

basket when other peaches were selling at \$3 a basket."

Allen Rhodes, of Ulster county, says: "I have about fifty varieties of peaches. Stevens' Rareripe I have grown for eleven years. It resembles Old Mixon Free nearer than any other peach, a little darker blush. The true report of my success with ninety-five trees is this, 143 baskets containing fourteen quarts each, were sold by G. Furman & Co., West Washington Market, for \$721. The tree is a very vigorous grower, bearing at two years old, ripens with the last of Late Crawford and continues some weeks."

#### DESTRUCTION BY LATE FROSTS.

Late frost is a constant menace to the cultivator. He has transplanted his tender plants from the hot-beds; his peach trees have their buds just ready to open; his grape-vines are pushing their tender shoots, and in one hour the prospects of a season may be ruined. While late frosts do not bring destruction every year, they come so frequently that it would seem to be worth-while to take all possible precautions to prevent injury by them. When the night is cloudy frost is not feared. The curtain of clouds prevents the heat passing off into space. In a small garden it is not difficult to protect the tomatoes and other tender plants. Newspapers are always at hand, and are quite as effective as blankets. The farmer will say that it is impossible to protect his plants by the acre. We are not so sure of that. In some of the French vineyards vines are protected by the acre, but they are planted and the trellises are built with a view to this. If the means are properly considered and the appliances kept in readiness, it would not be impossible to protect melons and tomatoes by the acre. For the orchard and vineyard smoke is the most available

protection. It has long been used with success in the vineyards of Germany and should be tested in this country. When a frost is apprehended let materials be provided, and a watch set, whose duty should be to call sufficient help to promptly start the smoke. A ready method of raising a smoke is to throw damp straw upon a fire. Probably experiments will show that tar, petroleum, or some other such material will afford a more efficient method of making a smoke than straw.—DR. THURBER, in *American Agriculturist*.

#### CATALPA SPECIOSA.

It is the intention of the Directors of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, to give to any of its members an opportunity to plant a small tree of this hardy variety of the Catalpa who may wish to give it a trial, by placing it among the articles to be sent out in the spring of 1885. We, therefore, commend to their attention the following article from the *Prairie Farmer*.

Much has already been said relative to the Catalpa Speciosa, but as it is no longer an experimental tree for forest planting, its merits can not be too well known. Its valuable lasting qualities are not only being recognized by our farmers for fence posts, but many of our railroad corporations have been convinced of its great value as a railroad tie, and are planting it largely for that purpose.

The fact that most of the information we have was gathered and disseminated by the late E. E. Barney, an extensive railroad car builder of Dayton, Ohio, assisted by Robert Douglass, John C. Teas, and the late lamented Dr. John A. Warder are strong proofs of its great value.

Much of the information gathered