

## \* Open Letters. \*

### Fruits Not Barred Out.

SIR,—In an article in your late issue under the heading "Fruit Not Barred Out," we are informed that the Minister of Agriculture declines to prohibit the importation of fruit from the United States on the ground that "Manitoba would be deprived of such luxuries as shipping to Manitoba from Ontario or British Columbia would be impracticable, at the same time Manitoba must depend on California for her fresh fruits." Now I think a more silly argument could not be advanced on any subject. Is not California a greater distance from Manitoba than either Ontario or British Columbia. And further, they not only ship from California to Manitoba but California fruit is shipped to Montreal and even to England and that during periods when our fruits are rotting in the orchards for want of a market. The fact is California cuts us out of the markets of our own country with fruit not nearly in quality to our own simply because they can put them in the market before ours are ripe and then receives a better price than we would be thankful for.

From the fact that there is more danger of scale and disease being brought into the country through importation of fruit than through the importation of trees, I am convinced that the prohibition of trees by the Minister of Agriculture is for the purpose of benefitting nursery men rather than for stamping out the scale.

S. MORNINGSTAR, *Goderich.*

### Notes From Simcoe County.

SIR,—All the experimental stock has come through the winter in good shape, and a number of the trees are showing considerable bloom, so if no heavy frosts or other mishap occurs, we will have quite a variety of fruits this year. The following varieties are now in full bloom May 20th. Plums, Early Botan, Moldavka, Guei, Hudson River, Black Diamond, Union Purple. Cherries, Ostheim Russian, 207. The Russian Apricot Alexis is now in full bloom also.

Ten other varieties of plums and about the same of cherries are showing bloom.

The Princess Louise Apple, three years planted, is full of bloom.

As to the general outlook for fruit at present Winter Apples are with few exceptions showing a moderate amount of bloom. Early apples are very full. All kinds of stone fruits show immense quantity of bloom.

I used the full Bordeaux mixture this spring for first spraying when buds were swelling, and I think it is all right for the first as well as the second. I sprayed trees both young and old, currants and raspberries. It pays to spray young trees as well as those of bearing age.

G. C. CASTON.

### The Barry Pear.

SIR,—By express I have sent you to-day three good specimens of the Patrick Barry Pear, grown in California. They were shipped here last fall and have been in a uniform temperature of 35 degrees. I could have sent you some of this variety *fully one-third larger*, but they were badly packed and had discolored in spots.

This pear is a wonderful keeper. I never have found one of them decayed at the core. It is best when it is little more than a sack of juice. Its size, shape and rich orange russet color when ripe, combined with its superb refreshing, sub-acid flavor and keeping qualities, entitles it to high rank among pears. The dealer of whom I bought them is selling them at the corner of Wall and William street at 10 cents each, or three for 25 cents. On the same fruit stand, were *extra fine* navel oranges from California, selling at six for 25 cents, and six extra fine bananas for ten cents.

This pear, can be shipped if carefully selected and packed, from Ontario to any market in the world, and delivered in prime condition. We have visiting us at this time some friends from Berlin, Germany. They tell us that good fruit is rare there, and *very expensive*. It is a very wealthy city, and if the Ontario fruit growers will unite and erect there a cold storage warehouse, and establish an agency for the distribution of their fruit through other German cities, they will find a larger market than they now anticipate. Fruit can be sent there in the fall, placed in cold storage, and taken out and exposed for sale at pleasure; success will surely be attained, if brain, skill and integrity are united in production and distribution. What has been accomplished by Ontario cheese-makers can be attained by Ontario fruit growers. Prime cheese opened its own market, and prime fruit will do likewise. *Quality! quality!! quality!!!* Carefully selected and packed, will overcome all obstacles.

FRANCIS WAYLAND GLEN.

*Brooklyn.*

### Beet Sugar.

SIR,—Since writing you upon the beet sugar industry, the Secretary of Agriculture at Washington has made a report which contains information valuable to your readers, if they are interested in this rapidly-growing industry.

In 1897 there were nine beet sugar manufacturing in operation in the United States. They produced 90,491,670 pounds of sugar from beets raised upon 42,272 acres of land. It will be observed that the yield of sugar per acre averaged 2,140 pounds.

There will be eight more manufacturing