

QUESTION DRAWER.

THE BARTLETT PEAR.

5. Having been for many years interested in horticultural matters in England, I was surprised on my arrival here, of seven years ago, to find that well-known pear "Williams' Bon Chretien," to be so largely grown and known here, only under the name of "Bartlett. Can you tell me why this fine pear should be deprived of its right name?—Yours faithfully, ARTHUR GEO. HEAVEN.

We are told that the rose would smell as sweet if called by any other name, and so, fortunately, the change in name cannot deprive this pear of its excellent qualities. The name "Williams' Bon Chretien," or *Good Christian*, is a good name, and, no doubt, was bestowed upon it on account of its being sound to the core, and not deceiving the eater as such pears as the King Sessing, for example, which are hypocrites, presenting a fair exterior, but rotten at heart.

The pear originated in Berkshire, England, about the year 1770, and was propagated by a Mr. Williams, of London. When the pear was first brought to America, its English name was lost, and it was dubbed the Bartlett, after Mr. Enoch Bartlett, of Dorchester, near Boston, who cultivated it and disseminated it throughout the country. In France it is called *Poire Guillaume*, or the William, which is, of course, its proper name, but it is now so universally known in America as the Bartlett, that it is quite impossible to correct the misnomer.

This pear is a greater success in

our climate than in England, and is the leading pear in our markets during the month of September.

For some years past we have been in the habit of thinning out the crop of Bartletts in the month of August, barreling the prematures up and shipping them away. Owing to their tendency to ripen, if gathered green, the experiment has proved a success, these prematures usually bringing a fair price, while the remainder, thus thinned, grow to a better size.

POMACE AS MANURE.

6. Would a mixture of pomace and straw from cider mills be suitable to put round bearing apple trees? I am about to try it, but perhaps some of your subscribers can speak from experience.—Yours truly, J. B., *Meaford*.

There is no doubt a certain amount of value in apple pomace as a manure for fruit trees, for the apple skins, seeds and pulp contain a per centage of potash and phosphoric acid, elements which are especially useful as fertilizers for the apple orchard. But, in practice, the writer has found very little direct benefit from the application of them, probably because not in a condition to be taken up by the growing plants. In our opinion, it would be better to compost with other manure, and then apply after it is well rotted.

We shall be glad to hear from our readers on this subject, either from a scientific or a practical standpoint.