

"We have used the Crosby, but so far, I am not very favorably impressed with it."

"What objection do you find to it?"

"With young trees, it does not get large enough, and does not color up quite so nicely as some. We have planted it largely, however, and it may do better when the trees get larger."

"What three varieties would you recommend a beginner to plant?"

"We cannot cut it down to three varieties and cover the season."

"What would be the best one-half dozen varieties then?"

"Of course, much will depend on the location; but on general principles, in a peach-growing district, I think that the following list would be about as good as I could give off hand. I would cut out the white, or clingstones, entirely, in so small a list: Early St. John, Early Crawford, Elberta, Late Crawford, Lemon and Smock."

### RUSSIAN PEARS.

The most highly recommended of the Russian pears of the Budd-Gibb importation is Bessemianka (seedless). At the meeting of the American Pomological Society, last fall, in Boston, all who had tested these pears agreed as to its entire hardiness, and placed Sapiieganka next. Fortunately, this also is reported to be very good in quality. Both are of medium size, the trees good growers, and most are said to come early to bearing. I have some forty trees of these and other sorts from Russia and Poland. Not all are strictly iron-clad in our "test winters," in fact, Bessemianka seems to be the only one utterly untouched by 40° below zero. But Sapiieganka is only slightly hurt, while several others are likely to succeed fairly well. Bessemianka is a free, upright grower; yearling trees set in the spring of 1885 being now from six to nine feet high. As Mr. Gibb had fruit on Bessemianka last year, and mine bloomed this season, it would seem that they are, as reported, early to come to bearing. Sapiieganka is the reverse of Bessemianka in being a low, straggling grower, though vigorous. It is distinguished, also, by its red leaf-stalks. The leaves of most of these pears are thick and glossy, though less so than the Chinese pears. —Vick's Magazine for August.