

It would appear from the above testimony that the Rockford plum is less successful in Iowa and Minnesota than in southern Wisconsin, hence we cannot feel safe in recommending it for general planting. Its rather small size will doubtless injure it for market, but those of our members who desire a native plum of superior quality for desert use will do well to try this variety. At our experiment station it has not proved more subject to curculio than other varieties, and I have heard no complaint that it is injured anywhere by "plum pockets."

E. S. Goff.

NOTES FROM A. L. HATCH.

The following items and inquiries will be appreciated by our members as they come from our old time member and co-worker, A. L. Hatch, of Richland county, whose health we are glad to report is better. We hope these inquiries will draw out responses to be published in our August number:

First, Fire Blight.—Worst on Yellow Transparent, Alexander, Titonka, Enormous, Tallman Sweet, McMahan's Bloom, Switzer, Tetofski, and crab apple trees. Least on Duchess, Fameuse, Haas, Utter and McMahan.

Second. It is contagious, blowing from tree to tree by winds.

Third. Trees weakened in any way by lack of culture root pruning or plowing are more subject to it than others.

Fourth. Animal manure seems to induce it.

COMMENTS BY SECRETARY.

First. My orchard same as his, adding Hiberna, Swaree, Avista, Moscow and Bret No. 2 for blighters. For least blight same as his, adding Wolf River, N. W. Greening, Patten's Greening, Peerless, Wealthy, Mary, Gilbert, Malinda apples, and No. Twenty Martha, Minnesota Sweet Russet and Sylvan Sweet crabs.

Second. Yes, it is contagious, and on that account I have discarded entirely eight of the worst blighters above mentioned.

Third. Trees cultivated the least and neglected the most have least blight.

Fourth. I am quite inclined to think Mr. Hatch is right, but that is the only manure I have to use unless I buy commercial fertilizers. Bearing heavy crops and being in blossom at the time of the very hot and windy weather in May seems to cause it with me. This is confirmed in a letter just received from Peter Gideon; says, Blossoms burned or cooked on trees.

Mr. Hatch resumed—Raspberries, especially Ohio uncultivated, are giving best crop of best berries they ever gave in six years' fruiting. Heretofore they have set well, grown one-half and then nearly all blighted. Blighting was worse one rainy season like the present.

Query—Did culture heretofore given them injure roots so as to cause blight of fruit?

Inspection to day of one and one-half acres I have left uncultivated shows best crop now in sight ever grown on both red and black. What does it mean?

Grapes. Best crop on Janesville, Concord and some others that we have had for several years. Never knew them so far advanced at this season. Janesville are now about two-thirds grown. Many Concord half grown.

Query—Why don't Delaware bear this year?

Plums. I had to thin my Desoto that fruited heavily last year. Fruit now more than half grown. The best trees are on high ground, cultivated. Cheeney nor Rockford not bearing as heavy as Desoto. Large trees of Weaver have a fair crop, but many limbs that were good last year are now dead. Think I will pollard some of them next spring and bring tops lower. They are eighteen to twenty feet high. Query: How will that do? Hope some one will answer Mr. Hatch's queries for next month.—Sec.