

THE YELLOW RAMBLER ROSE.

with once, failure comes hundreds of times. The hybridizing has to be done when both the pollen of the one flower and the stigma or fertilizing surface of the other are in just the right stage, or else no cross will be effected; insects or the wind may spoil the work by introducing the pollen; seed may not be formed, or if formed at all, may not germinate, or if germinated may not have combined the qualities desired, so many more failures than successes must be expected.

Mr Lambert has tested the Yellow Rambler for eight years, which shows a very commendable caution upon his part about distributing a new variety. If all originators would but follow this example, and carefully test the value of their new things, the number of doubtfully meritorious novelties that are yearly foisted upon the public would be greatly diminished.

It is interesting to note that there is a very strong probability of blood relationship between the Yellow Rambler and a rose that was introduced some three years ago, the Crimson Rambler. The Crimson Rambler was first found growing wild in Japan, and from its foliage, growth and manner of blooming is thought to have been produced from the Japanese Polyantha Sarmentosa, which was the seed parent of the Yellow Rambler. If this is the case it would make the Yellow Rambler and the Crimson Rambler first cousins. This supposed relationship is rendered still more probable by their very considerable similarity in foliage, habit of growth and manner of blooming. The flowers of the Yellow Rambler are borne in immense trusses, like those of the Crimson Rambler, are very sweetly fragrant, and last a long time without fading.

THE accompanying cut of the Star strawberry comes from E. W. Reid, Bridgeport, Ohio., who claims for the plant vigor, productiveness, and great power to resist the drouth, and for the fruit great size and high quality.



FIG. 1112.—

OLD peach orchards may be made young again by severe cutting back. A good many will hesitate to do what may be safely done in this direction. I once heard a practical and successful peach grower relate his experience in cutting back large trees. The buds were winter-killed, so there was no hope of a crop that year, so in March he cut the trees back to within five or six feet of the ground, leaving stubs of branches, some of which were nearly two inches in diameter. Instead of killing the trees, as his neighbor peach-orchardists prophesied it would, they made a magnificent new growth, and the autumn being favorable, matured a nice lot of fruit buds. The following year more than a bushel per tree of fine fruit was gathered, and the trees instead of being long and straggling had taken on heads somewhat like young trees. This severe pruning must be done in March, as soon as the weather becomes warm enough to thaw the frost in the wood. It will not do to do it after trees are in leaf.—Green's F. G.