

At Maplehurst, on sandy loam, this variety has mildewed badly, but for two years past we have controlled it by spraying with the Bordeaux mixture. Mr. Brodie, of Montreal, says in our report of 1888, page 92, that the Whitesmith is the principal variety grown for market about Montreal, but a Mr. Mathewson of that vicinity stated that on light, dry soil it had failed with him. The average yield of a goosberry plant is placed by several growers at from 12 to 14 quarts, and the average price 6 cents a quart.

The *Whitesmith* is described as large, roundish oval; color, yellowish white; skin, slightly downy; of first quality. The berries shown in our colored plate are larger than the average as grown in Ontario.

Do not Cut Asparagus.—There is no need of it. It is economy *not* to do so. The bed should be gone over every day and all shoots that are four inches above the surface the soil should be *broken* off. If allowed to grow taller than that, it means only so much waste. We wish only the tender, edible part. The white portion is not edible. Why, then, use a knife? why wait until the old, white portion of the stem has made a growth of several inches above the soil? The white part takes as much food from the soil as do the tender, green tips. If, then, we permit the shoots to grow six inches or more above the soil, we make a needless demand upon the vitality of the roots and the food of the soil, merely to collect a waste, worthless product.

The green, tender parts of asparagus should not be sent to market in bunches at all, but should be sold by the pound as fresh mushrooms are sold. If the writer of these notes lived in a village, or even in a city, and owned or controlled a "yard" as large as 25 x 100 feet, a portion—if but 25 x 10 feet—would be devoted to an asparagus bed. The plants themselves are beautifully feathery and graceful and may be used for boquets or masses of green, as well as the "ornamental" asparagus plumosus or tenuissimus.

Growing Aquatics.—Once upon a time the writer of this paragraph was invited to a nursery celebrated for its large business in connection with the growing of water plants, or, as they are commonly called, aquatics. As the locality was far away from lakes or ponds, much curiosity was felt as to how the large quantity of plants was cared for. It was found that nearly everything was being raised in old kegs or barrels, sunk deep into the earth, and where water could be led into them by a hose or other methods. The hint may be taken advantage of by those who read of the beauty of aquatics, but do not have lakes or ponds of their own to grow them in. Old paint kegs, or any vessels that will hold water, can be buried partly in the earth, filled with water, and seeds sown, or young plants planted in mud placed at the bottom of the water. Many of the smaller kinds of water plants can be grown in this way without any serious difficulty. The vessels need not be water-tight.—Meehans' Monthly for July.