

checking evaporation, and preventing the parching effects of drought.

In the beginning of winter, a covering of leaves, straw or any light litter should be given, to prevent injury from frost. When the land is not quite rich enough, this is a good time to dig a little compost into the paths, to keep the roots warm through the winter, and cause them to start thriftily in the spring.

As soon as the weather becomes settled in March or April, the covering is to be removed, and the ground ought to be frequently stirred, until the flowers open. At this time, clean straw, sea-weed, or coarse hay, can be spread around the plants, for the purpose of protecting the berries from sand; this also is useful in keeping the soil moist, and, when decayed, it forms an excellent manure. After the blossoms fall, the growing berries ought to be occasionally watered, in case the season prove dry. Throughout the summer and autumn, the runners are to be confined to the rows from which they start, unless new plants are wanted, when they may be permitted to root themselves in the paths. No room should be allowed a weed or a blade of grass. The same course of management is to be pursued annually thereafter.

A strawberry bed cannot be expected to remain in perfection longer than four years, and to ensure a regular supply of fruit, it is advisable to make a new plantation in every second year. There is, however, a plan of renewing the bed at the end of each season, which is simple, and answers a good purpose. The rows are about three feet apart, that the paths may be as wide as the spaces occupied by the plants. After the crop has been gathered, the runners are allowed to strike themselves into the paths, which have been previously enriched by manure when not sufficiently fertile. With a little care, they will cover the ground very regularly. In the latter part of summer, the old plants are to be spaded under, and the spaces which they occupied are now to be used as paths. At the close of the next season, the process is to be repeated, and so henceforth until the land has become tired of the berry, when the plantation may be removed to another part of the garden. It will be observed that the strips of land are every other season at rest, while their principal production, the old vines, are dug under for the benefit of the roots." J. F.

Fruit Growers Society of Western New York—Interesting Discussion.

The June meeting of this Society was held in Buffalo, on the 27th and 28th ult., and much valuable information on the best varieties of fruit, and the most approved methods of cultivation, was elicited.

In the discussion on the cultivation of the strawberry, it was asked, "which are the best six varieties for the market, and the best six for

family use, and which the best method of cultivation in each case?"

E. Herendeen, of Macedon, said he could commend only one variety for market, as was Wilson's Albany. It will produce for as much as most other sorts, and twice as much as any other. It was rather acid, but of flavor—and of which the taste never tire not only produces a good crop, but much larger berries; those of the last picking almost as large as the first. Cultivate first, setting the plants eighteen inches in the rows, and the rows four feet asunder, with straw or cut grass.

Professor Coppock, of Buffalo, could agree with Mr. H. He did not find the more prolific than some others, and the not fit to eat, being altogether too acid. Ladies say it is not good for preserving. Triumphe Victoria is a good bearer. Triumphe de Gand is not productive. Scott's Seedling is good in Wilson in productiveness, and can be used well. Genesee is a good bearer, but rather for market. Would recommend for family use Scott's Seedling, Genesee and Longworth life.

Mr. Moody, of Lockport, said we need larger berries than the Wilson. Jenny Lind is early, large, productive and fine fruit. New Pine is the finest flavored of all. Pine is a very good strawberry. Triumphe de Gand bears well when grown in hills, but must be allowed to run into a mass. Scott's Seedling is considered the meanest berry in cultivation. Recommended as the best six, Jenny Lind, Triumphe de Gand, Hooker, Trollope's Victoria, Monroe's Scarlet, and Wilson's Albany.

Professor Coppock said that in preparing strawberries he plowed and subsoiled the land and placed it in as good condition as for corn or wheat. He set his plants about eighteen inches apart. He mulched with tan-bark, buckwheat straw, &c., but never saw-dust. Once in about five years he turned up the beds and made others. The extra matter thrown off by the old plants is necessary to form new beds.

F. Glen, of Rochester, said there was a variety which had not been mentioned, which he thought would produce more berries in a season than any other: this was the Crimson. From a bed containing sixteen square feet he picked, last season, 1,100 quarts, and this year 1,000. Wilson's Albany the second year almost worthless, but the first it was very productive. He considered Triumphe de Gand the best of all. Large Early Scarlet was a good sort, and in three years would yield more than the Wilson.

James Vick, of Rochester, coincided with Glen as to the productiveness of the Cone. A few years since this was the variety grown for the New York market. Several of the growers in Jersey had told him that it was the only variety from