

and in all points, except the net veining and color of leaves, it resembles the peach. In appearance the fruit more closely resembles a flattish, smooth, brick-red tomato, than any of our stone fruits, yet in smell and flavor it approaches very near the Nectarine."

Under date of Oct. 14, the Professor writes to the *Prairie Farmer*: The time has come when we can form a correct estimate of the hardiness of tree, and relative value of fruit of this unique Chinese tree. But our experience is yet too limited to guess at its habits of bearing on varied soils, or the status of its fruit for market purposes. . . . The favorable notes of the writer and others have been written to encourage its trial in a small way, but some of our propagators have quoted from them in such a way as to raise undue expectations on the part of planters. . . . With our brief experience at the West, its claims to public attention are: (1) In tree and fruit it is a queer mingling of the nectarine and apricot, and interesting as a neat, round topped tree for the lawn, aside from its value for fruit. (2) It is harder than the peach, but possibly not quite as hardy as the Russian apricot now claiming public attention. (3) On the northern border of the peach belt it makes the best trees and bears best when top-worked on the Miner plum. (4) The fruit has the size and smoothness of the nectarine, with the appearance and color of an old-fashioned, flattened plum tomato. For dessert use the fruit has a peculiar flavor and aroma when perfectly ripened in a dry climate, which many like, but others may dislike. In Eastern France, where it was first introduced, it is liked best for culinary use, and I suspect this will be our experience. . . . That the *Prunus Simoni* will take the place of the peach, nectarine, and best Apricots—in sections where the latter succeed perfectly—we need not believe,

but that it is worthy of trial on the north borders of the peach belt we have best reasons for believing.—*Prairie Farmer*.

SNOW-DROP.

The first flower of spring is the delicate Snow-Drop, white as snow. Its appearance about the first of March is a joyful surprise. The bulbs are quite small; the leaves and flowers about six inches in height. Plant in the fall, in beds or masses of a dozen or more, about two inches apart, and about the same depth. They are very desirable for growing in pots, etc., in the house in winter. A dozen may be planted in quite a small pot or saucer. A few planted on the lawn produces a fine effect early in the spring, and mowing will not destroy the bulbs, for the leaves will ripen so early that they will be pretty well matured before the grass will need cutting. Perfectly hardy, and bulbs can remain several years without removal.

The Snow-Flake, (*Leucojum*), is sometimes called the Large Snow-Drop, from its resemblance to this delicate flower. It is much larger, and more robust in habit. Flowers white, with bright green spots. Once planted it manages to take care of itself. This does not flower until later in the season. It flowers well in the house.—*Vick's Floral Guide*.

MOORE'S EARLY GRAPE.—We desire to speak a word or so in favor of Moore's Early. A more perfectly healthy vine has never been raised at the Rural Grounds. The Concord bears larger bunches, but the average size of the bunches of Moore's Early is larger than the average size of the Concord's, while the size of the berry is decidedly larger. The quality is much the same. Moore's Early ripens at least ten days earlier than the Concord, and the bunches ripen more uniformly.—*Rural New Yorker*.