

would be hardier than any plants which could be purchased from nurserymen, as they are usually grown from seed ripened farther south. I think we also have 40 or 50 plants of *Asclepias tuberosa* we could spare you. This, although native in Western Ontario, is very little known in gardens, and it is very ornamental. We also have a few *Berberis Thunbergi* two year old seedlings of which we could spare probably 40. Beyond this we have nothing which I can suggest.

WM. SAUNDERS, *Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.*

Apples in Edinburgh.

SIR,—The cases of apples which you sent are very nice, and we will, no doubt, make a satisfactory price for you. The Cranberry Pippin, however, is by no means a favorite here. Baldwins, Spys and Kings are much more likely to maintain good prices year after year.

Mr. John Penman's letter in the *CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* is just to hand. Mr. Penman omits to say that the prices he paid were for the choicest home hothouse grapes and tomatoes and for French pears, we presume Glout Morceau.

Honesty in packing is certainly very essential to success, but we do not know of any prejudice existing as to American goods, certainly not apples, as after they come to hand, other apples have little sale. Grapes, we fear, will never succeed, if the parcel we had from a Canadian grower is a fair sample of the flavor; not to speak of the condition in which they landed. Plums we are almost sickened of by the time our own crop is exhausted, but we see no reason why pears should not do well.

We recommend the French mode of packing, which is unknown with you. We shall be pleased to explain fully. It saves the fruit and helps the price, besides making it attractive, a very strong point, we assure you.

We noticed a letter, copied, we think, from a Glasgow paper, published in the *CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* some little time since, about packages, Barrels vs. Cases. It is a pity that people who have no practical knowledge of the trade take it upon them to write to papers, as they generally mislead the public. For general purposes, nothing beats the Canadian apple barrel, though where fancy fruit is exported, a smaller package, not the half barrel, however, which does not take, but such a package as the case you use, holding fifty-six pounds net, is desirable. Yet since the demand for these, at figures to pay for the extra labor and expense, must always be limited comparatively, it follows that to make this the rule would only be to bring down the price of the case to the ordinary level, and all the extra labor and expense would be lost.

The British public generally do not use apples for the table or dessert, except to a fraction of the extent that they use them for culinary purposes, and for the latter they are keen enough to combine quantity with quality to the greatest possible extent. We are fully convinced that any attempt to materially increase the number of packages, except in the case of fancy packages, would be resented by the whole trade, unless it brought relatively increased profit or commission. We venture these remarks, thinking they might be of service to you and other fruit growers.

WOOD, ORMEROD & Co., *Edinburgh, Scotland.*

Small Fruits in Scotland.

SIR,—The samples of Canadian strawberry plants you sent me arrived in very fair condition. The most promising of all is your namesake, the Woolverton. We had a few fruits on it, and they were good in flavor, color and consistency. The best strawberry I grew last season was the Sir Joseph Paxton. Some of the berries were simply magnificent, and my highest price was 15 cents per pound in the market. My farm, just three years old, yielded forty-five tons of strawberries, eight tons of raspberries, fourteen tons of gooseberries, besides odds and ends of red and black currants, and a few apples and plums. Within the next year or two I expect better crops of the latter, including pears, as I have planted 5500 trees which are growing well. This year we had a bumper crop of apples and pears in Scotland, but nearly all was cleared off before yours appeared in the market. Scotch stuff sold very cheaply, although the quality were very good. For good, fruit exporters on your side may secure extra prices, but, as the preserve makers get their stock pretty well made up with Scotch apples, slacks and inferior fruit will not bring much on this side.

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