

stead of the closely packed, mechanical bunch of flowers called Bouquets, almost entirely loose flowers skilfully arranged so as to show their natural beauty are worn, and all floral decorations are made upon the same principle, effect being given to each individual blossom or leaf and not crowded by its neighbour but looking as if its place had been taken by chance and not with any particular design.

To arrange flowers artistically no small amount of judgment and taste is requisite, and some persons can never learn the art, while to others it seems a naturally innate quality.

To give a list of the numerous varieties of tea roses would be superfluous in this place, suffice it to say that they now comprise all possible colours (except blue). White, yellow, lemon, buff, pink, flesh colour, deep rose, crimson and almost scarlet, the deepest carmine, while some are pale pink tinged with yellow which are very pleasing and attractive.

I pity the person who can see no beauty in a tea rose, such miss one of the pleasures the Supreme Being has designed for the delectation of His creatures, and show that their minds are warped from their natural bent by the cares of the world, or occupied by lower and more debasing tastes and amusements.

- Give me the pleasures of the groves and fields
- " Or else the sweet delights the garden yields,
- " The rich parterre with florets fresh and gay
- " Or rose-bud opening to the light of day.

Noisette roses form yet another class of constant bloomers, called so on account of their nutty fragrance. They are generally speaking climbers in habit of growth, with rich glossy foliage and double flowers. The old yellow noisette, not much grown now, is a type of the class. They are all either pure yellow or tinged with that colour. "Ophir" is perhaps the most remarkable, it has flat flowers, of the brightest glowing red mixed with yellow and orange, borne in clusters, as indeed are most of the noisettes. In England, the noisette and some few other roses are frequently budded upon tall standards of the dog-rose and form large, weeping, or umbrella shaped heads, which when in full bloom are beautiful objects. This class has no doubt been used in crossing to produce some of the tea varieties, and it is doubtful whether such very vigorous growing varieties as Mareschal Niel should not be classed with them. This no doubt would have been the case, only that splendid fellow fortunately retains the fragrance of the tea but with the habit of growing and flowering of the noisettes.

In conclusion we note the *Prairie* roses which are great favourites in the United States for covering porches, walls, unsightly stumps, verandahs &c. There are three varieties of these, "*Baltimore belle*," "*Queen of the Prairies*" and "*Gem of the Prairies*"; all beautiful where they thrive well, but not sufficiently hardy to endure the rigour of a Canadian winter.

(To be continued.)

FRUIT GROWING IN EASTERN QUEBEC.

BY AUGUSTE DUPUIS, L'ISLET.

1. Does it pay to plant apple and plum orchards?
2. Do apple trees and plum trees grow around Quebec city and east; and do they stand the climate?

An answer is to be found to the first

question in the reports of the Pomological Societies of Franco, United States; Nova Scotia; Ontario, and Montreal.

The farmers of the districts of Quebec; Montmagny; and Kamouraska, who own orchards, and take good care of them, derive a satisfactory income from them.

You often hear people say: "It is useless to plant fruit-trees, they die before yielding and profit." True in certain cases, that complaint has discouraged citizens desirous of making plantations. Allow me, Gentlemen, to tell you, not for your own instruction, but for the information of those who may still be under this false impression, that orchards a hundred years old and in full growth exist even in those parts of the Province that are the least endowed as regards climate, soil and exposure.

Living 70 miles north east of Quebec, I shall mention what I heard in my intercourse with the inhabitants living in the counties lying between Quebec and the Magdalen Islands.

History tells us that the earliest French settlers planted orchards in the counties of Montmagny, L'Islet and Kamouraska which yielded fine apples, cherries and plums, and that the trees stood for very many years, bearing regularly.

Among the orchards more recently planted, that of M. Morin, N. P., more than 75 years old, is still very flourishing.

The trees bearing Fameuses, German, St. Pierre and Calvilles apples, are yet vigorous and productive on the whole surface of the orchard, which covers from 3 to 10 arpents. This orchard is carefully looked after by M. Wm Polletier, its present owner. The orchards belonging to Messrs. T. Francœur, Magloire Francœur and Frs. Bérubé, which are from 75 to 80 years old, are still yielding abundant crops. Apple-trees nearly a hundred years old are to be seen on M. J. D. Blanchet's farm, one of which bears winter apples of very fine colour and taste.

At St. Jean-Port-Joli, Messrs. Verreault, Fournier, Simard, M. D., and Duval, N. P., own apple-trees a hundred years old. There are also in the neighbourhood *Damascus* (1) plum-trees more than a hundred years old which are being renewed from the roots.

At St. Roch des-Aulnaies M. D. Polletier's plum orchard of 2½ arpents yielded last year \$306 worth of plums and over \$100 worth of apples from a few apple-trees planted between the plum-trees.

It has been ascertained that the plum orchards of the districts of Montmagny and Kamouraska yield an average revenue of \$100 per arpent, when the crop sustains no injury.

The Rev. A. Choninard of Métis county Rimouski, informs me that there are in his parish fruit trees forty years old in full life. For the last 19 years M. Choninard has striven to encourage in his parish the planting of fruit and ornamental trees. The Rev. M. Hoffman, curé of Charlesbourg, informs me that horticulture is a paying business in his parish, where are to be found apple-trees 75 and 100 years old in full life and bearing much fruit. He owns some 20 apple-trees planted before 1830, and manufactured excellent cider this year. During the last twenty years many apple-trees have been planted in that parish, they have given general satisfaction.

At St. Anne-Lapocatière and St. Denis are to be seen very old orchards.

(1) Hence our English word, *damson*, or *Damascene*. Ed.

In 1858 I visited the orchard owned by M. Marchand of St. Denis and noticed among his old apple-trees a pear tree loaded with fine pears. That orchard exists still. There are many others in fine condition and bearing varied and choice fruit. I was shown those belonging to Messrs S. Dionne and J. C. Chapuis. M. Chapuis has many apple-trees and pear-trees of the finest varieties.

At Rivière-du-Loup, at Isle Verte and at Rimouski, orchards planted 25 and 30 years ago have generally a fine appearance. At several points in the counties of Bonaventure and Gaspé, are Siberian and Russian apple-trees of remarkable vigour.

At St. Pierre and Miquelon, M. Larue, customs agent, planted, four years ago, an orchard of *Duchess* apple-trees and French cherry-trees which have so far stood well the hard climate of those islands. It is unnecessary to give other examples to show that fruit growing is a practicable and paying industry even in the least favoured climates. This industry would be made more profitable by a careful choice of hardy and productive trees bearing summer, fall and winter apples.

The planting and cultivation of fruit trees must differ according to soil and climate. My ancestors, for example, succeeded in growing at Quebec and East the *Damascus* plum-trees, the *Reine Claude* of Montmorency, by planting them in close clumps, or along fences and near houses and other buildings so as to afford them protection. Nurserymen from the west, accustomed to plantations in the open country, advised people to give up the old method. They were wrong, for all the plum trees planted by their advice in the open field and placed from 16 to 20 feet apart, have died. Only those protected by fences have survived.

I have myself lost many trees by departing from the method followed by my ancestors. But wherever for the last 20 years I have planted plum-trees of the finest foreign varieties in clumps, and protected by apple-trees, elms or red spruce trees, they have become remarkably vigorous and productive. The crops of the last five years have been good, that of last year exceptionally so, many *Lombard*, *Bradshaw* and *Imperial* plum-trees yielding \$7 or \$8 worth of fruit each.

The success obtained at L'Islet by Dr N. Dion and Dr N. Lavoie, at St. Aubert by M. A. Blais with some fine European varieties, is owing to care and protection given to plum-trees. Mrs Justice Caron's plantation is very promising.

You may be surprised to hear that 14 fine varieties of foreign plum-trees have been introduced here and that their superb fruit are to be seen on the tables of the annual Exhibitions of the Horticultural Society of L'Islet. The gathering season for the fruit last from 7 to 8 weeks. The prices realized have been from \$15 to \$22.50 per barrel, or from \$200 to \$300 the arpent.

His Excellency the Governor General stated in a letter dated Sept 26th, 1892, that he had not seen in Europe plums to excel in size, beauty and taste those he had just received from the county of L'Islet.

The Hon. Ministers of this Province have written in the same strain.

Samples of our plums and apples have been sent to the Chicago Fair, with other farm produce they have shown the world that the Province of Quebec is not a snow and ice country, but a good country to live in.

If the efforts of the farmers and members of the Horticultural Society of the county of L'Islet have been at

all successful, it must be acknowledged that experiments have been costly, owing to want of knowledge in tree growing. We have neglected, or we have had no opportunity, to educate ourselves in this branch of industry.

What is to be done? Some have suggested to me:

1. That the first lessons should be taught in the elementary schools, and the teaching continued in commercial and classical colleges.

2. That every Agricultural Society should offer prizes at their exhibitions for the best fruits exhibited, allowing neighbouring counties to compete.

3. The organizing of a Provincial Pomological Society, such as exists in Ontario and Nova Scotia, and 'Montreal Horticultural Society and Fruit growers Association of the Province of Quebec.' The provincial work of the above society is being very intelligently, (and as far as their opportunities will allow, attended to in several practical and beneficial ways not before attempted. It will remain with all those interested to try and further the fruit-growing interests; allowing nothing small or selfish to interfere with their whole duty.

4. The planting by the government of experimental or model orchards in Districts where they are most needed. This scheme, conceived by the Hon. Commissioner for Agriculture, should be supported as a really efficacious means of education on the choice of different kinds of trees, on planting and on the care of orchards. Everybody could then ascertain what trees can stand the climate and prove most hardy and productive. The experiments thus made would educate the public and save them thousands of dollars, thrown away on the purchase of such trees as *Baldwins* and *Greenings* that cannot stand our severe winters.

You are requested to say what you think of these means of education, and to suggest all other practical means you may judge efficacious to popularize the teaching of fruit-growing and to foster a taste for plantations among the rising generation. It is not likely that a young man who has planted a good orchard, has it seen grow and produce fruit, and has derived an income from it, will leave it and emigrate to the United States. Fruit-growing is not only profitable, it makes one cling to the soil, it produces a beneficial influence on the health, habits and tastes of the people.

Two years ago the Horticultural Society of the county of L'Islet recommended as hardy and profitable for the Eastern and North-Eastern part of the city of Quebec, six kinds or varieties of apples.

Duchess of Oldenburg.
Wealthy.
St. Lawrence.
Yellow Calville.
Red Astracan.
Famense.

And three kinds of Siberian apples: *Transcendent*.

Hyslop.
Montreal Beauty.

And I would add *Whitney*.

Among the following kinds, which have been tried, the Society will, I hope, soon be able to recommend as equal, if not superior, the

Montreal Pench.
Golden Russet, English.
McIntosh Red.
Alexander.
Titofski.
Bosbury Russet.
Canada Red.
Swaar.
Seek-no-further.
Transparent of Russia.
Roxbury-Russet.