

THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST.

that we have been receiving lately, gives little or no satisfaction to anybody, and seeing that the charges are the same as on better stock, we are surprised that so much common stuff has been sent forward.

THE COMET CURRANT is considered in the Fruit Grower, London, England, as very productive, as many as twenty-six berries having been counted on a single bunch. The berry is of superior size, and it is claimed that such a sample should bring about a new era in currant culture.

RIBSTON PIPPIN.—Four samples of this fruit from a very old tree, a sucker from the original tree, were recently sent the editor of the Gardeners' Chronicle, England, by J. McLellan, of Ribston Hall, Gardens, Sussex. The original tree was raised here from a pip sown in 1709, and it was blown down in 1734. The sucker has never been moved.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE. Mr. Green of Rochester writes as follows, concerning this variety, which originated on our fruit farm at Maplehurst years ago, a chance seedling of the Fameuse:—We are greatly pleased with the Princess Louise apple as fruited here this season. It is a reddish apple, somewhat flattened in shape, good size, very handsome, and of fine quality, resembling Shiawasse Beauty but darker. It is a fine apple if it is correctly named.

THE PLANT DISTRIBUTION. Our request for the views of members regarding the best use to make of the \$600 or

\$700 now spent in distributing plants, has brought in a large amount of correspondence, many preferring that it be spent in increasing the size and usefulness of our journal, for which it would work great changes; and others, perhaps the majority, preferring that we continue the present system of giving each member some new or valuable sort of fruit or flower plant. We shall not therefore make any change in the custom without further consideration.

THE JOURNAL FOR 1900 will appear in improved form, with wider columns and larger page. We hope to give our readers much better value for their money than in any previous year. We solicit letters, notes, comments, articles, and illustrations (photographic or other) for January number, and bespeak the hearty co-operation of all, whether professional or amateur gardeners.

ORCHARDS IN ENGLAND.—Of the 224,000 acres of orchard in Great Britain returned to the Board of Agriculture as arable, or grass land used for fruit trees, all but 3 per cent are situated in England. These acres are chiefly grass land planted with apples and pears and a large proportion is not producing half as much fruit as it might under proper cultivation and care.

"This state of things," says the journal of the board, "has been caused by various forms of neglect and mismanagement, the primary being the selection of unsuitable varieties of fruit trees and indifference with regard to origin, size, vigorous habit and healthy appearance of the young fruit trees planted."

