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## THE SUMMER DOYENNE.

**O**UR frontispiece represents the earliest of our summer pears, and one which should be in the garden of every fruit lover in our country. Too small in size to be very profitable for the commercial orchard, this fault is no objection for table use, for which its excellent quality makes it a decided acquisition. If we had our markets to ourselves as we had in days gone by, no doubt we could sell a small pear with profit, but now we get California Bartletts in the early part of our pear season, and nobody will buy small pears when they can buy large ones.

The fact is that conditions have completely changed, until seasons and distances have been almost completely overcome; and these matters must be considered in planting a commercial orchard. For home use, however, the question has a different aspect. We can never buy fruit from California or any other other

country to equal our choice high-flavored varieties grown in our own gardens.

The Summer Doyenne is not a new variety. It was originated in Belgium in 1823, by Dr. Van Mons, a nursery man, who devoted much time to the origination of new varieties, and who had at that time no less than 2,000 valuable seedlings of pears. It is known in different countries under slightly different names. In England it is called Summer Doyenne; in France, Doyenne de Juillet; in the United States, Doyenne d'Ete; and we choose the first because it seems to us advisable to avoid foreign names where possible, seeing they are so commonly mispronounced.

The tree is a vigorous, healthy grower, with somewhat slender branches, which are light, yellowish brown in color. It begins bearing at an early age, dwarf trees at Maplehurst two years planted having some fine clusters of fruit. The fruit measures about  $1\frac{3}{4}$