

These are but samples of expressions in the dozens of letters pouring into our office every day.

A Correction.—Mr. John Croil, Aultsville, writes: "I am requested by Mr. Beall to correct an error which, quite unintentionally, appeared in my letter in your December Number. I gave Mr. Beall credit for raising 1,600 quarts of strawberries on one-eighth of an acre. Give the honest man only his due. He claims only 800 quarts. *Half as honest* I'll try to be, and acknowledge to be far behind him, even at these figures.

## Question Drawer.

*This department is intended as an open one to every reader of the "Horticulturist" to send in either questions or answers. Often a reader will be able to answer a question which has been left unanswered, or only partially answered by us. For convenience of reference the questions will henceforth be numbered, and any one replying or referring to any question will please mention the number of it.*

1. Treatment of an Apple Orchard.—*Is top dressing with stable manure, commercial fertilizer sufficient for an apple orchard in grass; or would it be better cultivated? The orchard is fifteen years old. My neighbor thinks that the injury done by the plough to the roots and branches will not be compensated by the benefits of cultivation.*

R. BRODIE, St. Henry, Montreal.

If an apple orchard has been properly cultivated and cared for until it is fifteen years old, so that it is now in a thrifty condition of growth, it will be far better seeded down, and treated with an annual top dressing of manure. But if it has been neglected and consequently stunted in growth, it may need the stimulating effect of high cultivation for a year or two in order to bring it into a healthy condition. The greatest care is always necessary to avoid either scraping the trunk and limbs with harshness, or cutting off the numerous far

spreading roots by ploughing too deeply. Ploughing an orchard is an evil, but sometimes unavoidable.

2. Buckthorn Hedge.—*Will cows browse a buckthorn hedge?*

Mr. W. E. Wellington, of Toronto, says: "I think they will browse the new growth before it hardens. After the hedge has age, or the wood has ripened up well, they cannot injure it; but unless protected when it is young, and making succulent growth, cattle would be very apt to nip it just as they do the Honey Locust."

### REPLIES TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS.

6 (Vol. IX). Apples for Napanee.—I take great pleasure in reading the *Canadian Horticulturist*, and recommend it to my friends. I am surprised that you recommend Alexander as a winter apple for Napanee. It is a fine showy apple with us, some specimens measuring 16 inches in circumference; but it is not a winter apple by any means. But I have a kind, a new Russian, called Wolf River, not so large as the Alexander, a better keeper, and a heavier bearer, I would recommend Ben Davis before Walbridge; it stood the past winter very well with us, along side of Wealthy and other hardy sorts. I had the Yellow Transparent ripe on the 28th July, but it required near market.

R. BRODIE, St. Henry, Montreal.

*Note by Editor.*—The Alexander is not a winter apple; but in giving a list to cover the season, we placed it between the Duchess of Oldenburgh and the Wealthy. Will it not keep till December grown as far north as Montreal?

12 (Vol. IX.). Grapes for Orillia.—Mr. Wm. Graham, in the last Report of the Montreal Horticultural Society, recommends the following list for northerly latitudes, viz.: Delaware, Concord, Rogers' 9, 15 and 19, as being thoroughly