

Annual Trade List of the Cherry Hill Nurseries, West Chester, Penn., spring of 1869. Hooper Bro. & Thomas, proprietors.

Catalogue of Arnold's Canadian Hybrid Grapes and Raspberries, from Charles Arnold, Paris, Ontario. This is a descriptive list of the new seedling grapes and raspberries raised by Mr. Arnold, and now for the first time offered to the public.

P. M. Watson's Catalogue of Select Fruit and Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Roses, Bedding Plants, Greenhouse Plants, &c., &c. Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass.

This catalogue also embraces a list of garden seeds, fruit and ornamental tree seeds and flower seeds.

Ellwanger & Barry's Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits, illustrated with engravings of dwarf fruit trees and of small fruits. It is a very full and useful list of the fruits now in cultivation in one of the most extensive and enterprising nursery establishments on the continent, giving, in a few words, the quality and value of the several fruits. Rochester, N.Y.

SIMMERS' CULTIVATOR'S GUIDE FOR 1869.—A descriptive catalogue of Agricultural and Garden Seeds, by J. A. Simmers, Toronto, containing brief and clear directions for the cultivation of vegetables and flowers, and much useful information on a variety of horticultural subjects. The catalogue is profusely illustrated. Mr. Simmers advertises for sale, among other novelties, the Early Rose Potato.

Hovey & Company's Illustrated Catalogue and Amateur Cultivator's Guide to the Flower and Vegetable Garden, &c., &c., 53, North Market Street, Boston, Mass.

This catalogue occupies nearly one hundred and fifty pages, closely printed, containing directions for the cultivation of annual, biennial, and perennial flower-seeds, with special directions to amateur cultivators, and plans for flower-beds, descriptions of flower and vegetable seeds, of gladioli, Japan lilies, and other bulbous flowering plants, and is profusely illustrated with engravings of the most interesting plants, flowers, and vegetables, and ornamented with two coloured lithographs. Price 25 cents.

WASHBURN'S AMATEUR CULTIVATOR'S GUIDE TO THE KITCHEN AND FLOWER GARDEN.—We thought, on receiving Vick's Catalogue, there was nothing to equal it, but we were mistaken. The above Guide and Seed Catalogue is a handsomely got up volume of 152 pages, illustrated with cuts, and also eighteen lithographs of some of the new varieties of potatoes, tomatoes, and flowers, some of these coloured after nature. It is published by Washburn & Co., of Horticultural Hall, Boston, Mass., the oldest established seedsmen in America, and sent on receipt of 50c. We notice that they keep for sale seed of all the favourite English grasses and forage plants.

John A. Bruce & Co.'s Descriptive Catalogue of Agricultural, Garden, and Flower Seeds, Culinary Roots and Flowering Bulbs, 52 King Street West, Hamilton.

This is Mr. Bruce's eighteenth annual edition, and contains, besides the usual list of farm and garden seeds, a special list of all the novelties in that line, including the new potatoes, the report of the judges on the Wentworth turnip match, lists of hardy native and select foreign grapes, strawberries and garden implements.

Mr. Bruce's establishment in Hamilton contains besides an excellent assortment of the above articles, standard works on Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Ferre Batchelder & Co.'s Catalogue of Seeds, Vegetable and Flower Garden Manual, comprising a list of all the valuable varieties of American growth, together with many rare varieties, novelties, &c., with special directions for their cultivation, to which is added a list of summer flowering bulbs and small fruits, containing 80 closely printed pages. Price 10c. 231 Main street, Springfield, Mass.

### Longevity of Fruit Trees in Britain

During my visit to England last summer, I was not a little surprised at finding, in the lower part of Kent, a gooseberry bush in full bearing, which originated from a cutting I sent from Lancashire forty-two years ago! There can be no mistake as to its identity, it having been in the possession of the same person for the greater part of that period. Several other bushes of different kinds, raised from cuttings sent from the same place and at the same time, were alive and bearing but a few years since. The soil is a good clay loam, and the situation freely exposed to light and air. The bushes were annually thinned by judicious pruning, and otherwise well cared for. Insect depredations were vigilantly kept down, and mildew all but entirely unknown. The variety in question is the "Roaring Lion," a sort very popular many years ago; the berries last summer were, notwithstanding the drought, of good size and flavour, amounting, I should suppose, to considerably more than a quart. The tree, for several years, has gradually evinced symptoms of decline, but for aught that appears at present to the contrary, may survive, with the exercise of the same care, some time yet. It should be borne in mind that the climate of this part of England is much less suited to the gooseberry than that of Lancashire, the south being both drier and warmer than the north-west.

I well remember the gooseberry show of Lancashire and Cheshire thirty or forty years ago. The size of the berries exhibited was something enormous. I am afraid to state the weight and measurement, lest my memory should mislead. The fruit raised for these competitions was chiefly grown by

hand-loom weavers living in the country—a class of men now almost extinct, after a severe and prolonged struggle with steam-power. Horticulture, in several of its branches, owes not a little to this class of work-people, some of whom made considerable progress in the study and advancement of various branches of natural science—botany and entomology in particular. A weaver working in his house could throw down the shuttle at any moment, and attend to the productions of his garden immediately surrounding. He would take as much care—in some instances, perhaps, more care—of his gooseberry bushes, as of his children, reduce the number of berries to a very few, and surround the stems at the surface with muck or moss, and in dry weather moisten it frequently with water, or manure in a solvent condition. On a show day he would often walk many miles with a dozen or two of berries carefully packed in a basket. A copper teakettle was a prize commonly offered in gooseberry competition, and I have seen the ceiling of a country weaver's kitchen literally covered with this article, the results of many years' competition, and the owner would point to these trophies with strong feelings of justifiable pride.

The durability of fruit trees, and perhaps of forest trees, in England, is generally much greater than on this side the Atlantic. I observed peaches, nectarines and apricots, trained to open walls, still bearing, that had been planted 30 or 40 years; and also filbert trees of a similar age, still bearing. I gathered some pears of good size and quality of the Poplar variety from the only surviving branch of a tree which was, to my own knowledge, in a decaying condition half-a-century ago! It would appear to be a law of organic life that slow growth and durability are connected as cause and effect.

It is worthy of remark, in travelling through Britain, a distance of only a few hundred miles, say from Cornwall to Sutherlandshire, how exposure and elevation of the surface, rather than mere latitude, affect both animals and plants. Cattle have quite different coats on the eastern to what they have on the western side of the country, arising in great measure from differences in atmospheric humidity. In Cornwall I partook of ripe strawberries grown in the open air in May, and journeying northwards found that delicious fruit coming progressively into season, and finished with some of a most agreeable acid flavour in the north of Scotland, as late as September.

Notwithstanding the abuse which the English climate frequently comes in for, I am of opinion that in no other country in the world has the horticultural art been carried to so high a state of excellence, or it might be said, perfection. From the humble cottage, with its neat little garden of vegetables, fruits and flowers—honeysuckles and roses entwining around its doors and win