

of many fruits indigenous to the soil, and suited to the climate; and that these grow there in considerable abundance. Wild plums are reported from 84 townships, wild cherries from 104, wild grapes from 11, blueberries from 40, cranberries from 136, and june berries from 3.

Now here is a field for the enterprising and scientific horticulturists in the North-West. Here is a chance for them to take those hardy bushes and vines, placed there for them by a kind Providence, and by high cultivation, and by hybridizing, to succeed in producing varieties of great excellence that will at the same time endure the climate.

We have even more confidence in this course for our cousins in the North-West than in Russian importations.

A NEW FRUIT PICKER.

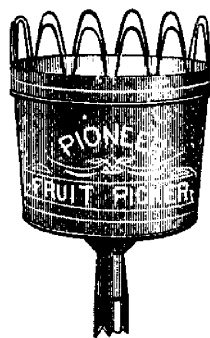
A good many tools have been invented to lessen the arduous labor of climbing up and down trees in gathering fruit. However, for the general work of gathering our heavy crops of apples and pears, we do not think any instrument can equal that old-fashioned one invented, about six thousand years ago, for gathering the fruit in the Garden of Eden. A man, with his two hands is about the best and most reliable of all instruments yet invented.

But there are cases in which one of these tools may be used to great advantage and save much labor. For instance, in gathering choice specimens of fruit for exhibition, such a tool is almost indispensable. And, where the fruit is somewhat scattered upon the tree, the

use of an apple picker would save much climbing, and moving of a heavy ladder.

Again, in case of early apples and peaches, which must be picked as they ripen or get their color, where a great amount of climbing is made necessary and consequent injury to the tree, together with the knocking off of much green fruit, some such tool would save many times its cost in a single season to the professional fruit grower.

Most of the fruit pickers, that have been invented have a linen bag, with a mouth of wire so arranged as to catch the apple by the stem, or having a cover to open and close by means of a small iron rod running down the handle. Such kinds are very convenient for gathering single specimens; but, as one hand is required to pull the iron rod, it is evident that to gather much fruit in the bag at one time would be very tiresome. Another objection to the bag,



PIONEER FRUIT PICKER.

in our opinion, is the danger of bruising the fruit against the limbs in working the picker.

The cut shows a new fruit picker, just invented by Mr. Walter Burgess, Parkdale, Ont. Having tried it in our own orchard, we note the following advantages which it has:—

(1) It is so arranged that it will catch the apple or pear on any side by the stem, and bring it off with the slightest twist of the pole.