

## The Bartlett Pear

**T**HE BARTLETT is the greatest pear grown in California because in quality it is good; because in commercial suitability it is unrivaled; because it can be picked from the trees, in different parts of the State, from July to September, as stated elsewhere. The Bartlett tree is a good, upright grower, and in California it is such a good self-pollinizer that solid acreages of it may be planted with full assurance of bearing well. Though subject to blight, it is so good otherwise that blight-extirpation is cheerfully assumed by growers. The fruit is handsome; it carries well and ripens during long shipment; it processes well in canning; it assumes beautiful form and color in sun-curing. It is in such strong and universal favor that other varieties, which are grown to extend the season, are judged in terms of resemblance to the Bartlett in their appearance and behavior.

In the Bartlett, California has taken an old, world-beating pear and glorified it beyond all its previous popularity as a commercial fruit. For the Bartlett is a European pear, which was renamed with a Yankee appellation in Massachusetts. It is believed to have originated in England about 1770 and was called "Williams," after the man who first propagated it in England. But the pear has in its list of synonyms many French titles, and one of them, "William's Bon Chretien," seems to fix an old belief that the Englishman borrowed it from France. In fact, the French "Bon Chretien" is traceable even to records of propagation and description of it in 1485. Before, then, the achievement of Christopher Columbus, our Bartlett was perhaps living an honorable life and is now gloriously renewing its youth in California and through our undertakings with it, and the achievements of others who have taken suggestion from them, the Bartlett is not only the greatest pear in California, but the greatest pear in the world—at least from a commercial point of view.

*Illustration by courtesy  
J. K. Armsby Co.*

