

are quite distinct ; skin, smooth ; quality, very good ; bush vigorous, stocky and upright ; a strong grower and productive. It is considered very hardy, and is very little subject to the mildew. Our colored plate for this month gives our readers a very excellent illustration of this variety.

Among other native varieties we have the Houghton's seedling, which has been discarded on account of its small size ; Smith's Improved, a seedling of Houghton, which is nearly as good as the Downing, and often competes with it for a place in our markets ; Pearl, a seedling of Houghton crossed with White Smith, which appears to excel all others we know of for productiveness ; a variety which was fully described on page 317, vol. 12, of this journal. There are other Canadian and American seedlings which are being highly commended by their introducers, some of which we have in testing at Maplehurst, as, Crosby's seedling, which originated in the Township of Markham, and which bears evidences of English origin ; Sutherland's seedling, a fine appearing gooseberry, from Mr. Geo. Sutherland, Owen Sound, and some seedlings originated by the late James Dougall, of Windsor, which are being tested at the Rural Experimental Grounds, near New York City, etc.

Although none of these varieties compare in size or beauty with those grown in England, yet improvements are constantly being made, and there is no doubt that in time such varieties will be brought to the front as will give special impetus to the cultivation of the gooseberry in Ontario.

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CROPS IN ORCHARDS.—The best crop an orchard can produce is a crop of fruit. But many think that the soil in that particular locality can do double duty just as well as not. Yet there is a difference. Some crops are worse in an orchard than others ; as, for instance, the small grains—wheat, oats and rye. The opinion of the late R. L. Pell, who raised and sent to England such immense quantities of the Newtown Pippin apple a number of years ago, was that three successive crops of rye would ruin any orchard. On the other hand, corn, potatoes and such products as require cultivation during the growing season, will do less injury, because the trees receive part of the benefit of the operation. Indeed, if manure is supplied to compensate for what is removed in the corn or potatoes, the cropping would altogether be beneficial to the trees, except that without special care the roots will be more or less mutilated. In the case of a young orchard, this danger does not exist—and cropping is to be recommended. But liberal manuring should not be omitted ; and the crops chosen should be those requiring frequent stirring of the soil.—*Ex.*

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AN exchange tells us that the quickest way known to make an independent fortune is to get a pencil and a piece of paper and commence growing fruit. No land and no experience is required in this sort of a horticultural venture and an immense amount of success can be worked out in a season, and you know "figures never lie."