

climate well fitted for growing sub-tropical fruits. Bananas are a staple production; the Natal pine apple is a superior variety; lemons and oranges are both commonly grown, the latter coming into bearing in the fifth year, and continuing until their thirteenth.

we have been noting Black Victoria at Maplehurst, and this year especially it is showing up well in productiveness. The same good quality is also shown by plants growing at Mr. Peart's, Freeman, who is experimenting with all varieties of currants. Branches sent us for putting

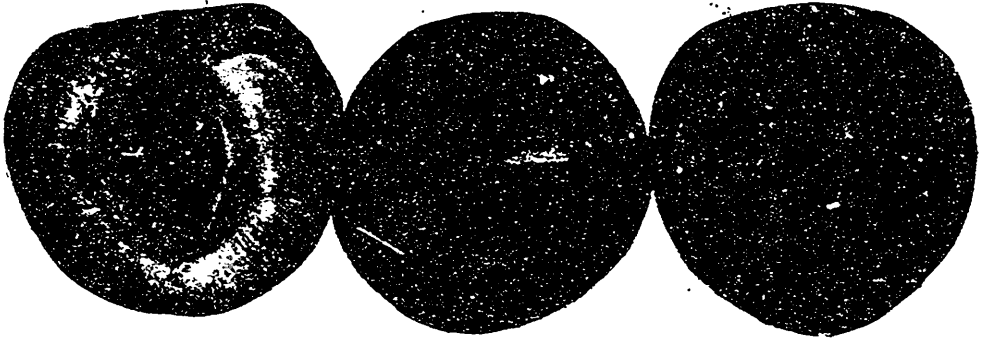


FIG. 1716.—THE GARDEN CITY APRICOT.

THE GARDEN CITY APRICOT is a new variety, which has recently originated at St. Catharines, and is very promising, both by reason of its beauty of appearance, excellent quality, and fine size. The cut shows the natural size of some of those apricots, which were sent in to this office last summer. They seem to be also hardy and productive.

BLACK VICTORIA. — Black currants have been planted quite largely for profit in the Niagara district, chiefly of the Naples and Lee's Prolific variety, because their rarity in our markets made them a good price. But alas! they are usually so unproductive in this section that there was nothing in them for the grower, and they have been rooted out. The black currant is one of the fruits that seems to succeed well in the north, if we may judge by what we saw in 1898; for on St. Joseph's Island we found garden rows of Lee's Prolific, that were loaded down with magnificent fruit. For two years now

up in bottles were heavily loaded, and the bushes seem to be very vigorous. The bunches appeared three and four at each node, and measured from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and the berries $\frac{1}{2}$ by $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in diameter. The season is from July 15th to 30th.

THE BOSTON FERN, which is on our list for distribution in the spring of 1900 is a valuable house plant. Its long gracefully drooping fronds hanging down on all sides from a jardiniere stand are a real source of satisfaction, and although we can send only a small plant by mail, it will soon grow to a thing of beauty. The Florist says of it:—"The Boston fern owes much of its popularity to the ease with which it adapts itself to house culture. Frequently we see in sitting-room windows specimens equal to the finest conservatory-grown plants and of better color than the average greenhouse product. This would indicate that this plant prefers the deficient light of the dwelling