

are not attractive enough to bring a high price, and must sell low. Size and beauty are the two essential points to make fruit sell well. No matter how good fruit may be it *must please the eye or purchasers will not buy*. For three of the most desirable pears to plant in New Jersey for profit, having regard to all the circumstances that enter into the combination necessary to profit, viz.: location, soil and climate, vigor, productiveness, early and regular bearing, from my present knowledge and limited experience, I would name 1st, Lawson, the most beautiful pear of medium size ripening in July and sells higher in market than any other pear ripening at the same time. 2d, Bartlett, the most popular pear ever grown here, beautiful to look at and tempting in appearance; color yellow, rich as an orange, and sells higher than any other pear at its time of ripening, hence we hear the remark that no other pear is wanted when Bartletts are ripening, but their season is short, and when past there is a demand for a later variety; fortunately we have for the 3d, the Kieffer, which is larger and (if possible) handsomer than the Barlett, having a beautiful red blush on a rich yellow ground, and commands a higher price than any other pear in the market at its time of ripening.

WM. PARRY.

IMPROVEMENT OF VARIETIES.—The best we can do is to continue experimenting and cross with definite aims in view, selecting those for parents in which a marked defect is not found in both. The experimenter should select with judgment and a purpose, the same as in breeding to improve animals. No doubt many fine berries have been obtained from chance seedlings, but enough, I think, has been done to show that better results are reached with thought and care in selecting the parents for a cross. We cannot tell what mixture may be crossing in the blood of some of our domestic animals, but if we continue breeding them we shall often find out. In several hundred seedling strawberries at the college a few years ago appeared about half a dozen of the White Alpine strawberries, not one of which grew among the parents from which seeds were selected.

Cultivation and a different soil may not improve a wild plant any, but the seeds of such a plant are more likely to produce a great variety than seeds of a wild plant in its native place, and seeds of a cultivated variety are still more likely to produce plants much unlike each other.

PROF. W. J. BEAL.

MATTED ROWS.—I cultivate in matted rows, but the Bidwell and Crescent should never have the rows more than a foot wide. They are so prolific in plants that if wider they choke themselves as weeds. They would do even better in hills, but that culture is not profitable in a large way.

J. N. STEARNS.

EXPERIENCE WITH TWO VARIETIES.—Crimson Beauty raspberry comes with an objectionable, sensational name, aside from which it has been the cause of much bandying of words among writers upon pomological matters. It showed decided productiveness last year upon spring-set plants, and has been rather satisfactory the past season in this particular, although we noticed more or less defective berries, apparently attributable to failure to fully fertilize its blossoms. We do not regard its character as yet fully established. Cornelia strawberry, a selected seedling of Mr. Crawford, of Ohio, was sent for trial in the spring of 1884. The plant spots somewhat in the sun, is moderately vigorous, and bears a fine crop of very large, broadly conical berries, dark scarlet in color and very late; texture firm, moderately juicy, and pleasant subacid in flavor. A promising berry for late marketing; much of the crop matured as late as July 7th. Pistillate.

T. T. LYON.

A SHORT CATALPA LESSON.—We are permitted to use the following note written by Mr. Douglas to President Lyon: I have had some experience with Teas' Hybrid Catalpa, and have no doubt one of the parents is Catalpa Kœmpferi of Japan, and Mr. Teas supposed at first that it was a Japan catalpa. He sent me a dozen to test them. I wrote him one dozen would not be a proper test, so ordered one thousand and planted them near the office, where I could examine them closely. I kept them there for three years and in-