

twenty, fifty, or a hundred, will in some points be as good, sometimes better, than the parent. The seeds of such latter are sown in turn, and the next generation of plants submitted to the same weeding process, when, if successful, another step in advance is secured, by the production of a variety with additional points of excellence; and thus the work goes on, not by any means with uniform success, but associated often with failures and disappointments.

#### SMALL FRUITS.

So much space has already been occupied, that we shall have to hasten over the small fruits, by grouping them. All our varieties of strawberry, raspberry, and blackberry, have sprung from a few wild sorts, either European or American; these also have been improved by selection and crossing.

#### THE STRAWBERRY.

Of strawberries, which is the first fruit of the season, and most wholesome and delicious, we have many varieties. In old times, the gardeners were supplied with wild vines from the woods. *Tusser*, in his "500 Points of Good Husbandry," points out where the best plants of his time were to be had, and passes the cultivation of them over to feminine hands, as if they were too small a matter for a man to employ his time with. He says:

"Wife, into the garden and set me a plot,  
With strawberry roots of the best to be got;  
Such growing abroad, among thorns in the woods,  
Well chosen and picked, prove excellent good."

Things have altered since this was written, and many men now devote their whole energies to strawberry culture, and receive large returns for their labour.

The most productive and profitable among strawberries, is, without doubt, the Wilson's Albany, which originated with the late James Wilson, of Albany, New York. The plant is very hardy and vigorous, and exceedingly productive. The *Triomphe de Gand* is probably the next best known; it is a Belgian variety, which stands our climate well, and although it is not nearly so productive as the Wilson, the fruit is larger and sweeter, and higher flavoured. The *Agriculturist* is a very good strawberry; it was raised by Seth Boyden, of Newark, New Jersey, U. S.; it also is productive and hardy. The *Jucunda* is a foreign sort, which has been prominently brought forward by Mr. Knox, of Pittsburg, Penn. It does well in some localities, with good soil and high culture, and has a very rich colour and fine flavour; but it is not very generally cultivated. Many more good varieties might be mentioned, for their name is legion. The stimulus which the introduction of these new strawberries has given to the culture of this fruit is astonishing; many tons are now yearly brought to the larger cities and readily disposed of.

#### THE RASPBERRY.

Of all the raspberries in cultivation, the Brinckle's Orange stands at the head for flavour. It is an orange yellow berry, of good size, a seedling raised by Dr. W. D. Brinckle, of Philadelphia; the canes are rather tender in our climate, and require protection in winter. The Philadelphia is among the hardiest of the cultivated sorts, and is immensely productive. It is a red berry, of fair size and flavour, and will probably be for many years the variety for the million, since it flourishes with little care, and needs no winter protection. As our woods and fields become better cultivated, and the supply of wild fruit in a measure cut off, these in all probability will supply their place. There are several other varieties of red and white raspberries which deserve notice, such as the Franconia, Hornet, Clarke, Red Antwerp, Fastolf, and Arnold's Orange King.

#### BLACK CAPS.

The Black Cap raspberries are different in their character and mode of propagation from the red and white ones; the fruit is also firmer, with a distinct flavour, of a deep black colour, very juicy, and with a silvery bloom on the surface. The other raspberries are propagated by

suckers, of which these do not suck become very droop springs a cluster Doolittle and the

The blackb present known are for most sections

In the select for if favourable increased, and dis plants or trees we so if the soil is we drained are the ve ing an ordinary si on this account. ing, but the grow in a richer and str ter, with an under purpose, The pe grow and thrive o the preparation of piece can be trencl scale this method i say eight inches, is same line, with a fourteen or fifteen

Ordinary stan dard pears and cher peaches, and aprico mulched, that is, th will retain the mois of any sort, or smal ground from becom near the surface to be a benefit in that

Simple as the c plant a tree properly and these, when stu above, and then they grow, as is very com Before planting a tr or partly broken, th should be dug alway out in a natural posi the smaller fibres wi are be taken in this as they did in the nurs it is safe in this resp