Canadian Agriculturist.

VOL. IX.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1857.

No. 4.

A NEW SYSTEM OF FRUIT GROWING.

We present to our readers this month, a paper by Mr. Leslie, read before the Agricultural and Horticultural Club, on the subject of planting and cultivating fruit Mr. Leslie is one of our best nurserymen; his views are therefore worthy of But while recommending a careful perusal of Mr. Leslie's paper, we much respect. have thought it our duty to submit for the benefit of our Horticultural readers, the following remarks upon a new method of growing fruit. We call it a "new method," though it has probably been practiced on a small scale, and in isolated cases, for Mr. Field (of New York) is the first Horticulturist who appears to have adopted it as a system, and, as he alleges, with entire success. The following is a condensed report of his remarks before the New York Farmer's Club, and while we do not endorse all his conclusions, we must admit that he has presented his theory in a very striking form, and sustained it by a number of very plausible arguments. The cultivation of Pears was the subject before the Club, but if we understand Mr. Field, his method is not limited to that fruit. It is no longer true that -

> He who plants Pears Plants for his heirs.

He may now plant pears for himself as well as other fruit. The common method of planting and cultivating apple trees postpones to a sufficiently remote period the harvest of fruit. We have in our eye as we write, an orchard planted more than 20 years ago; the trees were from a nursery a few miles distant; they have received ordinary care; the soil is a clay loam, the clay predominating. Not one of those trees has yet borne two bushels of apples in a season—most of them only two or three dozen. "He who planted" them has already left them to his "heirs." He was barely allowed to see specimens of what they would produce when he could no longer enjoy it. In how many instances has the same thing happened? We do not think this long delay and miserly yield is wholly attributable to neglect. There is something wrong at the start. Whether Mr. Field's pyramidal system will remedy the evil, time only—and ample experiment—will prove.