

ent shape. It grows abundantly throughout Canada, preferring low and moist soils, though sometimes found high up among rocks and on the banks of streams. It is very useful as an ornamental hedge plant, growing rapidly, patient of pruning, and capable of being trimmed into any form that the cultivator may desire.

We trust that, with these explanations, and illustrations here given, our readers will be able to distinguish the American Arbor Vitæ from the White Cedar, and to give it its correct name; and also to discriminate between the Red Cedar and other Junipers which are found in our woods.

Our engravings are copied from an excellent American work on evergreens by Josiah Hoopes, to whom the thanks of all lovers of the beautiful and the true are most abundantly owing.

Planting Evergreens Early.

Robert Douglass, the well known arboriculturist of Waukegan, Ill., in a private note to us, says:—"People have got a notion that the Larch, being a *Conifer*, must therefore be planted late, when it should be planted at the earliest possible moment. And this recommending late planting for evergreens is all wrong, in my opinion. We invariably get the best growth on ours when we plant them early, and we have tried both early and late planting pretty thoroughly."

The above is in perfect accord with our own experience; and we always transplant evergreen trees as early in spring as the weather will permit. We said many years ago, that the far too general practice of transplanting evergreens late in spring came into vogue through the discovery that they could be safely moved later in the season than deciduous trees, and not because it was a better time. Procrastination is the bane of horticulture, and if a certain kind of work can be put off a week or a month, there are always those who will seek a good excuse for the act. Having tried both early and late planting of evergreens quite extensively, and during a goodly number of years, we are decidedly in favour of the earliest possible moment after the ground is in suitable condition to work in spring.—*Rural New Yorker*.

Grafting Wax.

There are as many different ways of making grafting wax as there are nurserymen. One of the oldest and most popular recipes is the following:—One pound of tallow; three do. beeswax; four do. resin. Put into a kettle and melt slowly until all the ingredients are combined. If to be used in the open air in cool weather, add a quarter to one-half pound more tallow. Some persons leave out the beeswax altogether; but we prefer to have it, and always use it.—*Rural New Yorker*.

Entomology.

The Colorado Potato Beetle.

To the Farmers, Gardeners, and Inhabitants of the Counties of Lambton, Kent and Essex:

Beware! Beware of the Colorado Potato Beetle! Last year the advanced guard of this great western army of destroyers reached your shores, and this year you may expect to have your fields devastated by countless hosts, if you do not ward off the foe. If you make a determined and united effort, you can undoubtedly save your crops of potatoes and prevent the spread of the pest.

As our readers are probably well aware, this destructive insect has been gradually advancing eastward from the Rocky Mountains, at the rate of about fifty or sixty miles a year, and, as we predicted some months before, it reached the shores of Ontario last season. Our country happily is protected by a chain of broad lakes, which present an almost insuperable obstacle to the passage of this insect; but we have vulnerable points along the counties above mentioned, where we are only separated from the adjacent State of Michigan by the River St. Clair. The beetle possesses considerable powers of flight, which enable it to make its way over moderate distances, so that the river presents no effectual barrier to its passage, and it has even been found that numbers survive after having been drifted twenty or thirty miles across a lake. From the entrance, then, to the St. Clair on Lake Huron and its outlet on Lake Erie, the passage of this insect must be guarded against, or else the whole country will be devastated in no long space of time, and the community will be exposed to a loss of several millions of dollars' worth of potatoes.

But how, it will be asked, can this pestilent Colorado beetle be kept off? It entered our country in small numbers last year, and will probably come in far greater numbers this year. What can we do to prevent it? The first thing to be done by all who cultivate land in the counties of Lambton, Kent and Essex, is to plant very few potatoes this year, only enough to barely supply the wants of one's household. Next, do not plant any at all unless you are determined to fight the insect, without relaxing, all through the season. To do this effectually you must not have too large a potato field, and this you must watch carefully from the time the leaves appear until you gather in your crop. When the insect makes its appearance early in the season, make a few small heaps of potatoes here and there in your field, the beetles will be attracted to these for food, and you can then easily kill them by going round every morning and crushing under foot all

that you can find. This will prevent their laying their eggs and producing a fresh brood. Again, plant your potatoes, if possible, in a field surrounded by timber; or, if that is impracticable, surround it with a wide border of Indian corn. If all these means prove insufficient, then you will have to resort to the use of "Paris Green," which, being a preparation of arsenic, is a deadly poison. Be very careful then how you use it; never leave it for a moment within reach of children or careless grown people. Mix it with eight or ten times as much flour, ashes, plaster, or slacked lime, and dust it over the affected plants through a coarse muslin bag or sieve attached to the end of a stick. Keep to windward of it when at work, and apply it when the dew is on the foliage.

We trust that every one in those counties will adopt these precautions, and also that all in the neighbouring counties will be on the watch as well. There is no saying how far east the beetle may get this year—one specimen was found at Stratford last summer—so let all be on the look out. As those on the western frontier who keep off the insect not only benefit themselves, but also the whole population of Canada, we would suggest that a reward should be given by the Government of Ontario, or by the various municipalities, or by both, for all fields of potatoes that are kept free from the pest, where it actually makes its appearance. Or perhaps a better plan would be for the reward to take the shape of so much a hundred for all authenticated specimens gathered in Canada, in the same manner as a price is set upon the head of the Plum Curculio by the Fruit Growers' Association.

Last year we made an additional suggestion, which we still consider of importance. It is that a tract of country, some ten miles in width or more, should be marked off along the border line between the foot of Lake Huron and the head of Lake Erie, and that the culture of the potato should be absolutely forbidden throughout that whole tract during the prevalence of the pest in the neighbouring State of Michigan. We commend the suggestion to the Minister of Agriculture and all others interested in the matter. For further remarks on this subject we beg to refer our readers to the CANADA FARMER for October, 1870.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SPECIMENS may be sent for identification, or for information respecting history and habits, to the office of the CANADA FARMER. Postage should be prepaid. Specimens should be sent in a pasteboard or other box, not loose, but packed with cotton wool, or some similar material. The name and address of the sender should also accompany the package, not necessarily for publication—but as an evidence of good faith, and that we may know where to apply for further information, if required.