

that is the Snyder. The fruit is of medium size splendid quality, most hardy of any, and wonderfully productive. It does not send up many suckers, hence is easily kept in rows without getting too close together.

TAYLOR'S PROLIFIC is larger than the Snyder, and in some localities does well, but is of no use with me. In the vicinity of Owen Sound it is ahead of all others. Wherever the snow will cover it through winter, it is safe to plant it.

KITTATINNY is very large and productive, but is not hardy enough, except where the peach will succeed.

EARLY HARVEST is a newer variety that is being "pushed" by some of our American friends, but it is too tender for us in Canada.

STONE'S HARDY is very hardy, but has not been fully tested as to productiveness, but think it will not be as good as Snyder.

Of the new varieties now being offered for sale, none of them have been fruited in Canada to any extent.

There are very few farmers who try to supply their tables with small fruits. They say they have not time to grow them, but they will live on pork and other food that costs three times as much money to produce, and is far less nutritious.

The most successful way to learn to grow small fruits is to plant out a few of the best well tested kinds, and give them as good care as you can; you will then soon learn by experience the treatment required to make them a success in your locality. The farmer who will not plant until he learns how to grow them, will never learn, as it is only by growing them that he can learn the ways best adapted to his requirements. There can be much useful information gained by reading articles on the subject, but until you begin cultivation you will not so fully understand what you read in regard to them.

Our Native Evergreens.

BY HORTUS.

It is a fact of great importance, and for which we Canadians are not sufficiently grateful, that the Dominion of Canada is blessed with the most valuable evergreens for their different uses in the world. While many useful evergreens are imported from other countries, none equal in general qualities our own. What pine is known that is equal in point of value to our white pine? What cedar is used, or could be used, for the many different purposes as our own native white cedar? Look at the graceful branches and delicate foliage of the hemlock, a tree that for ornamental purposes alone stands almost without a peer. No wonder our forests are disappearing before the sharp axe of the busy lumberman. No wonder great rafts go sailing down the rivers and lakes on their way to be despatched to foreign countries. We have been, till now, too indifferent to the beauties and usefulness of our native pines and spruces. True, a little planting has been done through the country, as occasionally we now observe a hedge and a row of trees, or an avenue of pines, here and there, a small clump of spruces, or a belt of cedar. But we do not observe amongst the farmers as a class that love or desire for evergreens which should characterize them as a body. We are told they have

no time; they must attend to their ploughing or seeding; the stock requires so much care, and many other duties of the farm take up their time, so that attention is never paid to planting trees, particularly evergreens.

Many readers can call to mind the shelter and comfort experienced on a stormy and cold day when passing the southerly side of a belt or thicket of evergreens, or when they are opposed to the wind. We are sure that all that is required is the attention of many to be drawn to the subject, and they will begin planting. By doing this they will reap the benefit of sheltered fields, affording cosy nooks for stock to repose in in summer heat, and from piercing winds, besides setting the example to their neighbors. People are very imitative of improvements, and none more so than farmers, and when one plants groups of evergreens around his home, hedges and shelter belts, improving his place, so far as appearances go, at least a hundred per cent., he will have many who will follow his example in their particular locality. Our object in this article is not so much to repeat the oft told tale of the importance of planting trees, as to enumerate the native varieties, and to give such information respecting them individually as will be useful to those intending to plant.

First, our common pine (*Pinus strobus*), or white pine. Very little may be said about this valuable tree, as it is spread all over the country, and few are so ignorant as not to recognize it at a glance. This very commonness, however, begets ignorance and neglect of its great usefulness for planting around the farm. More care is required to transplant it than almost any of the others but the planter will always be successful if he minds to keep the roots damp and covered when collecting them for planting. It has very fine thread-like roots, and but few of them; it is necessary therefore not to break any off. The pine grows well on banks and cool places, particularly those of northern exposure, also in good lands and sandy places. It may be met thriving over a greater extent of country, and in all classes of soils, than almost any other tree. The best time for securing young plants is the latter end of May; any time in May, however, is safe to plant. It grows rapidly, and thrives in company with other trees. The red pine, or as it is commonly called, Norway pine (*Pinus resinosa*), is a strikingly handsome evergreen. In old trees the bark is of a reddish grey tint, and in large flaky scales, which makes it of peculiar interest. The leaves are 5 to 6 (two in a sheath) inches long, and of a pleasing dark green hue. Young trees of this variety are of great interest, and form conspicuous objects in any collection. It thrives on dry gravelly soils, growing quite rapidly. It is becoming scarce, as little or no effort, that we are aware, is made to propagate or preserve it from extinction. It may be termed a tree belonging to the picturesque class, and useful for planting for landscape effect.

We next come to the yellow pine (*Pinus mitis*), a medium sized tree growing generally in sandy or dry soil, furnishing a very useful firm grained wood. As pines vary considerably in appearance, some looking more robust and luxuriant, while others are less pronounced in color, and of a stunted, scrubby nature, it might

cause persons to think there were many different varieties, but this difference may be explained by the locality or situation and other natural causes having an effect on the tree where it is growing. *Pinus Bankman*, or northern scrub pine, and *Pinus rigida*, or pitch pine, may be found growing in places in Canada. The three we have mentioned at first will be found to comprise the bulk of our pines. Collections of pines, of which there are several to be found in the States, are called *Pinetums*, and here we may be allowed to advise the government or private persons to set about establishing such a collection. To our native pines may be added the Austrian pine (*Pinus Austriaca*), the Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), the Swiss or stone pine (*Pinus cembra*), and many of those particularly interesting and valuable ones introduced from California and British Columbia. The Austrian and Scotch Pine are now very common through the country, being introduced through the nurseries. They are very valuable for planting, each possessing desirable qualities peculiarly their own. A very unique and quaint little tree is the *Pinus mugho*, and of particular value for planting around rocky places, or particular points in gardens or cemeteries. It will be found a very interesting study to observe the characteristics of our different evergreens, noticeably the pines. All grow freely from seed borne in the cones, which may be sown in shallow boxes, or beds protected by boards on the outside. The growing from seed we wish to say more about at another time, and return to the subject of our native trees.

The next important group are the *Abies*, or spruce, of which in Canada we have three distinctly native, viz.: the *Abies Canadensis*, or hemlock spruce, generally termed simply hemlock. *Abies nigra*, black or double spruce, and *Abies alba*, white or single spruce. The hemlock is the most valuable of the spruces in regard to timber and the wood it furnishes, growing to greater dimensions than its relations; it consequently affords more wood.

(To be continued.)

Mr. B. Gott, an extensive fruit grower in Lambton County, makes the following reference to the varieties of apples which farmers should plant: - In our experience we find that an assortment of a moderate number of varieties of summer, autumn and winter kinds, but not too many, is best for ordinary planting. Most of our planters make a grand mistake in selecting too many sorts instead of confining themselves to a smaller number of well tried kinds. If we were asked to make a selection of good apples for ordinary family use in this country, we would without any hesitation say, plant with the greatest confidence of satisfaction the following: For summer, Tetofsky, Red Astrachan, Early Harvest; for autumn, Duchess of Oldenberg, St Lawrence, Colvert; for winter, Baldwin, N Spy, R. I. Greening, Wagner. These ten good sorts cannot be beat for our conditions. The best sweet apple is Talman's Sweet and the greatest keeper is Ben Davis or Am. Golden Russet, and the best apple for dessert is Fameuse. On the whole, this I consider to be the best and most profitable list of good apples that can be planted in this country.