

The selection of varieties will depend upon the object the planter has in view. If it be merely to supply his table with a succession of the largest and highest-flavoured sorts, without expectation of pecuniary returns, he will make choice of a very different selection from what he would were he planting for the market in hopes of making a profit out of his fruit. In planting for market, it is desirable to have these raspberries that are the most hardy, the most productive, and at the same time yielding fruit of good, attractive appearance, that will bear to be handled and sent to market without being bruised. For our climate there seems to be as yet no red raspberry that is as hardy, as enormously productive and profitable to the market gardener, as the

PHILADELPHIA.—After several years' trial, we do not hesitate to call it the most hardy red raspberry at present in general cultivation. The fruit is of good size, dark red, and sufficiently firm to bear handling and carriage to market. Next to it in point of hardihood is the

FRANCONIA.—And this is sufficiently hardy to endure most of our winters without material injury. This variety is also very productive, fruit of very good size, a little larger than the Philadelphia, of a deep red colour, and bears handling and carriage to market remarkably well.

Passing from the red to the black raspberries, we find the improved

AMERICAN BLACK RASPBERRY, a valuable variety. This is perfectly hardy at twenty degrees below zero, and yields a good crop of fruit, which is of a black colour and very firm, bearing handling and carriage to a distant market. It is a variety of the common black raspberry of our wood lots and fence rows, improved by judicious selection and cultivation.

A new variety of black raspberry has been recently introduced, which promises to be a yet greater improvement. It is the

MAMMOTH CLUSTER RASPBERRY—It has not yet been fruited by the writer, but gentlemen of unquestioned ability and integrity speak of it as being much larger in berry and far more productive than any other black raspberry. It is perfectly hardy, and is said to ripen just after the American Black Raspberry.

These varieties will probably prove the most reliable, productive and remunerative to the Canadian cultivator.

But the amateur will need a few more varieties, for though the above are the most profitable, they do not possess all the finest qualities of size and flavour. And first of all in flavour, and in value for the family table, we place the well-known

BRINCKLE'S ORANGE.—The berry is of large size, of a beautiful orange yellow and superior flavour, while the plant is tolerably hardy in the milder parts of the country, and with winter protection will thrive in all parts.

PASTORFF is a large, purplish red berry, of very good quality, very productive, and quite as hardy as Brinckle's Orange.

VICE-PRESIDENT FRENCH is a bright crimson fruit, of good size and very fine quality esteemed by some as the best of the red varieties.

But for size of fruit, combined with great productiveness, the **HORNER** exceeds all other varieties, while the flavour is at the same time excellent.

These varieties are the best that have been tried in our climate, and will, beyond doubt, give good satisfaction to the careful cultivator. There are a number of new varieties that give promise of value, but have not yet been sufficiently tested here to be positively recommended. Among these we would mention the

CLARKE, which is very highly commended on account of its hardiness and abundant fruitfulness; fruit large and light red.

NAOMI is large in berry, red, fine flavour, and will probably prove to be about as hardy as the Franconia.

YELLOW CANADA raised by Mr. Charles Arnold, of Paris, is no doubt perfectly hardy, it having been thoroughly tested by him at Paris, and having stood through two winters in the grounds of the writer near St. Catharines entirely uninjured. It is very productive, ripens early, and is probably the only perfectly hardy yellow variety in cultivation, and well deserves extensive trial.

ARNOLD'S RED is also one of Mr. Arnold's seedlings, which will, no doubt, prove to be perfectly hardy, exceedingly productive, and a very valuable sort for Canada.

These varieties, raised by Mr. Arnold, are also autumn-bearing raspberries; that is, they bear a second crop of fruit in the fall. There are several varieties of fall-bearing sorts, which have been some time in cultivation, but they did not seem to possess any other quality that rendered their cultivation desirable. Beyond the mere novelty of having raspberries in October and November, there is no object in having the fruit ripen at that time, for we have already been satisfied with raspberries by the summer crop, and in the fall are enjoying our pears, grapes, and other fruits of the season. If any one wishes to have them, we would recommend, besides those of Mr. Arnold's raising, the red

MARVEL OF FOUR SEASONS, which is very productive, and bears a large, bright red fruit.

We cannot close this article without remarking that Mr. Arnold's raspberries are the result of careful hybridizing, that to such painstaking, careful cultivators we are indebted for many of our choicest fruits, and that there is yet room for further experiments with the hybridization of raspberries. The largest size and highest flavour of fruit, combined with the greatest productiveness and perfect hardihood of plant, are yet to be achieved.

New and Rare Plants.

ACER PLATANOIDES RUBRUM.—A very ornamental variety of the Norway Maple. A deciduous tree, having the leaves of a beautiful bright red with yellowish veins, changing to a deep blood red with red veins as they become older. The fruits are green. It is cultivated in the parks of St. Petersburg, and also in Germany.

QUERCUS ROBUR CONCORDIA.—A beautiful golden-leaved variety of the common oak, with which it agrees in habit and in foliage, except that the leaves are of a rich golden-yellow tint, and much superior in beauty to those of *Q. Robur Aurea*, another golden-leaved kind.

DORCOERAS HYGROMETRICA.—A very pretty dwarf herbaceous perennial, forming rosettes of irregularly rounded oboval softly-hairy leaves, from among which rise numerous naked scapes, bearing a few pale violet-coloured flowers, which are whitish at the throat, the segments of the limb more or less reflexed, the flowers being five-lobed, and somewhat resembling those of the violet. It has been sent from Mongolia by M. David, to the Jardin du Museum at Paris.

PLECTOPOMA NAGELIODES ACRO-ROSEUM.—A charming ornamental greenhouse perennial, having erect branching red stems, clothed with ovate-toothed leaves, and bearing numerous large Gloxinia-like flowers of a marbled rosy-lilac colour, yellow in the throat, and dotted both over the throat and the lower limb with minute bright carmine spots. It is a hybrid, raised in the establishment of M. Van Houtte, of Ghent, where so many splendid Gesneraceous plants have been originated.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

Asparagus.

This now popular vegetable is a native of the salt marshes of Europe and Asia. The seed may be sown either in the spring or autumn, in drills about one inch deep, and the rows wide enough apart to admit of hoeing, about a foot. An ounce of seed is sufficient for a drill fifty feet in length. Keep the soil mellow and free from weeds during the summer, and in the fall or succeeding spring the plants may be set out in beds, about a foot apart each way. The beds should be narrow, so as to admit of cutting to the centre without stepping upon them. The plants may be allowed to remain in the seed bed until two years old. Before winter sets in, cover the beds with about four inches of manure. A good many varieties are advertised, with but little difference. Salt is an excellent manure for asparagus, and an efficient assistant to the cultivator, keeping down the weeds with very little labour.—*Vick's Guide*.

ANOTHER NEW POTATO.—We are informed that Mr. Breeze has originated another potato, which is said to be superior to his *Early Rose* and everything else. Price only *Fifty Dollars* in greenbacks for each potato!