

RED CROSS CURRANT.



FIG. 897.—RED CROSS CURRANT.

We have for many years been looking for a new currant which would be an improvement upon older varieties ; we have looked in vain until we heard of the experiments made by Jacob Moore, and accepted an invitation to call at his place. There we saw some twenty or more seedling currants all in full bearing, all produced by crossing flowers of different selected varieties in the most scientific manner. All of these varieties of currants were exceedingly productive, the difference being that some varieties were larger or better quality than any others—longer clusters, longer fruit stems, brighter color, etc. One variety in particular was larger than any of the others, and of superior quality ; also exceedingly vigorous in growth and very productive, with long fruit stem. This variety we have purchased of Mr. Moore, paying him \$1,250 cash for it, and have named it the Red Corss currant. The cut given above was drawn from a photograph made at the Geneva Experiment Station. Notice that the berry is peculiar in shape and that the blossom end of the currant is almost imperceptible, which we consider a remarkable feature. Red Cross is a marked and distinct variation from all other currants.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—It is encouraging to note that the horticultural societies that were formed last year are for the most part prosperous, especially those who have been wise enough to choose officers that have a real interest in the prosperity of the society. Here is a line just received from Mr. James Lockie, the enthusiastic president of the Waterloo Horticultural Society. He says : “ We hope to have nearly, if not quite, 100 members in our Horticultural Society the coming year. These will not be persons who have to be urged to join, but who seek to join. This is what makes an enthusiastic society. From all appearances our society is likely to be a permanent one and productive of much good.”