

## Horticultural Department.

CONDUCTED BY JOSEPH FROST.

### TREE PLANTING AGAIN.

MR. EDITOR:—We are pleased to see that the subject of tree planting is receiving more attention than formerly. To this end the editors of agricultural journals throughout the country have largely contributed, and for it they deserve far more credit than they will receive.

It is to be hoped, however, that they will continue to agitate the subject until a farm house, undorned with trees and shrubbery, will be as great a rarity as one with them is at present.

We do not refer so much to those farms near large cities, as those in the more rural districts, where trees can be obtained with the least labor and expense. What excuse can be given for this neglect we cannot conceive; still it is the fact.

Want of time, or skill, need not be urged, for the work can be done so early in the spring as not to interfere with the "spring work" on the farm, and all the knowledge required may be gathered from a few short maxims, which common sense would teach any one, viz: The hole must be deep and large, the earth pulverized thoroughly, the tree placed not too deep, the earth not packed down too hard, the top trimmed closely, and as many small fibres of roots, *with the earth around them*, saved as possible. If you are transplanting evergreens, be careful in addition to keep the roots as moist as possible.

By observing these maxims, any one of the many thousand of the "farmer boys" that read the *FARMER* could line the road side and the front yard with the choicest trees of the forest; and we hope that if the old folks should think best to wait till another spring, the aforesaid boys will take some spare day, yoke up the steers, hunt up the pick, axe, and spade, and do it. You will never regret the work, whether you live there a hundred years, or sell the farm in five; for you will receive double compound interest for your investment in either alternative.

Trees of four, five, or six inches in diameter may be removed safely in the following manner: While it is yet cold in the spring, dig a deep trench around the tree, and let it remain till the ground is frozen hard; the tree can then be removed safely. We have seen the above tried on large apple and maple trees with entire success.

While we urge the necessity of planting trees, we would urge those who have time and means at their

disposal to plant evergreens, and not deciduous trees only, as is almost universally the case where any attention at all is given to the subject. Private gentlemen are not as yet expected to be at much expense in forming parks; but surely the authorities of our cities, who have been and are now engaged in this praise-worthy undertaking, ought not to pass by winter parks in their zeal for summer parks. As long as deciduous trees are only found in public parks, as is the case in most of the few which grace our cities, so long we must expect to see, for almost half the year, an array of gnarled trunks and leafless limbs, bowing and bending stiffly to the winter blast.

Some attention, however, has been given to this subject. On Fifth Avenue, in the city of New York, may be seen evergreens which present a beautiful appearance when all else is drear and lifeless. The city fathers have placed a few around the fountain in the Park; and near Madison Square there is a miniature winter park, one glance at which ought to convert the strongest opponent to the planting of evergreens, for here alone Old Winter seems deprived of power to destroy, only increasing the beauty of the scene by relieving its monotony, whether his rude blasts toss more swiftly the dense masses of living verdure, or has thrown over them his snowy mantle.

While the planting of evergreens is here urged only on the score of taste, can it not be urged as successfully on that of economy? Read that excellent article in the February number, and see if the writer does not give a sound common sense view of the subject, and take care that you may lose less fruit by exposure to cold and wind. Plant evergreens, and your orchards will not only present a more attractive appearance to the eye, but will in autumn give more satisfactory pleasure to the inner man. E.

EASTON, Pa.

### CANADIAN CHIEF GRAPE.

MR. EDITOR:—I see in the February number of the *CANADA FARMER* that "W. H. P.," of Portland, wishes to know more of the *Canadian Chief* grape. He thinks I have told rather a fine story; but I think if he will wait till next autumn, I shall be able to prove that we have the best open-air grape grown on the continent. The vine is in the garden of the Rev. JOHN BRENNAN, of this city. It has a southern aspect, and is planted in a sandy soil, about ten feet from a brick wall, and trained on a lean-to trellis.

I believe it is a hybrid, obtained by Mr. BRENNAN by inoculation of foreign with native sorts, but it is a secret that he wishes to keep, at least for a time.