

## SHARPLESS.

Much has been said about this berry, and its praises have been sounded forth far and near. It was raised by J. K. Sharpless, of Catawissa, Penn., in 1872. The plant is vigorous, and the leaves are large, and seem to be able to endure the heat well. The fruit is large, often very large, and showy, irregular in form, of a bright scarlet color; flesh tolerably firm, flavor good, and the time of ripening somewhat after the bulk of the Wilson has been gathered. It is impossible to speak positively of its productiveness, but it seems to yield best when grown in hills or very narrow rows. In a matted bed the yield is not large. The size, color, and time of ripening of this berry are strong points in its favor as a market fruit, and in a discriminating market, where large size and showy appearance will command increased price, it gives great promise of being a profitable berry.

## EARLY CANADA.

The credit of originating and disseminating this strawberry is due to one of the members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, A. M. Smith, formerly of Drummondville, now of St. Catharines. The writer first saw it in his plantation at Drummondville in the summer of 1878, at a time when the bulk of the crop had been harvested, but enough of the fruit remained to enable one to judge of its quality and prominent features. The plant is hardy and healthy, much like the Wilson in appearance and habit of growth, and apparently equal to it in productiveness. The fruit in size, color, firmness of flesh, and form seems to be the counterpart of the Wilson. The flavor is also much like that of the Wilson, though not quite as acid. Its time of ripening is about a week earlier than that of the Wilson, growing side by side and of the same age. This variety has not yet been widely disseminated nor extensively planted, but we hear of a person near Jordan Station who planted an acre of it in the spring of 1880, and this year gathered four thousand five hundred quarts of berries from it, which sold at very satisfactory prices.

The profitable marketing of strawberries is a problem into which many elements of calculation necessarily enter. The character of the market where the bulk of the crop is to be sold is an important element. Can purchasers be found who are willing to pay a good price for extra fine fruit when the market is full of that of a medium