

## THE LATE SEVERE WINTER.

I HAVE observed the tale of woe that has come from fruit growers from all the peach districts over the destruction of trees from the severe frosts of the past winter. I can readily lend my voice to that same sad tale. The past winter has been the most severe and destructive in this section of the county experienced for twenty-seven years. And it is only now that the extent of the damage done is showing itself. Many trees that came out in leaf in the spring are now dying away. All my Burbank plum trees succumbed; the Imperial gage, Munro and Abundance will not pull through this season. Two Dempsey pears and one Marguarite are quite killed while, strange to say, Bartletts are showing no signs of having suffered. I would have supposed that the Dempsey, being of Canadian origin, would have stood a lower temperature than the Bartlett or Duchess.

But it is with my roses that I have suffered the greatest loss. I am inviting nobody to see them this year; or rather see where they used to be. Out of 130 varieties I will have, maybe, 50 that will bloom this year. Quite a few varieties were totally killed, among them

Margaret Dickson, Mad. Gabriel Luizet, Ulrich Brunner, La France, Victor Verdier and Meteor. Many others are starting again from the roots, but will not bloom this year, and indeed will never bloom again with me as I intend to reduce my collection to at least sixty varieties this season. One very peculiar thing this season is that not one of the moss varieties are blooming except the crested, though they are all vigorous in growth. All my roses were well covered with leaves, though there was very little snow over them at the time of the cold snap when the thermometer went down as low as 35 degrees below zero, a thing never known before here.

Among the small fruits the Hilborn black and Loudon red raspberries came through all right. The Gregg black and Schaffer purple were badly killed; the Cuthbert red and Golden Green were too much injured to give more than half a crop. Let us hope that such winters as the one we have just passed through and suffered from may be few, with many years between.

T. H. RACE

*Mitchell. June 20th.*

SUMMER CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS.—A very satisfactory shelter for house plants may be made by setting up four posts in a square, to which strips of lath or boards can be nailed about an inch apart. Make a roof of the same material, and put on in the same way as the strips on the sides, which should be

in a sort of lattice. Such a shelter will admit all the air that is stirring and all the sunshine that the plants will need, and not prevent any one of them from getting the benefit of dews and showers, while it will break the force of strong winds.—*Ladies' Home Journal.*