

Two shoots should be encouraged from each of these three, so that in the fall, the plant will have six shoots, being the requisite number of branches. Cut off all other shoots to within an inch of their base. At next pruning cut back the six leading shoots to four or five inches in length, of the new wood, and as formerly they should be cut near a bud pointing outwards.—At every future pruning the terminal shoots of the six branches should be shortened to between four and six inches, according to their strength, that is, shorter if weak. When the branches are nearly as high as is desired, the extremities may be annually shortened to two or three buds. With regard to the lateral shoots, they must all be cut to within an inch of the old wood at every pruning."

The general principle recommended in the foregoing extract consists in shortening the leading shoots, and leaving spurs at the extremities of the lateral branches. This system is universally applicable, and will easily be comprehended, and put in practice, with such old bushes as have received little or no previous care.

GOOSEBERRIES.—The treatment required by the Gooseberry differs in no essential particular from the Currant; therefore such directions as are given for the one may be applied to the other, with the exception of shortening the leading branches, which should not be done with Gooseberries, after the head is properly formed. Regular and liberal pruning, of both old and new wood, is invariably necessary. Early in April cut out cross shoots, and all superfluous branches, leaving at the laterals a stub of two eyes to send out fruit buds, and spurs, and also leaving a sufficiency of last year's growth in suitable vacancies to form sufficient bearers, and supply the place of dead and decaying wood. The best fruit is borne on young wood, which should be allowed to distribute itself properly through the bush, always taking care to prevent such crowding as to exclude abundance of light and air.

It is not unusual to hear complaints of want of success in growing fruitful Gooseberry plants. This arises no doubt from the extreme heat and drought of Canadian summers. A successful remedy for this consists in covering the ground under the bushes with litter or straw. A sprinkling of salt on the litter, has also been found of eminent service, in attracting moisture and keeping the ground cool. *Mildew* is sometimes found troublesome in attacking the half-grown fruit. To prevent and cure this, it is necessary to plant the bushes in a soil, either naturally a strong loam, or made so by trenching and manuring. A rich soil, a heavy top-

dressing of manure dug in yearly around the plants, and a thorough annual pruning, will in general insure a good crop, and for the pains bestowed, amply repay every lover of this wholesome and useful fruit.

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GEORGE LESLIE.

Price at the Toronto Nursery.

Currants—red, white and black, per doz.	4s.
Gooseberries in 40 varieties	10s.

CULTIVATION OF STRAWBERRIES, GRAPES, AND RASPBERRIES.

For the Agriculturist.

STRAWBERRIES.—As the season for planting is just at hand—the following plan of Strawberry culture, although not new, has the recommendation of being successful in producing fine crops. The ground having been first trenched two spades deep, and a coating of *Dung* afterwards pointed in, the plants are taken as soon as they can be obtained, and planted in rows 2 feet apart, and 18 inches distant in the rows—if the weather is dry after they are planted, they should be well watered and short grass or well rotted manure spread over the ground to retain the moisture, the plants do not bear a full crop until the second year after planting, and after having borne for three years they should be removed, it being found that the crop is never so good after that time; by this mode of culture excellent crops of large and well flavored strawberries are always produced.

The varieties of this fruit are very numerous. The following are a few select sorts that will answer well in most parts of Canada: Early Scarlet, Hovey's Seedling, Keen's Seedling, Black Prince, Ross Phenix, Myatt's Eliza, Red and White Alpine.

GRAPES.—As few things are more pleasing in a garden than a supply of grapes, and as but comparatively few persons, can afford the expense of time and money demanded by a *Graper*, any improvements respecting *vines* out of doors must be acceptable. The preparation of the soil has much to do with the successful cultivation of the Grape. A low, damp, undrained situation never can succeed, and *nature* and *art* should both be laid under contribution to gain a warm wall for the branches, and a dry porous soil for the roots. The whole art of pruning the vine is dependent on the physiological fact in its history, that it only produces fruit on the wood which is the growth of the previous year, the knife must therefore be so used as to get rid annually of old branches to be replaced by new ones.—Care must be taken not to have too much wood, and perhaps 8 inches apart is the medium distance to be observed in nailing in the branches which must be shortened according to the ripeness and strength of each. About four or six eyes will be enough to leave unless the stem is very strong. The sorts that will succeed best in the open air are the *Sweet Water*, *Isabella*, and *Catawba*.