

with each specimen folded in clean white paper was enough to feast the eye upon, and my pen shall not record a word against the beauties. The fruiterer knows how to attract the customer and presents this picture prominently in his window with the spotless paper folded back loosely from each specimen to shew the rich contrast of color. Our hand naturally feels for our purse, but no, let us leave it at that, and look at those grapes at from 12c. to 28c. per lb., according to size, all luscious. Yes, grapes are very fine, but of course all are hothouse varieties, and such is the English taste. I cannot wonder that we cannot find a market here for ours, and we will not until a taste is cultivated among a class of consumers who cannot afford to pay high prices.

Although there is so great a demand for fruits of all kinds here I can see clearly that it pays to make the brands before shipping, and whatever these brands may be let them always be perfectly even. No matter what time and labor it may cost, separate the samples with the utmost care, and do not let a choice brand be spoiled by a single spot or sample under size or lacking the points of its kind to make the brand perfect. If you wish to pack spotted fruit we might be

tempted to say select in accordance with the number and size of spots, having brands for single spot and so downward!! A word may be sufficient to convince some packers, would that all might heed us.

I cannot but feel that fruit growing has become a partial failure in this country because growers neglect their orchards. We generally hear them say, "What is the use in trying, as these Canadians will undersell us in all our markets with our own varieties of much finer size and color." But where will our growers be in a few years with neglected orchards? Of course our bright sunlight will always do its duty, but what of that if the substance is not supplied to the soil, and if the trees are not kept free from filth and relieved from a burden of useless wood?

I walked through the market on farmers' day lately, and was struck specially with the fact that almost every farmer was not only dressed in his best, but had a button-hole bouquet. He looked natty and tidy, and invariably had well blackened boots. I am told this is also the case in every village market, and is worthy of note, and as it should be.

## PEARS IN COLD STORAGE AND OTHER FRUIT MATTERS

A LETTER FROM MR. R. BRODIE, OF MONTREAL.

SIR,—With reference to the Flemish Beauty pear in cold storage mentioned in the July number of the Horticulturist, I may state that the pear gathered and packed under the same conditions as those put in chemical cold storage and stored in our own cellar, ripened up nicely and gave good satisfaction to the purchaser and commissioner.

The apple crop is very good in this locality,

Fameuse, Wealthy, Ben Davis, Oldenburgh above the average. When trees are not well sprayed, there are lots of apple spots (fungi); the worst insect enemy is the apple curculio, spraying has no effect. I was surprised to see the effect of the severe frost of the 10th May on the plum trees. The frost did not injure the first buds of most of the European varieties of plums (*Prunus Domestica*) leaving us a very good