

A LEAF FROM THE CALENDAR.

BY WILLIAM M. BRIGGS.

Where Wood-Violets love to grow
Thickly lies the winter's snow;
Where the streamlet sung and danced,
And the summer sunbeam glanced
Thro' the meadow, down the dale,
All is lusked, and chill, and pale!

Where the Crow-foot's tender green
Earliest in the spring is seen;
Where the Checkerberries hide
By the pale Arbutus' side,
And the Cowslips, tipped with gold,
Over hill and dale unfold;

Where the ferret, soft and brown,
Stores his nest with pilfered down;
And the field-mouse in the heather
Sleeps for weeks and months together;
And the squirrel, wise and dumb,
Waits for better days to come;

Lies the winter—bitter, strong—
Heaped thro' freezing nights and long;
While the tempest comes and goes,
Sliding swift o'er drifted snows;
Clouds above and gloom below;
Tell me—when will winter go?

When the buds begin to swell;
When the streams leap thro' the dell
When the swallows dip and fly,
Wheeling, circling, thro' the sky;
When the Violet bids the Rose
Waken from its long repose;

When the gnats in sunshine dance;
When the long, bright hours advance;
When the robin by the door
Sings as ne'er he sang before;
Then, when heart, and flower, and wing
Leap and laugh—then comes the spring!

Scribner's.

BEST TIME FOR CUTTING SORGHUM CANE.—Peter Collier, chemist to the Department of Agriculture, writes a letter to the *Husbandman*, to show that the advice to farmers to cut sorghum cane when the seed is in the dough and several days ahead of grinding, is very bad advice indeed.

WATERLOO PEACH.—This is the *largest very early* peach we have grown or seen. The first specimen ripened July 14th, and measured 10 inches in circumference. All the fruit was gathered, and mostly over-ripe, on the 19th of the same month. It ripened about three days in advance of the Alexander. It is a remarkable keeper, ripe specimens having been kept in perfect condition nearly a week after being picked. It will therefore be valuable for shipping.—*Fruit Recorder*.

PROTECTING BELTS IN ORCHARDS.—The *Rural Home* in describing a visit to the orchards of T. G. Yeomans, of Walworth N. Y. (widely known as a very successful fruit raiser), states that he has protecting belts of

Norway spruce running north and south every thirty or forty rods. These belts break the force of the winds, and save the ripening fruit. A furious wind storm once swept over one of his orchards (of forty acres) and he sent a number of men to pick up the wind-falls for evaporating. They soon returned with very little fruit, the evergreen screens having afforded ample protection.

THE BARK LOUSE.—Herbert Osborn, of the Iowa Agricultural College, recommends as remedies for the scurvy bark louse and the oyster shell louse, kerosene and soap. The kerosene may be used pure where it can be done with safety, but ordinarily it must be diluted with water. This may be accomplished by forming an emulsion of kerosene and milk (skimmed milk answers well) and then diluting with about an equal quantity of water, or by shaking up a mixture of milk kerosene and water in equal parts, and then adding more water, taking care not to add so much as to cause the mixture to separate. Sprinkle or spray it upon the infested twigs and branches. Soap is an excellent remedy. Make a solution of whale oil soap, one-fourth of a pound of soap to a gallon of water, and apply to the infected parts of the tree, repeating the application after a few days. Lye is said to have been used with good success, but is considered unequal to soap.—*Michigan Farmer*.

THE DUNLAP AND GENESEE—TWO NEW SEEDLING PEACHES.—Through the courtesy of our horticultural friend, Mr. Charles A. Green, we had the pleasure of testing two new seedling peaches. The Dunlap is one of those yellow peaches, like the yellow Alberge, Hill's Chili, Wager and others which reproduce themselves, or very nearly do, from pits. It is a very handsome, round, bright yellow peach, of medium size, deep yellow flesh, and of a sweet, juicy, delicious flavor. The pit is very small, and perfectly free. We cannot recall another peach ripening so late as this of such good quality. The Genesee came from the grounds of Mr. H. E. Hooker, nurseryman, of this city. It originated on a city lot belonging to the late brother of Mr. Green, and the tree from which the specimen was obtained was heavily loaded with fruit. It is a large, oblong peach, in form and color resembling the Early Crawford; a shade lighter color; and resembling it very much, we thought, in quality. Judging from a single specimen of each, they seem to be promising varieties, worthy of farther trial.—*American Rural Home*.