

BERTRAM'S SEEDLING APPLE.

SIR,—I send you four seedlings for your opinion as to their quality. This tree, of which the samples are the second years' bearing, came up in our shop yard, and it seems to be a vigorous and healthy tree and good bearer. I shall be pleased to have your opinion any time.

JOHN BERTRAM, SR., Dundas.

A fine appearing apple, of about the size of Duchess, and of about the same season. The skin is a pale straw color, suffused with stripes, splashes and tints of bright red. Had we not already the Duchess, we would commend this apple for further trial.

A GOOD WASH FOR FRUIT TREES.

SIR,—What is the composition of a good wash for fruit trees, and when should it be applied?

JOHN THOMPSON, Cowal, Ont.

For cleansing the bark of fruit trees of fungi, and oyster shell bark louse lye washes are excellent. The concentrated lye or potash may be bought at grocery stores. This comes in pound cans at 10 cents each, or three for a quarter. A can of this powder is dissolved in an ordinary large pailful of water, and the solution applied to the trunks of the young trees the latter part of April or up to the 15th of May, by means of an old broom or a swab. The solution is very caustic and will damage the hands or any clothing on which it falls. Great care must be taken, therefore, in handling it. We believe, however, that it is very desirable treatment for all sorts of young trees, and even for older ones which have been neglected. In cases where the trunks are attacked by the oyster-shell bark louse, this treatment is especially valuable. Soda is cheaper than potash and ought to answer equally well.

PEAR GROWING IN P. E. I.

SIR.—Mr. Bayfield, president of our P. E. I. Fruit Growers' Association has a photo of a pear tree in full bearing, with the crop of Clapp's Favorite which took the prize at our maritime fair. At his request I sent it you. What do you think of this variety for cultivation in Prince Edward

Island in the light of your experience in the export of pears to Great Britain.

A. E. BOOKE, Alberton, P. E. I.

The Clapp's Favorite, if gathered before it begins to ripen at the core, is a fine export pear, and carries a little better than the Bartlett. The only difficulty is to get a proper temperature on ship board, and until we can have a guarantee of about 33 degrees F. for such fruit, it is better to grow Duchess, Anjou, Bosc or some such variety which will carry with apples.

FRUITS FOR NAME.

SIR,—I send you two pears and four apples for name. I received October number of your journal and quite agree with your remarks about fewer varieties. I have too many varieties in my own orchard and many orchards about are in the same condition.

ALEX. ARMSTRONG, Barrie.

Pear No. 1 is Idaho, and No. 2 Duchess. Apple No. 4 resembles Phoenix, and No. 5 resembles Princess Louise, but is not ripe enough to judge of its flavor, which should resemble that of Fameuse.

GRADE MARKS.

SIR,—I ship my apples north in sugar barrels, with canvas tops, and I would like to know if the Fruit Marks Act requires them to be branded.

A. ARMSTRONG, Barrie.

The Act requires the grade to be marked on all closed packages. We should judge that barrels with canvas tops, which are easily removable for inspection, are not closed packages, and that the only requirement in such case would be that the faced or shown end be a fair representation of the contents.

BRIGHT'S SEEDLING PEACH.

SIR.—I send you samples of a seedling peach tree which came up in my garden eight or nine years ago. Last year we had ten baskets of fruit from it, and this year seven or eight. This peach is fine preserved. Please give me your opinion of it.

Oct. 3rd, 1903. CHAS. E. BRIGHT, Brampton.