

kinds, such as Keen's Seedlings, are too tender for certain parts of North America, where other English and many American varieties succeed perfectly. That splendid fruit, the British Queen, can be cultivated but in few places either in England or France: but this apparently depends more on the nature of the soil than on the climate; a famous gardener¹¹⁷ says that "no mortal could grow the British Queen at Shrubland Park unless the whole nature of the soil was altered."¹¹⁷ La Constantine is one of the hardiest kinds, and can withstand Russian winters, but it is easily burnt by the sun, so that it will not succeed in certain soils either in England or the United States.¹¹⁸ The Filbert Pine Strawberry "requires more water than any other variety; and if the plants once suffer from drought, they will do little or no good afterwards."¹¹⁹ Cuthill's Black Prince Strawberry evinces a singular tendency to mildew; no less than six cases have been recorded of this variety suffering severely, whilst other varieties growing close by, and treated in exactly the same manner, were not at all infested by this fungus.¹²⁰ The time of maturity differs much in the different varieties: some belonging to the wood or alpine section produce a succession of crops throughout the summer.

Gooseberry (*Ribes grossularia*).—No one, I believe, has hitherto doubted that all the cultivated kinds are sprung from the wild plant bearing this name, which is common in Central and Northern Europe; therefore it will be desirable briefly to specify all the points, though not very important, which have varied. If it be admitted that these differences are due to culture, authors perhaps will not be so ready to assume the existence of a large number of unknown wild parent-stocks for our other cultivated plants. The gooseberry is not alluded to by writers of the classical period. Turner mentions it in 1573, and Parkinson specifies eight varieties in 1629; the Catalogue of the Horticultural Society for 1842 gives 149 varieties, and the lists of the Lancashire nurseymen are said to include above 300 names.¹²¹ In the 'Gooseberry Grower's Register' for 1862 I find that 243 distinct varieties have won prizes at various periods, so that a vast number must have been exhibited. No doubt the difference between many of the varieties is very small; but Mr. Thompson in classifying the fruit for the Horticultural Society found less confusion in the nomenclature of the gooseberry than of any other fruit, and he attributes this "to the great interest which the prize-growers have taken in detecting

¹¹⁷ Mr. D. Beaton, in 'Cottage Gardener,' 1860, p. 86. See also 'Cottage Gardener,' 1855, p. 88, and many other authorities. For the Continent, see F. Gloede, in 'Gardener's Chronicle,' 1862, p. 1053.

¹¹⁸ Rev. W. F. Radclyffe, in 'Journal of Hort.,' March 14, 1865, p.

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¹¹⁹ Mr. H. Doubleday in 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1862, p. 1101.

¹²⁰ 'Gardener's Chronicle,' 1854, p. 254.

¹²¹ Loudon's 'Encyclop. of Gardening,' p. 930; and Alph. De Candolle, 'Géograph. Bot.,' p. 910.