

or early in September, apples, for this portion varieties of pears have class fruits.

he quince, has greatly ve to fifteen years for second or third season. arden of the amateur, r some that the trees 7 years, but experience r, they will endure for pear trees upwards of

of the best American of the best European, a well-known fruit of century. An English monks of Chartreuse, ving lost its name, was

pecial attention. The on the east side of the ge Platt, of Whites- fitable variety grown; Gage, a seedling of the efferson, raised by the ted with Mr. James

r the best botanists to species of wild plums, at improvement; but, hardness and adapt- throughout the United

arly into bearing. Its in the hottest parts of ly held in high esteem. eral named Lucullus, ng brought it to Italy

One hundred years ration, and they were ecies of cherry were and Holland. There 'garreau's," character- ire of the foliage, and s the "Dukes" and ing branches, smaller gs the common cherry d Early Richmond, a d the comparatively low sort grown. In some the roadside, which,

while affording ornament and shade, furnish the poor and the traveller with pleasant refreshment during one of the hottest portions of the year. This is particularly the case in the northern parts of Germany, where some of these avenues are many miles in length. Mr. Loudon, in his "Arboretum," says: These avenues are planted by desire of the respective governments, and that all persons are allowed to partake of the cherries, on condition of not injuring the trees; but the main crop, when ripe, is gathered by the respective proprietors of the land. When it is desired to preserve the fruit of any particular tree, a wisp of straw is tied in a conspicuous part to one of the branches. The highest respect is paid by the peasants and travellers to these appropriating marks, and the fruit remains untouched, and there is something as highly gratifying in this as in the humane feeling displayed by the Princes of the different countries in causing the trees to be planted, showing that kind treatment produce a corresponding return.

Downing enumerates one hundred and eighty-seven varieties of cherries as cultivated in this country, many of which are of American origin. Professor J. P. Kirtland, of Cleveland, Ohio, has been the chief experimenter in this direction, and by carefully crossing the different kinds, has raised from the seed thus influenced many excellent sorts. Among those chiefly cultivated, in addition to the common cherry, the following hold an important place: Early Purple Guigne, Black Tartarian, Elton, Black Heart, Governor Wood and May Duke.

#### THE PEACH.

Although the culture of this comparatively tender fruit does not promise much success in the northern portions of our Province, yet on some of our lake shores it may be grown with tolerable certainty. Along the lake shore district, in the county of Elgin, and stretching up as far as Amherstburgh, and again along Lake Huron near Sarnia, this fruit has been successfully grown. In the latter locality several large peach orchards have lately been planted. At present we know but little of the fruit capacities of these extensive districts, but from what is known, we are led to believe that they will eventually furnish an abundant supply of peaches for our people.

The peach tree is a native of Persia and China, and was brought from the former country to Italy by the Romans, in the reign of the Emperor Claudius. It was cultivated considerably in Britain, as early as 1550, and was introduced into this country by the early settlers, about 1680. The tree is more tender and short-lived than most of the other fruits grown in temperate climates, but it is very easily propagated, grows rapidly, and bears fruit while quite young. It is never raised in England, and not generally in France, excepting against walls. Even at Montreuil, near Paris, a village whose population is mainly employed in cultivating the peach for market, it is grown entirely upon white-washed walls. China and America are the only temperate countries where the peach and apple both attain their highest perfection in the open orchard. The peaches of Pekin are celebrated as being the finest in the world, and of double the usual size. It is said that the peach tree holds very much the same place in the ancient Chinese writings, that the tree of knowledge of good and evil does in the sacred scriptures. The traditions of a peach tree, the fruit of which, when eaten, conferred immortality, and which bore only once in a thousand years; and of another peach tree of knowledge, which existed in the most remote period, guarded by a hundred demons, the fruit of which produced death, are distinctly preserved in some of their early writings.

There is, probably, at the present time, no country in the world where the peach is grown in such abundance as in the United States. In all the middle, southern, and some of the western states, they grow and produce the heaviest crops, in every garden and orchard. Thousands of acres are devoted to this crop for the supply of the markets of the large cities, some growers having orchards varying from 10,000 to 100,000 trees. It would be difficult, perhaps, for the public to consume, in the short time that the fruit will keep, the enormous quantities thus thrown suddenly upon the market, were it not for the immense amounts used by the fruit canning establishments in the various cities of the Union. During a recent visit to Baltimore, Maryland, we enjoyed the privilege of going through one of the largest of these, then in full working order, it being the height of the peach season. The firm employed about 200 hands, and the daily consumption of peaches was fifteen hundred bushels. A large proportion of the employees were engaged in peeling the fruit, its soft character preventing the use of machinery for this purpose, and it was amusing to watch the dexterity shown by old