

*Crimson Beauty*.—A fence-corner variety sure enough; and I can find many wild plants in pasture fields around that are far better, if its behaviour with me is a fair sample of its capacity. The plant is very vigorous indeed, sprouting from the root extremities at a tremendous rate; but it shows that profuseness of small spines to the very extremity of the new-growing cane, which is not found in Hansell, Cuthbert, or any other cultivated variety that I know. It appears quite hardy, but the berries are soft, crumbly, and very small, while they do not seem very early. Perhaps this is enough to say with only one season's test of full-grown plants; but it is hard to keep down the disgust with which one views the performance of this praise-bespat-tered brier!

*Superb*.—A good, vigorous grower—early, large to very large; but the color is rather too dark, the berries inclined to crumble, and the quality decidedly inferior. Where people are fond of the old Philadelphia this sort may find friends; but, in spite of its larger size, I do not think it will prove as profitable as the earlier, brighter, sweeter and better-shipping Hansell. Very hardy.

Of the older varieties, the

*Cuthbert* is just beginning to ripen as Hansell is almost done. For its combined good qualities—size, firmness, quality and productiveness—I still regard the Cuthbert as the best of its season. If the Marlboro' with its earliness will, according to rumour, stretch over the whole season with its larger and brighter-coloured berries, then the Cuthbert must rank further back; but until I fruit the new comer, my loudest hurrah must be for the royal Cuthbert. Last winter was hard on it here: one plantation, one year old, winter-killed to the very ground; another plantation of same age got off

with slight injury; while my old plants five feet high were partially injured, but are now fruiting freely. We never had such a winter before, and Cuthbert may never thus suffer again; but I do not think this variety can be depended upon where the thermometer touches thirty degrees below zero.

*Turner*.—This "stand-by" is working away in its usual laudable fashion; berries of good size, fine colour, very sweet, and lots of them. The plant is an admirable grower, and the large, thornless canes stand smilingly erect through the worst winter we can bring on. Where only one variety can be grown for family use, and not much care given, by all means let Turner be the one; but we want something firmer and larger in its season for market.

*Highland Hardy*.—Nearly as large in berry as Turner, and quite early, coming close after Hansell. The berry seems nearly as large and nearly as firm as Hansell, and the taste more nearly conforms to the standard of those persons who are accustomed to the foreign varieties. But the Canadian public will prefer the handsomer Hansell. The Highland Hardy is also distinctively a market variety, and during the last few seasons has here won increasing regard for this purpose. For home use, as already indicated, I prefer the sweeter, larger, hardier and more vigorous Turner, which is only a few days later; but for market use I consider the firmer and earlier Highland Hardy more profitable. Its crop ripens up in shorter time, and hence is more satisfactory to the pickers, besides getting well out of the way before Cuthbert and other late ones come in. I would plant it freely for market if I could not get Hansell. It seems hardy enough.

Of "Black Caps" the first to ripen of course is

*Tyler or Souhegan*.—If there is any