

As previously remarked, the French Paradise, or what is known by the German Pomologists as *Johannes Apple*, is easily distinguished from all other apple stocks by its peculiar olive color on the young wood, &c. Besides, the fruit of the French Paradise is bitter sweet, while that of the Doucin is sour. We have fruited both.

Mr. Rivers, the distinguished Nurseryman of Sawbridgeworth, England, originated two varieties that he calls Paradise, which are in use and held in high esteem by him. I think the most valuable he named *Nonsuch*. Both of these varieties have been tested on our grounds, but did not prove satisfactory with us.

Mr. Robinson, the Editor of "the Garden," in his interesting work, *The Parks, Promenades and Gardens of Paris*, gives a correct description of the Paradise. If after perusing it there is any doubt on the subject among his Pomological conferees, it is certainly not for lack of information on the subject. Some complain of its being too tender in England. I would remark that with us it is perfectly hardy, having stood the winter well with the thermometer twenty degrees below zero.

Situation and Soil of Orchard. For the successful cultivation of a miniature orchard, it is important that the soil should be warm and dry, and be kept in good condition; the situation should also be open, in order to have the benefit of both sun and air.

The distance apart in the orchard, or in rows for borders, should be from six to eight feet; for cordons, fifteen to twenty-four inches will be sufficient. The latter mode of training is particularly desirable where the space is limited, and where fine specimens of fruits are desired.

On my own grounds I have about one hundred trees in cordon form tied to wire about 12 inches from the ground, so as to unite with each other and form a continuous chain. Among the varieties, the Red Astrachan fruited the second year from bud, and most of the others, the third and fourth year, the fruits being of the finest quality, and of superior size.

The Advantages of Dwarf apples. The dwarf apple commends itself for various reasons; it occupies but little space, and comes early into bearing; a large collection can be had in small grounds; trees with fruit buds can be transplanted so as to bear fruit the same year; the fruits are not so liable to fall from the trees, and the size of the fruit, when proper attention is paid to pruning and thinning out, is superior to that of the standard.

Apart from these advantages the dwarf apple is also worthy of being considered

Ornamentally as well as Practically. There are really few ornamental trees or

shrubs that have more claims to beauty than a symmetrically proportioned dwarf apple at the time of its blossoming, when robed in delicate blush and white, and emitting its delicate perfume. Then it is almost worthy a place beside some of the finest flowering shrubs. Nor is there anything more striking in autumn, when vegetation has begun to fade, than the sight of a group of dwarf crabs turning their highly colored fruits to the sun.

In this connection a few statistics in regard to an orchard of dwarf apples on our own grounds, all of which are on the French Paradise, and that embrace almost every known variety, may not be amiss. A portion of the trees that have been planted thirty years, measure as follows: Stem from six to eight inches in diameter, height six to eight feet, and branches about the same in diameter. These trees have frequently yielded in favorable seasons, from three to four bushels per tree.

Those planted twelve years ago will average as follows: Stem four to five inches in diameter, height four to six feet, and branches about the same in diameter. The largest of them will yield from one to two bushels per tree.

I herewith present a list of some of the most desirable varieties for dwarfing.

Summer Apples: Astrachan Red, Early Harvest, Keswick Codlin, Bough Large Sweet.

Autumn Apples: Alexander, Duchess of Oldenburg, Gravenstein, St. Lawrence, Sherwood's Favorite.

Winter Apples: Baldwin, Bellflower yellow, King, Lady Apple, Mother, Northern Spy, Reinette Canada, Red Canada, Melon, Spitzenburg, Esopus, Twenty Ounce Apple, Wagener.

In conclusion I would remark that the system of training dwarf trees may be pursued *ad libitum*. One has but to visit the principal establishments of France, where this system receives the fullest attention, to perceive the extent and variety to which it can be carried.—*From the Gardener's Monthly.*

ANCIENT HUSBANDRY—THE HORSE, THE ASS AND THE DOG.

Though the horse was not employed by the ancient Romans to assist in the labors of agriculture, yet much attention was bestowed on the breeding, rearing, training, and general management of that noble animal. Virgil directs great pains to be taken, even from their earliest day, in the treatment of those studs, that, from superiority of form, were selected as the fathers of a future breed. The colt, he says, bred of noble sires, darts nimbly through the field, and dashes into the flood, regardless of danger:—

"No bridges strange his hardihood restrain,
And empty sounds assail his ears in vain."

The poet's description of a high-bred horse is very much in accordance with modern notions. He represents the head as neat and small, the neck erect, the belly (*altrus*) short, the back plump, the muscles of the chest large, and the mane bushy. He describes the back as presenting the appearance of a double spine, and in this he agrees with Varro. The meaning seems to be that the spine is sunk, as in a furrow, having a ridge of plumpness on each side. In regard to color, the best horses, he remarks, are those of a *bright red*, or dappled with blue and grey; the worst are those which are white or dun. The *red* was, probably, what we call *bay* or *chestnut*. It has been supposed that our English word *bay* is derived from the withered leaf of the bay-tree, which is nearly of the color denoted by it, and which, in a poetical description, may, without an overstrained hyperbole, be denominated *red*. The white color was regarded, by the ancient Romans, as indicative of inferior strength, an opinion which modern experience is supposed to have confirmed. It has been remarked that those legs of the horse which have much white upon them, are the most liable to be affected by disease; and wounds are known to be generally followed by white spots, which would seem to indicate a degree of weakness in the parts.

The purposes to which the Roman horse seems to have been most commonly applied, were those of war and the chariot-race. The poet's description of the war-horse is particularly fine, and presents much of the liveliness and truth of a pictorial representation.

"If then the distant clang of arms he hears,
He paws, he bounds, he pricks his listening ears,
Quivering his joints, and snorting with desire,
Within his nostril rolls the thickened fire;
Adown his crest his locks recumbent stray—
O'er his right blade the bushy honors play;
His horny hoof upturns the hollow ground,
And rings the air in grave and solid sound."

Pliny says that the ears discover the intention of a horse; and Buffon remarks that when a horse walks his ears point forward; when fatigued, they hang down; and when angry, one ear points forward, and another backward. Every horse, he adds, turns his ear to that side from which he hears a noise; and when struck from behind he turns his ears backwards. The notion of fire rolling within his nostrils is highly descriptive of the natural appearance of these organs when the animal neighs or is much excited. This is occasioned by the unusual flow of blood, which becomes distinctly visible through the fine membrane with which the nostrils are lined. The thickness of the mane is noticed both by Varro and Columella.

The poet directs that such studs as were reserved to be the fathers of a future