



GOOD FRUITS FOR SIMCOE FRUIT GROWERS—I.

THIS year would seem to emphasize the fact that it is not advisable for Fruit Growers to put all their eggs in one basket. While some kinds of fruit have done fairly well, others are nearly a failure, and my experience is, that we scarcely ever get a full crop of every variety of fruit in any one year. The past winter was a favorable one in this locality, the lowest temperature recorded being 20 below zero, and everything came through in good condition. Even the apricots came out with some live fruit buds and bore a little fruit this year. These form plenty of fruit buds, but when the temperature goes down lower than 20 below they usually perish. I believe this fruit will not succeed well far outside the peach belt.

The Cuthbert raspberries suffered most by winter killing, far more than usual. However that is easily understood. The fine autumn of last year kept them growing too late. They were still green when the snow came, and they were in no condition to withstand the cold of winter. Apples promised a great crop at one time; there was an abundant bloom, but a cold east rain set in just when the bloom was at its best, and continued for some time, and

although the apples set, yet they seem to lack vitality and kept dropping all through the hot dry weather of June and July. The Spys and Ben Davis however have done better and are the only varieties that promise more than half a crop. These varieties bloom late and so escape the cold rain and bad weather that played havoc with the other varieties. Plums and cherries have done well. They bloomed in fine bright warm weather, the blossoms were not injured at all, and there was a fine crop of cherries of the very best quality and plum trees are heavily loaded.

Strawberries had an enormous bloom and set a big crop, but it was shortened very much by the dry hot weather toward the close of the season.

Raspberries were the nearest to a total failure in all my experience of growing them. The intense heat and drouth simply dried them up. But the rain came and the drouth was broken in time to save the blackberries, and they are doing well. My favorites are the Agawam and Eldorado; I have a fine crop on both of these varieties of the very best quality, and they are selling like hot cakes at 10 cents per box, which is a satisfactory price. And now for a few notes on