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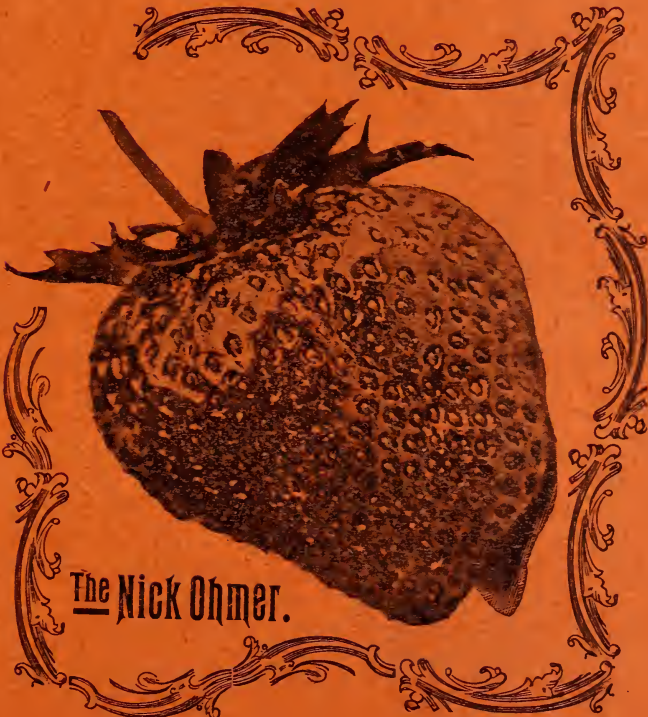
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CRAWFORD'S
Strawberry Catalogue.

FREE TO ALL.



The Nick Ohmer.

M. CRAWFORD,
CUYAHOGA FALLS. OHIO.

AN EXPLANATION.

In last year's catalogue I enclosed a circular inviting all my customers to subscribe for *Horticulture*, a monthly paper published in this place by O. A. Knox. Quite a number of subscriptions were received by me, and turned over to the publisher. Unfortunately the paper was not published after May, and even the May number was never mailed. Early in the fall the paper came into my possession, and it was my intention to commence publishing it at January 1st, and let my son carry on our plant and bulb business, as he has for the last year. About the middle of December my son decided not to continue in the business, and I sold *Horticulture* to W. F. Allen, Jr., the publisher of *The Strawberry Culturist*. All subscribers who were entitled to *Horticulture* will receive *The Strawberry Culturist* instead, and those who were entitled to both will have their subscription to the *Culturist* extended. Some very competent men will write for the *Culturist*, and all who are at all interested in small fruits will find it exceedingly helpful. It is conceded to be *the* authority on strawberries and their culture. It will be no less an authority on the other small fruits. I would suggest that all who receive this catalogue become acquainted with the paper, and if it meets their wants and wishes, as it surely will, let them become subscribers. The paper is published at Salisbury, Md., and any reader of this catalogue can have a sample copy for the asking.

Early last spring I decided to go to western Pennsylvania and spend the summer on a farm, hoping to improve my health. My son being at home to carry on our business in my absence, rendered this possible. I took with me several barrels of gladiolus bulbs and grew them there. This prevented my coming home until late in October. From the time that I purchased *Horticulture*—early in September—until now, all mail matter addressed to it has been accumulating, and some subscriptions have been received during this time. All of these have been turned over to *The Strawberry Culturist*. If any one fails to receive the paper he will please notify the publisher, who will rectify all mistakes. In case any one is dissatisfied with this arrangement, he can write to me and have his money returned.

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

I do not ship plants by freight. I guarantee the safe arrival of all those sent by mail or express before May first.

The utmost care is taken to avoid errors. If mistakes do occur, they will be cheerfully rectified, if I am notified immediately.

When ordering late in the season please state whether other varieties may be substituted in case those ordered are sold out. I can often do this to advantage if permitted.

Money may be sent at my risk by New York draft or post office or express money order. Less than a dollar may be sent in stamps.

My terms are cash, except to some of my regular customers with whom past dealings have been satisfactory to me.

Do not ask me for my "private opinion" of varieties. It is already given in this catalogue.

The plants I offer for sale are well grown, true to name, and will be packed in the best possible manner. Almost without exception they are taken up the day the order is filled. I aim to have no plants left in the cellar over night. I have no plants taken up in the fall and heeled in for the spring trade. I am so confident that my plants will reach their destination in good order that I warrant the safe arrival of all orders sent out up to May first.

Strawberry plants are offered at different prices by different growers. Each one is a law unto himself. When one has a large area in matted rows for fruit, and is obliged to destroy tens of thousands of the weak runners between the rows to make paths, whatever he can get for them is almost clear gain. Such plants will continue to be sold as long as there is a demand for cheap (?) stock. I have none of that kind. My plants are in good shape to bear fine fruit, and I prefer to let them bear rather than spend valuable time in digging, trimming and packing plants without profit.

I know that my plants are not too high-priced, and that they are satisfactory to my customers. I have every facility for doing good work in my line, and my entire time and attention are devoted to filling orders for strawberry plants. I sell gladiolus bulbs, but they are so well assorted and classified before spring comes that they require but little time.

My customers will please remember that the time for filling orders is short, and it would facilitate work greatly if orders were sent in before the rush. This is also an advantage to my customers, for they get what they order, no varieties being sold out.

The Strawberry.

Nick Ohmer. ✿ For market, for home use, or for exhibition, this is probably the greatest berry ever offered. It is certainly the most desirable variety that has come under my observation. It is my candid opinion that all who grow the Nick Ohmer will be astonished at its healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness. The fruit will be a surprise to all who see it, being of mammoth size, beautiful form and color, and excellent quality.

The Nick Ohmer was originated by Mr. John F. Beaver, who is conceded to be the most successful amateur strawberry grower in Ohio. He named it for his friend, N. Ohmer, who has been president of the Montgomery County Horticultural Society for more than twenty years, and is ex-president of our State Horticultural Society. Mr. Beaver has fruited nearly all the leading varieties ever introduced in this country, and some from Europe, and when he says that the Nick Ohmer leads any variety he has ever grown, it means a great deal. It has grown here for three years, and I do not remember to have seen any rust on it, but, of course every variety will rust under certain conditions. I have sent it to a number on trial, and have yet to hear the first unfavorable report. I have no other expectation than that it will become one of the leading varieties, and if restricted to a single one, it would be my choice.

I have arranged with a number of leading growers to aid in introducing the Nick Ohmer, and the supply of plants is not very large. Those who order early will be supplied.

The plant is very large and stocky, sending out plenty of strong runners. It is probably not surpassed in healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness by any variety. It has a perfect blossom. The fruit is of the very largest size, a giant among strawberries. It is never misshapen. Its only departure from the regular, roundish, conical form is when, under high culture, it is somewhat triangular. It is dark, glossy red, firm and of excellent flavor.

“At a Farmers’ Institute held in Montgomery county, last December, Messrs. John F. Beaver and J. P. Ohmer interested the people by exhibiting a strawberry plant that filled the entire top of a tobacco pail, in which it was growing. The variety is one of many thousand seedlings originated by Mr. John F. Beaver, and which he named the Nick Ohmer, in honor of the president of the Montgomery County Horticultural Society.

The Nick Ohmer strawberry has become famous from thrift of plant, color of leaf and fruit, and fine flavor. The leaf is unusually thick and of dark green color. Thirteen of the berries will fill an ordinary berry basket. Two of these plants that were set out August 14, last, were transplanted December 9, one in each pail, and one in possession of each, Mr. Beaver and Mr. J. P. Ohmer, for a race between the

two, to see who can produce the best berry. Several of the berry growers expressed admiration for Mr. Beaver as having done more for the improvement of the strawberry than any other person in the county."

"MONTGOMERY CO., O., July 6, 1897.

I am very glad to say that the Nick Ohmer strawberry has again proved itself superior to any I have on the place, and I had seventy varieties producing fruit this year. It made a fine show last year, but was still better this year, and leads any variety I have ever grown. The first berry ripening on a cluster is inclined to be a little uneven, but not misshapen, and might be taken for a different berry from the others. It is of the best quality and averages quite large to the last picking. The fruit is very firm and is produced in abundance, there being from one to five clusters on plants set about August 10th, 1896.

JOHN F. BEAVER."

"MONTGOMERY CO., O., July 30, 1897.

The Nick Ohmer behaved very handsomely this, as well as in former years, producing an abundance of immense berries of a very superior quality. Mr. John F. Beaver honored me greatly by giving it the name that he did. N. OHMER."

"MONTGOMERY CO., O., Dec. 6, 1896.

The Nick Ohmer is undoubtedly the largest and best shaped strawberry of all the new varieties. Having a perfect bloom and being a valuable variety for marketing, it is certainly a wonderful strawberry. The plant is simply wonderful.

J. P. OHMER."

"August 14, 1897.

The Nick Ohmer strawberry is all that has been claimed for it. It is a vigorous grower, free from rust, very large plant, and produces in abundance extra large berries of good shape, good flavor, and good color.

J. P. OHMER."

MR. M. CRAWFORD, Cuyahoga Falls, O.:

DAYTON, O., Jan. 17, 1898.

As you are going to introduce the Nick Ohmer strawberry this spring, I am satisfied that you never saw a finer berry grown. I have been acquainted with it for several years. It is a very strong grower, having a deep green foliage, a perfect blossom. Last summer, when Mr. Beaver brought a dish of them to show to his friends on the Dayton market, we were made to believe that we were "not in it." It was the town talk for some time afterwards. The berries were uniform in size, having a deep crimson red in color. I have been in the berry business ever since childhood, and am 44 years of age, and never saw such a dish of berries before. Growers should give it a trial.

Yours, GEO. F. MUMMA.

"HAMPSHIRE CO., Mass., July 31, 1897.

I did not get well rooted plants of the Nick Ohmer last season till quite late, but I made the best of them and they have produced some wonderfully fine berries this summer. They were extra large and every one perfect in form. I am satisfied that it will prove to be a valuable, long-bearing variety, but I want to try it another year before fully reporting.

E. C. DAVIS."

The following is from the President of the Ohio School of Business:

"DAYTON, O., Jan. 12, 1898.

I had the pleasure of visiting Mr. J. F. Beaver's strawberry patch last June. He had seventy varieties bearing fruit. The Nick Ohmer, one of his seedlings, was superior to any other variety on his premises. To see the many large, dark colored, beautiful berries, firm and of good quality, was a sight not soon to be forgotten. The Nick Ohmer plant is a strong grower, dark green healthy foliage, a staminate variety, fine flavored and very productive. I would call it the Ideal Strawberry.

JNO. K. BECK.

Dozen, \$2.00; 100, \$10.00.

THE MARGARET. This variety was originated about six years ago, by John F. Beaver, of Dayton, Ohio, from seed of the Crawford. It has made a remarkable record—perhaps never equaled in the world—and is now offered with great confidence. It responds readily to good culture, and all careful growers may expect it to produce the finest fruit in great abundance.

The plant is large and healthy, and so vigorous in growth that it will mature its last berries and continue green and luxuriant while an abundance of strong runners are produced. The foliage is dark green, and so clean and healthy looking that it is a pleasure to work among the plants. The blossom is perfect and one of the strongest ever seen. It commences to ripen soon after the early varieties, and bears until nearly all others are gone. With a good chance its berries are all of large size. The plant with its habits of growth and productiveness is faultless.

The fruit is usually conical, sometimes rather long, but never cockscombed or misshapen, often necked. The color is dark, glossy red, and the berries are not inclined to have white tips.

The large, green calyx adds to its beauty. The flesh is firmer than most very large berries, and of excellent flavor.

For healthy, vigorous growth, productiveness, size, beauty and quality, the Margaret is a remarkable variety.

Mr. Beaver is one of the most successful growers in the country, and his opinion of the Margaret is that it is the best late variety yet produced.

Prof. Troop, of the Indiana Experiment Station, says :

“The Margaret gave excellent satisfaction the past season. It is not as large a berry as some others, but the color and flavor are excellent.”

In 1894 it was sent to E. C. Davis, of Massachusetts, to see what it would do under the best culture. Here is his report for 1895 :

“Margaret was latest of all. Picking for market closed here June 27th, a week earlier than usual on account of hot, dry weather, but we had Margarets July 4th fit to set before the gods. Five boxes of them were picked that day and every one of them seemed to be an exact copy of all the rest. Some of the wealthy New York City boarders in Northampton were driving through my garden that day, and seeing these berries offered me \$5.00 for the five boxes, BUT THEY DIDN'T GET THEM. The berries measured almost exactly 1½ inches in diameter. Several were cut and measured at the dinner table that hardly varied one-sixteenth of an inch from that measure, and all as perfect in shape as if turned in a lathe. Some of the first pickings were larger than these, four of them covering the bottom of an ordinary berry box. The Marshalls you sent me were in the next row and received precisely the same treatment, and they were simply nowhere compared with these. We shall have Margarets for dinner to-morrow, (July 7.) For quality I have named them like this: Margaret, Annie Laurie, Wm. Belt. With 10 for perfection, I would place none of them below 9 for size, quality or productiveness.”

Mr. Davis' report for '96 is as follows :

“I am having the best berries ever seen around here this season, with the Margaret almost out of sight of all others, in beauty, quality and productiveness.” July 16 he writes as follows: “I send you, under separate cover, some prints of what the Margaret has done for me the past season. The berries were all grown in the same row, about sixty feet long, on level ground, with the same sun exposure except one end of the row, which was shaded by a tree and building after 4 p. m. The checked (x) ones all grew on one stem, that is, without any thinning out. The fruiting period of the row covered, as you will see by the date, 33 days, from June 1st to July 3th, inclusive. July 4th I picked eight baskets from the row, and with a few friends we had an Independence Day dinner, christening it ‘the feast of St. Margaret.’ The following Monday the same row yielded four heaped baskets. I'm glad I don't know what the total yield was, for if I did and should tell it, people would say that I could leave Ananias and Sapphira in the shade. But it was simply immense, and I'll drop it there.”

The following concerning the prints is taken from HORTICULTURE :

“The ‘prints’ alluded to were made by cutting a berry in two and laying one-half on a sheet of paper for a few moments until it had left its impression. The halves were then put together again and cut in two the other way and another impression made. This gives the exact length of the berry and two cross diameters. We wish it were possible to show the readers of HORTICUL-

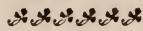
TURE these prints that they might see the size of the Margaret under the best culture. As this is out of the question we will tell something about them. There are in the lot 50 prints, representing 40 berries, 20 of them were checked, showing the ten berries that grew on one stem, with eight others. We will speak of these first. The smallest is $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length, and the largest $3\frac{1}{4}$. The average length is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The average width is 1.9-10 inches. Only two of the 40 berries fell below 2 inches in length. Two were exactly 2 inches, and the other 36 were from $2\frac{1}{8}$ to $3\frac{1}{4}$. The average length of the 40 berries was 2.23-100 inches. Average length of the six largest berries 3.16-100. Average width, 2.41-100.

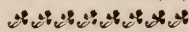
"When we consider that these prints were made on 33 consecutive days from one row 60 feet long, we are probably safe in saying that no other strawberry, in this or any other country, ever made such a record. Of course all this would go for little or nothing if the plant were unproductive, or a feeble grower; or if the fruit were unattractive or of poor quality. But when we take into account that the plant is large, healthy, vigorous and productive; that the blossom is perfect; that the color is dark, glossy red; that the shape is nearly always beautiful; that the quality is extra, and the berries always attractive, we have a combination rarely met with."

The Margaret has been tested in different localities, and so far no unfavorable report has been received.—1897 *Catalogue*.

The Margaret was at its best here last summer. We had bushels from ordinary matted rows, that contained just about 20 berries to the quart. It continued in bearing over a month, and produced nice berries to the last.

Dozen, 50 cents; 100, \$2.50; 1,000, \$15.

McKINLEY. Introduced by Ellwanger & Barry last year, at \$2.00 per dozen. It is  claimed to be equal, if not superior, to any that has ever fruited on the grounds of the introducers. Charles A. Green says, after fruiting it: "The plant is exceedingly vigorous and healthy, producing heavy crops of large, dark red, firm berries, of good form; season medium. This is the firmest berry I know of for a large berry." Dozen, 60 cents; 100, \$3.00.

SEAFORD. (P)  "At the head of the list we put this berry, first offered last spring after a long test. The time that has gone by has only confirmed our first judgment, and we recommend Seaford to the public with confidence in its extraordinary value.

During the past season, a field of Bubach—a standard and reliable sort—had some six long rows of Seaford planted in its center for testing purposes. At fruiting time the contrast was most marked. Bubach bore a good crop of large, showy fruit; but Seaford had an immense crop of enormous strawberries. Not less than four times as many baskets were picked to the row from Seaford!

The plant is as large as Bubach, and a much more vigorous grower, with imperfect blossom; it ripens its crop much faster than Bubach, and several days earlier, and therefore commands higher prices.

We have received very flattering testimonials from the best growers in different states who fruited spring-set plants, which convinces us that Seaford will succeed over a large extent of country. We hope it will take the same rank in its class that Loudon and Miller red have attained among raspberries. However, we believe the berry will do its own talking in a very short time.


The size and shape of Seaford is large and good. Color is deep red, bright and glossy, and it is a color that goes under the skin, for Seaford is pre-eminently a solid, red-fleshed variety, and consequently an assuredly successful shipper. The flavor is good, with very little acid.

"In a strawberry for market growing, size, productiveness and good shipping quality are all important; and it is in these particulars that Seaford is a most remarkable acquisition. The strong and vigorous plants produce fruit clusters of great size, bearing handsome fruits of proportionately great size. We commend this new berry to our friends with confidence born of experience with it in test with leading varieties of the day; it will easily keep at the head of the procession."—*Green's Fruit Grower*.

"The Seaford, though now offered to the public for the first time, has been thoroughly tested and has established for itself a reputation as the very best market berry known to this section. It is a pistillate variety of the most robust type; a large, strong, deep-rooted plant and of a growth that is stronger and better than any other sort in our whole collection. The berry may be best described as compared with the Bubach, of which it is a probable seedling. It is three days earlier than the Bubach, some larger size, but on account of the great vigor of the plant it holds its size better and lasts longer and is of a more uniform character. It has repeatedly given twice as many baskets per row, and commands the very top of the market, as you will understand when you see its beautiful appearance when opened in the market. During the past season it has outsold all others in more than one market, and it can hardly fail to do so everywhere, as it has every quality necessary to make it sell. We want you to try the Seaford, and be ready to realize the good money

that must come to the first growers in every section. We can offer the plants, large, long-rooted and fine, for a very reasonable price considering the merits of this fruit."—*Slaymaker & Son*.

Dozen, 60 cents; 100, \$3.00.

RUBY. (B) Supposed to be a seedling of the Crescent, fertilized by the Sharpless.  I have heard very favorable reports of the Ruby for some time. It is usually the variety that captures the first prize at the strawberry meeting of the Alton (Ill.) Horticultural Society. Judge Miller, of Missouri, says that it is certainly ahead of a host of other varieties that have been lauded higher, and that he considers it one of the very best of 100 varieties he had growing.


Rev. E. B. Stevenson, of Canada, made the following note of it at the time of ripening:

"A grand plant; fine grower, fruit large and fine, and a good lot of it. The fruit is as large as Bubach, more regular in shape, darker in color, and flesh red all through; shape round, conical a really good one, and will, I think, take a place as a standard."


Prof. W. J. Green, of the Ohio Experiment Station, gives the following report on the Ruby:

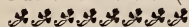
"Plants vigorous and prolific. Berries medium to large, conical, but often irregular, although not cockscombed. Color, dark scarlet, glossy, mostly well colored, but sometimes white tips. Flesh scarlet, firm, and of good quality. Season medium to late."

Dozen, 60 cents; 100, \$3.00.

RIDGEWAY. (B) "Plant large and stocky, possessing the ability to make a large number of  strong, healthy plants. Leaf large, broad, heavy, and dark green in color. Blossom, perfect; a good pollenizer for pistillate varieties, as it remains in bloom for a long time. Berry, large to very large, the typical form nearly round; largest specimens broadly ovate, but always smooth. Color, as it grows at Rocky Glen, bright, glossy crimson, with golden seeds. Firm for so large a berry, and will stand shipping to distant markets, except in a very wet time. Quality as good as the best, an almost ideal berry, and one that will command fancy prices on any market."—*Introducer*.

The Ridgeway was introduced a year ago with the above description. After fruiting it another year, the introducer—who lives in Indiana—says that he has nothing to recall, but again affirms his belief that it is, all things considered, the best general purpose berry ever introduced. It is all that was claimed for it. Last season it gave the largest crop of fancy berries ever produced on his farm; even surpassing the Parker Earle, which has been considered the greatest yielder ever introduced. Mr. Ridgeway is a grower of experience, and I have no reason to doubt his word. Dozen, 60 cents; 100, \$3.00; 1,000, \$15.00.

HALL'S  "Beyond doubt the finest strawberry ever grown."
FAVORITE. (B) Dozen, 60 cents; 100, \$3.00.

MANWELL. (B) "A cross between the Crescent and Sharpless, and combines all  the good qualities of both parents. We have fruited this berry five seasons, and it retains the vigor of the original plant. It ripens all over at once without any green tips. It has a perfect blossom and bears its fruit on large fruit stems, which often bring to perfection as many as 20 berries on a single stem. It is not immensely large, but its great beauty, firmness, earliness, good flavor, productiveness, and vigor, combined with good size, make it exceedingly popular. Ripens with Crescent."

"Being detained here on business, and being an old strawberry grower, and hearing of a new variety (the Manwell) I visited the grower's grounds to look up its merits. He has about two acres of strawberries, all receiving the same culture: Parker Earle, Warfield, Crescent, Bubach, Glendale, Beder Wood and Manwell, besides new plantations of other kinds for next year's testing. Though last year was very dry and a hard year for strawberries generally in this section, all his plants looked fine; the matted rows were well filled with plants, the Manwell, if anything, showing the greatest vigor. But the crowning thing was the productiveness of this variety, it being by actual tally 50 per cent. ahead of Warfield and Beder Wood, with good pickings yet to add to this record, and berries averaging more than twice the size. It began ripening its fruit from two to four days later than Warfield and Beder Wood, while these

kinds had their last picking on the 22nd inst. I saw many berries that measured five and a half inches in circumference, and of such bright, glossy crimson, the seeds being sunken a trifle, that the Warfield at its best made a very poor showing, as also with the Parker Earle, on the grower's soil—black loam.”—*Editor American Gardening.*

Dozen, 50 cents; 100, \$2.50; 1000, \$15.

MICHIGAN. (B) “Again this superb variety gives us a crop of berries that are second to none in size or yield, and which ripen the latest of any. It is undoubtedly the best late strawberry ever introduced, and for profitable market growing is unexcelled by any other: coming into market as most other kinds are going out. The berries are large, bluntly conic, very uniform, of deep crimson color, firm and handsome. The plant is a strong, healthy grower, with clean, luxuriant foliage and exceedingly productive. Every garden should have it for its supply of late strawberries, and it may be depended upon to give the most perfect satisfaction. Its high, rich quality renders it of the greatest value in the family garden, and it is the very finest variety for canning. In it are combined enormous size, high quality, great productiveness, and extreme lateness in ripening—a combination which leaves nothing more to be desired in a family strawberry of its season. We are proud of being the introducers of this noble berry.”—*Introducers.* Dozen, 30 cents; 100, \$1.50.

MAGOON. (B) From Oregon, where it has become famous. It has certain characteristics in which it surpasses any ever before grown in Oregon. It is so vigorous that five-year-old plants produced more fruit than younger ones. One grower reports that he picked 14 boxes from 18 hills, at a single picking. It is so large and attractive that it brought 25 per cent. more than other varieties. It is ahead of all others as a shipper. Its size, shape, color and flavor make it the choice of the buyer. It is superior for canning. What it will do here remains to be seen.

Dozen, 40 cents; 100, \$2.00.

MORGAN. (B) “A strong-growing, healthy plant. Fruit of the largest size, and of good quality.” Not fruited here. Dozen, 30 cents; 100, \$1.50.

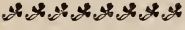
HERSEY. (B) “Under ordinary culture this variety has produced 1,000 quarts on a plot of ground 60 feet square.” The Massachusetts Horticultural Society awarded it first prize. I have heard many good reports of it.

Dozen, 30 cents; 100, \$1.50.


WM. BELT. (B) “The plant is very large, a most luxuriant grower, and remarkably productive. At the end of last year's drouth, early in Nov., it was not surpassed for green healthy appearance by any one of over 100 varieties on my place. Its blossoms are perfect, and it seems that each one is followed by a berry. It is medium in ripening—neither very early nor very late. Its size is very large indeed. No other variety ever gave me so many immense berries. In picking 12 quarts from a matted row, with good common culture, I selected 37 that filled three quart baskets; and the other nine quarts were all large. I have seen eight-inch berries on spring-set plants within ten weeks of planting. In form it is conical, rather long and quite uniform in shape, except that the first berry on a fruit-stalk is sometimes misshapen, especially with high culture. The color is a brilliant, glossy red—as near perfection as was ever seen in a berry. It ripens all over without green tips. The quality is good—better than is usually found in large berries.”—*1896 Catalogue.*

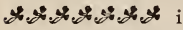
The Wm. Belt fruited over a wide area last summer, and gave general satisfaction. In some cases it rusted to a certain extent, but I do not recall any instance where the crop was noticeably diminished. Many growers are enthusiastic over it and will plant it largely. In one case that I know of the Wm. Belt not only brought one-half more than other varieties, but it sold readily and created a sensation in the market. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1,000, \$3.50.

PARKER EARLE. (B) One of the most productive ever introduced. On deep, rich, moist soil it will bring to perfection an astonishing crop. With an ordinary chance it sets more fruit than it is able to mature. It is a healthy, luxuriant grower, makes but few runners, but develops a large number of crowns. It is late in ripening. The fruit is of large size, conical, never misshapen, bright, glossy red, and of good flavor. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

MARSHALL. (B) I have great confidence in this variety, and expect to hold on to it as  long as I raise fruit. It may be described by saying that it is perfect in every way. Some have called it unproductive, but it has produced 3,000 quarts on $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre. It has rusted. So has every one named in this catalogue. Every variety rusts under certain conditions; some more than others. The Beder Wood and Charles Downing, two of our standard varieties, are far more likely to rust than the Marshall. The plant is very large and luxuriant. The blossom is perfect. Fruit of the largest size, good shape, dark glossy red, and of very excellent quality.

Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

IVANHOE. (B) Originated by Mr. Geo. W. Trowbridge, near Cincinnati. It is a  very desirable early variety. The plant is an excellent grower, and a good bearer. It has a strongly staminate blossom. The fruit is rather long, conical, very bright red, and of good quality. For a very early sort I prefer this to any other. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

BISMARCK. "The Bismarck is undoubtedly king of staminate, or self-pollenizing varieties, and  it seems the most valuable variety of any kind yet offered. True, this has been claimed for countless varieties now forgotten. But when I claim for Bismarck the following rare qualities, qualities never before found in any combination, the value of this variety will be apparent.

Its size is very large; and its shape always perfect. In productiveness it is not surpassed, if equaled, by any variety tested in the past thirteen years, and the test embraces all of the least note. The berries were repeatedly shipped 600 miles, arriving in perfect condition.


Although it blooms rather late, and is therefore apt to escape frost, it ripens its whole crop considerably earlier on an average than any other very large berry. The plant is a marvel of vigor, robustness and healthfulness. Other plants are as vigorous growers, others are as large and others as healthy. But none so far tested combine all these qualities in as large degree.

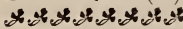
As the Bismarck has been widely tested, North, South, East, West, and proves uniformly a success, it may be safely predicted that its general introduction will mark a distinct step forward in strawberry growing."—*Green's Fruit Grower*.


"A grand plant and berry, reminding one, when in bearing, of that grand old favorite, the Wilson, only the Bismarck is double the size. Our patch of Bismarck last season looked just as if some one had thrown the berries over the ground with a shovel in matted rows, and the first berries we shipped of this variety to St. Louis brought double the price of all others of the same date, besides receiving honorable mention in Price Current of that date. It will not bear neglect, but wants good, strong soil. You can't get it too rich for best results. It is a self-pollenizer; color, bright scarlet; no coxcombs, size mammoth, very firm and holds up well in shipping."—*Originator*.

Originated by Mr. Bauer, of Arkansas. This variety seems to succeed everywhere. I do not recall a single adverse report. It resembles the Bubach, but has a perfect blossom, is equally as large and productive, but better in shape, color, and quality.


Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1000, \$3.50.

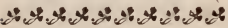
BRUNETTE. (B) Originated by Granville Cowing, of Indiana. It has fruited here  several years and is fairly satisfactory as to its habits of growth and productiveness. It is not a variety to plant extensively for market, but it will produce a fair crop of large, handsome berries, of the very best quality. If one has customers who know a good berry, or if he wants the best obtainable for home use, this is the one. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

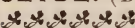
BEVERLY. (B) Seedling of the Miner, and originated by B. M. Smith, of Massachusetts.  It has made a good record for productiveness, beauty and fine quality. It seems to succeed in nearly all localities, and may be planted with confidence. It has a perfect blossom. As it resembles the Miner somewhat, it is supposed that plants of that variety were sent out for the Beverly when the variety was scarce and high priced. The genuine Beverly is a good variety either for market or home use. The fruit is large, of good form, dark, rich red all over, and of superior quality. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents;

BELLE. (B) Originated near Cleveland. I have fruited this variety about eight years  and know just what it is. Few kinds have made a better record. The plant is a good grower, one of the last to rust, and a great bearer. Blossom, perfect. Fruit very large, often cockscombed and misshapen, dark, shining red, firm and of good flavor. Its blossom is one of the hardiest, and the fruit ripens until very late. Its one fault is its habit of growing flat and misshapen.

Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

AVERY'S  This has fruited here two years, and has given good satisfaction.
SEEDLING. (P) It is an excellent grower and a good bearer. The fruit is large and attractive. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

BRANDYWINE. (B) I regard this as one of the most valuable ever introduced. It is  fine for market, for home use, or for any purpose. The plant is all one could ask, the blossom is perfect, and the fruit is produced in abundance. Its season is from medium until very late. Fruit large, heart-shaped, of regular form usually, bright red, of good quality, firm and attractive. When I introduced the Brandywine three years ago, I had some curiosity to see what fault any one would find with it, for it seemed to me to be very near perfection. Several growers claim that it is not productive enough, and one says it rusts. Very many have spoken of its good bearing qualities. Perfection has not been attained, but the Brandywine is generally regarded as a very reliable, late berry. I would plant it with perfect confidence. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1,000, \$3.50.

CLYDE. (B) Originated by Dr. Stayman, of Kansas. It is doubtful if any variety was  ever introduced that gave better satisfaction in all parts of the country. It has not fruited here, but I have a magnificent lot of plants that are large and healthy. It is a variety of great vigor, and there is no need of setting it closer than from two to four feet in the row, if the intention is to grow in matted rows. It is probable that Clyde plants will be scarce before the close of the season, and all who want it should order early. J. H. Hale, of Connecticut, says it is rather light in color, and this seems to be its only fault.

S. H. Warren, of Massachusetts, says:

"I never had a variety that I was so well pleased with. The fruit was large and lots of it. I wish you could have heard the exclamations of those who saw them when they were ripe. One old grower says he will set nearly all Clydes next season. They should be grown in narrow rows and not too thick, so they will get the sun, or they will be a little light. Where the sun strikes them they are a beautiful color."

Rev. E. B. Stevenson, of Canada, who has over 200 varieties on trial, has this to say of the Clyde:

"It is what I call a second early, coming in first after Michel's or Van Deman. The plant is perfect in every respect, one of the most healthy, no sign of rust or disease about it. * * * The plant in color is very much like Cyclone and Haverland; the fruit is a good scarlet; in shape it is roundly conical. I have fruited it four years and have tested it in dry seasons as well as the most favorable ones, and in my opinion it has come to stay and will take a first place. A strong staminate, rich in pollen."

The following is from George Raupp, president of a Horticultural Association, in Missouri:

"In answer to your question concerning the Clyde compared with Bubach, as to size and productiveness, will say: I had them fruiting last year within a rod of each other, planted at the same time, and given the same treatment. The Clyde was larger and much more productive. I went to see three of my neighbors a few days ago, to whom I furnished plants last year, and asked them the same question you did me. Mr. M. F. Mahan says: 'I find the Clyde larger, more productive and much firmer than Bubach.' Mr. Ed. Haron says: 'The Bubach had larger berries, but the Clyde is more productive and firmer.' Col. R. D. Creed did not have the Bubach, but thinks more of the Clyde than any other variety he has."

S. H. Warren, one of the most successful strawberry growers of Massachusetts,

has this to say about the Clyde :

"The Clyde is the best berry, new or old, that I have grown. The plant is perfection, and the berries are large and lots of them. They are of perfect form, conical, firm, of good, but not best quality. It has a strongly staminate blossom, and I think that I can truthfully say that it will bear more fruit than any variety on earth. Every one who saw it was astonished. One man came 75 miles to see the Clyde, and he said he felt paid for his journey."—1897 *Catalogue*.

If the Clyde has failed anywhere I have not heard of it. It would not be difficult to fill this catalogue with favorable reports of this berry. All tell substantially the same story of luxuriant growth, great productiveness, large size, regular form, and good quality. For the average grower over the country it will be a great money maker. If it were a little darker in color it would be near perfection. It should be grown in hills or narrow rows so as to let the fruit have all the light possible.

Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents ; 1,000, \$3.50.

CRAWFORD. (B) A berry for amateurs who give good culture. For size, quality and beauty it is one of the best ; but it will not bear neglect. The plant is a good grower and bearer, has a perfect blossom, and produces an abundance of very fine fruit. The berries are large, conical, dark red, glossy, firm, and very good.

Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

GIANT. (B) This is really a valuable late variety. The plant is not large, but is vigorous and healthy. In productiveness, size, firmness, quality and color it resembles the Clyde, but is very late in ripening. In fact it commences when the Clyde is nearly gone. This was originated on the Hudson, by Mr. Joseph Bailey, and has been called Bailey's Giant. It is a variety of great merit.

Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents ; 1,000, \$3.50.

BARTON. (P) From Kentucky. This is one of the best market berries. A very luxuriant grower and an enormous bearer. The plant possesses such vigor that it might be planted four feet apart each way and still make good matted rows. Blossom pistillate. Fruit very large, bright red, of good quality, and fine appearance.

Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

BISEL. (P) A seedling of the Wilson, from southern Illinois. It is grown very extensively for market, and has given great satisfaction. The habits of the plant are good. The blossom is pistillate. The fruit is large, firm, bright red, and produced in great abundance. Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

BEDER WOOD. (B) Originated by Beder Wood, of Moline, Ill. It is a well-known early berry. It is an excellent grower and a prolific bearer. Blossom, perfect. Fruit, medium to large, of regular conical form, orange scarlet, moderately firm, and of good flavor. It seems to be more inclined to rust than some others, but I never knew it to fail in bearing for that reason. Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

GOV. HOARD. (B) Originated by F. W. Loudon, of Janesville, Wis. I have found this to be a very excellent variety, ripening early and bearing a long time. The plant is one of the best, the blossom is perfect, and the fruit is produced in abundance. Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

HAVERLAND. (P) Originated by Mr. Haverland, near Cincinnati. It is a well-known, reliable variety, succeeding in all parts of the country. The plant is a healthy, vigorous grower, and one of the most productive. Blossom, pistillate. Fruit stalks are not strong enough to hold up the load of fruit, and mulching is a necessity. Fruit, large, long, bright red, medium in firmness and quality. Dozen, 20 cents ; 100, 80 cents.

GARDNER. (B) "This is a staminate variety; plants very stocky and large, averaging from 16 to 18 inches in height. It fruits very heavily. It is shaped like the Crescent, but is very much larger, and holds its size down to the last picking better than any variety we have ever grown. It ripens very early. It is a fast runner, entirely covering the ground in one season, set three feet apart in rows, and rows three and one-half feet apart. Flavor very rich; nearest the wild strawberry of any variety we have ever grown. It will stand very severe drouth better than any other variety now under cultivation, excepting none."—*Introducer.*

It is recommended by Prof. Budd, of the Agricultural College, as equaling the Parker Earle in productiveness and superior to most others as a shipping berry. It is a great pollen bearer. "In size, color and quality it is not superior to Haverland."—*Prof. Budd.* Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

ELEANOR. (B) No variety was ever sent out with greater claims, but it was not a success here. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

EARLY An early, productive variety, of medium to large size. Not fruited here.
SUNRISE. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

IDEAL. (B) "A strong, vigorous plant with perfect blossoms; fruit large to very large, calyx prominent. The berry is broadly heart-shaped, very uniform in shape, never cockscombed; color, bright scarlet; flesh very firm, deep scarlet throughout, quality excellent. Vines very productive. Begins ripening four days ahead of the Bubach, but continues in bearing much longer."—*Introducer.*

It succeeds well here and was one of our finest varieties. It will probably succeed over a wide area. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

ISABELLA. (B) This has been called No Name and Gandy-belle. It has succeeded very well here and produced a fine crop of good fruit. It rather surprised me by being about equal to the Bubach. It has a perfect blossom. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

MARY. (P) This is a New Jersey berry of very large size. It has made a great record in nearly all parts of the country. It is only of medium quality. This is its weakest point. The plant is very large, a luxuriant grower, and a good bearer. The blossom is pistillate, and one of the last to be killed by frost.

Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

OCEAN CITY. (B) "This is the late variety that succeeds on stiff, rich soil—and there has been more clear money made from this than any other variety in our section. With the originator it was on white clay land with some gravelly loam. The land is not rich, but the berries received good care, with plenty of barnyard manure. We find when planted on light, poor land it will not succeed, hence there have been several disappointments. If you want fine berries and are willing to give them good care, plant the Ocean City, for garden purposes or for field culture.

The fruit has kept in good condition a week after being picked. The fruit has always sold at an extra price. The foliage is healthy, leaves are green, and fruit stems heavy; no rust. The writer in conversation with Isaac Lock, of Boston, asked how the Ocean City did this season. His reply was that it was the finest berry that came from our section, and the fruit sold readily to customers that had used it for some years at extra prices. It is better than the Sharpless; colors better; stands shipment better and is a ready seller."—*Introducers.*

The Ocean City has been very satisfactory here, both in plant and fruit. It is one of the last to rust, and is a good yielder. Fruit is of large size, firm, regular form and bright red.


Dozen 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

PLOW CITY. (B) Originated by Mr. Stone, of Moline, Ills. It has made a great record and is probably all that it was ever claimed to be, when at its best. It fruited here last season and the following report was made of it in July:


"The plant is large and strong, and very productive. The fruit is large, regular, long conical

in shape, and of fine quality. The berries ripen all over, of a dark red color, but uniformly rough on the outside. This may be a freak of the season."

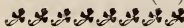
Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1,000, \$3.50.

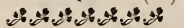
PRIDE OF CUMBERLAND. (B)  "This variety has done all that we could ask of it the past season (1896), having yielded more quarts to the acre than any other variety. It is a berry of large size, good flavor, rich dark red color, and crowned with a large green calyx. It is a favorite with all who have given it a trial. Compared with the Bubach, it makes twice as many runners, is of darker color, equally as large and prolific, and a much better shipper."—*W. S. Gandy.*

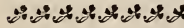
Blossom, perfect. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1,000, \$3.50.

PRINCESS. (P) From Minnesota. Probably as productive as any very large variety  ever sent out. The plant is healthy and vigorous. Blossom, pistillate. Fruit very large, usually of regular, conical form, light scarlet, of medium firmness and quality. It is doubtful if there is a more productive variety in existence.


Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

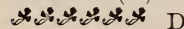
STAPLES. (B) From southern Ohio. A seedling of the Warfield, with a perfect  blossom. It is a good grower and an enormous bearer. In shape and size it resembles the Warfield, but is very much darker in color. No other variety is nearly as dark. It is usually necked. The quality is good. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents; 1,000, \$3.50.

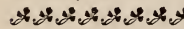
SPARTA. (B) This is the variety that is used to fertilize the Warfield, as they ripen  together, and look alike. It is early and productive here, but has white tips. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

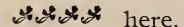
SUNNYSIDE. (P) Originated by C. S. Pratt, of Massachusetts. It has a reputation for  lateness, productiveness and beauty. At the New York Experiment Station it surpassed all others in bearing. It is a very good grower, healthy and fine looking. Said to be ten days later than others, of fine form and color, and good quality. Not fruited here sufficiently to enable one to form an opinion.

Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

WOOLVERTON. (B) I received this from my friend, the late John Little, with the  request that I would grow it for friendship's sake. I found it to be a very desirable variety. It has all the characteristics of a good market berry. It is a good grower and an abundant bearer. The blossom is perfect and it remains in bloom about a month. The fruit is large, fine looking, and of good quality. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

EDITH. (P) Said to be very large and desirable. Not fruited here.  Dozen, 40 cents; 100, \$2.00.

WARFIELD. (P) From Illinois. One of the best known market berries, and perhaps  the very best shipper we have. The plant is a good grower, and prolific bearer. It makes so many runners that, unless some be cut off, the plant is not at its best. Some growers manage this by setting the plants so far apart that they cannot cover the ground too thickly. When well grown, the fruit is large, dark glossy red, firm and attractive. Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

NOBLE. One of the most noted of the English berries, and the best one ever fruited  here. It is not generally a success in this country, and is not recommended except for those who desire to raise the very best, and know how to do it. The Noble is very liable to rust.

Dozen, 20 cents; 100, 80 cents.

NOTES ON VARIETIES.

"It is wonderfully interesting to me to note the peculiarities and desirable traits in the different candidates for public favor. For instance, Clyde, that has been considerably talked about, is really bearing a wonderful crop—wonderful considering that the plants were put out only last spring. The Ideal, planted at the same time, is giving the handsomest berries in shape and color, almost, that I ever saw. The berry called Pet (I do not know where it came from) is the sweetest berry I ever tasted. It really brings forth an exclamation of surprise when one puts it into his mouth. I do not know how good a berry it will be, for all I have mentioned above were put out last spring. Brandywine and Wm. Belt are both doing wonders. These were planted out late only last fall, and yet an acre of such berries as they are bearing would be a pretty nice thing to have, I assure you. Great big berries, with the boxes heaped up, bring just about double the price of ordinary varieties, such as Warfield and Haverland. At present writing, June 22, all of our strawberries may be said to be in their prime; and I tell you we have got some wonderfully nice berries among the new ones that are now before the strawberry-loving public. There are so *many* splendid berries I really feel troubled in deciding in regard to them. The Marshall has done grandly. The berries are large, there are lots of them, and they are quite early. The color is beautiful, the shape is almost faultless, and the flavor delicious. Our bed where we grew them under glass is even now putting out blossoms for a moderate crop to ripen along in July, just as we had them last year. But, why is not the Marshall good enough? Well, the Nick Ohmer and the Margaret are considerably larger than the Marshall. On my small experimental bed, however, they are not bearing as many berries as the Marshall; but it should be remembered that they were planted late only last fall. The Brandywine comes in just after the Marshall, and the berries are immense; but it does not furnish the quantity that the Wm. Belt does, coming a little later. The plants were, however, put out late last fall, and may not be up to their best; but the Wm. Belt was also planted late last fall. This spring they did not seem to have withstood the winter nearly as well as the Brandywine; in fact, I was somewhat disappointed in regard to its hardiness; but they began to grow, and, almost before I knew it, had put out great fruit-stems, and now are ripening the largest berries I ever saw in my life; and in *quantity* they are piled up almost like the Haverlands. Nick Ohmer gave us one berry as large as a small lemon. As we received the plants only last fall we can not as yet say how productive they will be."—*Gleanings*.

MARGARET.—This berry was a sight to behold. The bright, shiny, crimson berries were so large that the foliage could not conceal them. More berries for the foliage than any other on the grounds.

WM. BELT.—The Belt was a fine, delicate rose color, but had to go for the same price as Bubach.

MARSHALL.—The Marshall was grand as usual, and sold at a little advance on the Bubach.

BISMARCK—A strong grower, good plant-maker. Size and yield about the same as Bubach.

MARY.—Yielded heavily; berries more irregular this year, but much better quality than Sunnyside.

SUNNYSIDE—Yielded fair, but too stinging an acid for any use whatever.

"From selected plants of Bismarck planted last spring, in soil previously prepared as rich as we dare make it, set in rows a foot apart and 20 rods long, we picked

12 quarts to every 36 feet of the row the first picking. Plants received early in the spring from M. Crawford did not fall far behind in proportion to the size of the plants; especially Pride of Cumberland, Clyde, and Giant. The Avery, Ocean City, Cyclone and Pet did finely. Yet we saw no check of growth or deterioration of any kind caused by fruiting the first season. However, in field culture, even on rich old sod, we remove all the blossoms."—*Thos. Wilde.*

IDEAL STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

Read before the Columbus [Ohio] Horticultural Society by Matthew Crawford:

"Few horticultural products attract more attention than strawberries, when well grown. Even when the market is full of berries, so that every one is accustomed to seeing them, people delight to look at those that are of extraordinary size and beauty. The strawberry responds so readily to good culture that there is some encouragement in trying to do our best. Another reason for doing one's best lies in the fact that very few will ever put forth any great effort in any direction, so we are relieved to a great extent from competition.

One may grow strawberries to great perfection by the following method, if he be intelligent and persevering, and I may as well say at the beginning that all that is necessary is well-grown plants of a good variety, a rich soil and an abundance of water and sunshine. Any soil may be made deep, rich and moist, and it must be so for best results. Assuming that it is in this condition, and that plants of a good variety have been obtained, the roots should be shortened to two inches and the plants set sixteen inches apart. This must be done early in the spring for the best results, and every detail of the work must be done in the best manner. After the plants are set they should receive the best of cultivation, so as to get them into vigorous growth early.

The blossoms must be cut off as soon as possible, in order to make them send out runners quickly. The first runners will be slender and must be cut off. The next will be stronger, but they, too, should be cut off. About the first of July each plant will be sending out a number of very strong runners, and two of the best from each one should be allowed to grow, and make but one plant each. Now, assuming that the ground has been kept mellow and clean, one of these runners is placed on each side of the row, eight inches from the parent plant. It should be held in position by a stone or some soil. In three weeks these runners are well rooted and may be severed from the old plant. The old plants are then dug up and carried off, leaving two rows of young, thrifty plants, sixteen inches apart, and then a space of thirty-two inches for a path. These plants should grow without any check until the end of the season. After taking up the old plants, the space they occupied is to be spaded as deep as possible, finely pulverized and then well tramped. Of course, the roots of the young plants are not to be disturbed, and for this reason only a narrow strip can be spaded. If the soil is not hard it need not be spaded at all.

Now if the whole surface be covered with two inches of cut straw, the bed will require no attention throughout the season but to cut runners and occasionally pull up a weed that comes through the mulch. During August and September great numbers of very strong runners will come out, and they should be cut off as soon as they appear.

At the end of the growing season the bed should be well covered with straw. There is no danger of putting on too much, if it be removed as soon as growth starts in the spring. It need not be carried off from the bed, but simply be removed from over the crowns.

This management, if faithfully attended to, will insure very fine berries; but if

one wants to do his best, regardless of expense, he can still do more. Each of the plants will have a number of crowns, and if all but the best one be cut off early in the spring it will be like giving the milk of two cows to one calf.

As soon as the first half dozen berries are formed on each fruit stalk, a limited number of well-shaped berries are saved and all others cut off, as well as all the blossoms. Every runner is to be cut off promptly, before it taxes the plant to any extent.

Now these selected berries have about four weeks in which to get their growth, but this growing period may be extended by shading the plants in the heat of the day. This must be done with caution lest it be over-done.

No matter how much plant food may be in the soil before the fruit sets, more may be added to advantage during its growth. E. C. Davis, of Massachusetts, who has grown berries of good form over three inches in diameter without pruning, waters with liquid manure two or three times a day while the fruit is growing.

There is a world of pleasure in doing ones's very best with some horticultural specialty, but 'few there be that find it.' "

STRAWBERRIES FOR HOME USE.

It would seem to be the part of wisdom for all who till the soil to give special attention to those crops that are almost sure to pay. This is especially true when the number of paying crops is small. A crop pays when it brings, in satisfaction, more than it costs to produce it. There is a home market in every farmer's family for a few bushels of strawberries, and the price they will bring is so satisfactory, so far beyond the cost, that the wonder is that any farmer fails to supply this demand. Every person who is at all proficient as a grower of strawberries, knows perfectly well that the cost of producing them is not great, and all who have had an abundant supply know that they contribute very much to the enjoyment of all concerned. Having perfect confidence in the soundness of these propositions, I will try to tell how to grow this fruit at small expense :

Early in the spring, select a strip of ground in a convenient place, not too far from the house, and fully exposed to the sun. If the ground has been cultivated for two years, you will be less likely to be troubled with white grubs. The plot should be long and narrow, so that it can be cultivated with a horse. You should have at least two square rods for each member of the family. Put on a heavy coating of manure and plow it under. Then harrow very thoroughly and smooth the surface with the float. All this should be done as soon as the ground is dry enough. Then procure plants of two good varieties, one early and one late, both having perfect blossoms. The Marshall and Brandywine would be a good selection. Cut the roots back to two or three inches, and plant with the crown level with the surface, packing the ground firmly about the roots.

The rows should be three feet apart, and the plants 16 inches in the row. The bed should be cultivated and hoed immediately after planting, so as to leave a loose surface that will prevent the evaporation of moisture from the soil. This is the main object of stirring the soil, and it should be done often enough to keep a loose surface at all times. This incidentally prevents the growth of weeds. From one to two inches is deep enough to stir the ground, and it should be kept up till October. The blossoms that come out in May must be cut off, and all runners as they come out through the growing season. This must be faithfully attended to, or the old plants will be exhausted by supporting a lot of useless runners.

Just as soon as the last hoeing is given, at the first of October, or earlier, an inch or two of cut straw should be put on the surface between the plants in the row. If

all the space between the rows can be covered, so much the better. This will protect the surface roots from the first freezing and thawing, and still leave the foliage to do its work until the end of the season. At the beginning of winter the bed should be well covered with straw, which is to be removed from directly over the crowns when growth commences in the spring.

As soon as the fruit is secured, the leaves are to be cut off, and when they are dried, the mulch is to be stirred up and the bed burnt over. New, healthy growth will start at once, and not a rusty leaf will be seen that season, as a rule. The bed is to receive the same care it had the first season. If these directions are followed, there will hardly be a failure in twenty years.

M. CRAWFORD.

THE LOUDON RASPBERRY.

I have been satisfied in my own mind for a number of years that the Loudon raspberry is not only the best, but very much the best red raspberry in the market. So it pleases me to see that in a fair test along side of a number of others at the Hatch Experiment Station of Massachusetts it is away ahead of all others in hardiness, vigor, quality, large size, yield, and firmness. It yielded 49½ quarts from 25 plants; whereas Cuthbert yielded only 16⅓ quarts, and King 5 quarts.

The station has the following to say concerning the Loudon: "A very vigorous and productive variety. It was very little injured by the past winter, while many of the standard varieties suffered severely. Fruit large, firm, bright crimson; quality best. The most promising variety in the station collection."

As nearly every one knows, this berry was originated by F. W. Loudon, of Janesville, Wis., who has spent a long life in improving fruits. Like most originators, he has never received any adequate reward for his services. He has a large stock of the Loudon, and I hope that fruit growers will show their good will by buying their plants from him. By so doing they will serve themselves and serve him.

SWEET PEAS.

I never knew until last year, how much pleasure one can get from a few flower seeds. Early in April I went to Pennsylvania to spend the summer for the benefit of my health. Just as soon as the soil could be worked I spaded a strip about a yard wide, inside the garden, close to the picket fence that separates it from the lawn. After it had dried a little I worked it up very fine, and tramped it until it was firm—I believe in firm soil for almost everything, and especially for sweet peas. If loose and rich they will grow too much to vines. A drill about an inch deep was made less than a foot from the fence, seeds sown about an inch apart, slightly covered, and pressed down firmly with the foot. (Deep sowing of sweet peas has been abandoned, for good reasons.) As soon as they were up they were hoed, and well brushed. The row was seven rods in length, and contained a large number of choice varieties. The seed came from S. T. Walker, of Forest Grove, Oregon, who makes a specialty of sweet peas, and supplies the very best seed obtainable. The grass on the other side of the fence was killed with a heavy mulch, which kept the ground cool and moist all summer. This furnished the most favorable conditions—firm ground, yet cool and moist. They commenced to bloom quite early, and when I came away towards the last of October, they still had some flowers. The number that was produced, and the pleasure that came from them, I will not attempt to tell. The flowers were picked nearly every day through the summer and fall. They were used to decorate nearly every room in the house; they were carried to church and Sunday school, to the grange, to the Rural Improvement Society, and very many were carried away by friends.

Few people know to what extent the sweet pea has been improved. Years ago we rarely expected to find more than two blooms on one stem. It is now a common thing to find three or four, and the colors are most beautiful. Mr. Eckford, of England, has been working with the sweet pea over twenty years, and it has become deservedly popular.

Rev. Mr. Hutchins, of Indian Orchard, Mass., is conceded to be the authority on sweet peas in this country. He studied the subject in England, and procured the best varieties as they were offered, and sent them to Mr. Walker to be grown for him. He considered that the climate of Oregon, and Mr. Walker's skill, enabled him to get the best seed to be found anywhere. Now I want to say to all who receive this catalogue, that you can have an ounce of good seed, containing ten or twelve varieties, mailed to you for 10 cents. If you want the *best*, send 25 cents. If you want seed by the pound, expecting to raise flowers for market, you can get prices from him. One ounce is ample, unless one wants a large number of flowers for some purpose. However nice your flowers may be, do not attempt to save seed, for that would stop their blooming.

THE PANSY.

This is about the only flower that will bloom out in the open nearly every day during the growing season. Quite a number of specialists are at work on it, and it has been wonderfully improved. My friend D. B. Woodbury, of Paris, Maine, sends out very fine seed indeed. If interested, please send your name and address to him, and receive his catalogue. It is just as easy to grow the best and have something that you will be proud of. The important thing is to start right with good seed.

GLADIOLUS BULBS.

The gladiolus has been one of my specialties for over 20 years, and the bulbs I now offer as mixed colors are not surpassed, if equaled, by any in the market. I have been improving my collection by purchasing new varieties and selecting choice seedlings, until it is very fine indeed. Last year I offered six varieties under name, and some under color. Now all are sold as mixed colors. It is well-known that many growers and dealers sell all their best stock under name and color, and then sell the leavings as mixed colors. Such stock is no more to be compared with mine than nickels and pennies are to be compared with a collection of coins of all denominations. It seems like wasting words to say that a collection is diminished in value by taking nearly all that has value out of it. If I had any misgivings about the stock I offer, I might make it more salable by using a large number of adjectives to express its superiority, but I shall not do this. Those who have tried it know about what it is; those who have not can do so at little cost.

I offer bulbs in three sizes and all will bloom.

The larger the bulb, the earlier it will bloom. A small bulb three-fourths of an inch in diameter (third size), will produce fine spikes, but not as many of them as will large bulbs. As I have a large stock, I will make the price low so that all may buy.

BY EXPRESS.—First size, 20 cents per dozen; \$1.00 per 100. Second size, 12 cents per dozen; 60 cents per 100. Third size, 5 cents per dozen; 40 cents per 100.

BY MAIL.—First size, 30 cents per dozen; \$1.50 per 100. Second size, 20 cents per dozen; \$1.00 per 100. Third size, 10 cents per dozen; 60 cents per 100.

In buying 100, one is likely to get at least 80 varieties.

PRICE LIST.

VARIETY	10 by mail postpaid.	100 by Mail postpaid.	1000 by Exp. not prepaid.
Avery, (P) - - - - -	\$0 20	\$0 80	
Barton, (P) - - - - -	20	80	
Belle, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Beverly, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Bismarck, (B) - - - - -	20	80	\$ 3 50
Brunette, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Bisel, (P) - - - - -	20	80	
Brandywine, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Bouncer, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Beder Wood, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Clyde, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Crawford, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Eleanor, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Early Sunrise, - - - - -	20	80	
Edith, (P) - - - - -	40	2 00	
Gardner, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Gertrude, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Giant, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Gov. Hoard, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Haverland, (P) - - - - -	20	80	
Hall's Favorite, (B) - - - - -	60	3 00	
Hersey, (B) - - - - -	30	1 50	
Ideal, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Isabella, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Ivanhoe, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Mary, (P) - - - - -	20	80	
Margaret, (B) - - - - -	50	2 50	15 00
Manwell, (B) - - - - -	50	2 50	15 00
Magoon, (B) - - - - -	40	2 00	
Morgan, (B) - - - - -	30	1 50	
Marshall, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Michigan, (B) - - - - -	30	1 50	
Maytrott, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Milton, - - - - -	30	1 50	
Mele, (P) - - - - -	30	1 50	
McKinley, (B) - - - - -	60	3 00	
Nick Ohmer, (B) - - - - -	2 00	10 00	
Noble, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Ocean City, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Plow City, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Pride of Cumberland, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Princess, (P) - - - - -	20	80	
Parker Earle, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Ridgeway, (B) - - - - -	60	3 00	15 00
Ruby, (B) - - - - -	60	3 00	
Staples, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Sparta, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Seaford, (P) - - - - -	60	3 00	
Sunnyside, (P) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Woolverton, (B) - - - - -	20	80	
Wm. Belt, (B) - - - - -	20	80	3 50
Warfield, (P) - - - - -	20	80	

When plants are ordered to be sent by express, the purchaser paying the charges, 20 cents per 100 may be deducted from the above prices by mail.

Six of one kind at dozen rates; 50 at 100 rates; 500 at 1,000 rates.

A WORD TO THE WISE: Please order early. Some of these varieties—for instance Clyde and Wm. Belt—are offered at so low a price that all may be engaged early in the season.

I can ship by the Adams, American and United States Express Companies.

It will be noticed that I have priced standard varieties cheaper than ever before, notwithstanding that plants are scarce all over the west and south. Prices can not be reduced, however large the order.

TO CANADIAN CUSTOMERS.

For several years I have advised customers in Canada to send their orders to my friend, John Little, of Granton. I regret to say that he died of cancer on the seventeenth of November last. His age was 83 years. The plant business will be carried on by his son-in-law, Mr. Wm. Blatchford, of Prospect Hill, Ont. I now take pleasure in recommending Mr. Blatchford to all who have occasion to buy plants. He had considerable experience with Mr. Little, and will serve his customers well. I saw his plantation last fall, and am glad to say that he has a good collection of such varieties as are best suited to his locality, and quite a number of new ones, some of which would not be easily found elsewhere.

I have been selling plants in this town twenty-seven years, and had years of experience near Cleveland before that. Plants sent by mail or express, early in the season reach any point in the United States or Canada with perfect safety. I have even sent them to England in the winter, and had them fruit in June, and received a report in July.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS OF 1897.

"The plants arrived in splendid condition. Accept thanks for extras."—W. BARLOW, Verdugo, California.

"The Clyde strawberry plants ordered of you have been duly received. They are, without exception, the finest plants I have ever seen."—GEO. G. MCLEAN, Carpenteria, Cal.

"Your excellent plants came to hand the 8th. I thank you much for your promptness, your care in filling the order, and especially for your generous gift in sending along with the plants I paid for, some additional ones."—J. W. KENDALL, Waco, Texas.

"The plants were fine, and the packing evidenced care and skill, and the count overran, for which I thank you."—GEO. GRENVILLE, Kingsville, Ont.

"The strawberry plants were received in due time and in good order."—PETER HENDERSON & Co., New York.

"They are nice plants, and nicely packed, as plants always are that I receive from you."—GEO. H. PERLEY, Winthrop, Maine.

"I received the plants to-day in fine order."—B. F. ADAMS, Madison, Wis.

"I received my plants yesterday and was delighted with them."—MRS. E. VANLUTHERAN, Camden Place, Minn.

"The strawberry plants came to hand in the very best condition. I never received better plants."—CHAS. LUEDLOFF, Cologne, Minn.

"The strawberry plants for which I sent to you, have come to hand in perfect order. I am very much pleased with them."—WM. H. WILLCOX, Malden, Mass.

"The plants just at hand and are as fine as we can ask for. In fact everything you have sent us has been of the best quality. You can always count on our order if we want anything in your line."—ELM BROOK NURSERY Co., Gardiner, Maine.

"The plants came in Saturday evening's mail, as fresh as though they were just dug. It is a pleasure to buy of a man who sends out such large, fine plants, and liberal count."—J. A. MAYBERRY, Saco, Maine.

In making out your order if you will send the names and addresses of strawberry growers of your acquaintance I will return the favor by sending you some bulbs that will please you.