

before me. The tree is a rapid, straggling grower, with large shoots; it stands the frost and severe weather well; the bark is a yellowish-brown color, and is clean and healthy. Succeeds well as dwarf or standard. The fruit should be gathered some days before ripe; it will not keep long.

The Ontario Agricultural Commission after finishing their duties here paid me a visit, and expressed their delight while looking at this noble pear, as well as others that I may mention hereafter, and with my mode of cultivation. With the liberal aid given by the Ontario Government, the Fruit Growers' Association ought to play a conspicuous part in this great land of my adoption. British North America ere long will be one of the greatest countries under the sun, and one of the most valuable possessions of the British Empire. Canada is said to be the brightest gem in the British crown. Itself of richer value, it will be guarded with all the power, wisdom and love of a family heirloom. On these grounds, therefore, we can never cease to be affected with everything that affects the parent state.

I fear that I have trespassed on your valuable space, and perhaps allowed my mind to run into a strain foreign to the HORTICULTURIST, but being one of its first Directors I trust you will forgive me. It is this little monthly that is always welcome to my home, and has my best wishes for its future usefulness.

ON PEAR BLIGHT.

BY PROF. E. W. CLAYPOLE, YELLOWSPRINGS, OHIO.

In the number for April, 1881, appeared a useful and rational letter from "Rusticus" on pear blight. "Rusticus" records his experience, and then clearly and logically reasons from it to its cause. He does not jump to the conclusion that wood ashes are a specific remedy for this the most deadly enemy of the pear and apple in many parts of the country, but suggests that the ashes may improve the condition of the tree, and so make it less susceptible of injury from the blight. The fire-blight is now believed to be a parasitic growth in the soft bark of the young twigs, which disorganizes the tissue and destroys the starch; at least this is the opinion of Prof. Burrill, who has made a special study of the subject. Now it is well known that though