

was received from a gentleman who stated that he had for some time been engaged in selling trees, and had made large deliveries, both in the fall and spring; that on going over the ground the following season, he had invariably found on all soils that the trees planted in the spring succeeded best; and states, as the result of his observation, that the spring is the most favorable by at least twelve per cent. Some of the answers received recommend that trees should be procured in the fall, laid in by the heel during the winter, and planted out in the spring; others recommend the spring for stone fruit, while some again make it to depend upon the soil—preferring the spring if the soil be clay; on light soils, the fall. We prefer to set out in the spring; for the reason that the frosty winds, so prevalent during the winter, seem to dry up the trees when transplanted in the fall, thereby injuring and sometimes destroying their vitality. There can be no objection to taking up the tree in the fall and laying it in by the heel, if it be properly done, for in this way it is not exposed to wind and frost as much even as if left standing where it grew. It is often desirable to pursue this method in order to have the trees at hand, ready to be planted at any convenient time in the spring, and that we may obtain a better selection from the nurseries than sometimes it is possible to do in the spring.

HEDGE PLANTS—THE BERBERRY.

LINQUARY is often made for a hedge plant that will endure our climate, and can be easily kept, and yet sufficiently strong to make a good fence. Many efforts have been made to introduce the English Hawthorn, but we know of no instance in which the attempt can be said to have succeeded. Other plants have been tried and among these the Osage Orange; which, whatever may be said of it in the South-Western United States, has been found too tender to endure this climate. The Honey Locust has also been tried, and any one who is desirous of seeing a hedge of this plant will be cheerfully welcomed at Mr. Beadle's residence near St. Catherine's, where he can show him a field of twenty acres closed with it. But we have found this plant not easy to manage and that it requires too great an expenditure.

There are too many, however, who think the Berberry will prove just to be what is wanted, and we now call attention to it in

the hope that those who have made any experiments with it, will give us all the benefit of their experience, and that the plant may be thoroughly tested for this purpose. It certainly seems to possess many very desirable qualities in a Hedge Plant, some of which we will enumerate. First then, it is perfectly hardy, never suffering at all from the most intense cold. Second, it does not sucker or sprout from the root; this we know from an experience of fifteen years with the plant in cultivated ground. Third, it sprouts every year from the crown, throwing up numerous strong shoots which serve to thicken the bottom of the hedge as it grows older. In most other plants there is a continual tendency to die out at the bottom; but the Berberry, on the contrary, is growing stronger at the bottom every year. Fourth, it will require very little trimming to keep it in place, its natural height being only seven or eight feet, and its habit of growth being quite compact. Fifth, the old wood does not die out, at least has not in fifteen years, so that with each succeeding year the whole fence is only becoming more dense and strong. Sixth, the bark is so bitter that mice will not eat it, and probably no other animal, and the plant is sufficiently thorny to make it unpleasant to break through. Seventh, it is very ornamental both when covered with its graceful pendant yellow flowers in summer, and in the autumn and all the winter when covered with its beautiful festoons of scarlet berries.

In planting a hedge of it we would recommend setting the plants in a single row, nine inches apart, and keeping the ground on each side clean and free from weeds for three or four years, after which it might no doubt be put down with grass if desired.

The English Hawthorn.

The following written by Mr. Vick, himself an Englishman, with a just and natural love for the trees and plants and plants so closely linked with early associations, will shew what may be expected of the Hawthorn as a hedge plant in Canada:—

"Very much rejoiced would we be to know that the *English Hawthorn*, the *Quickset* of the farmer, and the sweet *May Flower* of the merry children,—with its beautiful green foliage, its fragrant flowers, its bright red winter berries, its dense, living wall, could be grown as well in this country as in England, but for this we cannot hope. The Hawthorn seems perfectly