

trees, all from soil such as described and grown naturally. I believe growers in Quebec might grow many of our Ontario varieties if they could get trees whose early education has not been fancy, fine, and forced, but natural and solid. I can point out orchards in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont in which are grown as fine specimens of Hubbardson's Nonsuch, Northern Spy, King of Tompkins' County, Baldwin, Twenty Ounce, and others, as any one would wish to see. The grower I referred to above has Bartlett pears in Vermont, and three varieties of plums, all doing admirably, and he has such confidence in these trees that he will, next fall, launch out into many varieties that have never yet been tried successfully in these eastern cold sections. I regret that it is so hard to find naturally grown stock, but in Ontario it is hard. I hope you are better favored in the East.

If those who are planting orchards see to this point, I believe that a new era will dawn for the fruit growers of Quebec. The country is overrun with agents representing all sorts of concerns, but the fact is that only one agent in about fifty is reliable, and the grand difficulty is to find out that one. There is but one nursery at London, Ont., whereas agents go about representing three; there is only one at Toronto, and still there are four other firms who advertise as nurserymen, and send agents out to represent them. It is in this way so much mischief is done, farmers and others are gulled, large prices are extorted for mere trash, and swindles of every possible description are perpetrated. Let planters deal direct if possible with a reliable local man who will certainly do as he says; let them choose only naturally grown stock, never mind how dark the apple trees are in the skin, never mind how rough and scraggy they look, a few years will prove them to be by far the best and most profitable. I see no reason why our good friends in Quebec should not enjoy a delicious Spitzenburg apple as well as we can here, why their cellars should not be stored as full of Rhode Island Greefings and Spys as ours, and why they should not enjoy the luxury of a few pear and plum trees of our popular sorts. Nay, I believe those hardy peach trees that some friends of mine succeed with in the colder sections of Ontario would succeed also in Quebec. Any one can destroy a tree when young, just as easily as a child can be injured; the constitution can be ruined by over kindness, by forcing to eat that which is not suitable and which a kinder nature would never prescribe.

A city grown boy is not naturally fit for the life of a country chap, no more is one of these fast grown, fine looking trees fit for anything but hot house care. But perhaps I am going too fast, Quebec may not be as bad as my pencil would appear to paint it. I am not posted, and only judge from some articles in news papers, and a very limited information gathered from other sources. However that may be, all I aim at is to lay down what I consider facts in the choice of trees, and my experience has been very large.

A couple of copies of the Journal were sent me by some friend, and I can endorse the movement as one most praiseworthy to the government that instituted such a scheme for the benefit of that great class, the agriculturists and horticulturists.

The Journal will do a great and good work in the Province, and should receive the unanimous support of the class for which it is established. I shall be glad at any future time to write on any horticultural subject for the Journal that may be of interest then, and to answer any queries that may be put, so far as I can

LAHRAX.

Goderich, June 18th 1879.

We must say that King of Tompkins' County and Baldwin apples have already proved failures, as grown on the ordinary

soils of this Province, while N. Spy are planted with very varied results. Spitzenburg have proved an utter failure under slow growth in the nursery, and exceptional trees that reached the orchard failed there, and that in the better fruit growing regions. Vermont taken as a whole is no criterion, as it is a State of most varied climate.

We shall be glad to hear, at all times, from our able correspondent.—*Ed.*

## GLEANINGS FROM AGRICULTURAL PRESS

### A new Animal Poison.

In addition to what we have already written in relation to means for destroying moles, mice and other field vermin, by means of trapping, we give the results of experiments made at the Royal Agricultural Academy at Proskau, from which we find, of all the materials experimented with, the most efficacious proved to be precipitated carbonate of baryta. This occurs as a heavy, fine, white powder, devoid of taste or smell, and can be purchased at any ordinary drug store. In the experiments at Proskau, a portion of it was mixed with four times its weight of sound barley meal, and made into a stiff paste with water, and small pellets of the soft cake introduced into the holes of rats, of house and of field mice. One great advantage of this preparation is that the smallest quantity of it proves fatal. Further, it appears to cause immediate and complete paralysis of the hind extremities, so that it may be assumed that mice eating of it in their holes will die within them, and thus not prove destructive in their turn to domesticated animals that might otherwise devour the carcasses. It was found in practice that neither fowls nor pigeons would touch the paste, either in its soft state or when hardened by the sun, so that its employment is probably free from danger to the occupants of the poultry yard. Some rabbits on the other hand, that got access to the paste, ate heartily of it, and paid the penalty with their lives.—*The Prairie Farmer.*

### A gold mine in a Cow. — What the "tenth Duchess of Airdrie" has done for her Owner.

One of the most remarkable cows on record is the "10th Duchess of Airdrie," owned by the Hon. Mat. Cochrane, which has just given birth to her ninth calf, a red heifer, to be named the "8th Duchess of Hillhurst," by 3rd Duke of Oneida. Of the 10th Duchess and her daughter's calves, Mr. Cochrane has sold the following animals at the prices named:—In the winter of 1875 the bull calf, 4th Duke of Hillhurst, at \$7,000; at public auction in Toronto, June 16th, 1875, the bull calf, 5th Duke of Hillhurst, two months old, at \$8,000, and the heifer Airdrie Duchess 5th, eight months old, at \$18,000; at auction sale in Toronto, June 14th, 1876, the cow Airdrie Duchess 2nd, at \$21,000, and the heifer Airdrie Duchess 3rd, at \$23,600. In August, 1877, privately, the heifer 6th Duchess of Hillhurst, at \$12,000; and at public sale at Bowness, Windermere, England, September 4th, 1877, the heifers 3rd Duchess and 5th Duchess of Hillhurst, at 4,100 and 4,300 guineas each, or \$20,500 and \$21,500 respectively: making a total of \$131,600 for eight animals sold. He has still in his possession, besides the 10th Duchess, Airdrie Duchess 4th, 7th Duke, and 7th and 8th Duchesses of Hillhurst, five animals, and has lost four animals by death. The above result has perhaps never been equalled by any one animal at the same age. In December, 1875, an offer of \$25,000 for the 10th Duchess was refused, and the same for her daughter, Airdrie Duchess 4th. Since then the old cow has brought three heifers and one bull; two of the heifers have been sold for \$33,500, and there still