

**Book on Small Fruits.**

1241. SIR.—Please say what is the best book on small fruits.  
W. V. M., Nicolston, Ont.

Andrew S. Fuller has published a book entitled "Small Fruit Culturist," which covers this ground very well in a general way, price \$1.00; also one called "Strawberry Culturist," giving full information for the cultivation of this fruit, price 25c. These may be had from this office.

An interesting work in the strawberry, Terrey's A.B.C., on strawberry culture may be had of A. J. Root, Medina, O., for 25 cents.

1242. SIR.—Please give name of best early berry for prolific bearing and good shipper?

Nicolston, Ont.

WM. V. MILLER.

Where the Michel's Early has suitable conditions as to soil, etc., it is one of the most profitable early berries; at Jordan it is grown largely by some and it pays well, but it must have a certain kind of soil to be successful, for where it succeeds well in one place there are nine others where it is not worth growing. The Van Deman is almost as early, is larger, better color and quality and does very well in some sections. There are some new varieties claiming attention as extra early, such as August Luther and Johnston's early, but they have fruited only once with me, and have done well. The Excelsior is another early one that does very well in some soils. The Beder Wood is another early that some growers like best as an early berry, it is a good grower, productive not as firm as some, but a good one on many soils.

1243. SIR.—What is the Bubach like?

Nicolston, Ont.

WM. V. MILLER.

The Bubach is one of the best for mid-season, is one of the largest, is quite productive, strong, healthy plant. If your market is not far off the Bubach is the very

best to grow with the Clyde as a fertilizer as both bloom about same season.

For early berries you cannot go wrong in planting any of the following: Van Deman, Michel's Early, Beder Wood, Excelsior, Splendid, Homeland, Clyde, and find out for yourself which suits your soil best then grow that variety. Any dealer in plants has all these kinds listed.

Jordan.

E. B. STEVENSON.

**Crown Grafting.**

1244. SIR.—In the August issue of the Horticulturist, (see page 347) A. B. Carman asks if it is perfectly safe to cut off trees 5 to 8 inches in diameter, 3 to 5 feet from the ground and crown graft. In answer you do not say, no, emphatically, but at least leave it an open question. Whatever may be the conditions in Ontario; in this Province an orchardist who would cut a tree five inches in diameter, three to five feet from the ground, to crown graft, would be considered a fit subject for the lunatic asylum, and to the man who cut an eight inch tree his friends would at once apply to the Court to appoint a guardian. Personally we have lost a number of trees not as large as the smaller size mentioned, through cutting too large limbs for top grafting, and have learned from dear experience to cut sparingly of leading branches, and not check growth too suddenly.

In the natural orange groves of Florida, I have seen trees five to eight inches in diameter budded three feet from the ground, when the bud is fairly staked the tree is cut two thirds off and tipped over leaving it hanging to the stump. In a few months the bud has grown six or eight feet long, then the top is entirely removed, the stump trimmed up and covered with wax. In perhaps fifty per cent. of operations, this will in a few years make a perfect union, but in many cases there is a cankerous joint remaining. Such a method is however too radical for the low growing apple. There is an object lesson along this line now in progress in this county (Kings) which may be noted with interest. On the night of the 15th of June just passed, some desperados entered the orchard of Mr. A. D. Nichols of Aylesford, and with a saw cut off some thirty or forty trees. These trees were set some ten years and the largest were barely five inches in diameter. The miscreants supposed they had accomplished complete destruction. Mr. Nichols however grafted the stumps immediately and is hoping to save some of the trees thus wantonly destroyed.

For those interested in knowing the reason of things, I might say that Mr. Nichols is County Inspector, under the Canada Temperance Act, and is an energetic officer. Down here in the east where we grow apple trees as a business, we think a grafter to succeed needs sound judgment and experience. I will venture to say, that if friend Carman turns "anybody" loose, in an orchard of