

little at fault in this matter. A few weeks since Dr. Benedict brought me a few grapes from his vineyard on Grosse Isle, that had been injured as described by Prof. Cook.

"On some of the grapes that were still fresh, I noticed a semi-circular mark, similar to the mark of the curculio on plums, and within the part bounded by this mark I noticed several very minute spots or excrescences which looked very much like the work of an insect. The Doctor noticed that as the grapes began to show signs of disease, that this little semi-circular mark was upon the damaged fruit, so small at first that it required very close observation to detect it. The mark gradually increased in size until it could readily be seen. I took a little thin slice, with a little of the pulp from this diseased part of the grape, placed it upside down upon a glass slide, then under the microscope. I found that this little juice of the grape was filled with Phylloxera, quite lively and feeding on the juice of the grape. This shows that the Phylloxera in one form and at some part of the season will attack the fruit as well as the roots and leaves of grapes. This may be the cause of the shrivelling up of the grapes."

### WEeping TREES.

A paper read before the Western New York Horticultural Society by Wm. C. Barry.

#### WEeping OR DROOPING TREES.

In this class are embraced the most charming examples of ornamental trees. Graceful in outline, elegant and novel in their mode of growth, impressive and attractive in appearance, they possess all those characteristics of growth and foliage which render them especially desirable and valuable for the embellishment of landscapes and the ornamentation of grounds. The beautiful cut-leaved Weeping Birch, sometimes called the Lady Birch, with its bright bark glistening in the summer's sun and its graceful drooping branches, swaying in the lightest breeze, is a worthy subject for the artist's pencil and the poet's pen. In winter too, covered with ice and illuminated with the brilliant rays of the setting sun, its trembling branches apparently studded with innumerable brilliants, it presents a charming picture, attracting the attention and winning the admiration of even the most careless and indifferent observer. This elegant tree which Mr. Scott very appropriately calls "the most exquisite of modern sylvan belles," was introduced and first offered for sale in this country by Ellwanger & Barry about the year 1851. Henry W. Sargent, Esq., writing to the *Horticulturist* from Germany in 1848, and describing Booth's nursery at Holstein stated that "among trees and shrubs new to me I noticed a Weeping Birch peculiar to Germany. It had descending shoots 32 feet long. The branches hung as perpendicular downward as those of the *Sophora pendula* or the common weeping willow and are quite as delicate and pensile as the latter." From this description Messrs E. & B. at once concluded, that this must be a very desirable and valuable tree, and they immediately ordered a specimen to be forwarded to them. In due time it came, was planted, and as soon as possible, a large stock of young trees was obtained. No novelty was ever received with greater enthusiasm, or gave more general satisfaction than this. The demand was so great that for several years from 5 to 15,000 stocks were budded annually. Until the month of November last the original imported tree stood in their nursery grounds a living monument, full of beauty and grace, adorning the landscape, and gaining for itself hosts of admirers. Unfortunately, however, being in the way of projected improvements, it had to be destroyed, much to the regret of those who had seen it planted, and watched its growth for nearly twenty-five years. In view of the many interesting facts associated with it, it had already become a historical tree, but fifty years hence, when its offspring will be found in every city and hamlet of this great country, it would have been, could it have been left standing, remarkably interesting to the admirers of characteristic and noteworthy trees. Mr. Scott, who evidently appreciates the value of this Birch for ornamental planting, says that:—

"It stands the acknowledged queen of all the airy graces with which lightsome trees coquette with the sky and summer air. It lacks no charm essential to its rank. Erect, slender, tall, it gains height only to bend its silvery spray with a caressing grace on every

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