

CULTIVATION OF THE SUGAR BEET.

The quantity of seed required to the acre for the Sugar Beet would seem to be an insuperable objection to its cultivation as a financial enterprise, if the statement on page 238 of the *Canadian Horticulturist* is correct, for it says "about 10 tons of seed were used to the acre" at Coaticook, P. Q.

T. B.

Lindsay, Nov., 1882.

Thanks are due to our correspondent for calling attention to the above error. It should doubtless have read "10 lbs. of seed," though we have not now the article at hand from which the paragraph was taken to verify the correction.

EASTER BEURRE PEAR.

This pear does well here. The tree is a good grower and bearer. I have it planted for but five years, and it has borne three crops of pears. This year it bore a bushel and a half. I think that a most excellent crop for so young a tree. The quality is very good for the season when pears are scarce, but it is not as good as some of the fall pears, though a great deal better than some of them.

HEBA RAWLINGS.

Ravenswood, Ont.

SOME GRAPES THAT HAVE NOT SUCCEEDED.

The *Rural New Yorker* has an experimental station of its own, somewhere in New Jersey we believe, where the new and old fruits and other things are tried. We learn as much from failure as from success, and it is but right that the public should be informed of the failures, that they may judge whether it is wise for them to continue the experiment. We clip the following from the *Rural New Yorker* of Nov. 25th:—

After what seems a sufficient trial, we have this Fall dug up and thrown away

the following grape vines: Quassaic (Ricketts), too tender; El Dorado (Ricketts), mildews and rots; Highland (Ricketts), too late in five seasons out of six, and sour when it does ripen; Newburgh (Ricketts), too tender; Rogers' No. 1, Goethe, too late—mildews badly, both leaves and fruit; Eumelan, grapes fall off.

PREVENTABLE LOSSES.

I see harvested on one farm a moderate crop of corn and potatoes; just across the fence the yield is only about half as much, and just beyond it is a total failure. The land has every appearance of being equally fertile naturally. All have suffered from the drought, but not all alike. Here are certainly losses due to thoughtlessness and want of knowledge. It is supposable that each of these parties did nearly as well as their knowledge, training and energy permitted, yet the results are widely different, caused by the different degree of these elements possessed by each. If this be so, then to avoid the losses of the less successful farmer, his knowledge and land must approximate towards those of the more successful one. I have cited what I consider preventable losses of only two men, but there are thousands of just such men, and tens of thousands of just such cases, in every state. Who is to energize and instruct them? Who is to train and educate the 12,000,000 youth that now reside on the farm, so that such losses may not occur in the future? Who is to keep honored fathers abreast of the times—who were born in the beginning of the century, with limited opportunities for acquiring knowledge, and are hardly able to keep pace in their growth unassisted—with the improvements wrought by machinery, steam and chemistry? Twenty millions of men, women and children on the farm, all to a greater or less