

MR. D. B. HOOVER'S NO. 2.

No. 2 is a large apple, varying much in colour, some are nearly white, others yellow, and some with a rosy blush on one side, above medium size, obovate, coarse-fleshed, juicy, a good winter apple, partaking somewhat of the character and even of the appearance of the Fall Pippin. Fine flavour, fraîche, and likely to prove a good market apple. It cooks well. The tree is over thirty-five years old, hardy, and a profuse bearer.

Mr. Hoover has named it (Hoover's Favourite) or, Lady Washington.

PETER MURRAY,
ROBERT BURNET.

ECONOMIC FORESTRY.

It seems to us a wise determination on the part of the members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, to take forestry under their fostering wing. At a recent meeting of the Directors of the Society, it was unanimously agreed to extend their field of labour, and embrace in their beneficent efforts, the kindred study of forestry and arboriculture. The wanton depletion of our native forests by the inexorable axe of the emigrant renders an association of this sort almost imperative. The resolve of the fruit-growers has not come a moment too soon. Planting for shelter has become a necessity both for cereal and fruit crops. The advantages of planting for shelter are so universally admitted, that arguments are not needed to enforce the urgent duty. Besides, we have had more than one good paper on shelter both in the Annual Report, and in the *Canadian Horticulturist*. It has occurred to us that some valuable hints might be thrown out in an attempt to show the necessity and advantage of forest-tree planting as protection against storms of snow along the line of our extensive railways. This subject has been recently called to our attention by a pretty lengthy journey by rail from Ontario to Nova Scotia. What is true, however, of the Grand Trunk and Intercolonial Railways is equally true of Canadian railways in general, and more especially of roads running north and south.

The necessity of some sort of shelter different from the plans now adopted for the purposes of protection from snow blockades, will be apparent, if, for a moment, we consider the nature of the present means employed, and the perishable materials in use for the purpose. Both on the Grand Trunk, and Intercolonial Railways are erected storm fences, close-boarded, expensive, and subject to continual, almost annual repairs. Over the latter road there have been built large protective sheddings, of frequent occurrence in Rimouski and Restigouche districts, and more frequent still through several portions of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. It is at once apparent, that any suggestions to lessen these and similar repairs and expenses on fencing and shedding, must be of immense importance to the commercial and travelling public, and to the Government of the Dominion. How is this best to be accomplished? We are strongly of opinion that the purpose of the defence against snow storms is best to be accomplished by the aid of forestry. Along the almost entire length of the railways already specified, the Canadian balsam grows luxuriantly. In New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, it is the predominant tree. This fact would seem to indicate that the Balsam should be employed for purposes of protection. A few considerations, however, will go to shew that the balsam is not particularly adapted for this purpose. As it grows old, it becomes scraggy at the base of the trunk, and this peculiarity renders it unfit for railway protection. The tree is also short-lived, and very inflammable by accidental fires. Though indigenous to the soil, therefore, we would give the Balsam an inferior place in railway protective economics, and would greatly prefer the common Canadian pine. The latter grows everywhere from Windsor, Ontario, to Pictou, Nova Scotia, and would be found an admirable protection against blinding snow storms. The intensest frosts have no effect upon the tree, and the roomier it is planted the spray becomes the closer and thicker. We are persuaded that the Canadian pine is to take an important place for purposes of defence, not only in the Provinces of the old Dominion, but what is more to the purpose, in Manitoba and the far west. A fortune would soon

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