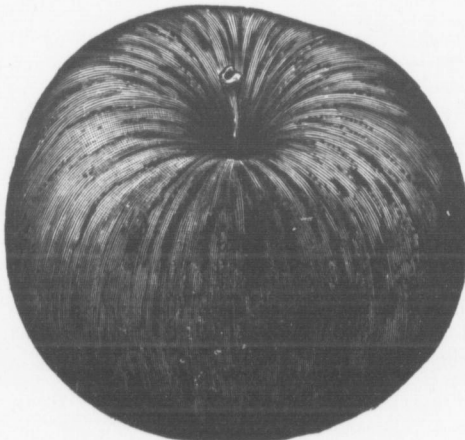


Pears.—I had a sample of the Ritson pear sent me by Mr. W. E. Wellington, which impresses me favorably. This pear is about medium size, greenish yellow; flesh, white and buttery. The quality is excellent, fitting it to be classed as a prime dessert pear. The tree is a seedling which was planted by the late John Ritson, of Ottawa, one of the oldest settlers in that vicinity, and a prominent farmer and fruit grower. The original tree is seventy years old, and has never been attacked by blight, and is a regular and abundant bearer. For canning and pickling its owner counts this pear as the very best of which he knows.

Among *Apples* there was sent to me about last May, from Ottawa, a seedling of Mr. Greenfield's. This is claimed to have value as a hardy winter apple for the cold



Greenfield's Seedling.

very popular Red Astrachan. But in addition to its beauty of color, it also possesses excellencies of quality sufficient to commend it anywhere as a table apple. Mr. Lewis writes that he believes that the apple is a seedling and, certainly, we know of no other apple of the same characteristics. Its season is October and November. Description:—Fruit, medium to large, roundish, oblate, with one quarter considerably enlarged; skin, pale cream splashed and shaded with pink, turning to crimson on sunny side, which in some samples completely covers it, obscurely blotched with markings of dark carmine; stalk about five-eighths of an inch in length, inserted in a deep, evenly formed cavity; calyx closed set in a basin of moderate size and depth; flesh white, streaked with red, tender, juicy, aromatic; Quality, very good.

Among *Grapes* there is little to report. A sample of an exceptionally early grape was sent me by C. S. Curtice Co., of Portland, N. Y., on the 3rd of September. This grape was then dead ripe, and the growers stated that they had been picking the fruit since the 24th August, and that in the previous year the vines had been picked clean by the 17th or 18th of August. They claimed that it is one or two weeks earlier than Moore's Early. The bunches are certainly close and the fruit of fair quality. The chief commendation, however, seems to be its earliness. The berry is black, below medium in size, and thickly covered with bloom; the pulp is soft and contains two seeds.

Of *Small Fruits*.—Samples have been sent me of three gooseberries which appear to be worthy of notice. The Triumph is a remarkably large variety, and apparently not subject to mildew. This, however, is already in our nurserymen's catalogues and, therefore, does not need to be noticed here.

Mr. John Carnie, of Paris, sent me samples of a gooseberry which he says he has cultivated for sixteen years and he has not yet found any mildew upon it, although sometimes surrounded with others which were covered with mildew. It is not really a new variety for Mr. Carnie says that it is one of twenty varieties which he brought out from

north, keeping in perfect condition until May or June. An engraving of it is here given. The quality of it, however, does not impress me very favorably. It might be called good, but that would be saying enough for its quality. It would not be desirable as a table apple, but only for cooking. Description:—Size, below medium; form, roundish, slightly conical, ribbed; skin, light green, washed and striped with carmine; stem, three-quarter inches long, in a deep, narrow cavity; calyx, closed in a very shallow, wrinkled basin; flesh, white, crisp, tender, mild, sub-acid, juicy; flavor, poor, but scarcely mature enough to be fairly judged.

A beautiful apple was sent me last October by Rev. R. Lewis, Maitland. In its tints of color it surpassed the

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