

Peaches.

There are several new varieties of peaches brought before our notice this year—one hailing from Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., and another from A. Moyer & Co., of Jordan, Ont., deserving particular attention. Both these varieties are spoken of in very high terms.

The preserving of peaches by canning has become a very extensive business, particularly in the States, and large quantities of this fruit are used in our Dominion. There are a good many peaches grown in this peninsula, but not sufficient to supply the demand, if the duty is put on that is contemplated. Peach growers should at once prepare to supply our markets with fresh and canned fruit.

In peach culture there is a danger of losing trees by a disease known as

THE YELLOWS.

This disease has done immense damage in the States, and we fear it is already introduced into this Dominion. From what we have read about it, this disease appears to be most infectious. It is a species of fungus that fills the ground and spreads where introduced. It is conveyed by peach stones and even by the pruning-knife, by touch, etc., etc. The fruit turns yellow before it is matured; the leaves become yellow also, and suckers will spring up in the trees.

The only remedy appears to be the destruction of every tree as soon as it is noticed, as if allowed to remain it is sure to spread. Parties having peach orchards should be very careful about procuring new peach trees from any source where this disease has been known to exist. We do not know if the disease exists in the nurseries of Mr. Moyer, or in those of Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry. It would be well to ascertain before purchasing.

Insect Remedy.

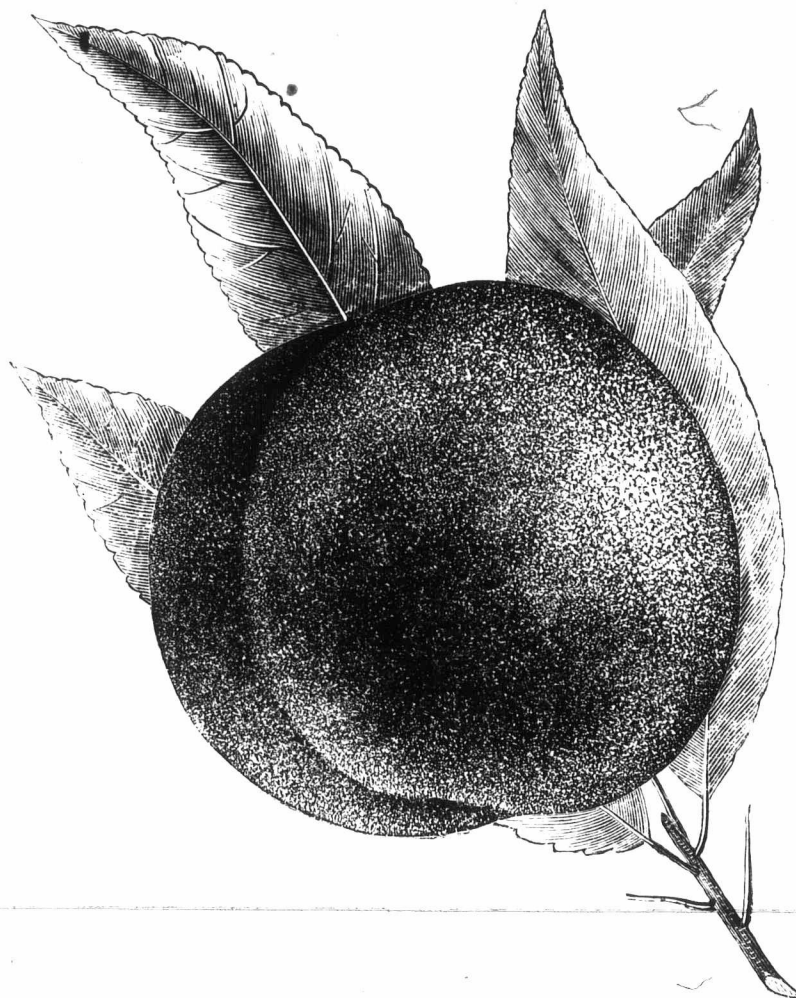
A correspondent of *Vick's Monthly* says: "Numbers of your readers are troubled by ants and other insects, and want advice. Tell them to use from one-half to one ounce of potash in a pail of water, and give the insects a shower bath, and they will go without saying good-bye. Near plants and roots I do not like to use this alkali; neither do I like to destroy ants as they are hunters after still worse insects. Then I use red pepper and create a flight that leaves not a little soul behind. For, or against, rats, mice, moles, &c., I also use a paste of potash, and put some in their holes or runways, where they have to walk. As they wear no shoes, they burn their feet, and like most people, when they burn a finger, put them in their mouth, then they burn their tongues and run for water, get suspicious and go away very fast. For cleaning trees, shrubs, &c., I use soft soap mixed with some potash and water and instead of a brush I take the garden syringe to give some good washings."

Root cuttings of blackberry plants should be planted early.

A correspondent of the *Gardeners' Record* says he has destroyed worms in flower pots without injuring the roots of the most delicate plants by sprinkling the soil with mustard-water—a table spoonful of mustard per gallon of water.

Barren Apple Trees.

"What can be done for them?" The answer uppermost in all minds is: "Cut them down. Why cumber they the ground?" But I would not do that. There is one thing you can do; you can strike at the life of the tree, but don't kill it. By wounding so as to check the wood growth of the tree you may throw the tree into fruitage. All know that to girdle a limb of an apple tree—that is, take out a ring of bark at the base of a limb in the early spring—will induce the formation of fruit buds that season, which the following year will develop in a crop of fruit. In many cases the failure to fruit is due to the rapid growth of wood. Checking the growth in any way—by seeding to grass, or by withholding manure, or by girdling, as indicated—will in many cases induce fruitage. In my practice I have done this: I have taken a saw and gone through the orchard and girdled each tree, say one foot from the ground, sawing through the bark in a ring around the body of the tree.



ELLWANGER & BARRY'S NEW PEACH.

This does little, if any, permanent injury. In the course of the season's growth the wound is healed, and the connection again made in the bark, but not till the fruit buds have formed, which is a pledge for a crop of fruit the following season.

It is sometimes the case with particular varieties, as for example with the Bellflowers, that they blossom full but set no fruit. The cause in most cases is the too rapid growth of the wood. Girdling the bodies of the trees—which is most conveniently done with a saw—is the remedy, and will generally cause the fruit to set. Even if injury should be done to the tree, so as to shorten its life for a few years, it is better—for a few years of usefulness is better than many years without any use. I have no doubt many who see this suggestion will recognize at once the good sense that is in it, and will act upon it, and as a result will profit by it in the end.—*Chicago Tribune*.

The degree of cold by itself has nothing to do with the destruction of trees or buds. A tree will retain its heat, which is its life, under a very low temperature sometimes, and yet die at others under a higher one.—[*Gardeners' Monthly*.]

Miscellaneous.**The Farmer's Position.**

It is very true that farmers do not occupy the position to which, from their numbers and importance of their calling, they are entitled. Others have passed them in education, and in ability to manage public affairs. They see this and are beginning to interest themselves in the work of improvement. Farmers are, hereafter, to stand on a high level, and receive a more marked recognition in the political affairs of the nation. The farmers are not to remain content to follow the leadership of professional men whose interests do not always coincide with their own. But to take this stand a new departure is needed. Farmers must use their brains as well as their hands; they must educate themselves, so as to stand on a level with the legislators and statesmen of the land with no feeling of inferiority, but as those who

"Know their rights,
And knowing dare maintain."

They must more generally be known as reading men, who will be capable of understanding and discussing subjects of national interest. Farmers clubs must be utilized for educational purposes, and every opportunity which such organizations afford be well improved. As farmers come to know their own business better in consequence of a higher standard of education, they will be better qualified for managing public business. A new era in the history of agriculture will dawn and the agricultural class will take its proper place in society and the nation.—[*Exchange*.]

It requires six quarts of broom corn seed to plant an acre.

No general crop grown in the United States yields so large a cash value to the acre as potatoes.

The Canadian farmers who furnish to the Boston market the finest lamb and mutton and the best coarse wool sold there, keep small flocks of Cotswolds, generally about fifty in each flock.

It is said that 6 bushels of peas are equal to 10 of corn to fatten hogs, and the peas yield a larger number of bushels to the acre than corn.

THE Des Moines *Register* says: "The truth is, there is too much machinery about State fairs, too many agents, assistants and bidders, who expect to make money enough in a week to keep them in spending money for months. Official expenses and incidentals, which really ought to be a meagre per cent on the gross receipts, frequently absorb nearly all the income. And that part controlled (or which ought to be) by the agriculturists of the country, is not exempt from the general charge."

SMALL bones in animals are an indication of good feeding quality, early maturity, and superior fine-grained flesh; while coarse, large bones, with prominent joints and angular projections of the skeleton indicate poor feeding quality, late maturity, and coarse flesh, in connection with a large proportion of offal and cheap pieces in the carcass, when reaching its final destination at the slaughter house.

BLOOD is about equal to flesh as a manure, the larger proportion of water which it contains being compensated by its greater facility for mixing with other substances, and with soil; and its tendency to decompose more rapidly. Its effects are more marked in light lands than in stiff clays.