asked him I had plenty of other grafts which I considered better: But advised him if he had not ~~other grafts~~ to keep it for himself ~~the benefit of his stock~~ his stock and not deprive ~~himself~~ of its benefit, to accomodate ~~for~~ any friend. — The cuttings I sent you are of the fruit called the Scrivener's Red and are believed to have originated with a man of that name, and ~~they are~~ it is most generally propagated here, by the shoots rising from the roots of the old trees. — It is about a medium size of the cart horse but smaller at the lower end. As an eating fall & late winter apple, we consider it ~~have~~ only inferior to the green pippin. As a fine cider apple equal to any other; but the cider made of its bright will burst the bottles unless it has a mixture of one half crab. Its superior quality, besides being so fine for eating & for cider, consists in its ~~wonderful~~ extraordinary capacity for bearing profusely almost every year, & the hardiness & longevity of the trees, whereby an orchard here of this kind is considered ~~little expensive~~ as one of Pippins or any other kind.

While on this topic, I will suggest to you a doubt which I entertain, that we can never have an fruit in perfection that grows ~~promiscuously~~ intermixed in an orchard containing many sorts, where they all blossom at the same time. The wood of the tree will preserve its purely distinctive character; but ~~that~~ the fruit in a greater or less degree will have each. — With reference to cherries and peaches I have on this point, ample proof that this opinion is well founded. On a large young tree some years ago I placed several grafts each of the large ~~Gray~~ May Duke, & of the large black bite heart: they both blossom at the same time, & the fruit ~~particular~~ ~~in~~ on the tree is of the medium colour between the two. On another tree where there are two sorts, that do not blossom exactly at the same time, the character of each sort is purely distinct.

I have a large collection of valuable peaches in my garden collected from various sources that afford the best fruit and they were many years ~~my~~ indiscriminately planted ~~to~~ by myself close. ~~The branches~~ of many of them interlock. among these