

kind of intruder in this town, and they not only work on our fruit trees, but on the locust trees; and as an inducement for others to try the plan, I will relate a little experiment I made on one of my locust trees. Last spring one of my trees, I discovered, did not leave out when the rest did, and on examination I found it was dead; and another one, a beautiful little tree, about four inches through at the ground, I found was full of bunches running around the tree. I took off the bark with a knife from a number of these bunches, and found creases cut in the wood round the tree, some two inches long, some three and four; but none that went entirely around it—some on one side and some on another—perhaps a dozen such places in three or four feet in length from the ground. The tree leaved out, but some of the limbs leaved three or four days before others, and all looked sickly. I expected the tree would die, of course, and I thought there would be no harm in trying an experiment on it. So I bored a hole with a half inch auger, as near the ground as I could, at least two-thirds through the tree, and filled it full of pulverized brimstone, and plugged it up with a pine plug, as tight as I could drive it in with a hammer without splitting the tree. This was done about the middle of May, and the tree appeared to be doing well until the 10th of June, when the leaves all wilted and dried entirely up, and I, with all my neighbors that knew anything about it, supposed the tree was certainly dead; but, behold! about the 10th of July it began to show signs of leaving out again; and sure enough, it did, and grew and looked as flourishing through the rest part of the season as any of the other trees. Now, whether the brimstone saved it, or what was the cause of its losing its foliage and regaining it again, I cannot say, but my own and my neighbors' opinions are, that the brimstone saved the tree.

The facts above stated can all be substantiated by more than a dozen persons; and if it should induce others to try the experiment, it will have the desired effect.

JOHN REYNOLDS.

BELLEVILLE, Jefferson Co., N. Y.

[For the Genesee Farmer.]

#### MILDEW ON GOOSEBERRIES.

MR. EDITOR:—I have been a reader of the GENESSEE FARMERS, and have found much valuable information in them. I am always glad to hear the experience of others upon various subjects, so I will venture to tell about some experiments which I have tried and found successful, hoping that if some of the readers

of the GENESSEE FARMER have been similarly afflicted, they may take the hint and do likewise.

My father had some nice gooseberry bushes; every year they would blow and shew a fair prospect of fruit, until they would be about half grown, when they would all mildew, and not one be fit to eat. This state of things continued for several years, when we happened to hear that to pour strong soap suds over the bushes, once or twice a week, when the fruit was setting, would prevent the mildew. Last summer we tried it, and the bushes fairly bent with fruit, which would fairly make one's mouth water, instead of their eyes as before. A neighbor of ours had gooseberries which mildewed in the same way. Last spring, while cleaning out his stove pipe, the idea was suggested of putting the soot upon the gooseberry bushes. It was accordingly done, and the result was he had gooseberries without mildew. H. B. S.

ROCKPORT, Pike co., Ill.

[H. B. S. will accept our thanks for the information contained in the communication. Facts are what must be known, for without them there can be no correct practice. We hope he will continue to favor us with the results of his observations.—ED.]

#### EASTER BEURRE PEAR.

SYNONYM: *Doyenne d'hiver*, the popular French name.

THE culture of winter pears has hitherto been much neglected. We are surprised that some enterprising cultivators do not plant extensively. Our large cities would consume immense quantities, and they would command greater prices than any other fruit. One reason why they are not more cultivated is, we presume, that they require more care and labor to prepare them for market. The autumn pears, such as the *Vergalieu*, (*White Doyenne*), can be picked from the trees and carried directly to market, while the winter varieties would require to be stored away for a length of time, and house-ripened. And then the supply of autumn pears is still small, and prices as high as cultivators can reasonably desire. We suppose that we shall not witness any extensive culture of the winter sorts until pear culture in general has become much more extensive and better understood. There are intelligent amateur cultivators, not a few, who even at this day express a disbelief in the existence of really fine, melting, winter dessert pears. Not one in five hundred, or, we may safely say, five thousand, of those even who have gardens, has yet tasted a fine *Winter Nelis*, a *Lawrence*, a *Beurre d'Aremberg*, a *Glout Morceau*, or an *Easter Beurre*; yet these are all delicious, melting pears, that will ripen in a good dry cellar without any extra care or attention whatever.

The *Easter Beurre* is a noble fruit—by far the finest, as we think, of all long-keeping varieties. That it has attracted so little attention among amateur cultivators is really surprising; for it succeeds