

appears as the fruit ripens. It is not safe to use Paris green then, but a good substitute is white hellebore, about one ounce to a wood pail of water, applied in the same way as the Paris green.

The only other enemy of the currant worth considering is the currant stem borer. The parent insect lays her eggs near the buds; when hatched the larva eats into the centre of the stem, travelling up and down living upon the pith. Their presence may be detected by the sickly look of the leaves and small size of the fruit. The only remedy is to cut out the afflicted canes and burn them.

In black currants, *Leés Prolific* is a good variety, much superior in size and flavor to *Black Naples* or *Black English*. *Champion* and *Prince of Wales* are said to be good kinds, but I have not fruited them yet. The *Crandell* so industriously puffed by some nurserymen is nothing but the old *Ribes Aureum* or *Golden Currant* of old gardens, a very pretty flowering shrub but as a fruit it is utterly worthless. The crop is so small as not to be worth picking and the quality so poor that I have never met anyone that would eat a second one.

In whites, by far the most extensively grown is "*White Grape*," long considered the finest flavored of all currants. Unfortunately it is rather small in size and has a bad habit of dropping the end berries of the bunch. Last summer I fruited for the first time "*White Gondoin*" and was very much pleased with it. Though rather more acid than *White Grape* it is so much larger in bunch and berry that it will prove a formidable rival to that old favorite.

Among the reds "*Moore's Ruby*" is decidedly the best variety I know of—an upright, strong grower; bunch long—frequently twenty-two long berries in the raceme; berry large; a prolific bearer, and quality the very best, sweeter and finer flavored even than *White Grape*. I have grown it for ten years and have yet to find a fault in it.

An excellent variety is "*Wilder Red*," not so sweet as *Moore's Ruby* but very desirable, as large in bunch and berry as "*Fay*" and a much stronger grower. The weak growth of the "*Fay*" is its greatest defect; one of the largest berries, good bunch, good quality and a heavy bearer, but it is such a straggly grower and so prone to split in the forks when loaded with fruit that it will always be a short-lived bush.

A new variety much advertised, "*North Star*," does not justify the claims made for it. Though a strong grower and apparently going to be a heavy cropper, neither in size or quality is it the equal of any of those mentioned above.

"*Raby Castle*" and "*Victoria*" are two old sorts that if not the same are so nearly alike that there is no use growing both of them, heavy bearers, but only medium in size and quality.

The "*Cherry*," though a large showy berry, is too shy a bearer to be a good market variety, and too acid to be suitable for home use.

"*London Red*," though a very heavy bearer, one of the heaviest with me, is too small and too acid to be desirable.

"*Red Dutch*," though better in quality, is too small to be profitable.

SOME GOOD HERBACEOUS PERENNIALS.

By R. B. WHYTE, OTTAWA.

Herbaceous perennials are those plants whose roots remain in the ground from year to year, the foliage dying down to the surface of the ground every autumn to grow up with renewed vigor in the spring. As most plants of this class do best if their roots are not disturbed for several years, it is necessary in preparing a perennial border to dig deeply and fertilize well before planting. Though many of them are perfectly hardy without protection all are the better of a coating of four or five inches of strawy manure in the fall. Leave it on as late as possible in the spring so that the rain may wash out