

so strongly advocated by Mr. R. W. Phipps and others concerning the beneficial effects of forests, in producing rainfall, on the drainage of land, and on the crops of the farmer.

*Circular from W. H. Smith, Commission Merchant, 186 King street East, Toronto.*

Mr. Smith states he has been in the business since 1874, and is now doing one of the largest Canadian fruit commission businesses in the city. He refers shippers to the Dominion Bank, Toronto.

*Circular from McWilliam & Everist, Fruit Commission Merchants, Toronto, 1887.*

This firm herein promises daily advice concerning sales, and account sales weekly, with proceeds. This is the only right method, and if it can only be carried out through the season will save much complaint. But when markets are full, and fruit coming in on every side, this engagement is pretty hard to fulfil.

*Circular from the Botanical Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, No. 3.*

This circular, signed by Norman J. Colman, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Washington, is an evidence of the careful experiments being conducted by the U.S. Government in the interests of fruit growers. It is devoted to the treatment of *Downy Mildew* and the *Black Rot* in the grape.

It appears that sulphate of copper has been shewn to be more advantageous than any other remedy, and the only precaution is not to apply it within fifteen days of vintage. The application should be made some time in or about the end of June.

Among the *liquid* remedies advised are; (1) 1 lb. sulphate of copper dis-

solved in 25 gals. of water; spray the vines with the liquid. (2) 1 lb. sulphate copper dissolved in three or four gals. of warm water; when cold add one pint commercial ammonia; then dilute to 22 gals. when required for use. Apply in the same way. The effect of this preparation, called "Blue Water," is said to be equal to that resulting from the copper mixture of Gironde (see report of F.G.A. 86, p. 23). The price of pure sulphate of copper when bought by the barrel is only about six cents per lb.

No. 2 and also the copper mixture of Gironde is recommended for experiment in destroying the *fusicladium* (apple scab).

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## Humorous.

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A DANGEROUS SEASON.—Why is it dangerous to go out in spring time? Because every flower carries a pistol, the grass has blades, the trees shoot, and the bulrush is out.—*Vox Populi.*

When Gladstone is among the trees on his Hawarden farm, they say he is a first-rate feller.

THE MILK WEED.—*City Belle*—(Pointing to a wild plant by the way-side). "What's that?"

*Country Cousin*— "That's milk weed."

*City Belle*—"Oh, yes! what you feed the cows on, I suppose?"

INDIA-RUBBER PLANT.—*The Honorable Tom*—"Haw! this is, I suppose—er—the new tobacco that everybody is growing?"

*Elfrida de Smyth*—"Oh! dear, no. That's an India-rubber plant!"

*The Honorable Tom*—"India-rubber! how I'd have bet my money it was real. What—er—wonderful imitations there are now-a-days."