

SOME OF OUR AMERICAN EVERGREENS.

Robert Douglas, of Wakegan, Illinois, has raised more and a greater variety of Evergreens than any other man in America, hence his opinion of the merits of a variety, from his long experience in growing these trees, is entitled to great weight. He says:—

“ We find that our red and white pines compare very favorable with the Scotch and Austrain pines of Europe. Our white spruce is as beautiful and hardy as the Norway spruce, but we need all these kinds for variety. Our balsam fir will not compare favorably with the European silver fir, or the silver firs of the Pacific slope, but we have the *Abies sub-alpina* of Wyoming, and its variety *Falax*, and the concolor of Colorado, the former of the habit of *Abies Sibirica*, and the latter of the habit of the California silver firs. We have the *Abies Douglasii*, of Colorado, more hardy, and even more beautiful than our hemlock. Among spruces we have the Colorado *Menzies*, and *Engelmanni*, and all these with the exception of concolor which have been tested thoroughly in the northwest, will compare in beauty with any of the foreign kinds, and in hardiness with any of our native kinds.

YELLOW TRANSPARENT APPLE.

This variety was imported from St. Petersburg, 1870, by the Department of Agriculture. It has been fruited at a number of points east and west, and we have every reason to believe it will prove a valuable acquisition as a very early variety, of good quality, for either eating or cooking. Doctor Hoskins, of Newport, Vermont, makes the following report :

It is an extremely early bearer, giving fruit the third year from grafting on a seedling root, and is now bearing its third crop, consisting of over one bushel. The tree notwithstanding its productiveness, is a free grower, being now some eight feet high. It is also an erect grower, and bears its fruit on short spurs close to the main branches, so that it can carry a heavy crop when the tree is small without breaking down. Though so full of fruit that there seem to be more apples than leaves, yet the branches are not bent down at all.

In size the Yellow Transparent is full medium, round ovate in form, straw yellow in color, with an extremely melting, juicy flesh of delicate sub-acid, but not very high flavor. It is fair, uniform in size and its chief merit, in our eyes, aside from its perfect hardiness and early and abundant bearing, is that it is the earliest dessert apple we know. It begins to come into eating by the first of August, and the bulk of the crop is just now (August 10) ripening up. It will not keep long, soon becoming mealy and cracking open at full maturity. But for a home apple, or to sell direct to consumers in a near market, it cannot be surpassed; and its waxen beauty and fairness, together with its acceptable flavor, will make it a favorite wherever grown. It is about two weeks earlier than Tetofsky, and if it had been introduced first we doubt if the latter would ever have been heard of.