

OPEN LETTERS.

As to the business end; there is no good reason why advertising space in such a journal, should not nearly pay for the cost of its publication.

Let us have the question fully ventilated, and at the proper time let a committee be appointed composed of members of the Provincial Societies, to arrange the detail, and carry it to a successful issue.

H. H. GROFF.

The Dominion Horticulturist.

SIR,—I notice in the December number of THE HORTICULTURIST, under the heading, "A Dominion Journal," the writer urges the making the magazine more thoroughly Canadian by the other provinces accepting it as their organ, and we should then have articles from different parts of the country, and thus making it larger and better, the increased cost being more than covered by the larger circulation. But in the latter part of the article the suggestion is made to issue it in a weekly form, which would, I think, be a great mistake, as it would contain a good deal of information that would soon grow old, and the expense of binding it would be increased, and its value when bound would be less. Hoping you will not adopt this change unless it is considered really necessary,

I remain, yours sincerely,

A. J. COLLINS.

Listowel.

The Honey Berry of Japan.

SIR,—I first received this as an unknown plant, collected by my collector in Japan, on an unknown island in the Yellow Sea. It grew rapidly from the first start, and proved that it required no petting. I was surprised at its rank luxuriant growth; the first season, I believe, it attained a height of about 16 feet, with canes nearly an inch thick; the next season the canes grew nearly 20 feet in length, almost straight up: the leaves on this plant are quite similar to the leaves on certain rose plants, except that they are several times larger than any rose leaves; the leaves being about 10 inches long on the old stalks or canes; the leaves are a brilliant, dark green; the under parts being covered with numerous purple thorns; the canes also are covered with tens of thousands of purple thorns, which glisten in the sunlight, and which gives the bush a singularly beautiful appearance. The fruit is a marvel; it is so glassy, and so brilliantly colored as to sparkle in the light; the color is reddish yellow; the fruit is quite large, of a strange, mystic flavor, which many people pronounce superb; again, others do not like the flavor. This plant is a raspberry; it commences to fruit with the earliest raspberries, and continues until Christmas. It is a greater yielder than any raspberry known at the present day; the fruit is valuable for any purpose that a raspberry is put to.

S. L. WATKINS,
Grizzly Flats, Cal.

Fruit is all Right.

SIR,—While it is early to suggest these reports, yet, there is reason why they should be recommended.

In brief, I would mention that the marketing of fruit requires the best of skill in handling, being properly gathered, and properly packed, which we know has something to do with the price of it. When we know what our markets want, then let us try and give them the desired article. It is safe to say, that carefully handled fruit, in properly put up and attractive packages, will yield double the profits of those unskilfully handled; therefore, to succeed, we must display skill and ability in our business; and would say it is not good business to put beautiful specimens on top of our package and then fill in with more inferior grade; we cannot afford to do this. Then the package. The fruit is worthy of being put up in the newest and cleanest package that is possible to obtain, and that each grower put his name and address on each and every package that he sends to market.

When one begins to grow fruit he will find (like the agricultural product) it is not all good enough to market, and therefore the greatest skill is required to handle our fruit, to realize the best returns. It does seem to me that we should try and improve upon last year's methods, if it is possible. Now if in shipping fruit in packages (especially to foreign markets), that a smaller package will carry better and in better condition on arrival than a larger one, why then let us adopt a smaller one, and, as many have suggested, they are in demand.

These facts are well known to many no doubt, and it is very important that experiments may be set on foot that will determine their goodness in this matter.

It is for this reason that I make these few assertions, that this continual striving and ambitious aim will lead to greater things, that we might not otherwise have undertaken. No matter what one undertakes, he must ultimately improve.

E. HERSEE, Woodstock

Gooseberry and Currant Growing.

DEAR SIR,—Lately I read two articles in the Toronto News, one by Mr. Spillet, on Gooseberry Culture, the other by the name of Stevens on "Small Fruit Culture." In Mr. Spillet's article he makes the assertion that gooseberry bushes cannot be grown from cuttings. Now I hold he is far astray as my experience for many years proves the reverse. As an example I will relate a circumstance which occurred in July last. Mr. Brooks of this town brought me two medium sized bushes, which were nearly dead, caused by the strawberry white grub eating the roots. After concluding they were beyond recovery I threw them on the ground where they lay