

## SMALL FRUITS.

All sorts of fruits have done well in almost every section of our country. The crop of small fruit amply repaid the care and attention of husbandmen. Currants, red, white, and black, make good and remunerative returns. A growing taste is perceptible on the part of the public for blackberries. In some districts they have been highly prized. This is just as it should be. Few of the small fruits cook better than they do. In the neighbourhood of London, Saunders' blackberry has been in good request, and we augur will be in greater demand wherever its merits are known. Cherries were a most abundant crop, and as a consequence this fruit sold cheap. The Kentish variety which is so much esteemed for cooking, canning, and preserving, was sold at first for ten, in some cases fifteen cents, but during the end of the season only realized five cents per quart. The finer varieties were also very abundant, so much so that the ravages of voracious birds and insects have not attracted much attention. The Duke and Morellos, during the season have been singularly prolific, and the same may be said of the Bigarreau and Heart varieties. The new cherries that deserve notice are the "Toronto," raised by E. L. Cull, of Toronto, who says that the tree is a remarkably strong grower and seems to resist the slug better than other varieties. The "Olivet" is a large, globular, very shining deep red sort. It ripens in the beginning of June and continues till July, and possesses a rose-coloured juice, its flesh is tender, rich and vinous, with a very sweet sub-acidulous flavour. It possesses the fertility of the best of the Duke sort and is perhaps the largest of that class. The "Lieb," a Morello cherry of American origin, is said to ripen a week earlier than the Early Richmond and to be larger and hardier.

## PLUMS

are an excellent crop, so plentiful that the Curculio has been unable to overtake the whole crop, which is all the better for his voluntary thinning out. The curculio is on the decrease; whether or not the cold, frosty season, damp and late, has had to do with this effect we know not. Certain it is, however, that they have appeared in diminished numbers during the past summer. Let us aid elemental nature in destroying the little lurk. Remarkably good care in jarring, and good culture, go a long way in getting rid of this inveterate spoiler. The black knot is diminishing. We fear not from attention and good cultivation, but from the disease having killed outright a large number of trees, both of the common blue and the finer sorts. Ellwanger and Barry declare that their preventatives and remedies are good, clean culture, and prompt amputation. We heartily recommend, besides those usually grown by plum cultivators, the Guthries' Apricot, and Topaz, Huling's Superb, and Ickworth Imperatrice. B. Gott, of Arkona, no mean judge of fine fruit, lays great stress on Huling's Superb. The Ickworth Imperatrice is of high, delicious flavour, but not a robust or vigorous grower. The new plum of Mr. James Dougall, Windsor, is of superior excellence and of great beauty. We long for the time, which assuredly will come, when through the munificence of our Government and the patriotic efforts of the members of our Fruit Growers' Association, we shall possess in either the Hamilton or Toronto districts a test or experimental garden for these new fruits. The benefits to accrue to the country would far outweigh the paltry expense. Year after year elapses, the Province, and indeed the world of fruit producers lose the wealth and pleasures that are yet to follow in the general dissemination of important and valuable new fruits. Our Association has done, and is now doing, much in this direction, but a good deal is yet to be done, and we know of no way in which this could be better done than by the establishment of an experimental fruit garden. Now that our Association has committed itself to the development of forest and flower interests, in addition to those of fruit, perhaps this matter will appear a necessity in the minds of our legislators. We have heard of no new plum this season likely to take the fruit growing public by storm. Glass Seedling is favourably reported on from almost every district. In fruit catalogues, I see that this latter variety sells at \$1 per tree.

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