

the vines off before; but they are nearly all gone now. We suppose most people don't know that grape vines may be planted later than anything else. We shall have 100,000 to plant after we get through mailing, so you can see we have not served ourselves first. Should any fail to grow we will replace them next fall or spring, gratis.

THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

A subscriber in St Thomas sends us a plea for the sparrow, cut from the *St Thomas Times*. The writer pleads in their favour first that they make delicious pies, and second that they kill May bugs, and peel off the wing covers to prepare them as food for their young. He also pleads that they destroy the plum curculio.

Such pleas in its favour are very scarce. The general testimony of fruit growers and farmers both in the United States and Canada, is that they are perfect nuisances, and one of the greatest enemies we have to contend with.

Only the other day we discovered these scoundrels in a fresh sort of mischief. The plum and cherry blossoms were coming down like snow. It was too soon after opening for them to fall naturally, so we stopped to examine, when lo! two sparrows, as busy as busy could be, picking out the young plums and scattering the waste part of the flower to the ground.

Others may need to try the miserable foreigner a little longer, before they are convinced of his mean spirit, but the writer has determined to show him no mercy.

A LETTER FROM J. J. BOURNE.

SIR:—In the February number of your paper, a letter appeared from me in reference to Messrs. Jackman & Lindsay, of Toronto. I have been in England since, and I am informed that

Jackman & Lindsay complain that my letter may in some way injure them in their dealings with fruit men, and bears the construction that I think they are unreliable and do not act honestly. I never intended what I wrote you to be published in the *Horticulturist*, and much less did I wish to hint that I thought the said firm dishonest. All I had to complain about was that I thought each day after fruit was sold, the commission merchant should send word to the shipper, by post card or otherwise, of the result of the fruit sold, so that the shipper could judge for himself where was his best place to sell. Some other commission houses do this, and I think all should do so. This firm did not do so to me, but they have honestly accounted for all fruit I sent them, and I have no complaint to make except in the one direction I have alone referred to. That is, perhaps, a matter for their own business; but I merely intended that I thought all commission men should adopt this good plan. If I have injured them, I did not wish to do so, and still hope they may do a good business.

May 25, 1887.

JOS. BOURNE.

PROGRAMME OF THE SUMMER MEETING
Of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.
Town Hall, Collingwood, June 28 & 29,
1887.—Open to the Public.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

10 A.M.—FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

11 A.M.—THE APPLE.

(a) *Varieties adapted to Simcoe and Grey.*

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

QUESTION DRAWER.

2 P.M.—THE APPLE.—(*Continued.*)

(b) *Varieties for foreign markets.*

(c) *Best modes of gathering.*

(d) “ “ *packing.*