

its length measuring only to the Matawan, will be 367 miles. Now, a railroad running over this line will traverse one of the finest lumber districts of Canada. There, would be the true stem of the great Canadian Pacific, the one most appropriate to the development of colonisation, of our mines, and of our forests. Add to all this, that it would be the shortest route for the transport of the riches of the west to the seaport of Quebec.

How numerous are the advantages of such a line, when viewed in detail! In the first place, it would be only seventeen miles longer than the present line (tracé) of the Canadian Pacific from Matawan to Montreal, thus offering to the federal government by far the nearest route by which to connect the Pacific and the great International line. It would act as a most fecund feeder to this road, by supplying it with the rich productions of the vast regions which it will throw open to trade and commerce. A few leagues, only, separate it from the great centres of industry and colonisation. It would pass within about fifteen miles of the establishment of the Oblate Fathers, at Désert, on its road to Quebec; then, it would leave the district colonised by the Rev. Mr. Labelle, on the Rivière Rouge, 9 miles to the south, and, further on it would traverse the Brassard township, a short distance from Messrs. Brassard's works, on its road to join the Piles railway, thus binding together all these great establishments, and putting them in direct communication with Quebec.

What a stride in advance would this cause the district to take. It would not be long ere, all along the route, new industries would spring up of their own accord, and the proprietors of the great timber limits of the Ottawa valley would find it their advantage to forward their lumber direct to Quebec, on its road to the workshops of the older continent.

When, in the construction of the new line, we arrive at the Piles, we find ourselves in direct communication with Quebec, via The Piles branch, and the Q. M. O. and O. road. And owing to this fact, it will be permissible to put off to a later period the building of the last part of the direct line from The Piles to Quebec. In addition to this, the railroad in question will put us in communication with the valley of Lake St. John, by the line now in course of construction in that direction.

Thus, then, a grand trunk line would be opened, passing through a country overflowing with riches of every kind, placing in communication with each other lines of industry already in operation, serving to start others into life, and giving us a road through the very heart of a country, now for the most part an uncultivated desert. The land would at once bring an appreciable amount of revenue into the federal treasury, our nationality would benefit by an increase of population, and, above all, it would afford a sure asylum for those unfortunate countrymen of ours now in exile and in danger of losing that national and religious feeling which is the distinguishing characteristic of the Canadian race.

The articles from the pens of Mr. Gibb and Mr. Pattison, written for the Montreal Horticultural Society, have been kindly forwarded to us for publication. The advantage gained by their being so early in the hands of the public will be evident to all our readers.

ORNAMENTAL TREES.

NOT NATIVES OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,

BY CHARLES GIBB, ABBOTSFORD.

(Written for the forthcoming report of the Montreal Horticultural Society.)

MORUS.—Mulberry.

There seems to be one variety of this tender tree of probable hardiness here. Last winter proved severe for most of

the kinds in the experimental grounds in Washington. Of these, the Alba Moreletiana from China and the Constantino politana appeared the most hardy.

The Broussonotia or paper Mulberry is tender some distanced to the South of us, and Downing's Everbearing is not perfectly hardy North of the city of New York.

Russian Mulberry.—It is to this I wish to draw special attention. It is said to have been introduced by the Menonites into Nebraska from lat. 49 on the Volga. This would be about 180 miles South of Seratov, a climate, I am told, very nearly as severe as that of Montreal.

Some think that it is a cross between the M. Nigra or black mulberry of Persia and the M. Tartarica of Russia.

The Fruit Record says that "trees the seed of which was planted five years ago, are twenty feet in height and six inches in diameter, and have borne full crops of fruit since they were two years old. Color of fruit red and black, flavor sub acid. In Russia they are used as we use raspberries and blackberries. Large quantities of this fruit are sold annually in the markets of Russia. The trees grow very large, frequently reaching a height of fifty feet. The timber is hard and durable and the fence posts made from it have the lasting qualities of catalpa or red cedar."

"The Russians also use it as a hedger plant, and it stands shearing as well as any tree on the list. It also grows readily from cuttings as cottonwood or willow. Last year cuttings made trees from three to five feet in height. The tree is perfectly hardy. Mercury thirty degrees below zero and not even the twigs injured."

The above statement is like many others which have been made about it, and, even if we make some allowance for the enthusiasm which surrounds new things, yet it seems worthy of fair trial. I procured one dozen trees last spring. Now our Abbotsford F. G. Assoc. is introducing it, I hope others will do so also.

PAULOWNIA.

P. Imperialis.—This is a striking tropical-looking tree, from Japan, with large catalpa-like leaves. It is a favorite street tree in Brooklyn. In Boston there is a medium-sized tree of it in the Public Gardens, but, I am told, there is scarcely another in the neighbourhood. At Rochester it is said to stand, though its flower-buds are often hurt. We cannot hope to grow it as a tree, yet if cut to the ground in the Autumn, and heavily mulched, it makes a growth of 6 or 8 feet, the following season. Its leaves are often 1 foot or more in diameter, and on that account decidedly ornamental.

PHELLODENDRON.

P. Mandshurica.—This tree was introduced a few years ago by Prof. Sargent, at Busy Institute, Jamaica Plains, Mass. It has large Butternut-like foliage, and grows to a height of 60 ft. in its native land. Mandshurica is that province of China which runs northward into Siberia, as Maine does into Lower Canada, and lies between lat. 42 and 53. It is a country whose climate is much like our own, but with flora very different, a country from which we may expect a great many useful and interesting plants. All trees, however, from the Southern part of this Province may not be quite hardy here, and I regret to say the yearling shoots of the Phello-dendron killed back somewhat with no last winter.

P. Japonica.—More recently introduced at Busy Institute, is a good grower, and shoots its terminal buds there without hesitation.

PLATANUS.—Plane.

P. Occidentalis. *American Plane* or *Buttonwood.*—This is a tree of large size, and of colossal diameter of trunk, common in the milder portions of Ontario and the States. It thrives best in a deep loose moist soil.

Mr. Drummond mentions that trees of it used to grow