

any part, but preferably originating in the lower parts of the bushes, can be utilized, avoiding crowding. All the wood removed should be cut out cleanly, none being left to form spurs, as in red and white currants, though short stubby spurs which form naturally and have received light and air freely, must be retained. Shortening the leading shoots need only be adopted to regulate the size and symmetry of the bushes, but this is best effected by cutting out the longest branches from time to time.—Tonic.

## NOTES ON THE LATE FROSTS.



WHEN you ask me to write you a few notes on roses and their behavior this season, it is clear to me that you have no proper conception of what we have passed through in this up-country since the winter left us. I might say that roses with us have had no chance to behave this season. They are like the youngster at school who said every time he tried to do his best, he got his head snubbed off. On the tenth of May my roses were trying to do their best, and I never had such a promise for a magnificent blooming season. One week after there was not a leaf of living foliage on them, and so great was the shock to them from the repeated frosts that many of my finest plants have not recovered, and never will. Out of over a dozen strong Gen. Jacques bushes I have but four sending out new shoots. Many other sorts still more tender are totally dead.

This may appear strange to you, but, when you remember that the County of Perth occupies a very high altitude midway between the great lakes, and that just here we are in a dip or slight depression on that high level, the first stretches of the Thames valley, you can understand how every cold wave settles down upon us with all its chilling destructiveness. On account of these topographical conditions which I have referred to, we are, I believe, more subject to those low treacherous temperatures than any other section of Western Ontario. I have not in any other section noticed the raspberry bushes so completely destroyed as they are just about here. The Marlboro shot out again from the canes, but the Golden Queen and Cuthbert canes are as dead as the wood of last year. On fourteen plum trees and a like number of pear trees that I had heavily loaded with blossom, I will not have fourteen specimens of fruit, and I notice some branches of my Pond's Seedling plum trees have died away since the foliage was destroyed. Among the gooseberries the Crown Bob seems to have survived the best. The Whitesmith, Pearl, Industry, Ocean Wave, and even the Conn, were quite destroyed. Of currants I had a promise of forty or fifty pailsful before the frost, now I do not look for one. In short, I may write of fruit and roses with me this year as the traditional Irish litterateur did when asked to write a treatise on the snakes of Ireland. He summed up the whole subject with the sentence, "there are no snakes in Ireland." Such, I am sorry to say is the case with me, there is no fruit and no roses on my premises this year.

*Mitchell.*

T. H. RACE.