

with this mode of pruning, currant culture can be made to give as good a profit for the capital invested as any other fruit now grown for market.

Stoney Creek.

J. TWEDDLE.

FRUIT GROWING AT AXE LAKE.

Fruit culture is only in its infancy here, we are struggling against the forest as yet. Small fruits, wild varieties, and what few that have been planted of improved kinds do well. I am intending to try some small fruits this spring. There would be a great opening here for the sale of apple trees, provided they would not winter kill.

JOHN CLAPTON.

Axe Lake, Monteith, Muskoka.

THE CANKER WORM.

DEAR SIR,—I think from your description of the habits of this pest there should be no difficulty in fighting it successfully by barring the passage of the moth up the tree, and this can be most conveniently and successfully secured by tying loosely with a single stout cord a width, of say four inches, of cotton batting around the trunk of the tree.

I have, at any rate, found this effective in preventing caterpillars ascending my trees. The wool entangles them so that they can make no progress, and I presume the moth could not crawl over it either. The wool requires to be examined occasionally, especially on the lower side for larvæ, but it is the most convenient method of protecting trees from "crawlers" that I know.

H. PRIMROSE.

Pictou, Nova Scotia.

SCALE INSECTS.

Enclosed is "sample" of a supposed coccus, very injurious in my greenhouse and orchard house. These specimens were taken from a weeping ash in

my garden, where it is very abundant; also in orchard house on grape vines and peach trees, and in greenhouse on Marechall Neil and Gloire de Dijon Rose trees. HENRY YOULE HIND.
Windsor, Nova Scotia.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Alkaline washes are the most efficient remedies for these scale insects. A pound of potash dissolved in three gallons of water, and applied either by spraying the tree or by washing the trunk and limbs thoroughly, will kill these insects. It is better to apply it warm, if possible, say at a temperature of 130° F. When the young insects are running about, add to the above solution flour of sulphur, at the rate of half a pound to each gallon. For descriptions and drawings of many of these scale insects, and of their natural enemies, and artificial remedies, see Saunders' *Insects* injurious to fruits, pages 390 to 423.

BLACK SPOTS ON THE APPLE.

It is now generally understood that the black spots on certain varieties of our once popular varieties of the apple are of fungus growth, which, however, have not as yet assumed the form of an epidemic, but only confined to those that have been long in cultivation, such as Fameuse, Early Harvest, Swaar, &c., whilst those of more recent introduction seem to be entirely exempt.

The reason appears to be obvious, the varieties alluded to have passed the meridian of the period of existence nature has assigned them, their loss of vitality in order to produce healthy fruit make them fit subjects for the attacks of these parasites.

A seedling apple tree in this country rarely exceeds in life more than a century, consequently only admits of arti-