

would he not again cry out humbug, and that I had written all this for the purpose of selling my trees; most assuredly he would, and by refusing to send the trees, perhaps Mr. Werden will say that I am afraid to put the trees to the test; but in order to test the thing fairly, Mr. Werden put 25 Dwarf Pears of his own selection, and I will put 25 Dwarf Pears of my selection in the hands of the members of the the Toronto Horticultural Society, or if he prefer it, in the hands of Judge Galt, the President of the U.C. Fruit Growers' Association. And if my Dwarf Apples do not produce more fruit for the first two, or if he prefers twenty years, than Mr. Werden's Dwarf Pears, I will pay for the Pears. And if the apples yield more than the pears, then shall Mr. Werden foot the bill. But Sir, to come to the test, and test the question fairly as to whether the apple will grow slow and bear earlier upon Paradise stock than upon the common apple. Let us walk out amongst them. Now, here we are, and here stands a Dwarf (Red Canadian) planted in 1853, it measures six feet diameter, and stands six feet high, it has had 7 full crops in 9 years, and every Spring a fine mass of blossoms, and the sight of the blossoms alone well repays me for the ground it occupies, and for the trouble of cultivation. And here stands (a few rods from the first) a Standard of the same variety, planted the same time, and both have received the same cultivation, viz., ordinary cultivation, or as other trees or bushes generally get in gardens of our thrifty farmers or mechanics. The tree is at least three times as large as the standard in every way, and has borne me just three crops in nine years. I could give at least a dozen other instances of the same results as to growth; but, as Mr. Werden, says he "would not mind going a hundred miles to see a bush of the Northern Standard of St. Lawrence in full bearing at the distance of two feet." I will instance the Standard of St. Lawrence and let that suffice. And here in my nursery, rows of 3 year old plants, in the Standard trees, there are four bearing fruit, thus: four, three, and one severally; and not one of these bearing trees is more than 2½ feet high. But my two standard specimens, St. Lawrence, 9 years planted, and at least 14 years old, fine, large, healthy trees, have never yielded me a dozen apples. And now, Mr. Editor, one word more and I have done. Mr. Werden has referred us to his prize essay on fruit culture, let us turn to it on page 10 of the Transactions of the Board of Agriculture for the year 1859, and let Mr. Werden's "fellow farmers" read it—here it is, for dwarf apple trees, I feel so well satisfied that they will give good satisfaction, that I commend every man that has ground only a garden, to fill it up with these trees, * * * and, my word for it, it will be

more profitable than 50 acres to agricultural purposes." What, a garden of dwarf apple trees more profitable than 50 acres to agricultural purposes! Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in your city, Mr. Editor, lest some of those wicked politicians should get hold of it, and should attempt to prove from this prize essay that our noble, Provincial Agricultural Association was a humbug; that the funds of the society were squandered upon essays on fruit culture, which were calculated to lead the people astray; if the advice respecting dwarf apple trees was followed. Surely, sir, if the term humbug will apply to any one in Canada who has written on the subject of dwarf apple trees, he who wrote the prize essay on fruit culture for 1858 is the man. That they afford a great amount of pleasure, and some profit, but few that have tried them will in my opinion deny. But the real profit in dollars and cents is another matter, and I would very much like to see the portrait of the man who had become rich from the profits arising from the sale of fruit that was grown either upon dwarf apple or dwarf pear trees.

Yours, &c.,

CHARLES ARNOLD.

PARIS, Sept. 13, 1862.

Interesting to Fruit Growers.

Any person travelling through the country will observe a general decay of fruit trees. Old orchards in particular, are in many locations an entire failure. What is to be done? Are we to be deprived of fruit, or is there some way to recuperate and prevent further decay? So far as the winters have an influence, we probably need not hope for any change, unless the severity be abated. Extreme warm weather, followed immediately by extreme cold has been the cause, I think, of the general decline of fruit trees. Then the borers and mice have made strange havoc among young trees. I set a row of trees, some third of a mile, near the wall, some five years since. Now there are a very few remaining, and several of those were saved by inserting scions across the wounds inflicted by mice—thereby carrying the sap from top to root. I have recently examined an invention called a "Tree Protector," by Homer B. Record of Turner, consisting of a shield and bonnet. The shield prevents the mice, borers and other insects from access to the trunk of the tree, while the bonnet prevents them from ascending into the branches. The material used is wire cloth, light canvass or what may be equivalent. The cloth is cut so as to go about one third around the tree and to extend upward about one foot. It is slightly enlarged at the bottom so as to conform