

from seed of the largest and best I have never obtained offspring worthy of the parents.

Crossing and hybridizing might give better results.

J. CUPPAGE.

#### CRAB APPLES.

MR. EDITOR,—This last two years past you have been silent on our somewhat despised *Crab Apple*. Have you no plea for them. They are among apples our truest friends here in the cold north. Can you not name five or six good dessert kinds, and good keepers. I feel that we are losing time to neglect those valuable fruits. Why not improve those that do so well in the north, for, at most, all I know of the Russians they are not of first quality and not good keepers? Now, Mr. Editor, are they too mean a fruit for your notice; have you nothing in their favour? They have proved the hardiest apples we have; though hardy, they want care and looking after. I find all over the borers are at work, and many wonder they die. I have dressed my trees as per receipt in the July number, 1885, and believe it will answer admirably if done once or twice each year. For grafting, I find it advisable to take the cuttings off in the fall and partly bury them, because they are often so badly hurt by our severe winters as to be doubtful to grow when grafted, if cut in the spring. I find this so, even with the Duchess of Oldenburg; last year I find it is with me, as it was with J. P. Williams, in July number, 1885. It will not grow well when top-grafted; in fact, I could never make a tree of the Duchess when top-grafted. Now, dear sir, is it the same with all the Russians? Will the Yellow Transparent do well when top-grafted? Can you tell me this, as I do not wish to lose or waste time?

Muskoka.

T. A. H.

#### SOME NEW BERRIES.

(For the Canadian Horticulturist.)

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—With your permission I would give the readers of your excellent monthly a notice of some of the new fruits that will be eagerly sought for by some and made little of by others this coming spring. As you are aware, sir, the strawberry is my favorite of the small fruits. Hence it will be the first I notice.

*The Jewell.* It has been before the public for some time and the only one that has been sent out for testing in different localities, and has given satisfaction wherever sent. No lover of the strawberry need be afraid to invest in a few dozen at the price asked for it. This variety is from Connecticut.

It is reported of the Jewell that from 1-22d of an acre 687 quarts of berries were picked besides what was picked by visitors. It is supposed it would yield 500 bushels per acre.

It is an old saying, sir, "when it rains it pours."

2nd. *The Belmont.* Origin Massachusetts. This variety, unlike the former, has come like the lightning flash, unannounced, and fruitmen are led to ask when will this production of new fruits end.

The following notice of the *Belmont* I had from the introducer. He says as a cropper we cannot say too much in its favor. From scarcely a quarter of an acre we realized the net sum of \$596 or \$2,384 per acre. What does my friend of Lakewood think of that, for I presume neither of these men followed the *slip-shod* plan of growing the strawberry.

Then, sir, the next wonder comes from Illinois. *Butach's No. 5.* This is only \$5 per dozen, and if all that is said about this "wonderful" (may be it is the "Big Bob") berry is only half true, nothing I have yet grown can