



### A Partial View of the Tree Cellars at the Helderleigh Nurseries.

To avoid delay in the shipping of nursery stock the Helderleigh Nurseries at Winona have erected a tree cellar capable of storing 250,000 trees. The building is here shown as photographed during July by an editorial representative of *The Horticulturist*. The nursery stock, consisting of a general assortment, is stored in the stone buildings at each end, and is packed in the centre division, one of the doors of which, through which the teams drive, is open.

stock is sent out untrue to name, it is replaced free of charge or the money is refunded."

When it is remembered that there are 200 acres in nursery stock, and that the small trees are placed very close together in rows three or four feet apart, some idea of the extent of these nurseries can be formed. Again, remembering that in all this plantation there is scarcely a weed to be found, the cost of cultivation alone, it will be seen, amounts to no low figure. The aim is to get strong, thrifty stock, and that can be secured only by intense cultivation. A large force of cultivators is kept going all through the summer to conserve soil moisture and keep down the weeds, so that the young trees may obtain all the plant food possible.

Owing to the rapidly increasing number of orders and to Mr. Smith's anxiety to supply only the best stock to his customers and in first-class condition, two large frost-proof cellars have been built for winter storage. Each of these is 100 x 108 feet, and between them is a covered shed for packing the stock and preparing it for shipment. A good idea of the rapid growth in sales can be gained from the fact that in 1898 a winter storage building 40 x 80 feet was all that was needed. Some two years ago a second large cellar had to be constructed.

The young trees are placed in these store-houses in the fall and the roots well packed

in mellow soil. The numerous varieties of the different kinds of trees are carefully placed in alphabetical order, and roped so as to guard against mistakes. As soon as spring opens and frosts are over packing commences. In this large covered shed packing can go on under any weather conditions, which is a great advantage in a season such as the spring of 1904. This building also ensures proper packing, a very essential point. To guard against the spread of the San Jose and other scale insects all stock purchased is fumigated for 45 minutes before being packed. This is done under the supervision of the government inspector.

A commendable feature of Mr. Smith's management is the fact that he employs the same men at the same work year after year once they have proved themselves capable. Some workmen have been in his employ since the inception of the nursery in 1882, and many have now built houses and made comfortable homes for themselves and their families in the neighborhood.

With a nursery such as this, employing 125 men in the busy season and over 80 during the summer months, Mr. Smith is doing a mighty share to build up the fruit industry of Canada and encourage home production. Visitors are always welcome at the Helderleigh Nurseries, of which only a slight conception can be gained from this description.