

and life of the tree. To those living far from a nursery, it would be the better plan to buy young seedlings from any nurseryman and plant them out in nursery rows, when having been hoed and cultivated for two or three years, they would be ready to be planted more carefully, being handier when wanted, always bearing in mind that two things are most important to success: (1) Never expose for a moment the roots to either the wind or sun; (2) Have as much earth adhere to the roots as possible when digging them up, not shaking it all off, as is too often done. If these remarks are carefully carried out there is no reason why spruces should not live and grow when transplanted as easily as any other tree.

Winona.

JUNIOR.

Fraudulent Packing.

SIR,—I have seen several articles in various newspapers, as well as in our magazine, on "Fraudulent Packing." In watching the packers in times past I have thought and said if the fruit buyers would give us a better price and take the best fruit at that price, also pay us more for good varieties than common ones, they might take the second quality at a less price, and it would be better for all concerned. And then our fruit would have a good name in the foreign markets, and there would be no difficulty in getting sales at a good figure.

But, no; they not only pack fraudulently, but give them other names frequently. Some two years ago our Huron "Apple King," so called, got our apples. We had a few barrels of Hubbardson Nonsuch: they were rather small, but sound; the packer marked them XX. When we took them to the station D ** C ** asked why those barrels were marked XX, and said "I will see them." He opened a barrel. "Oh," he said "they are all right." He then told the man that was stencilling them, "Mark those barrels Ontario." I thought at once it was a dishonest trick; by so doing deceiving the buyer. The same party, by his packer, acted dishonestly by us; promised to pay us two cents each for fetching out the barrels, and asked us to pack about a dozen barrels and would pay us for it, but we got nothing for either.

I am afraid some of our buyers will get nipped this year, and really I can't pity some of them.

Goderich.

WALTER HICK.

San Jose Scale.

SIR,—I read with a great deal of interest the letter of A. W. Graham, nurseryman, of St. Thomas, on this subject. I am one of those who suffer the most inconvenience from the existing laws, being a small local nurseryman, my customers coming direct to the nursery more or less every day during the planting season. But, while I can sympathise with friend Graham in the inconveniences he mentions, I have come to a very different conclusion from what he has. Instead of trying to induce the Government to relax their efforts, I think that all nurserymen, as well as fruit growers, should back up the Government in their laudable efforts to exterminate the dreaded pest, and cheerfully make the best of the inconven-

ience attending it. It is an old and true motto, "Of two evils choose the least." In principle, I am an out and out free trader, but, in this case, I think it was a commendable thing to prohibit the importation of nursery stock from the States. If one importation of infested nursery stock, through the carelessness or connivance of the officials, were permitted to come into Canada and be spread broadcast over the country, it would soon nullify all the efforts which the Agricultural Department has been making to exterminate the pest.

To the point that there are not fruit trees enough in the country at the present time to supply the demand, that will in time right itself. There is abundance of capital, business enterprise and horticultural skill to produce all the nursery stock which the country requires, if there is a reasonable prospect of disposing of the same at sufficiently remunerative prices.

Wellburn, Ont.

JOHN M. McAINSH.

Our Journal.

SIR,—I take pleasure in letting you know that I have received the first number of the Canadian Horticulturist for 1900. This being my twenty-third anniversary as a member of the Canadian Horticulturist Society and recipient of its valuable journal. I must tell you I have been pleased on many of these anniversary occasions with agreeable and pleasant improvements, especially of late years. I thought last year's dress, style and contents could not be improved on much more; but I have been agreeably corrected in my opinion, for on seeing and looking over the Horticulturist for January it gave me that animated pleasure that decided beauty, improvement and perfection can only give, for it has taken on several degrees of marked improvements, and I feel that its readers have something to be proud of in knowing that we have such a splendid paper to help to build up horticultural taste in our beautiful land. I must tell you we have a good strong Horticultural Society in Goderich, as there is quite a number of enthusiastic fruit and vegetable growers here, and our horticultural display at the fall show is in many exhibits superior to any thing seen in other parts of the country. It has been your wish that all members should state their opinion on the benefit of distributing plants and trees. I must tell you I have several standing monuments of lasting pleasure from the past distribution of trees and plants, viz.: the Ontario apple tree I received over twenty years ago could not be taken from the present owner for less than thirty dollars; my Miles Grape I could not part with for any reasonable price as it is one of the best of my forty-four varieties that I have fruiting; then my Idaho Pear, Dempsey Pear and Wickson Plum, all beautiful promising trees that would not have come into my possession if I had not got them in this way. It is well known that people getting trees this way are sure to take better care of them, so I like the system. Our Horticultural Society will have a series of discussions this winter and I shall send you some of the papers read before the Society. I will close by wishing you and all the readers of the Horticulturist a happy and prosperous year.

Goderich.

W. WARNOCK.