



Fruits for Canada West.

THE Upper Canada Fruit Growers' Association has been for several years endeavouring to gather information that will enable it to prepare a list of fruits that may be recommended for general cultivation throughout the Province. The task has been found to be fraught with considerable difficulty, arising chiefly from the fact that so little attention has been given to the growing of choice fruits, and that but few of those who have paid attention to these matters find it convenient to be present at the meetings of the Association. From the information obtained the Society has prepared the following list, which is now laid before the public, in the hope that it may be of some service to those who are inclined to give attention to the cultivation of fruits. *Apples.* The Duchess of Oldenburg, Early Harvest, Lsopus Spitzenburg, Fameuse or Snow Apple (especially in the colder parts), Fall Pippin, Golden Sweet, Gravenstein, Golden Russet, Hawthornden, Keswick Codun, Northern Spy, Pomme Grise, Red Astracan, Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening, in the vicinity of the lakes; Ribston Pippin, Roxbury Russet, Rambo, St. Lawrence, Talman Sweet *Pears.* The Bartlett in the milder portions, Belle Lachative, Flemish Beauty, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Magdelaine, Seckel, Tyson, and White Doyenne. *Cherries.* The Mayduke and Kentish, and, in the milder portions, Black Tartarian, Elkhorn, Black Eagle, Elton, Napoleon Bigarreau Early Purple, Yellow Spanish, or the Bigarreau and Governor Wood. *Plums.*—Green Gage, Washington, Smith's Orleans, Lombard, Imperial Gage, Reine Claude de Beray, Prince's Yellow Gage, Cox's Golden Drop, Lawrence's Favourite, and Yellow Egg. *Grapes.* The Concord, Delaware, Hartford Prolific, and Clinton. *Currants.*—The Black English, Black Naples, Cherry, Red Dutch, Victoria, White Grape, and White Dutch. *Strawberries.*—The Jenny Lind, Barr's New Pine, Wilson, Triomphe de Gand, and Large Early Scarlet. *Raspberries.*—Franconia, Brinckle's Orange, White Antwerp, Fastolf, and Belle de Fontenay. *Gooseberries.* White Smith, Warrington, Crown Cob, Sulphur Yellow, Heart of Oaks, Irish Red, and, because it is not subject to mildew, the Houghton.

Cultivation of the Chrysanthemum.

Read before the Toronto Gardeners' Improvement Society, by Mr. George Vair, gardener to Hon. D. L. McPherson.

Of nearly 20 species of the Chrysanthemum, there are three which come more immediately under our notice. The first is *Chrysanthemum Segetium*, or the Corn Marigold, a native of Britain; 2nd, *Chrysanthemum Asetium*, a native of North America; and 3rd, *Chrysanthemum Indicum* which is the cultivated kind that will now claim our attention.

The Indian species is a native of China—an herbaceous perennial plant, introduced into European collections about 70 years ago. It is extremely hardy, so much so, that many of the varieties withstand the rigorous winter of Canada without any artificial protection, the same as the *Phlox* or *Aconit*. Two varieties flowered pretty well with me last fall, and I am in hopes that in the course of a few years we will have the Chrysanthemum among our collections of summer flowering border plants. We have already one great acquisition in that way, the so-called summer flowering sort imported by our president, Mr. Fleming. I would urge all those that have this variety to endeavour to save seed, from which we have every reason

to think that in a few years we may have abundance of summer flowering varieties. But to return to the cultivation of the Chrysanthemum: For fall decoration of the greenhouse, or a conservatory, they fill a very important place, being in flower when there is little or nothing else. I would recommend to propagate in the last week in January, or beginning of February, by striking cuttings in the usual way. In two weeks they will be rooted and fit for pulling off, which ought at once to be done in half-pint pots, in light rich loam and leaf mould. If the loam is of the right sort, they will not require any sand. When the plants have grown to the height of 6 or 7 inches, pinch off at least 24 or 3 inches. The reason of allowing them to grow to this height and then pinching so much off, is that they will throw out more laterals. The buds about half way down to the stalk are generally better developed and firmer, and throw out from five to six shoots. About the middle of March they ought to be shifted to pint pots, reducing the former ball of earth somewhat. They require abundance of air on all favourable occasions (otherwise they will be attacked with mildew), and must be liberally supplied with water. As the season advances, if they get plenty of air they will grow rapidly, and they must be attended to and pinched back, for now is the time for laying the foundation of a nice specimen. As soon as danger of hard frost is past, I put them outside in a frame, having previously shifted them into 7-inch pots, draining with charcoal and broken bones. About the middle of May they may be plunged out. I generally shift a few again at the end of the month for specimens. The best situation for them is in a place where they will get all the forenoon sun, it will be found to answer better than the sun in the afternoon, as they will require so much more watering, which will waste the soil too much, and otherwise make them look sickly. Manure water will greatly assist them, and give them a fine dark-green colour. They sometimes lose their lower leaves which is a sure indication of neglect in watering. I generally stop pinching them about the middle of August, as they begin to throw out short laterals near the top of each shoot, which is the receptacle of the flower buds. They may be shifted towards the end of the month, or previous to making their flower buds, which will be about the middle of Sept. I always stake them at the last shifting, as the wind is apt to split the shoots off. At this season they may be fully exposed to the sun all the day, they will set their flowers freely, and sufficient air after heavy rain will keep them from mildewing. I do not like to have the Chrysanthemum get checked in any way at this season, either for want of water or by a slight frost, for now depends the success in blooming time. No doubt the Chrysanthemum will withstand a good deal of frost without apparent injury, still I do not allow them to stop out too long for when taken to the house after a check in their growth, they will hardly recover again for the season. I have invariably found that those that are first taken in are the best. I recommend an abundance of air on all favourable occasions. I would here remark, that where dwarf plants are required, they may be propagated from layers: if large plants are wanted, they ought to be grown from cuttings. Some growers plant them out entirely in the spring. I cannot advocate the system myself, and do not recommend it, they get leggy and ill looking, more like a Jerusalem Artichoke than a Chrysanthemum proper, lose much of their foliage and soon become an eyesore in a well-kept house. The green fly will hardly trouble them if the plants are doing well. The foliage of the Chrysanthemum, when in good health, ought to be dark rich olive green. The underside of the leaf is covered with a light hoary coating, which immediately disappears if the plant gets unhealthy.

Rogers' Hybrid Grapes.

THE American Agriculturist says of these:—"An extensive series of seedlings sent out under numbers, but though called 'hybrids,' they have no characteristics of the European grape. The colours range from white to nearly black, the berries vary much in quality and time of ripening, are large, thick skinned, showy and some are foxy and burn the tongue. Being designated by numbers, there is already much confusion among them from the changing of numbers. The whole set is a complete muddle, and we do not think that the cause has been advanced by throwing such a crowd of varieties upon the public. If three or four of the best had been selected it would have been better. We have tried them from several different sources, and have not seen a first-class grape among them."

Experiments in Growing Apricots.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—The apricot is very scarce in this section of the country, many of the oldest inhabitants having seen neither the tree nor fruit. Now, whether it can be successfully grown in Canada, on its own natural stock or not, is a point on which I cannot speak; I know that it can be, when it is worked on the plum stock, as the following fact will testify. Three years ago last spring, a neighbour of mine procured some apricot scions and grafted them on the plum stock, and last year being the third from grafting, they bore some excellent fruit. Last spring I got a few scions, and grafted them also on the common plum stock, every one of which lived and threw out shoots, which at present look very healthy and vigorous. So far as I can ascertain, when it is raised in this way it appears to be as hardy as the plum in withstanding the severity of winter.

There are some things concerning the apricot on which I would like to get some information. 1. Can it be successfully grown in Canada on its own natural stock? 2. What are the most profitable varieties adapted to Canada? 3. Will it live long when it is raised on the plum stock? An answer to these questions through the columns of THE CANADA FARMER, would doubtless be read with interest by many of its readers who are interested in fruit culture.

J. M. McAINSH.

W. Missouri, Sept. 15, 1864.

REPLY.—1. There is no difficulty in growing the tree on its own stock, or on the peach or plum stock. The difficulty lies in getting the fruit. The blossom buds are very apt to be killed by the cold of winter, and when they survive the winter they open so early in the spring that they are sure to be nipped by any late frosts that may occur. If they should escape the severity of winter and the late frosts of spring and set their fruit, this is almost sure to be stung by the curculio and drop to the ground prematurely. There is no power in the different stocks to obviate these difficulties.

2. We do not believe that any variety can be profitably grown in Canada.

3. We know of some apricot trees growing in the County of Lincoln, that must be not less than fifteen years old, but do not know on what stock they are worked, nor do we believe the stock makes much difference, and we are sure they have not in that 15 years borne as much as 10 bushels of apricots.

Experience in Grafting.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER:

SIR,—I wish to give my brother farmers my experience in grafting. Last spring I grafted some of my apple trees, and one of the grafts produced one apple on it this season as large as the Baldwin apple. I wish to hear from some of our experienced nurserymen if they can beat that.

I have been very successful in grafting plums on the native wild plum. Some of my grafts inserted in May last grew five feet this season. I prefer to graft into stocks from two to three years old. The native plum lives longer than the tame. I advise my brother farmers, if they have not good fruit, to graft their trees over; they can depend on apples from the grafts in two years.

I have been very successful in grafting the pear on the native thorn. The best time to cut the scions, as far as my experience teaches, is one or two days before they are used.

You will hear from me again, as I wish to inform the ladies what ornamental shrubs and trees they should select.

JOHN PRINGLE.

Fullarton, Oct. 4, 1864.

NOTE BY ED. C. F.—It is not unusual for scions to bear the same year that they are inserted, particularly if wood having bloom buds is used. Of course the size of the apple will depend upon the kind; if the scion be from a kind that bears fruit larger than the Baldwin, the apple on the scion will be larger than a Baldwin.

The native plum is truly the best stock on which to graft the improved kinds, and is extensively used by our best nurserymen for that purpose.

The wild thorn does not make a satisfactory stock for the pear. The union is not usually durable the pear being easily broken out by the wind when laden with fruit.