

of the apple will retain its vitality I cannot say, probably for a few days. The wallflower's pollen retains its for fourteen days, bladder ketmia for at least three days, and the hemp, the date and others for a year.

Novelties.

556. SIR,—An agent here is selling peach trees grafted on Minnesota hazel stock, which he states causes them to be much hardier than on peach or plum stocks, and that they are giving good crops as far north as Guelph. He is also selling the grape vine raspberry, which he states will do well on clay soil, on which the ordinary raspberries will not do well. Can you offer your subscribers any information with regard to the above?

A. G. HEAVEN, *Boyne, Ont.*

We would advise our subscribers to beware of such untried novelties as are here spoken of. If any of them take pleasure in spending money for what they consider the luxury of trying new things worth the expense, but for ourselves we prefer to wait until they have been fully tested by reliable persons before investing. If any of our readers have had any experience with these new things, let us hear from them.

Japan Plums.

557. SIR,—Are Japan plums really exempt from black knot, as is claimed for them in the *Rural New Yorker* of February 18th?

D. S. MCD., *Mabou, N. S.*

558. SIR,—Are the following plum trees hardy, and what degree of frost will they stand,—Ogan, Grand Duke, Botan, Spaulding, Monarch, Abundance and Mariana?

G. H. NIXON, *Hyde Park, Ont.*

The Japan plums have not been long enough tested for us to give any very decided opinion regarding them. Mr. S. D. Willard, a noted plum grower of New York State, has probably had the most experience of any one with them, and he stated recently that they appeared to be very hardy in wood, and, so far, exempt from black knot. Just what degree of frost we are not yet prepared to say. We will be pleased to hear from any of our subscribers who may have tested them, or others above mentioned.

Labels.

559. SIR,—Is Manilla paper, or zinc painted white, the most desirable for tree labels.

G. H. N., *Hyde Park.*

Manilla paper might answer well, if it is not intended to be exposed to the weather, but the most satisfactory label that has been used by the writer is zinc without paint. Lead pencil marks on zinc, when exposed to the weather, become almost indelible.