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FRUIT GROWING.

NO. IV.

We have taken pains within a week to secure the opinions of different persons connected with the fruit interest, as to the best varieties now in bearing and brought to market here; also as to those varieties not yet introduced to our section, and that should be grown here. Among those we interviewed are Mark Levy and F. H. Page, merchants at Portland, who handle our green fruit very largely, as well as import from California. We also have the views of several nurserymen, including H. W. Prettyman, of Railroad Nursery, East Portland, J. H. Settlemeier, of Woodburn, and O. Dickinson, of Salem. While these differ somewhat, they agree on many varieties. We have published heretofore a list recommended by a committee of the Fruit Growers' Association, but consider the opinions of a few leading minds worth more than what such a society may adopt. At the last Fruit Growers' meeting Mr. Dickinson recommended the following list of fruits:

- Summer Apples—Red Astrachan, Gravenstein. Fall Apples—Fall Pippin, Seek no Further, Waxen, King of Tompkins County, William's Favorite. Winter Apples—Baldwin, Northern Spy, Monmouth Pippin, Grimes' Golden Pippin, Esopus Spitzenburg, Yellow Newtown, Yellow Belleflower, Winesap. Summer Pears—Clapp's Favorite, Bartlett. Fall Pears—Buerre d'Anjou, Fall Butter, Louise B. d'Jersey, Buerre Clairgeau. Winter Pears—Winter Nellis, Easter Buerre, Vicar of Wakefield, Duchess de Bordeaux. Plums—Coe's Golden Drop, Columbia, Peach, Yellow Egg, Bradshaw, Washington, Riene, Claude de Bayay. Prunes—Italian, Petit d'Anjou, Hungarian. Cherries—Black Tartarian, Royal Ann, Black Republican, Black Bigarreau. Peaches—Early Alexander, Hale's Early, Early Crawford, Golden Cling, Salway, Lemon Cling.

After some discussion the Rhode Island Greening, Blue Pearmain and Kay were added to the list of apples. Messrs. Page, Levy, heavy fruit dealers, and H. W. Prettyman, orchardist and nurseryman, favor the following list of apples and pears. We believe it is fully as judicious as the above, and much to be preferred. It was gotten up with great care and we commend it to our readers as better worth their confidence than any other list of varieties ever recommended. The same gentlemen suggest varieties of fruit not yet grown in Oregon, or not grown in marketable quantity, and recommend a fair trial of them. We shall be called upon to ship fruit East, and the freight tariff must in time be so reduced as to encourage a much wider fruit trade. We should be prepared to ship kinds and varieties popular elsewhere. The varieties we recommend, after consultation with the gentlemen named, are:

- Early Apples—Red Astrachan and Gravenstein. One or two trees of Golden Sweet and Red June, for family use: the first, when baked, is delicious. We have one at our door that for a month gave us a supply of delicious baked fruit. The Red June is nice eating, but does not ship well, being too tender. Early Fall Apples—King of Tompkins County has good color and ships well; Blue Pearmain comes in early October. Then come Late Fall Apples—Northern Spy, Yellow Belleflower, Baldwin, Spitzenburg and Smith's cider. Mr. Levy says the Yellow Belleflower and Smith's cider are

not good shipping fruit, being too tender to stand packing and transport. Early Winter—Yellow Newtown Pippin, Red Cheek Pippin, Rhode Island Greening, Golden Russet, Winesap, Red Romanite, White Winter Pearmain, Roxbury Russet.

Mr. Levy objects to several of these, and probably the others agree with him, that the White Winter Pearmain does not do well in this region; that when the tree becomes old the fruit is small and inferior. He says the same is true of the Golden Russet, and we say the same is true of the Winesap and other varieties, and feel little hesitation in attributing this defect to the want of proper care of the tree, which would do well enough if mulched, pruned and the fruit thinned, so it can grow large. By proper care trees will bear regularly all they are able to carry and ripen well. It is a great mistake to omit this care. Much of the fault with fruit depends on the want of pruning, cultivating and thinning. The other day we took eleven large pears off a small limb, where all the stems grew on a single inch of space. Of course, that was not proper, and if the tree had been full the fruit would have been very small.

The Association of Oregon Fruit Growers omitted the American Pippin, but Mr. Levy says as it keeps from one harvest to another, and is the only apple that does so, it has especial value. He says he has handled them with profit, and believes a moderate number of trees should be grown.

The Gloria Mundi is not worth much to eat, but cooks well, and makes good dried fruit; the Waxen, or Gate apple, cannot be excelled for cooking or drying. Mr. Levy commends to fruit growers the Ben Davis, Vandevere and Canada Reinette, fruit not much known here, but all good fall varieties, and ship to good advantage.

Mr. Prettyman says the Snow apple, or Milam, is excellent for early winter. We have eaten them at the East and know he is correct. He also commends the Lava, a dark red, good size, and keeps until May.

The above list is carefully gotten up and much more reliable than that made out by the Fruit Growers. Unless they can give good advice they had best give none, for their list is calculated to do more harm than good.

It must be borne in mind that some varieties do well in some localities, but not far distant will not thrive, as soil and conditions do not favor. It is important, as we have repeatedly said, to know what fruits do well in your vicinity.

The pound pear has no place in the Fruit Growers' Selections, but it possesses value and has its uses that equal any other. Last winter Levy sold for \$1.25 a box lot of them to a restaurant in Portland that we frequented when there. As often as once a week we had baked pear and cream and found the pears equal to any we ever saw baked. They were very large and as rich as the Lawrence or Bartlett. They were pound pears and if they are not worth cultivating, if only for baking, they are worth raising, as they come later than any others and keep well.

The Sheldon is a pear that comes in early winter, has a good flavor, large size and bears shipping well. This is not grown in our region, at least not for market.

The Buerre Easter is pronounced by practical fruit growers as not worth cultivation. Besides not being healthy, as a rule, and rotting to the core frequently, their great fault for shipping is that they ripen very unevenly, some are green while others decay. We some time ago quoted Mr. Settlemeier as condemning this pear as having "outlived its usefulness." The Buerre Grise d'Hiver, is a very good shipping pear. The translation of its name means Fat Winter Pear, or Winter Butter. Buerre Clairgeau is very fine shipping fruit. These two are late fall varieties. The Glout Morceau is a winter pear that is excellent. All these varieties are not grown in our section and are recommended as worth planting.

The gentleman named gave the following as a good selection of pears already known and grown for the market: Bartlett, by far the most popular for all purposes. Clapp's Favorite, much like it and ripening soon after it, not with it. Buerre d'Anjou, Buerre Clairgeau. Winter Nellis, Duchess d'Angentine. The Louise Bonne de Jersey was discussed and rejected at first by all three, but Mr. Levy afterwards said a few of them should be grown as they ripened soon after the Bartlett at a time when no other pear was in market, earlier than Fall Butter, was fair looking and pleasant eating so its not being a good shipper should not utterly condemn it. This covers the matter of apples and

pears as far as we have been able to get at experienced opinions.

The Fruit Growers Association is calculated to accomplish good and can arrive at conclusions that will be valuable.

Last spring it received a report on fruits considerably fuller and certainly better than the one they passed the other day. A body of men cannot work as clearly and connectedly as a few. There should be a small committee of eminent orchardists who should study this matter of the best varieties and make frequent reports, so their decisions can be known. The fault is common of growing too many varieties and the important fact to know is, what varieties will do well in the locality you inhabit and select from the best and make the best of them by good cultivation and care and careful pruning of limbs and thinning of fruit. You may realize a heavy profit one year and find half your orchard ruined in consequence. Good management gives a crop every year.

A gentleman well acquainted with the qualities of fruit, and who handles tens of thousands of bushels of apples, makes the following criticism on the varieties recommended at the late meeting of fruit growers in Portland:

The Seek-no-further is not desirable, does not sell well because not in demand and it is not a good shipping apple, so only few are required.

The Waxen cooks well and dries heavy, making good dried fruit. It is only wanted at home as there is no demand for it for shipping.

Monmouth pippin is not wanted and not salable; instead would recommend 20-ounce pippin as much more desirable.

Buerre Easter pear not a good keeping pear and not wanted for shipping.

BARRICADES AND CIVILIZATION.

AUMSVILLE, Oct. 4, 1886.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

Primeval man appears to have subsisted upon the spontaneous productions of the earth, co-equal with the animals with which he was surrounded, and with which he waged incessant warfare for supremacy; and every animal which he deemed inimical to his welfare was, if possible, either frightened away or killed. Possessing only the rudest weapons, it was no light undertaking to attempt the destruction of the larger and more formidable beasts, and the bold and athletic men who successfully performed these feats were denominated "heroes"—were the "distinguished men" of their day and highly respected and honored.

Finding that certain animals could be made useful, such were caught and tamed, became recognized as property, and thus by degrees mankind became a race of nomadic herdsmen and shepherds. With the cultivation of the soil came the necessity of remaining in one place, and thus two distinct classes of people were formed—the nomad and the agriculturist. These latter were few at first, and were held in low favor by the free-and-easy rover with his herds, and especially despised by the "hero" class, who regarded their occupation as degrading; and the disgust of Ingomar at the plow and harrow was only equaled by his glorying in the wielding of a good sword and deeds of dash and daring.

But with the raising of crops came the necessity of protecting them from depredations of the flocks and herds of the "stockmen," and these latter being the dominant class by reason of their numbers, and as they arrogated to themselves about all the respectability of that day, it will be readily perceived that for these "lords of creation" to restrain their herds from preying upon the crops of the poor miserable farmer was not to be thought of. "Let him protect his crops as best he can, if he will plant why should we regard him as having any rights in the matter." And the first agriculturist of a nation, weak and despised, submitted to the domineering huntsman and the "festive cow boy," and barricaded his fields "horse high, bull strong, and pig tight."

We of this day and age boast of our "progress," of our "civilization," and our "enlightenment!" yet we suffer a condition of degraded barbarism to remain in force that has followed us from the first inception of primitive agriculture. Had the toil tiller been in power in the beginning, as he is now, the conditions would undoubtedly have been reversed, and domestic animals would have been fenced in, instead of crops, and no more preposterous proposition could now have been put forth than the farmer should be compelled by law to fence his crops to keep out other people's animals. "These animals belong to you," would have been the agreement of the primeval Granger had he been in power;

"they are solely for your behoof and benefit; you have no more right to trespass on me through them than yourself personally;" and the agriculturist would have made a "no fence law," and the courts have compelled the "stockman" to respect it.

Now, we are boasting of our national civilization, our education, our enlightenment, etc., etc., and no bragging Indian brave ever tooted his horn longer or louder in his own self-glorification than we are doing every day. "We are great in area, great in rivers, great in mountains, great in brains" (?) and we excel all the world in mechanical invention, scientific discovery, products of mine, and field, and forest, water power, railroads, postal and telegraph systems, etc., etc.; and brag about these things "cum libitum ad nauseam," without stint or modesty; while our country, wherever inhabited by our superior race, is a checkerboard network of expensive and unsightly barricades to keep people from quarreling. The savage Indian will not steal from his tribe, nor will he knowingly allow his ponies to trespass upon their patches of cultivated ground. We have adopted tobacco from the Indian, would it not be wise to emulate some of his virtues as well?

The practical fact is that our system of fencing and fence laws are exactly wrong end foremost, and suitable only for a semi-civilized people of nomadic herdsmen inhabiting a sparsely settled country where the "cow-boy" reigns supreme. But in an agricultural country, where a fee simple title to land is obtainable, where permanent houses are built, where fields, and roads, and school houses, and post offices, and mills, and villages, and towns, are established institutions of the community, the idea that one is compelled by law to barricade out his neighbor's domestic animals, is the most preposterous absurdity imaginable. This condition of affairs among a people calling themselves "civilized," would be ridiculous in the extreme, were it not that it is such an inconvenient and expensive reality, and a people are not inclined to laugh at their own foolishness.

One of the greatest hindrances to the prosperity of a country (Oregon especially) is this everlasting trouble and expense of fences. Say an emigrant comes here from Germany, or France, or any other country which has outgrown its nomadic age, to settle on land and build a home and farm in Oregon. He finds that before he can raise and harvest a crop he must expend more than his land is worth in building fences to protect his crops from the domestic animals of others. He also finds that while the law and public opinion protect his crops from spoliation by the human animal, no such protection obtains from the domestic one. That while his neighbor may not legally enter personally into his fields and carry away his crops, yet through his domestic animals he may freely do so unless he barricades them out, and the laws require these barricades to be "horse high, bull strong, and pig tight." And if any one chooses to remove domestic animals from one part of the country to another he must barricade his land for his own security and the other's accommodation. Not seeing any good reason why one person is allowed, by our law, to trespass upon another by proxy but not in person, is it any wonder that he is somewhat disgusted with our way of doing things, and thinks the ways of his mother country are the best?

The practical fact is, that one person has, morally, no more right to trespass upon another through the agency of his domestic animals than personally. If one chooses to keep such animals for his use and benefit, he should be required to restrain them within proper bounds, and should be answerable for any trespass committed by them. The majority of people recognize the correctness and justice of this principle, but to procure action upon it generally laws are required to coerce the minority.

It may be asked, why then, if this is thus, the people generally have not recognized the fact and acted upon it. I reply, that we were losers under this compulsory fence system, are habituated to it, and have never had experience in any other, and are like a horse who stands patiently tied by a slender halter strap, not realizing how easily he can break it if he tried. Let us once adopt and become accustomed to a no fence system, every one being required to restrain his animals from trespass the same as himself, and no greater impetus could be given to the prosperity of our State, and not one person in ten would ever agree to return to the old way, and boys are now in school who will live to wonder how their fathers endured the present system so long as they did, and a

proposition to return to the present compulsory system would be regarded not only as preposterous but as a violation of the natural right of the people.

But however much the people may recognize the truth of what is here stated, nothing can be done towards a better system except through the Legislature, and it is not likely to change existing laws unless the people, who are to be benefited, ask for such a change, and even then we cannot expect to take so long a stride, even in so right a direction as to obtain a no fence law, for we all know how slowly a people forsake "the traditions of their fathers." But a step may be had for the asking. If our incoming Legislature will extend to us of Western Oregon the Eastern Oregon fence law, it will be something gained. The Legislature will do this and more if the people ask it, and in time our compulsory fence law "relic of barbarism" may be removed.

The pecuniary and social aspects of this question may form the subjects for future articles. F. S. MATTESON.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The importance of this notice lies in the fact that we have sent out during the past week a statement of account to every subscriber who is delinquent to this paper. We ask a prompt reply and demand that all who are in arrears pay us what is due. Harvest is over and all can and should pay their newspaper bills. We have had hard times and assure our friends that we can feel how it is ourselves. But nevertheless we must have our dues. We are publishing a splendid paper and must have money. Those who are paid up will not take any notice of this demand, as it is intended for those who owe us one year and especially those who are two years and over in arrears.

Railroad Nursery, East Portland.

We have an advertisement of H. W. Prettyman, who is proprietor of the Railroad nursery alluded to in the heading of this paragraph. We found him on Wednesday busily engaged at the Mechanics' Pavilion, Portland, preparing his exhibit, which occupies the northwest corner of the room devoted to agricultural and horticultural products. He showed us samples of nursery trees of different ages and of many varieties of fruits. It is probable that he will make the finest showing in that line ever made by any man at any Mechanics' Fair. We can say for him that we have set out 2,000 trees of his growing that have proved valuable, and were well treated in the nursery. He makes a rule never to send to a customer a tree that is not up to his own idea of excellence. A friend once ordered trees early in April, and we gave the order to Mr. Prettyman, who declined to fill it, because the season being unusually dry he did not believe any man should plant trees that late, this, too, when the man ordering the trees was willing to plant them. We have great confidence in our Oregon nurserymen who advertise in the FARMER, and know them to be reliable.

Negotiations are still pending between the O. R. & N. Co. and Union Pacific toward making a lease.

Cholera is Quick, PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER is Quicker. 46 Years experience PROVES that PERRY DAVIS' PAIN KILLER is the cure for Cholera. Oughtn't you to get a bottle quickly so if you need it quickly no time will be lost? For Cholera Morbus, Diarrhoea, Summer Complaint, Dysentery there is no remedy equal to P.D.P.K. Your druggist sells it, PERRY DAVIS & SON, Proprietors, PROVIDENCE, R.I.