

❖ Question Drawer. ❖

FLEMISH BEAUTY IN VICTORIA COUNTY.

SIR,—I send you two samples of Flemish Beauty pear as grown in my garden in the ordinary way, the tree bearing a medium crop of fruit, all large and clean. How do these samples compare in size with Flemish Beauty as generally grown? The two weigh respectively 12 and 13 ounces.

My Glass Seedling plum trees have immense crops this season. The trees were literally broken down with fruit. We sold over 100 pails off it at from 40 to 60 cents per pail. I mention this to show prices and the productiveness of this plum in our section.

W. H. ROBSON, *Lindsay, Ont.*

The samples of Flemish Beauty sent by our correspondent are larger and finer than the average samples of this variety, as generally grown. Under exceptional circumstances, we often get pears of this variety equal to the samples of Mr. Robson's, but it is not a common thing, as a rule. Indeed, the Flemish Beauty, in the Niagara district, has, of late, been so troubled with the scab and with cracking, that it has been utterly worthless; and this pear has been entirely discarded by planters. Farther north, however, it appears to be one of the best varieties to plant, being hardy, productive and clean.

FORESTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SIR,—Professor Mills of the Ontario Agricultural College to whom I had written for information on the subject of the growing of hardwoods, has referred me to you as one who is likely to put me in the way of obtaining the desired information.

This province is destitute of such trees as hickory, walnut, ash rock maple, etc., and what I wish to know is embraced under the heads which follow.

J. R. A. *Victoria, B. C.*

We have referred the questions to Mr. T. M. Grover, of Norwood, Ont., who has had more experience in forestry in Ontario than any one with whom we are acquainted. We give his replies under each head:

A.—How long do they take to attain marketable value?

It will be eight or ten years for any of these trees to become valuable for factory work. Ash and rock elm would be the earliest in the market as second growth hardwood; maple as fuel at ten years; hickory, as a sapling, is very valuable at from ten to fifteen years; walnut comes in at a later age, twenty or forty years being needed to furnish good wide boards for cabinet work; white ash and elm are the first choice, and will likely grow more rapidly in British Columbia than in the east.

B.—Value at different ages?

Ash and elm, also hickory, ought to be five inches in diameter in ten years and are worth two cents a foot of the length, for waggon stocks. As hoop staff