

4th. What effect do differences of soil and cultivation have on the "rust"? Are mulched or unmulched fields most liable to injury?

5th. Which varieties are most and which least affected?

6th. Is this disease increasing?

7th. What remedies have you tried, if any, and with what result?

Yours very truly,

F. S. EARLE.

Anna, Ills., April, 1884.

If any of our readers are so unfortunate as to have sufficient experience of this trouble to be able to answer any of these inquiries, we shall take a pleasure in publishing them in the *Canadian Horticulturist*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### FRUIT GROWING IN MANITOBA.

SIR,—I see that grave doubts are entertained as to our Great North-West ever becoming a fruit producing country, and that in consequence many are very reluctant to leave the fine fruit growing regions of Ontario for a land on which they may never have the pleasure of raising the very hardiest of apples. I must confess the picture has a sorrowful appearance. I beg to state that I have had some experience in that very interesting country and submit a few facts for your consideration: Two or three years ago, *en route* for Battleford, by the way of Winnipeg, Lake Winnipeg, and the great Saskatchewan River, I had to stay a few days in Winnipeg waiting for the steamer, and while there I wandered about the city in different directions; one of my rambles was up East Ballandine street, in which is the residence of Mr. Ballandine, and in his garden are a few apple trees, perhaps about six feet in height, and say two inches and a half through the stem, with just enough live wood in

them to let you see that they are alive, their appearance would indicate that most of the wood that was made in the summer was killed in the winter, as the trees were full of dry limbs and presented a wretched condition, but when you take into consideration the low black soil in which they were planted, you would almost wonder if they would thrive even in Ontario.

Having been some time employed as Farm Instructor on two different Indian reserves, in the vicinity of Battleford, and lastly as Farm-Instructor to the Industrial School of that place, I have had the opportunity of seeing young seedling apple trees growing in a very thriving condition, two years old, and I think in one case three years old, I did not see a dead branch on any of them, and they appeared as vigorous as any I have seen in Ontario. The lands in that part of the country are high and rolling, and although farther north and west than Winnipeg, the winters are not as cold, and then not having much fall rains the wood gets thoroughly ripe before the winter sets in, so that taking all things into consideration I should say that country is about on a par with the early days of Ontario, when the early settlers brought their apple seeds from the States and had fine fruit, as it was many a long year before a grafted tree was ever seen in the country.

Last year we had a slight frost on the 21st of August, which was very uncommon, but unprecedented frost prevailed all over Ontario at the same time. The year before we had no frost until the morning of the 8th of September, and very slight at that, and then again on the 29th a little heavier, but not the slightest summer frost in June, July and August.

Small fruits, such as the wild black currant and the wild red currant, and raspberries and strawberries are of large