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Established 1854.

TO THE TRADE ONLY.

Forty-first Year.

62.23

... SPECIAL 1895 ...

Illustrated Price-List of

.. EVERGREENS ..

THE ELGIN NURSERIES,

RICKER NATIONAL NURSERY CO., Props.

Reference First National Bank of Elgin,

SEE OUR WANTS

PAGE II. —

Elgin, Kane County, Illinois.

This illustration shows the appearance of the Elgin Nurseries on alighting from the electric street cars on May street, and as it appears at the corner of May and S. Liberty streets, taking in about fifteen acres of the west end of the Nurseries.

TO THE NURSERY TRADE.

In presenting this special Price List, with illustrations, we wish to thank our friends and patrons for past favors, and solicit a continuance of the same.

Our list of varieties is not large, but we have large blocks closely covered with as fine a lot of evergreens as ever was grown. We do not list varieties and sizes we cannot furnish, for the sake of making a long list, but present, on the following pages, half tone illustrations from photographs of a few of the blocks of trees we offer to the trade this spring. Our stock will be carefully graded and packed by men of many years' experience. We guarantee satisfaction, both in quality of stock and manner of packing. Our packing grounds are supplied with every convenience for handling stock in the best possible manner. See illustration of same, Page 27.

OUR LOCATION.

Elgin is thirty-seven miles northwest of Chicago, the greatest railroad center in the world. Our shipping facilities are unsurpassed. We are located on the main line of the C. & N. W. R. R., the C. M. & St. P. R. R. and the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern railroad, which is a belt line circling around Chicago from Waukegan, on Lake Michigan north of Chicago, to a point in Indiana south of Chicago, thus crossing all roads that enter Chicago. We can ship direct over the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern to any other road without having to ship through Chicago to be transferred, thus avoiding danger of being delayed in transfer to any road.

TERMS--TO THE TRADE ONLY.

1. On all sums amounting to \$5.00 or over, June 1, 1895, to known responsible parties, or to strangers furnishing satisfactory references.
2. A discount of ten per cent. will be allowed on all orders amounting to \$5 or over where cash accompanies the order.
3. All boxing and packing is free; prices quoted are for stock delivered F. O. B. cars Elgin.
4. Remit by bank draft, post-office or express order, or registered letter.

On entering the Nurseries, passing by Grape Vines, Strawberry beds and block of Black Walnut, block of Norway Spruce 6-7 feet high, and a large bed of asparagus seedlings, we come to eight beds of Norway Spruce seedlings, which are from 8-15 inches high. These eight beds contain over one million seedlings. E. H. Ricker, Mgr., holds in his hand one of the seedlings, together with a twelve inch rule, showing plant to be fourteen inches high on June 1, 1894.

HIGHEST AWARD.

Our trees received highest award and medal at the World's Columbian Exposition, together with the following complimentary notice from the Judge and Committee on Awards, which reads as follows:

In this display there are twelve specimens and varieties of conifers and seven of deciduous plants. Nearly all are shown in a variety of sizes and of each size there are a large number of specimens. *The display is distinctly a wholesale nursery exhibit of a most commendable character*, showing the methods of growing, caring for and handling trees from the seedling bed to large transplanted specimens. Not only are the nursery methods of handling stock shown, but particular attention is given to instruct those who purchase small seedling plants in the successful methods of handling them, by examples of such stock planted purposely in beds and shaded with lath shades until established. A specimen wind-break for exposed situations is also shown, which is made of Norway Spruce (*Picea excelsa*); in the center the trees placed alternately and outside of these the dwarf pine (*Pinus Mughus*) is planted to assist in holding the snow and preventing injury to the lower branches of the spruces. Although planted out late and under unfavorable circumstances, the success attained is remarkable and deserves high commendation for the general excellence of the plants, and the instructive character of the whole exhibit.

Approved: THOMAS PUGH, *Pres. Departmental Com.*

Signed: WARREN H. MANNING.

Approved: JOHN BOYD THATCHER, *Chairman Executive Com. on Awards.*

Individual Judge.

Date, May 9, 1894.

TESTIMONIALS.

We could print pages of testimonials from leading nurserymen and large planters from all parts of the country, but have not the space in this catalogue for any of them. See five pages of them in Wholesale catalogue, from Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Missouri, Dakota, Wisconsin, Indiana, Virginia, Canada, Pennsylvania, New York, Oregon, Washington, Texas, Nevada, and Montana. We have hundreds of them from all parts of the United States and Canada.

After continuing down the roadway to the East, passing large blocks of shade trees of different varieties, we come to a field of Norway Spruce, covering about four acres, these Spruce are three times transplanted, extra stocky and well rooted, the light streak in the distance to the right, is lath shading over beds of Arbor Vitae and Balsam Fir seedlings.

EVERGREENS.

These prices and terms for the trade only: 5 at 10 rates, 50 at 100 rates, 500 at 1,000 rates, etc. Terms: June 1st to known responsible parties; ten per cent. off for cash with order.

Norway Spruce.

	10	100	1,000	10,000
Seedlings, 4 to 6 in. high	\$	\$.50	\$ 3.00	\$ 25.00
" 6 " 8 "		.60	4.00	35.00
" 8 " 12 "		.75	5.00	45.00
" 12 " 15 "	.25	1.25	10.00	95.00
Once Transplanted, 4 to 6 in. high ..	.25	1.25	10.00	95.00
" " 6 " 8 "	.35	1.50	12.00	100.00
" " 8 " 12 "	.75	1.75	15.00	125.00
Twice " 12 " 18 "	1.00	5.00	40.00	
3 Times Transpl'd, 18 to 24 in., Extra, 1.25		8.00	75.00	
3 " " 24 " 30 "	1.50	12.00	95.00	
3 " " 2½ " 3 ft.	2.00	15.00	140.00	
3 " " 3 to 3½ ft.	2.25	17.00	165.00	

American White Spruce.

Twice Transplanted, 12 to 18 in. high,	1.50	8.00	75.00
18 " 24 "	2.00	10.00	85.00
3 Times Transplanted, 2 to 3 ft.	2.50	22.00	200.00

American Black Spruce.

3 Times Transplanted, 12 to 18 in....	1.50
3 " " 18 to 24 " ..	2.50

Colorado Blue Spruce. (Picea Pungens)

Seedlings, 2 to 3 in. high.....	.25	1.50	10.00	90.00
" 3 " 4 "	.50	2.50	15.00	140.00

Balsam Fir.

Seedlings, 2 to 3 in. high.....		.40	3.50	30.00
" 3 " 4 " Extra Stocky, .25		1.00	6.00	50.00

American Arbor Vitae.

Seedlings, 3 to 4 in. high.....		.50	3.00	28.00
" 4 " 6 " Extra Stocky, .15		.75	4.00	35.00

American White Pine.

	10	100	1,000	10,000
Seedlings, one year, 1 to 2 in. high...		.50	3.00	25.00
Transplanted, 6 to 10 in.	2.50	20.00		
" 10 " 15 " Extra Fine,	4.00	30.00		

Scotch Pine.

Seedlings, one year, 1 to 2 in. high..		.50	3.00	25.00
Transplanted, 10 to 12 " ..		1.75	15.00	
" 12 " 18 " ..	.40	2.00	18.00	
" 18 " 24 " ..		3.00	25.00	
3 Times Transplanted, 2 to 3 ft. high,	.75	5.00	45.00	
3 " " 3 " ..	1.50	6.00	50.00	
4 " " 3 to 4 " ..	1.75	7.00	60.00	
4 " " 4 " 5 " ..	2.00	12.00	100.00	

Austrian Pine.

Seedlings, one year, 1 to 2 in. high,		.50	4.00	30.00
Transplanted, 6 to 10 in. high,		1.25	10.00	
" 10 " 12 " ..		1.50	15.00	
" 12 " 18 " ..	.75	3.00	25.00	
3 Times Transpl'd, 18 to 24 in. high,	1.00	5.00	45.00	
3 " " 2 " 3 ft. ..	1.50	8.00	75.00	
4 " " 3 " 4 " ..	3.00	18.00	165.00	

Ponderosa Pine.

Transplanted, 8 to 12 in. high.....	.75	7.00
12 to 15 in.	1.25	10.00

Dwarf Mountain Pine.

Twice Transplanted, 6 to 10 in. high,	.50	3.00	25.00
" 10 to 12 in.	1.00	4.50	35.00
3 Times Transpl'd, 12 to 18 in. "	1.50	6.00	50.00
3 " " 18 " 24 in. "	2.00	10.00	90.00
4 " " 2 ft. "	2.50	20.00	150.00
4 " " 2 to 3 ft. "	3.50	25.00	

Red Cedar.

Transplanted, 6 to 10 in. high.....	.75	4.00	35.00
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See instructions how to plant, Page— . We can usually ship Evergreens up to May 15th. Orders should be gotten in in April if possible.

THE ABOVE PRICES SUPERSEDE ALL PREVIOUS QUOTATIONS.

Moving further east to the end of the lath shading, as seen in the distance on page 6, the four first beds to the right are Balsam Fir seedlings, the three beds to the left under the shadid, are Arbor Vitae seedlings, these beds are 4 feet wide and 34 rods long. If these beds were placed so they were a continuous bed they would reach two-thirds of a mile. The seedlings stand thick in the beds as can be seen in two of these where shades have been taken off, thus giving some idea of the hundreds of thousands of seedlings the beds contain. The field of beds to the right are transplanted plants which have been bedded as per illustration in "How to Grow Evergreens," pages 13-15. Mr. Ricker holds in his hand a white pine transplanted such as are quoted on page 7, 10-15 inches high, extra fine; by taking notice one can readily see the abundance of roots, which makes up the good qualities of any plant.

SPECIAL OFFERS.

Past experience proves that an order of our evergreens sent into a neighborhood more than serves the purpose of the best advertising we can do. We have prepared the following sample order of evergreens, which we will send by express prepaid to any part of the United States, packed so they will arrive in perfect condition. They should be planted in nursery beds, as per instructions on pages 13 15 of this catalogue. A few dollars invested in small evergreens will, in a few years, worth hundreds of dollars to any farm or residence in the country. Try this sample order and we are sure to receive orders from your neighbors another year:

Sample Order No. 1, \$2.00. One-half of this order, \$1, being one-half of each variety; no other changes of varieties or numbers will be made. Sample No. 1 contains 200 assorted evergreens, as follows: 100 Norway Spruce, 4 years old; 4 Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*); 50 American Balsam Fir; 20 American Arbor Vitae, 3 years old; 10 Scotch Pine, 1 year old; 10 Austrian Pine, 1 year old; 6 White Pine, 1 year old.

Remember the above is sent by express prepaid to any part of the United States for \$2.00, or one-half of each of the above for \$1.00. No discount will be allowed on this sample order. See instructions how to plant on pages 13 15 of this catalogue. Our cheap sample orders are sure to bring us larger orders from the parties who receive them, and from their neighbors. Read the following testimonials:

Office of Brentwood Nursery, Brentwood N. Y., April 23, 1894.

Gentlemen—Sample order of evergreens came in good shape, thanks for your care. We would like to put out some evergreens this spring, and would like to know the latest date at which they could be put out with perfect safety in our locality, 41 miles from New York, on the Sandy soil of Long Island; and, if we should send an order as soon as your reply reached us, could you fill it at once? We want, especially, Scotch Pine. Please send catalogue with special instructions for planting.

Yours truly, BLACKER & HALL.

Gordon, Neb. May 15, 1894.

Dear Sirs—Received the package of trees, sample order No. 1, all O K, in good condition; put them out same day, and they are looking nice. Will give you a large order next spring.

Yours respectfully, C. H. SAILOR.

Klamath Falls, Ore

Gentlemen—Your sample order No. 1 of evergreens reached me yesterday in good condition and in every way satisfactory. Many thanks.

Very truly yours, O. A. STEARN.

Hayden, Minn., May 5, 1894.

Dear Sirs—Sample order No 1 of evergreens from your nurseries is received in good condition.

Yours respectfully, J. P. KIDSETH.

The above are a few of the hundreds of letters received from our customers. Send us a trial order and we are sure to retain you as a regular customer. See additional testimonials in wholesale catalogue.

Moving still further east we leave the view of the Balsam Fir and Arbor Vitae beds as shown in the distance to the left, being the white streak in the distance, the dark streak, where two men are seen hoeing, are beds of transplanted Scotch Pine, Norway Spruce and White Pine. The 16 beds in the foreground which are covered with lath shading represents our planting of seed during spring of 1894. These beds contain all the leading varieties of Evergreens, each bed being 4 feet wide and 34 rods long, would make a continuous bed 4 feet wide and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, giving the reader an idea of the millions of seedlings these beds contain. The seed is sown broadcast and plants come up thick, averaging about 200 to the square foot, at this average the sixteen beds would contain 7180800 plants. These plants are now one year old and will be large enough for market during the spring of 1896. The man standing in the centre of the beds holds a hose with which the plants are watered. During the dry season of 1894 the seed was sown in these beds and plants grown to maturity without rain, the watering was all done by hose, much of the time the plants were watered both day and night, as we had such a large surface to cover.

MISCELLANEOUS.

We have a surplus of the following stock, which is strictly first-class:

White Ash, 6 to 12 in.....	\$1.50 per M	Osage Hedge, 1 year, first class.....	\$1.25 per M
“ 12 “ 18 “	2.00 “	“ 1 “ medium.....	1.00 “
“ 18 “ 24 “	3.00 “	Asparagus, 1 year, (Conovers Colossal).....	2.00 “
Black Walnut, 1 to 2 feet, transplanted.....		“ 1 “ (Palmetto)	3.00 “
.....	\$1.50 per C, 10.00 “	Peonias.....	each 10 ; 7.00 per C
Black Walnut, 2 to 3 ft., transplanted, 2.00 “ 15.00 “			

WANTED.

We want to purchase, in carload lots, shade trees of all the leading hardy varieties, from 1½ to 6 inches in diameter. We especially want Hard Maple, Elm, Catalpa, Box Elder, White Ash, Carolina Poplar and Soft Maple. We also need—to furnish our spring orders—Strawberry, Raspberry, Blackberry, Grape Vines Cherry, Plum, and Pear. Let us know what you have to offer, with lowest cash price; or, would exchange anything offered on page 7.

THE ELGIN NURSERIES,
ESTABLISHED 1854.
TRADE-MARK

CAUTION.

Attempts have been made to use the name of the Elgin Nurseries by other parties, therefore we caution the public when ordering trees from the Elgin Nurseries, to see that our trade mark is on all catalogues and circulars from which your order is made out. It will also appear on all shipping tags. This trade mark is registered.

Going a little farther east along the roadway and looking west, we take in the territory we have just gone over, including all shown to the left of the roadway, which is not seen in any of the other views. In the foreground is seen large blocks of transplanted Austrian Pine and Red Cedar where the men are now hoeing and watering. These grounds are supplied with city water with a force of 100 pounds to the square inch, as will be seen, the hose being held in hand and no nozzle, a large quantity of water can be put on the surface of the ground in a short time. The white streak, where the man stands, to the right, is the lath shading which we have just left, as shown on page 10, the second white streak in the distance is the shading over the Balsam Fir and Arbor Vitae, as shown on page 8. In the distance at the entrance can be seen the office and sign over the roadway as shown on page 2 and across the street beyond the office is the residence of E. H. Ricker, this view is taken looking west.

HOW AND WHEN TO PLANT EVERGREENS.

On Page 7 will be found the prices of the leading and most reliable evergreens for general planting. It is important that our patrons know how and when to plant. Many people have an idea that early planting is best for evergreens, but it is a mistaken idea. In the spring they should not be transplanted earlier than April 15th, and better still from May 1st till May 15th. Great care should be taken to have the ground in proper condition for plant-

ing; any mellow soil that has been cultivated to some hoed crop will do. Spade it deep, rake it fine and level, lay out the beds four feet wide, drawing a garden line along each side, lay a board across the end of bed, and cut a trench as shown in Fig. 1.

Place the plants in the trench, filling in moist soil, and tramp firm, as shown in Fig. 2

□ Lay the board down, and proceed to cut the next trench, as shown in Fig. 3.

(Continued on page 15.)

Put in the next row as in Fig. 4, and

proceed with the planting, and the bed will appear as in Fig. 5.

From the same point from where page 12 is taken, turning square around and looking east, we take in the long rows of Norway Spruce, Scotch and Austrian Pine transplanted during spring of 1894, to the left where the man is cultivating, takes in large blocks of all the leading varieties of hardy Evergreens, which we will come to later.

HOW AND WHEN TO PLANT EVERGREENS.

(Continued from page 13.)

If two or three year seedlings are planted they should be shaded as shown in Fig. 6.

While hoeing and weeding the plants the shade may either be removed from the bed or raised as shown in Fig. 7.

We find the best tool for cultivating little trees is a hoe with rake teeth on one side, as shown in Fig. 8.

It may be well to give an idea of how much ground is required for a given number of plants. By putting the plants two inches apart in the row, there would be twenty-five plants in each row across the bed. The rows across the bed should be ten inches and the plants two inches apart in the

rows; thus a bed four feet wide and thirty-five feet long will hold 1,000 plants. At this rate 1,000 evergreens can be planted on any farm in the United States and the total cost for plants, shades and labor will not exceed \$10 or \$15. Keep them free from weeds and the ground mellow, and the growth they will make in two years will be surprising. After they have had two year's growth, plant where you want your shelter; have the soil in good mellow condition, just as you would to plant corn: cultivate as you would corn, hoe them thoroughly and do not let a weed grow near them. The shades are made of strips 1x2 inches and lath nailed to them one-half inch apart. If transplanted plants are used, the shading is not needed, although a little straw or hay should be sprinkled over the tops to shade them for two or three days. Everyone who has a garden should send for our sample order. If planted as above, in two years they would be worth \$25; and such plants as they would be at the end of two years could not be purchased of any nursery for a less amount. Try them. We send them prepaid. See page 9.

Moving on east along the roadway to a point on the little knoll, beyond where the man and horse stands, as shown on page 14, we come to a field of Dwarf Mountain Pine. These are the plants we are offering so cheap. They are extra stocky plants with an abundance of roots. This view takes in about four acres. Next beyond the Dwarf Pine we come to page 17.

A large field of American White and Norway Spruce, ranging from 18 inches to 3 feet, this view takes in about seven acres, and a finer lot of Spruce was never grown on American soil. Note our low prices for this stock on page 7.

On going still farther East to where we enter another portion of the nurseries turning and looking back we take in a bird's eye view of all we have gone over, the long rows of Norway Spruce, Scotch and Austrian Pine in the foreground are the same ones shown on page 14, this view is taken from the point at the further end of the right hand row, shown on page 14, and looking West.

Arriving in the other portion of the nurseries, we are now in the East end of the nurseries, being one-half mile from the office, here we find men and boys weeding one year old evergreens, having the shades raised immediately after a shower, which is done to allow evaporation, these beds contain hundreds of thousands of small evergreens of all the leading varieties. This view is taken looking East.

Going down the rows of beds on page 19 we arrive at the East end of the nurseries near the woods as shown on page 19, moving to the North about 20 rods, we turn and look back to the West, here we find more long rows of seed beds which are now just sprouting, nearly ready to raise the shades, to the left will be found a building used as a tool house. The white shades shown in front of the building, are the shades covering the seedling beds, being the two left shades shown on page 19. The beds of dark colored plants between the shades here shown, are transplanted Norway Spruce which have been bedded out, as per instructions on pages 13 and 15, this takes in a territory of about 8 acres.

Moving back to the West end of the view shown on page 20, to the rise of ground, to the right of where the horse and wagon are standing, turning and looking East we get this view. This view takes in the East end of the lath shading we have just left on page 20, which may be seen in the distance to the right, showing white, here we find an assortment of varieties of trees, being Norway Spruce, Scotch and Austrian and White Pine, Dwarf Pine, Irish Juniper, etc., to the left of this view will be seen a bed covered with lath shading and showing white, to the right of the lath shading will be seen two beds of seedlings, which are old enough so they do not need shading. Moving still further North we come to page 22.

This view shows Dwarf Mountain Pine, Norway Spruce, and a variety of other evergreens which are transplanted, showing how stocky our plants grow by giving them plenty of room.

This view shows a block of Norway Spruce from 2 ft. to 3½ ft high. One can readily see at the end of the rows how stocky these trees are, they are extra well rooted and are just the things for hedges, shelter belts or ornamental purposes. This block contains 20,000. See the low prices we are offering.

Leaving the nurseries we have just been inspecting we arrive at the old original Elgin nurseries which were established in 1854, these grounds are separate from the grounds we are now occupying, here we find a few views which will interest people who wish to plant groves, this view shows a growth of Norway Spruce, many of these trees are 2 ft. or over in diameter, and from 60 to 70 feet high.

This is a grove of American White Pine; these trees are planted in rows 8 ft. apart, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. apart in the row, most of them over 1 ft. in diameter. The long growth between the joints of limbs on the bodies will show what rapid growth the White Pines will make. Some of them having grown over three feet in a year.

This is a view of the mammoth shelter belt which has been shown in our catalogue for a number of years, all other cuts having been used have failed to do justice to this shelter belt, which is a perfect wall of evergreens, being Norway spruce and now averaging about 75 ft. high, an estimate of the height can easily be made by comparing the height of the horses, which are of good size, to the height of the shelter belt. This is what every farmer on a western prairie can enjoy by starting a few hundred evergreens this spring. See description of this shelter belt in "How to grow evergreens on last pages of our catalogue.

Here we find a general view of our packing grounds, this being one half mile from the office, and having located these grounds at this point before the Elgin city water works were erected we provided our packing grounds with an abundant supply of water, the reservoir is on a knoll built of a heavy brick wall and holds 900 barrels of water, it is high enough so water flows with a good force to all parts of the packing grounds and house, the reservoir is filled with pure spring water, forced by a wind mill several hundred feet away through a pipe laid below frost line, the wind mill which forces the water is shown on page 22. We have every convenience for packing and shipping stock in the best possible manner.

From a Photograph taken by
S. M. Adams, May 1892

Transplanting Evergreens

Transplanting Evergreens in the Elgin Nurseries, May 1892.