

haleb is hardier and healthier; the wood is harder.

Mr. Ellwanger, of Rochester. The Mahaleb adapts itself better to different soils, particularly clayey soils. Some varieties when worked on the Mazzard are apt to crack in the bark, and the gum to exude, such as the Black Tartarian; and these we now work exclusively on the Mahaleb, on which stock they are not subject to this disease.

Mr. Chas. Downing, of Newburg. The cherry on the Mahaleb stock is much better for the north and west.

5th SUBJECT. The Northern Spy apple, what is its value as an orchard fruit?

Mr. P. Barry. This subject was introduced at my suggestion, as I wished, now that we had considerable experience, to ascertain the views of orchardists in relation to it. It has been charged with being a shy bearer, that a large part of the fruit is small and knotty, and that it would not keep. Now not one of these charges have been sustained by my experience. I think the Spy is improving in value and quality every year; that it is the best of all the apples, both in flavor, size, beauty and perfume; but it is my desire to hear the experience and opinion of others.

Mr. Sharpe, of Lockport. Picked four barrels from his tree in 1859, and five in 1860; they were unsurpassed in flavor, and those of 1859 kept fresh and fine until April and May.

Mr. H. T. Brooke, of Wyoming. My trees have been now planted five years, and bore this year for the first time.

Mr. A. Fish, of Rochester. Thinks the tree slow in coming into bearing; that those who must have their apple trees bear the next year after planting will be disappointed, but if they will have patience to wait a few years, they will be abundantly satisfied.

Mr. Hoag, of Lockport. As to their keeping qualities would say, I have found them in the New York City Market in June, side by side with the Rox Russet. The Chicago dealers seek eagerly for this variety.

Mr. Smith. Has only one tree; it bore nine barrels this year.

Mr. Barbour, of East Bloomfield. The Northern Spy originated in East Bloomfield, on the farm of Mr. Humphrey. I have known the apple for 25 years. It is thought to be one of the best keepers and very best of apples. A great many orchards have been grafted with the Spy in my County, and the result seems to be, that in the part where the land slopes south, and where the soil is dry, gravelly loam, the Spy is a very great favorite and the tree in great demand; but where the land slopes north, and where the soil is stiff and cold, the Spy is not so popular. I know some trees that must be now 75 years old; and when old, the tree needs to be well thinned out and manured. The fruit keeps

until June; but it is easily bruized and difficult of transportation in a fine state to market. The Spy often escapes late frosts, which destroy the crop in other varieties, by reason of its putting forth its leaves and blossoms so much later than other varieties.

Dr. Sylvester. My trees did not bear full crops until they had been set out from 8 to 10 years, but I esteem the fruit highly for its flavor and long keeping.

Mr. E. Moody, of Lockport. I think the Northern Spy to be the best apple that ever grew. I have known them growing on a low, moist sand and on a stiff clay, and they bore fine large crops of splendid fruit. I esteem it a most valuable fact that the tree blooms late, thereby often escaping late frosts.

D. W. Beadle, of St. Catharines, Canada. Had found the fruit very uniform in size, large, very handsome, and to hang unusually well on the tree, so that the Spys yet remained, notwithstanding high winds, which had blown off other varieties almost entirely.

Mr. P. Barry. All apples are best on a warm, dry soil, and require judicious pruning; and if the Spy needs rather more care than most varieties, it is enough better than any other to pay for it. The tardiness in coming into bearing is in reality no objection to it whatever, the tree only gains size and strength to bear a full crop. I am now fully satisfied, after hearing what has been said, that my opinion of the Spy was correct, and that with a fair amount of care it proves to be the *finest and most desirable of apples*.

Mr. H. N. Langworthy. The Spy has some faults; the tree is prone to grow too high, and the fruit requires very careful handling, for it is as thin skinned as a South Carolinian, but it keeps its fine spicy flavor longer than any other apple.

6th SUBJECT. Is it advisable to plant in Western New York the White Doyenne pear for orchard purposes, in view of its present liability to crack and spot in certain localities?

As this best and most valuable variety of pear has not been known to crack at all in Canada, it will hardly be necessary to go into the details of the discussion. From the testimony given, it appeared that in the vicinity of Rochester and Lockport this variety was nearly worthless for market purposes on account of the cracking and spotting of the fruit, while in the vicinity of Canandaigua and Geneva, it was entirely exempt from this malady, and the fruit fine and fair. It may be a matter of some interest to our fruit dealers, who import pears to supply the market of our cities, to bear this matter in mind when arranging for their next fall's supply.

7th SUBJECT. What is to be understood by the term, a *standard*, and what by the term a *dwarf* tree?

The discussion on this subject resulted in the conclusion that in using the term "*dwarf*,"