

as to the quality of the fruit, but some of them have not proved even hardy, for at least a half dozen have been winter-killed, and that in a peach orchard which has not been affected in the least by the cold.

Mr. G. C. Brackett, Secretary of the Kansas State Horticultural Society, says he paid a visit to the orchards of the Mennonites in Western Kansas, two or three years ago, and was rather disappointed in the condition of things; for while the trees themselves were perfectly healthy, and the fruit, when well grown, handsome and similar in quality to that of the well known English variety, the Breda, only rather more tart, yet much of it was so subject to the scab and the curculio that it was rendered worthless. Anyone, therefore, who buys trees of this

apricot, expecting that he will not have any curculio to fight with, is likely to meet with disappointment.

Still we hope that from this stock some constant varieties of real excellence and acknowledged hardihood will result. This is claimed for some half dozen kinds now being propagated, as will be seen on page 99 of this volume in Dr. Beadle's article, among which is included the Nicholas, described as a fruit of medium size, sweet and melting, which ripens about the middle of July. None of these six commended varieties have been tested in Canada, but we have made arrangements to have one of the most desirable included in our list for distribution in the spring of 1890, so that our members themselves in various parts of Ontario may test them and report the result.

SEASONABLE HINTS FOR FRUIT GROWERS.

JUST in proportion to the increase in value and importance of the apple crop in Ontario, will be the interest of our readers in the best modes of grading and packing the fruit for market. Some twenty-five or thirty years ago bags were used both for gathering and marketing apples, and no thought was given to separating them into grades, with respect to perfection of growth. Apples in those days brought us from fifty to seventy-five cents a bag, but were the same methods employed at the present time, our local markets would be quickly over-stocked with apples in no condition for shipment, and there would be no sale for them

except in such a season as this when we have an apple famine at home. But owing to the improved conditions, such as facilities for transportation and distribution, suitable packages for carrying fruit without injury in handling, shippers, commission houses, etc., better prices can now be obtained than in days of old, notwithstanding the largely increased acreage of apple orchards now in bearing in the Province. The farmer who neglects to grade his apple crop before offering it for sale is on a par with one who would offer his grain in the market without passing it through the fanning mill to separate foul seeds and other impurities from