulturist* occupies a prominent place. Passing over the highly garnished statements of the incident of the sale of two specimens for 60 shillings in Covent Garden market, here are some of the statements volunteered by Mr. Sampson Morgan, of Broadstairs, England, the writer of this noted contribution: "In the near future seedless and coreless apples will be on sale in the fruit shops of every city in the United Kingdom." What prophetic vision enables this horticultural seer to pronounce on the success of this variety without a single trial having been made outside the grounds of the interested originator? "The tree produces a cluster of small green leaves like a disorganized bud. It is here that in due course the fruit forms." How astonishing! The apple is a multiple bud. As the winter bud expands in spring the several blossoms which it contains are disclosed. Apple blossoms without petals are not at all uncommon; several specimens

of these apetalous blossoms were sent me last spring. The petal is not an essential organ.

We read further that there being no petals and therefore no fragrance, the codling moth passes it by unrecognized! The author of this ingenious statement forgets (if he ever knew) that the codling moth gets in its fine work after the petals fall and the fragrance (?) has departed. True, like the writer of the interesting article, a second sight may enable it (the moth) to look within and discover the abnormality of the specimen and thus be frightened away. Again, "the trees are being propagated from buds, no seeds being available." Another revelation! Now, it may not be known to Mr. Morgan, but it is a fact nevertheless, that nurserymen have been propagating named varieties in this country by graftage, in which buds are used in various ways, since the settlement of the country. History further informs us that this method came to us from the Greeks and Romans or possibly an older civilization. We grow pansies and pop corn from seed, not apple trees—unless we are after something different.

Again this optimistic writer says: "The permanency of the seedlessness of the Spencer apple is beyond dispute. Over 2,500 trees are already in hand, and the stock is being extended." I am somewhat in doubt as to the nature of the stock referred to, whether the watered article of the company or the stock of this variety. My advice is to take little of either until you absolutely know what you are buying. Listen to this! "Arrangements are in progress to ensure ample supplies of these wonderful novelties in England, and their arrival will be duly announced in the advertising columns of the general press." We understand that a stock of 2,500 grafts will, in Jack-the-Bean-Stalk style, grow to bearing size and furnish enough fruit so that after satisfying the American market there will be a suffi-