

way to arouse local enthusiasm, with a view of making our next annual meeting a great success at Walkerton.

Peach Leaf Curl is a much more serious injury to the peach tree than is generally supposed. Few of us suspected that we were losing much from peach curl except a portion of the current year's fruit crop, but Pierce, of California, has proved that we lose also in the growth and vigor of the tree, and in the development of fruit buds and fruit spurs. For example, on ten trees sprayed in 1893 there was an average of about 2,800 fruit buds per inch of old wood, and on those unsprayed about 2,600, or a difference in favor of the sprayed trees of about seven per cent. Besides this he found a great many of the fruit buds produced on the sprayed trees so poorly developed that no fruit could be expected from them. For example, at the close of the season of 1893, he found the average number of imperfectly developed fruit buds on the sprayed trees to be 0.944 per lineal inch of old wood, while on the unsprayed trees the average per inch of old wood was 1.249; or 32 per cent. more imperfect fruit buds on the unsprayed than upon the sprayed trees.

Increased Value of Peaches Sprayed.—Pierce's experiments still further point to the great importance of treating the peach orchard either with Bordeaux, or with the lime and sulphur mixture, which seem to be of nearly equal value. He compares the value of spraying for increasing the quantity and quality of fruit, as determined by the cash value of such fruit when matured. To do this he reduces the results to the average net gain per cent. of the sprayed trees of each treated row over those of the adjoining unsprayed row. In one sprayed row, for example, the average calculated value of all fruit set per tree, when matured, was about \$12.00 and in the adjoining un-

sprayed about \$3.00, showing an excess of about \$9.00 in favor of the sprayed row. Some other rows so treated showed a very much larger net gain.

The heightened color of the peaches sprayed with copper salts was very evident in those same experiments, which of course will be an element in the increased value of the sprayed fruit.

The saving in the cost of picking the fruit from the sprayed trees was another element to be counted. To gather a ton of peaches from the unsprayed trees cost \$3.00 per ton, while from the sprayed trees it only cost about \$1.00 per ton; a saving of \$2.00 per ton, because of the less amount of tree and orchard surface to be gone over to gather a certain amount of fruit.

South African Peaches in England.—The South African war has temporarily checked a formidable rival of Canadian fruit growers in the British markets, especially in the line of tender fruits such as peaches and plums. Fortunately, however, these fruits are marketed at an entirely different season from those grown in Canada, and reach Covent Garden in January and February, when we have no peaches to ship; so that the rivalry will always be of a friendly nature.

So long ago as 1896 Cape Colony began to wake up to her great capabilities for the production of peaches for export to Great Britain and in 1897 the second consignment by the "Roslin Castle" was sold in Covent Garden on the 9th and 10th of January. There were 709 cases of peaches, and these were readily sold at from seven to twelve shillings per box of twenty fruits, the higher prices being for freestone peaches and the lower for clings.

Jamaica is exporting bananas to Great Britain but the voyage is long and so far the fruit has not arrived in good condition, partly owing, in the opinion of Messrs.