



FIG. 1897. RED CROSS (REDUCED).

Wilder, in Mr. Peart's opinion, is the finest market currant in his collection. The bunches and berries are of the largest size, larger than either Fay or Cherry, and quite equal to those of the St. Giles, and in his opinion it is more productive than any of them and better in quality. Fig. 1899.

Fig. 1897 shows a fruiting branch of the Red Cross Currant, one of the newest varieties which was originated by Jacob Moore. It has little to distinguish it from Fay or Cherry in its size and appearance. Mr. Green, the introducer, says, "It makes twice the growth that these varieties make; the fruit is often so dense on the stalks as to hide the leaves entirely from view. Color bright red; berries set in a compact cluster with long stems; convenient for picking." Mr. Peart in his report for 1899 says the bush is medium in vigor and moderately productive. Another season's trial may settle the character of this variety with greater certainty.

Of the white varieties, the long bunch Holland has impressed us most favorably at

Maplehurst, the bush is so healthy and the bunch and berry so large. Bnt Mr. Peart places the White Imperial, Fig. 1898, at the head of his list of white currants. It is not quite as large a berry as the Holland and shorter in bunch, but perhaps it is more productive, and it has a mild pleasant flavor. There is no use planting white currants for profit, as there is little demand for them in the market, so that we can only recommend them for home uses.

The pruning of the red currant is so important that we add a few remarks thereon. The old method of training in tree form has been long given up by us, because the borer often destroys the old stem, and new shoots are needed to take its place. We always allow a half dozen shoots to grow from the root, cutting out the older stems from time to time. Those that remain we spur prune, cutting back all laterals to two or three buds, a treatment that will result in the formation of fruit spurs along the whole length of the main branch.



FIG. 1898. WHITE IMPERIAL (REDUCED).