

BROOKLYN SCARLET.—A very handsome berry, of excellent flavor. It is also very early and moderately prolific, but too soft to bear carriage to different markets.

BLACK DEFIANCE.—A new variety of great promise. It is of very large size, nearly round; color dark crimson; flesh firm and first rate flavor. Promises well as a market berry, as well as for amateur cultivation.

BARNES.—A remarkably large crimson berry of good flavor. The plants have been but little disseminated, but so far as heard from, it promises to be a valuable variety. The berries shown at the different fairs the present season have been uniformly large and handsome.

CHARLES DOWNING.—This is not one of the very largest varieties, still it is large enough for all practical purposes. It is a very handsome berry, and of good quality, and promises to be a very valuable variety, as the plants are vigorous and productive.

DR. NICAISE.—All the foreign varieties of the strawberry require more care to produce a good crop than the native ones, and Dr. Nicaise is not an exception to the general rule. In fact we have found that it demands constant nursing to make it produce any fruit, and what it does bear is no better than many of the old and more common varieties. Soil and location have much influence upon all species of fruits, and probably upon none are their effects more marked than upon the strawberry. Dr. Nicaise will probably be worth cultivating in a few localities, and those who have paid \$10 per dozen for the plants will certainly learn very little for their money.

DURAND.—Large and handsome, quite prolific and good. Promises to be a very desirable variety for home use and market.

FRENCH.—A beautiful variety for home use, but too soft for market. The fruit is of medium size and of a bright scarlet color. The plant succeeds well in almost any good soil, and is very prolific.

JUCUNDA.—A foreign variety that has been cultivated in this country for the past seven or eight years; but it is only quite lately that it has attracted much attention. There are a few locations and soils where it will do well, but its quality is not first rate anywhere; the berries, however, are often quite large and handsome, and command a good price.

NICANOR.—This is another very promising new variety. The plant is a vigorous grower, and very productive. Berry medium to large, of bright crimson color, very firm, and of excellent quality. We think the Nicanor will become one of the most popular market varieties in cultivation.

ROMEYN'S SEEDLING.—We suppose that almost everybody is acquainted with the Triomphe de Gand strawberry; if so, then they will know how the Romeyn looks, for the two can scarcely be distinguished when placed

side by side. But those who are best acquainted with it say that it is better in flavor and more productive than the Triomphe de Gand.

WILSON'S ALBANY.—The Wilson still keeps its place at the head of the list of market varieties. Four-fifths of all the berries sent from the South to New York city are of this sort, and at the West it is said that nine-tenths of all the strawberries grown for market are Wilson's. There is probably no other variety so universally popular as this, as it appears to produce a large crop, no matter whether planted in poor or rich soil. Of course, the better the culture given, the larger and more abundant the fruit; still we do not know of any other sort that will stand more neglect or repay high culture better than the Wilson's Albany.

The principal reasons why the Wilson is so extensively cultivated is because of its bearing transportation better than the more luscious strawberries. For a dish of really good strawberries they are about the last variety we should take for our own consumption. They just suit market gardeners who have to carry them a distance, but the carrying quality is not of so much account where they are only raised for home consumption. Every good farmer should have a strawberry bed, and they will when they really know the great saving they are of meat and butter and of Doctor's bills. They are not only one of the most delicious fruits raised, but one of the most nutritious and most wholesome.

MAXIMILLIAN PROLIFIC OR MEXICAN PERPETUAL BEARING STRAWBERRY.—This variety is of good size, very rich flavor, and bears fruit from about the 10th of June until late in the fall, yielding abundantly all the time.

The fruit stands up on the vine, and consequently is in no danger of drooping down in the sand and becoming gritty, as is very apt to be the case with Strawberries. These plants were brought from Mexico a few years ago, and have proved to be very hardy, and well suited to this climate.

CROSS-BRED TABLE FOWLS.

Some time since I communicated to The Field a short account of some experiments in breeding table fowls, in reference to the origin of the different French breeds. As I have continued the experiment to the present season, I wish to lay the results before your readers.

The experiments were made as follows: Early in 1867 a very fine rose-combed Dorking hen, of great weight and size of framework, was matched with a silver spangled Polish cock, and some very good dark Brahma hens were also matched with another Polish cock, not related to the former. This present year a very fine cock from the first cross (Dorking Polish) has been running with eight hens of the Brahma-Polish cross. These latter are all iron grey, of good size, and marvelously prolific as egg producers. The chickens

produced by the interbreeding of these two crosses have been very singular. As always happens in the earlier stages of intercrossing, no one definite form has been attained, but all sorts of singular variations have occurred, either of which would require much care and selection to establish permanently. One of the young cocks was really an admirable specimen of a La Fleche, not only in size and form, but also as regards the peculiar nostrils and comb. He was, (for he exists only in the past tense, having been present at dinner with me one day last week,) a perfect La Fleche with one exception—his plumage was black and white, the latter predominating. Another of the same brood is a perfect Houdan, in form, comb, crest and toes, rather dark in color, and sparsely feathered on the legs. Many of the pullets are well crested, and several run light in color.

In one respect the experiment has scarcely satisfied me; for, though over the average size, the chickens are not as large as I could have wished. They do not weigh as much as very first-class Dorkings, or as Brahmas would at the same age, and under similar circumstances as regards rearing and feeding. I wished to try the experiment as to whether the double crossing would not eliminate the small size of the Polish fowl, and yet retain its good table qualities. As it is, my birds do not promise to be larger than the ordinary Houdans of pure breed; and consequently, should I be breeding solely for large size, hardy table crosses, I should revert to that admirable one of the grey Dorking and Brahma, which I have always found to be successful.—W. B. Tegetmeier in London Field.

"Down on the Hip."

There is sometimes existing at the hip a deformity, arising at times from outward formation, but in most cases from injury to the part. This, in stable phrase, is termed "down on the hip."

On standing behind some horses, an evident depression of one hip may be perceived. If of long standing, and the horse has been at work, and has always been sound, it is most probable he will ever continue so at the same kind of labor, or perhaps at any other, if, therefore, the deformity is not more unsightly than the purchaser can put up with, and the price is a temptation, such a horse can be safely purchased. Indeed, for double harness, where the deformity may be hid by driving him with that side next the pole, we would be greatly tempted to take a fine horse at a proper reduced price. And, in fact, in many horses considerably down on one hip, the deformity is scarcely visible when standing by their side; it is only by scrutinizing both hips at once, or standing behind, that it becomes apparent. It is perhaps as safe a drawback on being perfect, as any we know of in the horse.