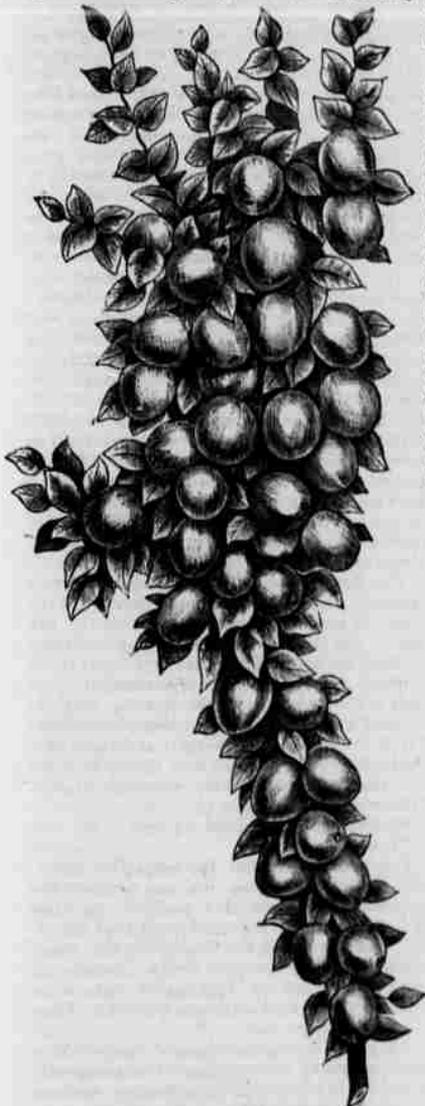


TWO APPLES.

We give in this issue engravings of two varieties of the apple which are not generally known, but have points of excellence in some respects. The engravings are from specimens



THE "STUMP" APPLE.

grown by Ellwanger & Barry, the well-known nurserymen and fruit growers of Rochester, New York.

The remarkable productiveness shown in the laden branch is a characteristic of the "Stump" apple. No wise fruit grower would let apples ripen in such a mass except as a matter of curiosity; but it is well enough to know that a tree has such a bearing disposition. It is easier to pull off apples than to put them on. The "Stump" apple originated near Rochester, New York, and is described by Ellwanger & Barry as follows: "Fruit medium size, conical, skin yellow striped and shaded with light red, resembles Sherwood's favorite; flesh firm, crisp, juicy, tender, sprightly, sub-acid. The fruit, from its uniform size, fine appearance and mild pleasant flavor commands a ready sale at a good price. A decided acquisition to the list of profitable market and good garden varieties. Tree of handsome, stocky growth and very prolific. Fruit ripens at the East in September and October."

The handsome apple shown in the other engraving is the "Red Bietigheimer," which is described by the growers as a rare and valuable German variety. It is an early fall apple and as its picture shows is one of the largest

and handsomest apples in regions adapted to its growth. The description of the Red Bietigheimer is as follows: "Fruit large to very round; roundish to conical; stalk short, stout, in a deep cavity, calyx closed in large deep basin; skin pale cream colored ground, mostly covered with purplish crimson; flesh white, firm, sub-acid, with a brisk, pleasant flavor. Tree a free grower and abundant bearer."

OLEOMARGARINE appears to be coming largely into use in many parts of the East and in Europe, and, so closely is it made to imitate butter, that a loud demand is being made to prevent, by legal enactment, the growing disposition to palm off this compound for the genuine product of the dairy. It is claimed that, while the fullest liberty should be given to every one to smear his bread with whatever he may choose to put thereon, some law should be devised to protect people from even the chance of ignorantly swallowing that which, knowingly, they would not take into their stomachs; that when hog, and dog, and cat are thrown upon the market in such minute division that their anatomy cannot be plainly made out, their proper place in nature shall be plainly made known by labels. Let oleomargarine go from factory to mouth as oleomargarine, and not let it be passed off for its country cousin. Make it slander, if desired, to call it "bull-butter," but make it

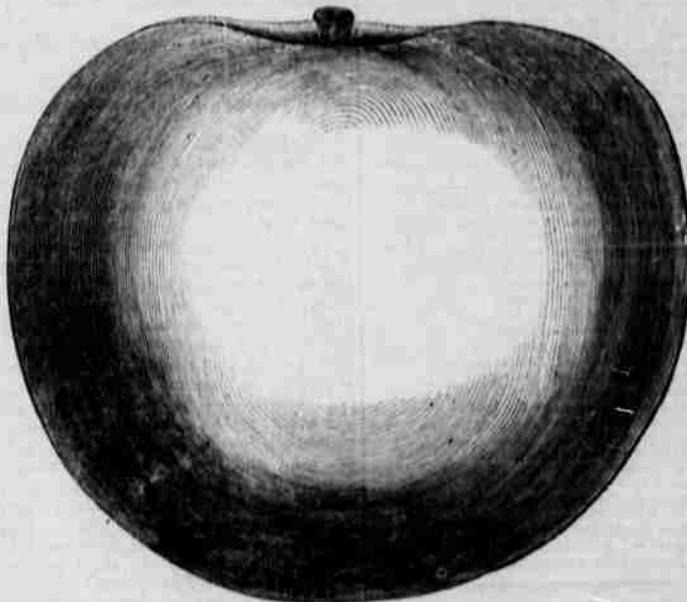
PREMIUM FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

Uriah A. Boyden, Esq., of Boston, Mass., has deposited with the managers of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, the sum of \$1,000 to be awarded as a premium to "Any resident of North America who shall determine by experiment whether all rays of light, and other physical phenomena, are or are not transmitted with the same velocity."

Among the conditions is the requirement that each competitor must transmit to the Secretary of the Franklin Institute a memoir, describing in detail the apparatus, the mode of experimenting, and the results; and all memoirs received by him before the first day of January, 1881, will, as soon as possible after that date, be transmitted to the Committee of Judges.

The Board of Managers of the Institute shall, before the first day of January, 1882, select three citizens of the United States, of competent scientific ability, to whom the memoirs shall be referred; and the said Judges shall examine the memoirs and report to the Franklin Institute whether, in their opinion, and, if so, which of their memoirs is worthy of the premium. And, on their report, the Institute shall decide whether the premium shall be awarded as recommended by the Judges.

Every memoir shall be anonymous, but shall



THE RED BIETIGHEIMER APPLE.

felony to say that it is Alderney. Many ways have been suggested for the detection of oleomargarine, one of the best of which is the microscopic test. Under the glass, milk-butter shows a mass of globules similar in size and appearance, with intermediate layers of salt and water. Oleomargarine shows a mass of what appears to be fan-shaped and fibrous crystallizations entirely different in character and appearance from butter.

SPONTANEOUS GENERATION. — Bastian has again visited Paris in order to try to demonstrate his views with regard to spontaneous generation. Being unable to come to any agreement with Pasteur as to the manner of conducting his experiments, he decided to return to London. But before setting out he described his operation in detail, and Pasteur asked him how he cleansed his retorts. He replied "by rinsing them with very pure water." Pasteur assured him that there were bacteria even in the purest water, and advised him to repeat his experiments after having heated all the apparatus thoroughly in the fire. Nothing has since been heard of spontaneous generation—*Les Mondes*.

contain some sign by which it can be recognized and designated, and shall be accompanied by a sealed envelope, endorsed on outside with same sign, and containing the name and address of the author of the memoir. The memoirs presented for the premium shall become the property of the Franklin Institute, and shall be published as it may direct.

VORACIOUS BIRDS.—Ostriches are known to be very voracious. They will snatch a bright button off one's coat or swallow pipe, tobacco, fire and all, if you approach too near to them whilst smoking. Ostrich breeders have an unlimited stock of stories as to the thieving and digestive faculties of the ostrich. An ostrich that died recently at Rome was a fair sample of this kind. It had been long on exhibition, and suffocated itself a day or two ago by thrusting its neck between the bars of its enclosure. A post-mortem examination took place, and there were found in its stomach four large stones, 11 smaller ones, 7 nails, a needle pin, an envelope, 13 copper coins, 14 beads, 1 French franc, two small keys, a piece of a handkerchief, a silver medal of the Pope, and the cross of an Italian order.