

credit of having ultimated a race of apples precisely suitable to our climate—being of a similar character—and we are always liberal to give credit to whom credit is due. Russian apples are of comparatively recent introduction (thanks to the United States Bureau of Agriculture).

I have now in my collection six varieties, viz.:—Red Astrakhan,* Alexander, Duchess of Oldenburg, Tetofski, Grand Sultan and White Transparent, all of which are very satisfactory—hardy, healthy, prolific and abundant biennial bearers.

The Alexander takes well in the market from its large size and fine appearance. The Tetofski, although of recent introduction, takes well, and is highly prized for its fine flavor for culinary purposes, especially in making jelly, at least the ladies, who are the best judges in these matters, say so, thinking they are superior to the ordinary Czar for that purpose. The Duchess of Oldenburg is not behind, and, although rather acid, is nevertheless highly appreciated. Sugar is cheap (thanks to our Government). Mallic acid and saccharine form a fine healthy combination—all acid fruits being better fitted for preserves than sweet ones. The White Transparent, which the Fruit Growers' Association has very judiciously disseminated, will certainly be an acquisition, and will be a strong rival to some of the others of the same genera. The Grand Sultan I cannot say much of, having only a few specimens on the tree. Yours truly,

SIMON ROY.

Berlin, Aug. 17, 1886.

* The Red Astrakhan, although called a Russian variety, was introduced into Britain in 1818 from Sweden, and may have no scientific or botanical connection with the Central Russian variety *Pyrus Malus*. The habit of the tree and the distinct character of the fruit being different would naturally place the origin of that apple to that locality, as no doubt all our other summer apples have their origin from the same place.

RASPBERRY NOTES.

BY T. C. ROBINSON, OWEN SOUND.

First to ripen this year came the *Hansell*. I consider it very valuable for market purposes. Like Highland Hardy it is not a vigorous grower, and in taste as well as appearance it resembles the common wild raspberry. Hence I do not expect it to be popular in the garden of the amateur. But the berry is of good size with me, as thick as Cuthbert, but not so long. The color is most beautiful. It tastes almost as good as Turner, and is very firm. The plant gives a good crop with fair manuring and cultivation, seems uncommonly hardy, and it is the earliest raspberry I have tested. I know of no other variety that comes up to this grade of excellence for early market, and have rooted out Highland Hardy in its favor.

Turner comes in less than a week after *Hansell*, and is preferable for home use for its sweetness, extra hardiness, and ability to thrive under neglect. But I doubt if it bears any more than *Hansell*, and the berries are far softer, unfitting it for a distant market. The canes are generally smooth, and very large and strong.

Superb is rejected here for poor color, poor quality and tendency to crumble.

Crimson Beauty is a nasty weed which I can scarcely speak of with patience. Soft, small, sour and unproductive. Few fence corner wild rasps but excel it.

Cuthbert stands easily as the king of the raspberry family on my grounds. Large, fine colored, firm, delicious and productive, it will be hard to beat. If it were only as hardy as *Turner*, I would expect nothing better in the next decade, but it is hardy enough to stand the most of our Owen Sound winters. It is quite late in season of ripening.

Marlboro' has borne a little fruit on one year plants. It does not seem as