

THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST



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THE EASTER BEURRE.

AMONG the desirable pears to grow for export we must not overlook the Easter Beurre, which, though green and unattractive in appearance at time of harvesting, keeps well through the winter, is an excellent shipper and is of very good quality. A warm climate and favorable soil seems to be necessary to its best development, and accordingly we find it a favorite shipping variety in the Californian pear orchards. On deep, rich, sandy loam, in the southern parts of our province, it succeeds well, either as a dwarf or as a standard tree; and it would no doubt be profitable in the commercial orchard.

Although some writers have claimed that this pear originated in France, because some old trees were found near Laval, yet the majority agree that the variety originated in Belgium, at the old University town of Louvain. Van Mons, in his *Album de Pomologie* in 1847, says, "This variety was found in the ancient garden of the Capucins, at Louvain, where the original tree still stood in the year 1825, under the name of *Pastorale de Louvain*."

In the old countries, much confusion has existed regarding the names of pears, and consequently much difficulty exists in the identification of varieties; this pear, for example, is given no less than twenty-four different names in Leroy's *Dictionnaire de Pomologie*, as for example, *Doyenne de Printemps*, *Canning*, *Beurre d'Austerlitz*, *Beurre d'Hiver*, etc., the last named being adopted by LeRoy, while Hogg, of England and Downing of America, both adopt the name so well known with us, *Easter Beurre*.

DESCRIPTION.

Tree, fairly vigorous, upright and productive, and may be grown either as a dwarf or as a standard; if as a standard it needs good rich soil and a warm climate for the best success. In Great Britain it does not seem to succeed as well as in Canada, for Hogg says it frequently happens that this delicious pear is of an indifferent and insipid flavor, which is caused by unfavorable soil, and Blackmore of Teddington says, "It cracks and spots and is seldom very good." Our experience with it, as grown at