

space between the trees; the next time, I plough from the trees. As soon as there is danger of the whiff-trees striking the trees, I stop ploughing and use a one-horse cultivator. By this means I make the ground clean and mellow, without barking the trees or breaking the roots. I keep the land well manured, putting on about thirty loads to the acre annually, spread evenly over the land, except directly under the trees. Rank, strong manure close to the tree is injurious, and I have seen instances where young trees have been killed by putting strong manure close to them. Many trees are killed by mistaken kindness. I knew a man who killed all his gooseberry bushes by throwing salt around the roots. Another buried a dead pig close to a fine apple-tree. In six months the tree was only fit for fire-wood. A neighbor of mine oiled his trees two or three times with goose oil, and one day when I was passing called me in to see his discovery, and how well his trees looked. I told him to wash it off with soap-suds. He did so, but it was too late, and most of them died.

ST. MARY'S, ONT.

S. H. MITCHELL.

To be Continued.

GRAPE VINES FOR TRIAL.

THE Directors of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario have issued the following offer to the members, in a circular from the Secretary:

"SIR,—The Directors of our Association desire me to ask you if you are willing to accept of a new variety of Grape Vine, on the condition of taking good care of it, and making an annual report to the Secretary, from five years from the time of planting, of the results of your trial.

D. W. BEADLE,

Secretary."

We are much gratified to see the public spirit that animates the Directors of the Association, and have no doubt the offer will be accepted by a large number of the members. It is in this way that new varieties of promising fruits can be rapidly disseminated, and their value in the different parts of the country reliably ascertained. The Society is doing a good work, and every person who cultivates fruit should be a member. One dollar a year is the condition of membership, which can be sent to the Secretary at St. Catharines. Each member will receive a copy of the annual report, worth twice that sum. The offer contained in the circular is open to new subscribers, and any such who may wish to avail themselves of it are requested to forward their subscriptions, and intimate their wish in the matter, to Mr. Beadle as soon as possible.

BOXES FOR STARTING PLANTS.

Several devices, patented and otherwise, have been offered in which such plants as are injured by a disturbance of their roots may be started and afterwards readily and safely removed to the open ground. We gave, some time ago, a box with

moveable partitions in which melons, cucumbers, etc., could be started in the hot-bed or window, and the plants removed at the proper season without disturbing them. A correspondent, V., Antrim, N. H., says in reference to these boxes:

"I formerly used such an one, but I have lately used paper boxes, which I like better. The paper of my boxes, not being entirely decayed, holds the earth firmly in its place until the plant is set out. To make these boxes, cut strips of thick paper about 6 inches wide and 17 long; paste the ends together, lapping an inch, which will make a circle 16 inches in circumference; then press the sides of the circle together flat, and double once, making a book of four uncut leaves; now, open with the fingers, pinch down the corners properly, and a bottomless box four inches square is the result. Place as many of these as are needed close together in a wooden box, fill with earth, and sow seeds or prick out the plants. After trying boxes of wood, birch-bark, earthenware, etc., etc., I have for two or three years fallen back upon these paper ones as the simplest and best. It is best not to have the box that holds the paper ones so high by two inches as they are, as the paper then does not decay so rapidly as in higher boxes, and holds the earth together better in transplanting.—*Am. Agriculturist*.

FILLING ORDERS FOR FRUIT TREES.

At a recent meeting of the Iowa State Horticultural Society, the following resolution, after considerable discussion, was adopted by a strong vote:

Resolved, That the practice of Nurserymen in advertising their stock for sale, of stipulating that in filling orders for trees they shall have the right to substitute varieties other than those named in the order, instead of refunding the money, is reprehensible in the extreme, unworthy of honorable men, and a serious drawback to that general dissemination and culture of fruits which is so eminently desirable.

MANMOTH CALIFORNIA FRUITS.

A correspondent of Moore's *Rural New Yorker* enumerates twenty-three varieties of apples that were on exhibition at the Industrial Fair held in San Francisco in October. He gives the weight and measurement of each variety, a few of which we transcribe:

Gloria Mundi.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	x15 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches;	weight 26 oz.
Tompkins County King.....	15	x14	" " 19 "
Fall Pippin.....	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	x15 $\frac{1}{2}$	" " 16 "
Spitzenberg.....	11	x11 $\frac{1}{2}$	" " 12 "
Newtown Pippin.....	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	x12	" " 12 "
Rhode Island Greening.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	x11 $\frac{1}{2}$	" " 15 "
Baldwin.....	13	x12	" " 16 "
Roxbury Russet.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	x10 $\frac{1}{2}$	" " 11 "

All the other varieties being of a similar proportionate weight and size. Although so much larger than their New England progenitors, they are said to be equal, and in some cases superior in flavor, though not as good in "keeping" qualities. [We doubt the former part of the story.—Ed. O. F.]

The pears (nineteen varieties) ranged in weight all the way from four and a half ounces up to thirty.