

we pick our apples carefully and keep them in cool air, which prolongs their lives. Now there is one thing I have heard about our apples in England and Ireland which I dislike very much, to the effect that our apples are dry and woody. One gentleman said, "I don't know whether they are American or Canadian, but wish they would keep their apples at home." Now this seemed to warm my Canadian blood and I commenced to cut a few of such apples as Spy, Wagoner, Spitz, reminding them they had been gathered over ten months ago, which would result in a certain amount of good being evaporated, and they unanimously said "marvellous, marvellous." But can we wonder at people saying our apples are dry and woody

when so large a percentage of our apples are Ben Davis? I fancy this is the secret of such remarks; their beautiful color and symmetrical form attracts the buyer.

Their shape, color and keeping quality is unsurpassed, but what good is an apple without lots of well flavored juice? It is said by some one Ben Davis improves while crossing salt water, but I think this statement is a farce. How many apple growers in Canada lay aside carefully Ben Davis for home use? Fruit growers of Canada, it would pay you to consider this subject carefully and come to conclusions very soon on such an important subject. Hoping these lines may be of profit to some one, I remain, yours faithfully,
E. H. WARTMAN.

A SPRUCE GALL LOUSE

DEAR SIR,—I have read Mr. G. E. Fisher's letter in September Horticulturist about the application of fumigation methods to the destruction of the Spruce Gall Louse. So far as I know the life story of this insect the gall louse passes the winter about the base of the bud in a half grown state, and not in the egg state. I was not aware that the louse was viviparous. I was under the impression that the louse, not long after being hatched in May, formed a gall at the base of the leaf, and remained within the gall until the middle of August, when it emerged to lay eggs. I believe, with Mr. Fisher,

that with small shrubs it would be quite practicable to fumigate, but how would he pitch his tent when he had rows of tall spruce trees to deal with? I have found the whale oil and soap and tobacco solution effective if applied when the young gall lice were moving. This movement occurs twice a year, on hatching from the eggs about May 10th and August 20th.

I should think, also, that these dates would be the best for effective fumigation, for the lice are practically living in gas-tight cells from June 1st to August 10th.

"A SPRUCE LOVER."

News from the Societies

Kincardine.—The Horticultural Society of this place held their Sixth Annual Exhibition of Pot Plant and Cut Flowers in the Town Hall on Friday last. The display was first-class which proved that the efforts of the Society in the encouragement of this refining recreation is being appreciated by old and young.

The display consisted of common and rare plants so nicely arranged on the tables that the blending and harmonizing of color and form gave an addi-

tional beauty to the common without detracting from that of the rare. There were rubber plants and palms, ferns, asparagus, sprengeri, geraniums, glaxinias, and begonias, with hosts of other plants no less beautiful. The Otahite orange trees, one with ripe fruit, was to many a great curiosity. Some of the plants and trees exhibited required a great deal of care and skill in handling and the wonder is that only one mishap occurred in the handling of so many hundreds of pots and vases.