

and he has no remedy, but purchases again from the next agent that passes, and is again deceived, until at last he gives up planting in despair and imputes his failures to every cause but the right one, namely giving his orders to irresponsible agents who have no reputation to maintain, that have not been heard of before, men who are obliged to get a certificate from the mayor of Rochester, knowing that the establishments they represent have not been heard of before; as it is a well known fact that these "small fry," generally change the name of their nursery and proprietors every two or three years. Moreover, these agents are making use of the names of our most respectable citizens, showing large orders that they pretend to have received from them; and the paintings of fruits, &c., they show their victims are well calculated to deceive the public.

Now sir, I wish to say a few words as to the sorts of trees the purchaser receives. No doubt they are to all appearance, in some cases, handsome, well grown trees; but the climate and soil in which they have been raised, is so favorable to the growth of fruit trees, and the land has been so highly manured in order to force the trees into a luxuriant growth, in order to make a quick return for the labor bestowed on them, that when these trees are removed into a more ungenial climate they receive a check to their growth that they seldom recover; besides, many of the varieties are entirely unsuited to the climate of Canada. The apple trees are invariably root grafted, that is they have been grafted upon small portions of the root of the seedling apple; they are then planted in the nursery rows, more particularly in the "small fry of nurseries that surround Rochester," at the distance of two or three inches in the row. If they all grow, which they are apt to do, they remain in this situation until they are fit for sale; they stand so close together that they are forced up into an unnatural growth of six or eight feet in the course of a few years. The writer of this, once having visited one of these apple tree manufactories, as I may call them, made the remark to the proprietor "how could he expect such trees ever to grow if removed into the climate of Canada." The proprietor said he, these are just the sort of trees the Canadians like, good tall trees that they can lough under without interfering with the ranches, and besides they are the just the sort he can sell most off to the pedlars that go South and North, the roots not being large they are easily packed, consequently the cost of transportation is considerably reduced. The pear trees, I would not have such trees as a present, generally sent over here, budded on the stock principally the Fontenay Quince) are entirely unsuited to our climate, and the varieties are in most cases such as are not suited to a Northern climate.

The Cherry Trees, also, are mostly of the heart or Bigarreau class—free growers, that are

generally ready for sale at 1 or 2 years from the bud. For a Southern climate, of course there is no class of cherries to compare to these, but they are entirely unsuited to our colder climate. No nursery man would think of recommending his customers to plant such Trees, except under the most favourable circumstances of soil and situation.

The Duke and Morella Cherries being of a very slow growth and hardy habit, are the only kinds that will succeed here, but they are not such fine looking trees as the Bigarreaus, consequently they are discarded by the tree-peddler.

The Plum Trees also sold by these pedlars are budded on the Peach stock, because it is the cheapest and easiest raised. The kernel is planted in the spring of the year, and is budded the following autumn. The trees are ready for sale in a couple of years, whereas, if they had been budded on the native plum, (the only stock capable of withstanding the severities of our winters), the cost would be double. Most purchasers never think of asking the question, What stock are they worked on? but are content with the fine appearance of the Trees. Now as the Peach itself will not live in this part of Canada, how can you expect the Plums that are budded on it to live long. This is one of the causes why nearly all the imported Plum Trees are dying all over the country. Then there is the Lawton Blackberry, which these pedlars are selling at from 50 cents to a dollar each, the price of which at any respectable nursery is only \$8 per 100, but which no respectable nursery-man would think of selling under any circumstances, except they are especially ordered, because he knows they are not hardy enough, as he has to cover them during the winter, otherwise they would be winter-killed.

As to Ornamental Trees,—look into any of our hotels, you will there see flaming placards bordered with portraits of Arbor Vitæ, Balsam Firs, &c. &c. Now if they mean the "Chinese Arbor Vitæ," it is well known that we have to make it one of the ornaments of our green house for the winter, as it will not live in the open air. If it is the Canadian Arbor Vitæ or White Cedar, you can get as good specimens in any of our swamps any day. The Balsam Firs are natives of the country; they are taken over south of the lakes, and planted into nursery rows there for a few years, and then sent back to us fine evergreens, and sold at enormous prices.

Now Mr. Editor, I will give you an instance (and I could give a great many, but it would occupy too much room in your valuable paper) how parties have been victimized by these impostors. A gentleman in Weston made a purchase of \$150 worth of trees and shrubs from one of these agents. The prices he was charged were enormous,—Tulip Trees 3 feet high, \$2 each, and others in proportionately high prices, the ordinary nursery prices for such trees being seldom more than 25 cents, or 50 cents at the