

gradually covering the blossoms and thus developing the peanuts underground. They need a warm sheltered place."



A Fig Tree Grown in Canada

One of the fig trees, seven or eight years old, grown by Mr. Walter T. Ross, of Picton Ont., is here shown. There are about five dozen figs on the tree. The variety is the Celestial or Sugar Fig.

Besides these Mr. Ross matures lemons and oranges and has some large specimens in preservatives which are better than most

of the specimens of those fruits which appear in the shop windows of our towns and cities. A fine coffee plant stands in his office window and is as nice an ornamental plant as could be desired. Several curiosities in the form of carnivorous plants, known as Venus Fly Trap, which catch flies, are also very interesting. The Papaw Tree, which has the property of rendering flesh tender, is also grown with success.

Among the many specimens not yet mentioned are pineapple, persimmon, ginger, cinnamon, vanilla plant and tapioca.

"I have never had a greenhouse," concluded Mr. Ross, "but there is an old saying that 'Nothing succeeds like success,' and perhaps my success on the start was the cause of my attempting so much. I always study the plant and find what conditions suit best. If I had a greenhouse I believe I could mature almost any of the tropical fruits."

When such success has been attained without glass structures what should we expect from some of our up-to-date amateurs and florists with their huge houses and perfect systems of regulating heat and moisture. Even the most sceptical would become an enthusiastic lover of plants after spending a half hour with Mr. Ross.

AN AMATEUR'S EXPERIENCE WITH TREE PEONIES*

THE Tree Peony (*Peonia moutan*) is found wild in China and Japan and attains in its native haunts a height of 40 feet. The appearance of a tree of this size, covered in the early spring with thousands of enormous single flowers of a faint rose lilac color, is surpassed in beauty only by the great magnolia of the Southern States. So remarkable a flowering tree must have attracted the attention of Chinese and Japanese gardeners. In the Flowery King-

dom the Tree Peony is called the King of Flowers. It is said to have been cultivated there for more than 15 centuries, and plants of choice varieties sold for more than their weight in gold. The first Jesuit missionaries who visited China sent plants to Europe, which attracted immediate attention and attained great vogue. Those who planned the stately gardens of France, which are now the delight and despair of new world visitors, contended for the dis-

*A paper read at the July meeting of the Ottawa Horticultural Society by Hon. R. R. Latchford, of Ottawa, who has been very successful in the growing of these beautiful and rare flowers.