

Winter Nelis.—Described under market varieties.

Josephine de Malines.—Tree, a moderately vigorous spreading grower, productive. Fruit, medium in size, roundish oblate, pale greenish yellow, netted and patched with russet. Flesh, a delicate pinkish tint, juicy, melting, sweet with a delicate aromatic flavor, very good to best. Season, December to February. On young trees the fruit is occasionally poor and astringent, but becomes much improved as the trees advance in age and is then one of our best winter dessert pears.

Jaminette.—Tree, vigorous upright grower, healthy, hardy and productive. Fruit, medium to large, roundish obovate, clear green, becoming yellowish green at maturity, marked with russet patches. Flesh, juicy, buttery, sweet pleasant flavor, gritty at the core. Season, January to April. Although not of the best quality, it is a good variety to finish up the season with, by keeping in a cool cellar and bringing a few at a time into a warm room, they can easily be kept in use until April. I have not found late keeping winter pears very satisfactory. So far the Jaminette is the only one I have found desirable, as a late winter dessert fruit.

Mr. BOULTER: Pick out three of the best varieties of pears for general purposes—to bring in money?

Mr. BEMAN: I would take the Bartlett, the Duchess Precoce, and then Bosc.

Mr. BOULTER: You would throw the Flemish Beauty over entirely?

Mr. BEMAN: Entirely—too much inclined to spot. The Anjou is a very shy bearer; with me it is almost worthless.

The SECRETARY: You do not grow it on the dwarf, do you?

Mr. BEMAN: No, I was not very successful in growing dwarfs.

The SECRETARY: The Anjou is far more productive on the dwarf.

Mr. BEMAN: So I have understood, but I did not succeed very well with the dwarfs. I do not recommend any dwarfs for my locality. I have not seen any dwarfs that have succeeded so far.

TOP GRAFTING AND IRRIGATION.

By J. I. GRAHAM, VANDELEUR.

The subjects of top-grafting and irrigation was brought to my attention when I undertook to collect the fruit of our township for exhibition. In passing from orchard to orchard I was surprised to see the amount of poor, worthless fruit, and so many poor fall varieties. I estimated there was over one-third that was worthless, and our local buyer told me that between a third and a half were fall varieties. When the buyer comes around he is told that he must buy these with the winter fruit, and that holds the price of the winter fruit down. I have been top-grafting for thirty years; I have a hundred varieties, and I am satisfied you can increase fertility by top-grafting; I refer more especially to the King. The Baldwin with us is considered tender, but where it is top-grafted it does not show the least sign of tenderness. For stocks, I find the common seedling is good, and I have found the Spy poor stock to top-graft; so also is the Baldwin and the Golden Russet. I have quite a number of varieties here, some grown on the original stock and some on top-grafts, which you may compare. But I have not noticed the differences referred to by Prof. Sears in the last *Horticulturist* in respect to the stock affecting the colour, keeping and taste of the apple. I have had success with the following grafts:—Hurlbut and Gideon on Ben Davis; Baldwin and King on seedling stocks; Hurlbut on seedling; Fallawater and Peck's Pleasant on Little Red; Cooper's Market on seedling stock

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