

* Open Letters. *

Spraying for Pear Scab.

SIR,—At the late annual meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, at Peterboro', the question of spraying apple trees for the Codling Moth and plum trees for the Plum Curculio, came up for discussion. During the meeting, which I had the pleasure of attending, those present who had sprayed with Paris green as a remedy against these insects were requested to give the results of their experience, and some convincing instances were given, proving the efficacy of this method of fighting these two pests.

The following day, however, I am informed, there was some evidence brought forward, which was of an adverse nature. As I have tested this remedy and advocated its use for several years, I shall be very much obliged if any readers of the *CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*, who have failed to obtain paying results from spraying plum or apple trees, will write to me upon the subject. My only object in this matter is to arrive at the truth, as to whether the practice pays or not. I shall be glad also, at the same time, to receive opinions from fruit growers as to the greater susceptibility to injury of certain varieties of plums and apples. It may be well perhaps to mention here that I shall be at all times pleased to answer enquiries concerning insects injurious to crops, and that letters and parcels can be sent to me free of postage.

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J. FLETCHER.

» Our Markets. «

THE APPLE MARKET.

Probably there has never been a greater boom in the apple market than the present one. The great scarcity of apples both in Canada and the United States is now being fully realized, and prices are steadily advancing, with occasional fluctuations. On the 6th of December, a circular from Liverpool stated that the slight increase in arrivals was from Canada, and it was probable that the English market would be dependent upon that source for supplies. The circular also stated that the quantity arriving was altogether insufficient for the demand, and that the market closed at an advance of 3/ to 4/ per barrel. Canadian Baldwins were quoted as high as \$7.18; Ribstons, \$8.28; Kings \$9.25. Nova Scotia Baldwins, which come next in value to those from Ontario, reached \$6.21 and the Kings \$7.43.

On the 9th of December, a circular from another large wholesale house in Liverpool, farther emphasized the keen demand for all descriptions of apples, and called attention to the satisfactory returns which had been made to the Canadian shippers, Baldwins and Greenings reaching \$6.82; Kings \$7.91; adding that it was a matter of surprise to see the price received for Greenings, the explanation being that this variety is particularly favored at this season of the year, by people who at other times would scarcely look at them. Nova Scotia Baldwins sold at \$6.36; and Kings \$6.21.

A New York circular of the 18th of December quoted Kings at \$3.50 to \$4.50; Snows \$3 to \$4; Spys \$4; Baldwins and Greenings \$3 to \$4.

On the 16th of December, a circular from Liverpool states that the principal supplies of apples received in that market were from Canada, and that the prices were practically unchanged. Baldwins made \$7.06; Greenings \$6.94, and Kings \$9.37. These latter were usually plentiful on that date, and showed a slight falling off in value. Nova Scotia Kings reached \$7.43. Some Newton Pippins were sold as high as \$9.98 per barrel.

A cable on the 22nd of December, stated that the market was depressed in consequence of the holidays. The highest quotations for Baldwins was \$6.09; Greenings \$5.60; Kings \$6.82.

An article in the Trade Bulletin, Montreal, under the same date was headed "The Apple Trade Booming," and called attention to the high prices of apples on both sides of the Atlantic; some sales in England has netted shippers in Western Ontario \$4.82 per barrel, and at the Montreal auction rooms, a straight car of choice Spys \$4.10, and even seconds brought from \$2.50 to \$3.10.