

walnut (*Juglans sieboldiana*), and shell black hickory, all of which should be perfectly hardy at Toronto and produce fruit nuts. There are two kinds of hazel nuts which would also be quite hardy, namely, *Corylus rostrata* and *C. Americana*. The European filbert or hazel, though it would probably prove hardy at Toronto, so far as the wood was concerned, would not be likely to set fruit. The reason why the nuts do not set is that the pollen from the male flowers is shed before the female flowers are in a condition to receive it, the result being that the latter are not fertilized and no fruit forms. If the pollen were saved and applied artificially it is possible that the fruit would set. The American sweet chestnut is not perfectly hardy here. We have, however, a few trees which have not been

injured by winter and have produced nuts, but there were no kernels developed. The conditions at Toronto should be more favorable for growing the sweet chestnut than at Ottawa. The *Salisburia* is hardy here, and should succeed near Toronto.

W. T. MACOUN.

Horticulturist C. E. F. Ottawa.

#### Scions of Canada Red.

1218. SIR,—This last spring I put in about a dozen grafts of Northern Spys into a Canada Red tree, and they grew to nearly three feet in length but very small around. Will you please say through the Horticulturist what I had better do with them?

Norval.

F. F. BRADFORD.

The Northern Spy is inclined to grow rather slender wood. We would advise thinning out the growth, and cutting back from one-half to two-thirds its length.

## Open Letters.

### Hillcrest Orchards.

SIR,—From your note at the end of the article on Hillcrest Orchards, Kentville, N.S., in your March number, it might appear that the writer, Prof. Macoun, had been incorrectly informed as to the value of the oldest part of the orchard. To substantiate the figures which Prof. Macoun quoted I wish to say that this valuation of \$1,000 per acre has been placed upon the oldest part of the orchard by at least a half dozen orchardists well qualified to judge. Different blocks have different values according to age of trees. On the block of twenty acres referred to, the apple trees, 40 to the acre, are eleven years of age, and the additional intermediate trees, 280 to the acre, of the most desirable varieties of plum, peach, pear, cherry, apricot and quince, are from five to seven years of age, each one ready for work and not interfering in the least with the apple trees. Had there been but the forty apple trees to the acre it would not have been valued at more than \$400 to \$500 per acre at its age, but in its present condition it is not remarkable that it has been considered worth double that amount.

I am aware that this is the highest figure for orchard land, still some well cared for apple orchards of full grown trees of the usual number, forty to the acre, have changed hands in Kings county at that price and if you will do us the honor of a visit some time I will be pleased to show you from 20 to 40 orchards of from five to ten acres each, within a radius of seven miles of Kentville, whose owners will tell you. I think, that they

would not take less than that figure for them. There would, of course, be many in the same area, equally as old, that would not be worth more than from \$300 to \$600 per acre, but when our best fruit men are getting from 100 to 125 barrels of shipping fruit per acre yearly and receiving direct from the London commission men an average of \$2 25 per barrel for their season's crop you will understand the appreciation our orchardists have for such property. Respectfully,

RALPH S. EATON.

Kentville, N.S., March 27th, 1901.

### Grapes in Waterloo County—Three Good Ones

SIR,—Ten years ago I planted a few grape vines, among others, the Brighton, Worden and Moore's Diamond, three grand grapes, for the home garden. They have done exceedingly well here bearing fine crops every year.

Brighton, red, clusters large and long, finest flavor of any grape I have. Worden, black, the first to ripen, about the first of September; very good berries, large as Concord. Moore's Diamond, white, very good berry and cluster large and fine—a sight to see. For the farmer's garden these three would make a fine collection and give abundance of that fine fruit for the home.

The Green Mountain grape I received from the Association of Fruit Growers is a good grape and is doing well, early as Worden and very sweet.

Galt, Ont.

WALTER M. TURNBULL.