

## SMALL FRUITS.

Kindly inform me in next issue if convenient:—

1. Should I cut away the old wood from raspberry and blackberry bushes as soon as fruiting is over to enable the young wood to ripen.

2. Is it true that the first plant from strawberry runners will not bear fruit, and that the second must be allowed to grow for that purpose. I wish to grow some potted plants for setting out early, so they may get a good hold before winter.

3. I enclose you a leaf from a black currant bush. I have had a very promising crop of fruit almost totally destroyed by the pests which you will notice on the under side of the leaf, the leaves shrivel up, and then the fruit naturally follows suit. I have used a mixture of hellebore and sulphur, two parts sulphur to one of hellebore in a strong solution, but my bushes seemed to be worse after it. My crop for this year is gone, but can you tell me how to fight them another time. I have been told that a strong solution of soap, with a handful of salt to each gallon of water, is good, but I am afraid the salt may kill the bush. This is my first year in fruit raising, which may account for my ignorance on the above questions.

Yours, &c.,

C. H. DUNNING.

REPLY.—1. It is a good practice to cut out the old canes when the fruit has been all gathered.

2. We have no faith in that statement, but would take the first strong plant. Try it for yourself, and report to the *Canadian Horticulturist* next summer.

3. Your insects are aphides or green flies. Syringe with tobacco-water. The

hellebore will be of no use, they can not eat it.

## BLACK APHIS—LADY BIRD.

DEAR SIR,—With this letter I send you, by parcel post, a package containing specimens of insects taken from a cherry tree and a black currant bush. Those from the cherry tree, small brown insects, have but lately appeared and are doing great damage. Would the kerosene emulsion be of any use against them? As for the insects from the black currants, I could not tell whether they were injurious or not, as the bushes had been badly injured by the green flies, before I observed them.

If they are injurious, please tell me of some remedy, and also one for the green fly. If this is too late for the July number of *Horticulturist*, please answer by mail. I have enclosed stamp for answer.

I remain, yours obediently,

JOHN S. WARREN.

Brooklyn, Ont., P.O. Box 5.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—The insects on the cherry leaves are the black aphid. They are unusually abundant this season over a very large extent of country. The remedy is an application of tobacco water with a garden syringe upon the underside of the leaves. Steep some tobacco in water until the liquid is of the color of strong coffee, and apply it abundantly every three or four days until the insects are killed. Those insects on the black currant leaves are the larvæ of one of the Lady-birds which feed on the green fly. Do not do them any harm, they are your friends; they are fattening on the green fly that has been so abundant on the leaves of your black currants this season.