

that when they reached their destination they appeared as fresh as though they had just been put in the case. I was surprised because they had not the appearance of a firm berry; in fact they are very easily bruised, and I should have called them rather soft; but I did not then know that the hardest or firmest berries are not always the best keepers; but I know it now. I know that the Wilson twenty-four hours after picking has lost both appearance and flavor, and that the Jersey Queen, in the same time, has suffered no perceptible change in either respect. I know that the latter can be kept three or four days without losing its gloss, although if left in a box that length of time the lower half of the berries will get mouldy: and it is quite remarkable that though it is not possible to handle them without in some cases breaking through the glossy varnish that covers them, the bruised spots do not appear to discolor, though they would of course more quickly get mouldy. This is certainly a remarkable quality for any berry to possess, and I shall look with considerable interest to its behavior another season. At present my Jerseys certainly are the finest row in the field.

Yours, &c.,

Barrie, 15th Dec., 1884.

A. HOOD.

TO PREVENT THE GRASS FROM GROWING AROUND TREES.

DEAR SIR,—You ask for the experience of subscribers. Mine is not worth much, as I am a novice at the business. I have only a small garden and orchard, probably about two hundred trees, and about one hundred and fifty gooseberries and currants together, and fifty-five grape vines. I have tried an experiment this summer; it may be of benefit to some of your readers, if it is beneficial to trees to

have no grass growing around them. The experiment is this: I sawed a piece off from the end of a log twenty to twenty-four inches in diameter, and an inch and a half or two inches thick, then split it through the centre and made a hole to fit the trunk of the tree, and then closed the two pieces together, leaving them on the ground around the trunk of the tree. This will entirely kill all grass and weeds around the tree.

Yours truly,

A. C. McDONALD.

Dunlop, Nov. 19th, 1884.

SUMMER WEATHER.

Fruit growers are more interested in the climate of any given locality than are most other cultivators of the soil in that locality, as with the fruit growers, especially the growers of the more tender varieties, such as grapes, tomatoes, strawberries, &c., the lowering of the temperature two or three degrees below the freezing point at a time when such a decline is unusual, or at any unusual period, often makes all the difference between financial success and failure, while the ordinary farm crop might not be seriously affected. A case of this kind occurred in this locality on the 30th of May last, when we had our last spring frost (two weeks later than it has occurred for many years previously). It did not seriously injure farm crops, but very materially injured the fruit crop generally, and caused nearly a total failure of the grape, pear and strawberry crop.

Believing that a record of some of the leading features of the climatic conditions prevalent in this locality during the past five years may be of interest to your readers in his neighborhood, and also be of service to such other persons who may desire to compare the peculiarities of the climate in their several localities with that of this place,