

THE CLARK RASPBERRY.—B. N. McKinstry, Kankakee Co., Ill., writes the *Rural World*:—"I fruited it on a small scale last summer, and call it a far better berry than the Philadelphia, and as yet it appears equally hardy and productive. I do not like to speak positively of any fruit on a short acquaintance; but, if it behaves as well this year as last, I shall consider it 'the coming berry.'"

THE AUTUMN GRAPE. raised by Chas. Arnold of Paris, Co. of Brant, is a seedling of the Clinton crossed with Golden Chasselas. It is white. The leaves are dark green, very deeply lobed, having sharp pointed serratures. The unripe wood is very dark purple—nearly black. The Chasselas flavor is perceptible. It ripens with the Delaware, and is hardy. The bunch is fully nine inches long.

SALICIGLOSSIS.—A very fine and too much neglected half-hardy annual. The colours are varied and of peculiar richness, the texture resembling the richest velvet, and beautifully pencilled. About eighteen inches in height, dwarf one foot. Set about six inches apart, they make a magnificent bed. Seed may be sown under glass, but will do well out of doors, especially in a light sandy soil.

HARDINESS OF BLACKBERRIES.—D. B. Wier, Lacon, Ill., writes to the *Rural World* as follows:—"My plants grown from root cuttings, both of Missouri Mammoth and Kittatiny, though on very rich soil and the growth late, have passed the winter in better condition than plants planted out last spring for fruit. On examining my plants of two years (those planted a year ago last spring), I find the Missouri Mammoth and Kittatiny fresh to the tip; Lawton with three-fourths of the bush dead and seasoned; Wilson's Early, half of its spray dead and seasoned, the balance badly discoloured."

AGRICULTURIST STRAWBERRY.—At a late meeting of the Fruit Growers' Club, Mr. Carpenter said that on clay soil on Long Island the Agriculturist has done remarkably well; but in New Jersey, on similar soil, it has done badly; on his farm, on all kinds of soil, it has done admirably, and is wonderfully productive and of good quality. Its quality varies on different soils and in different localities. It proves almost worthless in some localities. One gentleman said he could hardly raise a berry of it fit to eat in Southern Wisconsin, while in New Jersey, where he is now, they do very well, except that they do not multiply plants fast. He thinks it requires a moist atmosphere. President Snodgrass said it did well on moist soils. Mr. Carpenter says all strawberries require moisture, though not necessarily a moist soil.

ROBINSON'S TRICOLOR PELARGONIUM. (Star of India).—Among the varieties which we have seen this season, the Star of India seems to us to be one of the best. The colouring of the foliage is good, and the habit of the plant excellent. It partakes more of the character of Sunset than of Mrs. Pollock, the edges of the leaves being deeply cut, and the surface considerably more

smooth, while the colouring is richer than either; the bright crimson flame which breaks in and through the deep maroon band being exceedingly rich. The golden edge of the leaves is very decided, and the green in the centre light and distinct. We have found in the cultivation of this very beautiful class of plants that they delight in a rich friable soil, in plenty of light and air, the sun seeming to bring out the brilliancy of their leaf colouring.—*Floral Magazine.*

CARROT.—The carrot should always be furnished with a good, deep, rich soil, and as free from stones and lumps as possible. It is waste of time and labour to try to grow roots of any kind on a poor or unprepared soil. Seed should be got in early, so as to have the benefit of a portion of the spring rains. Sow in drills about an inch deep; the drills about a foot apart; and at thinning, the plants should be left at from four to five inches apart in the rows, according to kind. The Short Horn may be allowed to grow very thickly, almost in clusters. To keep the roots nice for table use, place them in sand in the cellar; but for feeding, they will keep well in a cellar, without covering, or buried in the ground. An ounce of seed will sow about one hundred feet of drill, and two pounds is the usual quantity per acre.—*Vick's Guide.*

THE NAOMI RASPBERRY.—F. R. Elliott, Esq., in expressing his opinion of this raspberry in the *Ohio Farmer*—and his opinion is worthy of attention, says—"I have no hesitation in saying that whoever purchases a true Naomi will have no cause to regret the outlay. The cane for many years has proved, on the Lake Shore, Ohio, perfectly hardy, even to the tops. The fruit is about the same size as Franconia, equally or perhaps more firm, not quite as acid, but richer and of better flavour."

ARE CUCUMBERS HURTFUL.—Some people are afraid to eat cucumbers, as they are supposed to induce cholera and other summer complaints. They may have this tendency with some people, but as a general thing we believe the charge wholly unfounded. A pragmatical doctor is credited with having given the following directions for preparing the cucumber:—"Peel and slice them thin; let them stand in cold water one hour; turn the water off, saturate them well with vinegar, pepper liberally, and then throw them into the swill tub." Now we have always used cucumbers liberally during their season, cholera or no cholera, and never suffered any inconvenience in consequence. On the contrary, when well soaked in vinegar, with the application of salt and pepper, we believe the cucumber to be a healthful article of food, as it certainly is a grateful one to most palates, though it must be confessed its per centage of flesh-forming materials is extremely limited. It is conceded to be a good anti-scorbutic, and as a pickle, is without a peer in common estimation.

Apiary.

Dividing Bees, or Making Artificial Swarms.

There are several ways in which bees may be divided and artificial swarms made, with comparative success. The object should be, however, to make artificial swarms that are in every way equal to natural swarms, leaving the parent stock also in equally good condition. To do this we must keep as close to nature as possible; in other words, we must act in perfect harmony with the nature and habits of the bees. It would, then, be well to enquire what is the true condition of the parent stock after a first swarm has been cast, and of the first swarm after it has been hived. It is well understood that the old queen goes with the first swarm, and a very large proportion of the bees, that is, worker bees, as the drones always remain in the parent hive until the second swarm issues, which always contains a young queen. It is well understood, also, that the first swarm seldom issues until queen cells are commenced, and young queens are being developed. It will be seen, then, that after a first swarm has gone off, the parent stock has but few bees and no queen. The hive is, however, full of combs, with young bees, in all stages from the larva to the full grown bee, issuing from the cell, and young queens, which in about nine days will leave the cells. Such, then, is the natural condition of the parent stock, after a first swarm has issued in a natural way. The first swarm, after being hived, is in the following condition. It has an empty hive—a hive without combs or honey; but it has a laying queen and a large number of bees. It has to fill the hive with combs, honey, and young bees. Now, how shall we divide so as to secure the same conditions to both stocks? If we could do this, and make our swarms a few days earlier than they would swarm if left to themselves, and save the trouble of watching for swarms to come off, and the loss of bees going to the woods, it would be very desirable. I will now give my method of making swarms, and the reader may see how near I keep to nature. I wait until I see some signs of swarming or near to swarming time, generally about the time queen cells are being started. I then go to the hive I wish to divide, and search for the queen by looking over each card of comb carefully. As soon as I have discovered her, I put the card of comb on which I find her in a new empty hive, from which I have removed one frame. I then put the frame in the old hive, in place of the card of comb I removed. I now remove the old hive away to some distance to one side, and put it on a new stand. I then put the new hive, in which I have put the queen, on the stand where the old hive stood. The result is that the bees will rush out of the old hive, and return in large numbers to the old