

(7) Sometimes imperfectly fertilized peaches are found along with normal peaches on a tree even as late as August. These may possibly be mistaken for Little Peach because of their small size. If, however, they are cut through with a knife it will be seen that the pit is soft and the blade can be forced through it. The kernel inside is not developed. Little Peach pits, on the contrary, cannot be cut through in this way, and, when broken, the kernel is found to be developed normally.

LITTLE PEACH IN MICHIGAN.

At the request of a number of growers, I was given permission to visit the peach districts of Michigan this autumn with a view to gaining further information on the disease than was known in Ontario and to seeing the methods taken to hold it in check and the degree of success obtained. Michigan was selected because the disease has been known in that State for a very long time and more has probably been done there in the way of combating it than in any other place.

On the way I called at Lansing, where I interviewed several of the professors of the Agricultural College and got what information they could give me. On their advice I then proceeded to the Township of Saugatuck, about 40 miles west of Grand Rapids. Here, they said, I should find out more about the disease than in any other part of the State. It was in this district that Prof. Waite, of Washington, D.C., carried on an eradication experiment in the control of Little Peach, an experiment continued over several years and covering an area of several square miles in extent. Mr. Horace Welch, who assisted Prof. Waite in this experiment and who is believed to be the best authority in Michigan on the disease, lives in the district. On my arrival I at once called on Mr. Welch and was fortunate enough to find him at home. He very kindly volunteered to drive me around through the orchards and to help me in every possible way to gain the knowledge I was in search of. The greater part of two days was spent with him in visiting orchards, observing the degree of the prevalence of the disease, its peculiar symptoms, the methods employed in controlling it, the degree of success obtained, and other points of importance.

WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT THE DISEASE IN MICHIGAN.

The following information applicable to Ontario peach growers was obtained:—

(1) Little Peach is a very destructive disease; in the opinion of the majority of Michigan growers it is several times more destructive than Peach Yellows. Wherever affected trees have been allowed to remain,