

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

the prices of Canadian fruit products. The import of the banana will, no doubt, be lessened by it, and this fruit, so cheap and so popular, has done more than anything else toward lowering the price of our native fruits. This, coupled with the unfortunate frosts above referred to, may cause a sharp advance this season in the values of our native fruits.

FROST BITTEN FRUITS.—According to the California Fruit Grower, a storm of frost and snow, about the middle of April, has swept not only through California, but also northward and eastward from Northern Texas, virtually ruining the fruit crop in Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Connecticut. Peaches have suffered most, but cherries, pears and even apples have suffered more or less. Fruit on the Pacific Coast has suffered more than almost ever before, peaches and apples being the principal sufferers, while nearly all classes of fruit will be reduced one-half.

THE COLD STORAGE FOR FRUIT at Grimsby has just been completely remodeled, under the direction of Mr. MacFarlane, cold storage inspector, for the Department. The accommodation has been doubled, and instead of cooling the store rooms by means of direct currents of air from the ice room as last year, the air will be cooled by means of a double row of large galvanized iron cylinders, each about a foot in diameter, which rest in a trough below, and are to be kept full of ice and salt, shovelled in from the smashing floor above. This building is now, in our opinion, a model refrigerator building for fruit storage, and will no doubt be the kind erected by fruit

growers in all the fruit districts, where tender fruits are grown for export. We have the fullest confidence in this building, and invite inspection of it by any growers interested. It is situated at the G. T. R. depot, at Grimsby.

MR. R. TROTTER, a prominent fruit grower at Owen Sound, died Tuesday, 10th May, at Owen Sound. He was a prime mover in the formation of the local Horticultural Society of that place.

THE VIRGINIA CREEPER has for two years been subject to the thrip which has become so numerous, and so annoying when one passes by, that we are questioning the wisdom of continuing the use of this old and useful climber for the porch of a house. We will faithfully spray it with kerosene emulsion, and, if successful in destroying it, we will report later on.

ALYSSUM SAXATILE and *A. S. Compacta* are just now (May 15) in full bloom in our garden at Maplehurst. Everyone is familiar with the common Sweet Alyssum, but this is far more showy, with its corymbs of bright yellow flowers, not much larger than those of the Forget-me-not, which are in bloom at the same time. This species was introduced from eastern Europe in 1710, and *Compacta* is a new and valuable variety.

THE PLANTS AND TREES sent out by the Association to its members this spring have given unusually good satisfaction, and numerous have been the complimentary letters received from Secretaries of Societies and others, concerning them.

Never before has so large a list been sent out, amounting in all to 3729 pack-