

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

new strawberry from Somerset County, Maryland and was originated by Mr. O. Johnson, from seedling of Crescent and Hoffman. It is said to be as productive as Crescent and as early as Michell.

ENCOURAGING TO CANADIAN SHIPPERS. The Fruit Grower in a recent issue says: We have received some samples of Maiden's Blush apples and Williams (Bartlett) pears which formed part of the late shipment of Canadian fruit sold in Covent Garden.

From the specimen to hand it is clear that there is a big opening for these Canadian fruits, and that they will with careful shipment, packing and distribution secure ready sales at good prices. We are much impressed with the quality, that is the size, color, and flavor of the fruits, and we shall take an early opportunity of dealing with them and this branch of the trade in an early issue. The Canadian growers and shippers may face the future development of their export fruit trade with the greatest confidence.

In pears, the California samples, Beurre Hardy, in cases of 60 to a case, sold from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. each; these fruits were fine, as may be gauged when we state that many of them have been retailed at 3s. and 4s. per dozen fruits; Clairgeaus sold from 6s. to 7s. 6d. per four dozen count, and Duchess from 5s. to 6s.; these contained the same quantity as the Clairgeaus.

In plums, California made from 7s. to 8s. per twenty pound net. Some of these have been retailed at 2s. a dozen fruits. Golden Drops went out from 6s. to 7s.

BEURRE HARDY.—Speaking of this pear in England, the same authority says:—This is a fine variety of pear and

one which may be raised with the utmost confidence. In the fruit shops at the present time it is well to the fore, though the major portion of the fruits thus exhibited have been sent us from California. It is a large pear, oblong, obovate in shape, it has a fine appearance, and is well suited for market work; it is at its best in October. The quality of this pear is beyond dispute, for it is unique in its way, and the flesh possesses a very marked perfume. Why it has not been raised in this country in sufficient quantities to satisfy the market need is a mystery. Possibly its claims have not been brought home clearly to the majority of growers. Whatever the cause may be there can be no doubt as to the quality and suitability of this fine pear for commercial purposes. We should not hesitate ourselves even to make its production a special feature, for when well grown it is a pear from which money can be made. The skin is yellowish green, but it carries a lot of russet markings on it, and it is this which makes it a conspicuous fruit whenever it is on show. It is an admirable all-round pear, particularly suitable for sale amongst the best class of buyers.

COES' GOLDEN DROP is also commended as one of the best plums for the London market; and it is stated that this plum has been sold in the English fruit shops at 1s. 1d. or about 36 cents a dozen. These were from California, large, well colored, and in excellent condition.

FRUIT GROWING IN NATAL is becoming an important industry. It is said that the road from Durban to Pietermaritzburg is lined with numerous fruit plantations. The district of Malvern, nine miles from Durban has soil and