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CRAWFORD'S CATALOGUE

—OF—

NEW STRAWBERRIES

MATTHEW CRAWFORD,
CUYAHOGA FALLS, O.

DUFFY BROS. PRINTERS.

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THIS CATALOGUE is presented to my customers and others who are interested in strawberry culture. I hope that any one who receives a copy and has no use for it, will hand it to some one who raises strawberries. It has been prepared at some trouble and expense, and is sent out "to do good and make money."

The suggestions on culture are for the inexperienced, not for those who can read the whole catalogue without finding a new idea.

The descriptions are intended to be truthful. It is hard to get the whole truth about new sorts.

Every variety offered here will be fruited by me in June, and a report sent to my customers in July.

The plants I offer are grown on rich land with plenty of room. They are large, stocky and true to name, and are warranted to reach my customers in good condition. An experience of nearly thirty years with the strawberry has taught me, among other things, how to pack plants. My responsibility ends, not when I ship the plants, but when you receive them in good condition. If plants are not received in good condition, I wish to be notified at once.

I expect to commence to fill orders about the first of April, and every effort will be made to send off orders promptly.

Orders for the Itasca will be filled by the originator, all other varieties are of my own growing, and are worth to my customers from two to fifty times as much as those that have been bought to sell again, and have been reshipped and repacked.

Money should be sent with the order. It may be sent at my risk by P. O. money order, American Express money order, draft on New York or registered letter. Postal notes and currency are not safe to send in a letter. Less than a dollar may be sent in stamps. Six plants at dozen rates; fifty at hundred rates.

Order early: some varieties will be sold out before planting time.

Do not write for varieties not named in this catalogue.

I have no wholesale or thousand rates, except on Ontario which is \$10 per thousand.

State whether other varieties may be substituted in case those you order cannot be supplied.

I do not aim to sell plants for the smallest amount of money, but I do aim to give the greatest possible satisfaction.

Any person who will send me the names and addresses of the strawberry growers of his acquaintance, will receive in return my July report on varieties. This will contain an account of several strawberry exhibitions held by horticultural societies in this part of Ohio.

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STRAWBERRIES AND STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

BY M. CRAWFORD, OF CUYAHOGA FALLS.

[Read at the summer meeting of the Ohio State Horticultural Society, held at Barnesville, June 8, 1886.]

Harvest time is a season of peculiar interest to every thoughtful person, and this is our harvest time, to which we have been looking forward. The plants now yielding their fruit have been in our employ for a year, doing their very best under the circumstances. Man with all his knowledge and skill can never make a strawberry, nor can he invent a machine to make one. He must have plants to do the work, plant food, the raw material out of which the fruit is made, and the soil to afford anchorage for the plants, and to furnish a reservoir from which they may draw their supplies.

Our part in the work is to furnish the most favorable conditions possible, and a strict account is kept from the first hour we have control of the plant. Nothing is forgotten. When we settle up in June, we are charged for every injury the plant has received from any source; for every hour it has remained idle waiting for supplies, and for every weed that has hindered it in its work. It avails nothing to plead ignorance, and say that we have done the best we knew. It is our business to find out what is required, and to meet every demand. Our profits depend upon our ability to do this, and the profits are what we work for. What returns we should have, if there were no charges against us for any failure on our part!

As our gains are increased according to our intelligence and care on the one hand, and dimin-

ished according to our ignorance and neglect on the other, it is very proper that we come together at this season, and ascertain the causes of our success or failure, for our future guidance.

Strawberry plants were designed to produce fruit, and every day in the year, when not locked up in frozen soil, they are working towards this end. The greater part of their time is spent in gathering material, and in this we can aid them very greatly.

Our first step in this direction, is to prepare the soil in the best possible manner: It must be drained either naturally or artificially, for the roots cannot flourish in standing water. It should be made fine, so that the roots may work in every part of it. Plant food, if locked up in lumps, is as much out of reach of the plant as though it were out of the field.

The time has gone by for intelligent fruit-growers to rely upon the natural fertility of the soil alone, to furnish the material for a large crop of strawberries. The plants should have within reach, and in an available form, as much plant food as they can use. Large crops are never produced without a large supply of the raw material. If this be furnished in the form of stable manure,—and there is nothing better—it should be thoroughly decomposed. If this cannot be obtained, bone dust and unleached wood ashes—not less than 500 pounds of the former and forty bushels of the latter to an acre—will supply all that the crop requires. This should be sown on the surface, and harrowed in, before the plants are set. The strawberry removes but little fertility from

the soil, and it leaves the ground in excellent condition for the following crop. The plant contains a large amount of rich material, and this is why so much plant food is required. If the soil be rich and fine to a good depth, the plants will be the better able to go through a dry time without injury. This is especially important when the fruit is ripening, as much moisture is needed at that time.

The roots need air almost as much as they need moisture, and they are liable to be deprived of this by a crust on the surface, for which frequent stirring of the soil is the remedy. In addition to admitting air, this keeps down the weeds, but no *deep* cultivation should be given late in the fall, nor in the spring among bearing plants.

If all these requirements be met, it makes no difference to the plant whether its roots extend through sand, clay, or muck, or a mixture of all three. It may, however, cost more to supply these conditions in one soil than in another.

Every effort should be made to get the plants to work early in the season, so that they may put in full time. Those set early, receive almost no check. They are then hard and ripe, and have no sappy roots or leaves to be easily dried by a short exposure to the air. If for any reason they cannot be set early, they should be taken up and have their roots shortened to two or three inches, and then be set temporarily about four inches apart. After a thorough watering they can be moved from this bed with but little risk, until quite late in the season. Shortening the roots causes a large number of new ones to come out

from the crown and from the cut ends, and the plant receives very little check in being moved if the work be carefully done. It sometimes happens that a large amount of rain causes the soil to run together and become very compact early in the season. By using transplanted plants later, the soil can be put in the best possible condition.

It is a critical time in the life of a plant when it is out of the ground. It is like a fish out of the water—it may not die, but it is dying. It should be kept out of the soil the shortest possible time, and should be shielded with the greatest care from injury by drying, heating, or making a blanched growth at the expense of its own vitality. For this reason, every extensive grower should raise his own plants, with the exception of new varieties that he may wish to test in a small way. He will then have them just when needed, and be sure that they are well grown and true to name. If plants from an old bed be used, it is important that they be washed clean, lest the eggs or larvæ of insect enemies be carried to the new plantation. The strawberry plant is made up of such rich material that every part of it is attacked by insects. Prof. Forbes names thirty insects that prey upon it. A knowledge of the best means of combating these pests is indispensable to the highest success.

There can be no doubt that the crop is often greatly diminished in this climate, on heavy soil, by injury done to the plants during the winter. To reduce this injury as much as possible, the whole surface should be covered with straw to prevent frequent freezing and thawing. The same covering will serve as a mulch in the summer, to

keep the ground moist and the fruit clean.

Strawberries are grown in hills, matted rows, or a compromise between the two. Hill culture is the method adopted by the most careful growers who aim at the highest perfection. They raise the largest crops and receive the highest prices.

For hill culture, the varieties that produce the finest fruit are chosen, and if they send out but few runners, so much the better.

The principal objection to this method is that the same ground is occupied by the plants for a number of years in succession. This gives a favorable opportunity for insect enemies to multiply. Unless burning over the patch after fruiting will destroy these enemies, I fail to see how they can be exterminated without sacrificing the bed. Matted rows may be, and often are, kept year after year, but the plan of setting a new bed every year, and plowing it up after one crop, is coming into favor.

Varieties noted for their vigorous growth and productiveness have always been favorites with those who use the matted row method. Their aim is to get quantity rather than quality. In order to select wisely, it is necessary to have a knowledge of the merits of the different kinds, but obtaining this knowledge for one's self by testing new varieties is an expensive business. Fortunately for us, the Ohio Agricultural experiment Station is doing this work with great thoroughness and perfect impartiality. Every tiller of the soil should use his influence in favor of this establishment, which sends out the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

HIGH FERTILIZATION AND CULTURE, AS AFFECTING GROWTH AND FRUITAGE.

Whatever may be the possibilities of size and yield and growth of plant to the amateur, these matter not to the commercial grower, if not compatible with clear economic investment. Look at the matter as we may, the question will arise, "Will it pay?" This is the test by which the whole matter must be settled.

To what extent, then, is high manuring and high culture profitable? Regarding the question from this stand-point, a variety of conditions confronts us—the variety in hand, the present and prospective condition of the land, the market demand, the cost of labor, the cost of fertilizers, the enhanced value of the land worked, and the consequent profit or loss by extra outlay of capital in manuring and culture. I am a believer in the idea that what is worth doing, is worth doing well.

In any agricultural or horticultural product the variety raised is a matter of prime importance. With an animal, a good respiratory and digestive system, so that every pound of food does the most good, producing best results, is what is needed. Just this, too, is needed in a variety of vegetable or fruit. And it may be truly said that, as good breed and good breeding are important with the successful animal, no less so are good varieties and careful retaining of vital points, with the vegetable or fruit. Analogy between the animal and vegetable in these respects is strikingly close. For high culture, then, we need only those varieties which respond generously to such treatment. Fortunately we are not without such varieties.

As regards the present and prospective value of the land, a retentive soil properly drained and subsoiled is nearly as safe a place of deposit as a sound bank of discount ; hence, if we wish to make heavy drafts we must make liberal deposits, knowing that what we do not draw out now will remain for future use. I fully believe that heavy manuring last year has an added value this year, especially for the strawberry, the manure having in the interval become much more available for plant food. Composting does for green manure what yeast does for flour, and no good cultivator can forego its advantages. An application of from 30 to 50 cords of stable manure per acre, on land well adapted for the application, to be planted to the most productive varieties of strawberries, is positively on the basis of economy. A given amount of composted stable manure put on evenly at three different dressings, the whole being plowed in each time, and ten days after each plowing crossed thoroughly with an Acme harrow, makes a splendid preparation for strawberries ; but, if large berries are objected to, don't try this plan ; but if your policy is to drive small berries out of the market, the plan will work well. It seems like using considerable manure and, indeed if I were to plant the field to Bidwell or Crescent, I would use less, but for the Sharpless or Jewell it is all right, and the two go well together. To secure the heaviest yield possible, my plan would be to plant four rows of Jewell to one of Sharpless, or to make the field all Jewell except the 1st, 6th, 11th, 16th and 21st rows, and so on. My experience shows that this proportion is all sufficient

for complete fertilization of the flowers, and, as the Jewell is the more productive, I give that the larger space.

To obtain the largest attainable yield under high culture, I would have my propagating bed on rich land planted in autumn, or very early spring; I would allow no blossoms and secure as a result, with good culture, early plants. On rich prepared land, plant as early in July as you get a sufficiency of plants; set them 24 x 18 inches apart and keep off all runners. The immediate result of such a course will gratify the planter, and surprise his neighbors: but the greater surprise will be in the fruiting season, when the profusion of large, bright berries will indeed be a marvel. Under the foregoing plan the maximum yield per plant should reach two quarts, with an average yield of one quart or more; but to reach this there must be no slipshod management. As in the solution of a problem in mathematics, every step must be right, in which case the solution will be right. With such a yield, selling at 15 cents per quart, the gross returns would exceed \$2,000 per acre; or at 12 cents per quart the income would exceed \$1,700 per acre. But observe that to do this, the land, the manuring, the management, the variety, the season and the marketing, must all be right. Let no novice expect that he is to step right into such success.

There are difficulties to encounter; the grub may destroy some plants; other insect enemies may do damage; drought may cut short the yield, and in many ways there may be disappointment. —*P. M. Augur, of Conn., in Rural New-Yorker.*

THE REQUISITES FOR A MARKET STRAWBERRY.

First, the berry should have size. A pleasurable sight conveyed to the brain through the eye often increases the selling of a commodity of food. This is especially true of the strawberry. A first-class strawberry should not contain over fifty berries to the quart, and if much less than this in number so much the better for the producer. The time has been when a very few varieties could produce berries of the size mentioned, but at the present day many will, under good culture, produce first-class berries so far as size is concerned.

The second requisite is a very dark color and free from white tips. Many of the older varieties of berries having great size are white at the tip. The present season Sharpless and Miner's have been passed by purchasers objecting to the light color, even when ripened to the extreme end.

Thirdly, size and color must be accompanied by good quality. The Sharpless and Miner have not the requisite quality to make these varieties sought after at the present time as first-class market berries in the New York market. They have been considered standbys for years, but at this time so many other varieties are to be had possessing qualities in which these are deficient, that consumers in that city demand berries of a better quality. This will even prove to be the case in all places wherever the market becomes overstocked with berries. The Jewell has qualities adapting it for general culture not possessed by the Sharpless, Miner, Great American, or Jersey Queen. It is of easy culture, deeper in color than

either Sharpless or Miner, ripens to the extreme end, of large size and is rather better in quality.
—*J. B. Rogers.*

STRAWBERRIES AT THE OHIO EXPERIMENT STATION.

Prof. W. J. Green, in charge of the horticultural experiments, has devoted much time to the strawberry the past few seasons, cultivating every variety, new and old, that it has been possible for him to obtain. Some have been left in matted rows for three years, and Downing, Kentucky and Mt. Vernon seem to have stood this treatment best. Of promising new sorts, Covell's Early was some six days earlier than Crescent, which is the standard of earliness. Farnsworth is extra early, larger and brighter in color than Crescent, productive as Downing, and superb in quality; in fact, the best of any ever tested by Prof. Green. Ohio, a seedling of the Kentucky, is even later than that variety, and proves to be fully twice as productive and, therefore, should prove a very valuable variety. Jessie is even more vigorous and productive, and larger than the Jewell, and far better in quality; and while a seedling of Sharpless, the berries, although larger, are not nearly so irregular in shape. Queen of the Peninsula is a healthy, vigorous plant, is very prolific, fruit large and firm, but very sour, and is promising as a market variety where quality is not considered. There are many other new sorts, but the ones named are the most promising. A large number of plots are for the purpose of testing the effects of the different fertilizers on the texture and quality of the fruit, muriate and sulphate of potash, nitrate of soda,

sulphate of ammonia, ground bone and superphosphate, each being used alone, and in combinations, and also in varying quantities.—*Grange Bulletin*.

RAISING SMALL BERRIES.

I can give no encouragement to those who raise poor berries. There is neither pleasure nor profit in it. The use of the land, the cost of plants, and the expense of setting, are the same whether we give good culture or poor. One who fails to care for the plantation after it is started loses all pleasure in it the first year. In fact he is ashamed of it. When he comes to harvest the fruit, he finds trouble in getting pickers. In addition to this he knows that it will be up-hill business to sell his crop, and that at best it is only saving a little from the wreck. He has no inclination to spend money for new crates or baskets, and, so, his small berries are carried to market in old weather-beaten crates. In selling them he meets with every discouragement. Grocers do not want them at any price. He tries one after another until he becomes desperate. Finally he gets permission to leave them to be sold for what they will bring. This injures the market for the sale of good berries, and he gains the ill will of thrifty growers, who are ashamed to associate with him. It sets him on edge to be taken for what he is worth, and he becomes sour and envious. He never loses an opportunity to speak against those who are leaving him behind. He is like the man who combs his hair but once a week, and finds even that a difficult job. Those who cultivate their strawberries but once a year

have a hard time, but, somehow, no one pities them. They are, however, engaged in a good cause—furnishing berries for that large class who cannot afford to pay over four cents a quart.

CHEAPER GROWING OF FRUIT.

It is doubtless true that fruit cannot be grown at present low rates without cheaper methods of production. And by this we mean not less but more labor, skill, and intelligence on the part of the cultivator. Take, for example, the strawberry, a fruit that comes into bearing so quickly that it may easily be in use by every family. The dearest berries are those growing wild, with no cultivation and no expense save cost of picking. Next to these in costliness are the half cultivated ones found in thousands of farmer's gardens, and which are so often nearly a failure, that if they could be bought as wanted at city prices, they would not pay for picking even after they are grown. Probably the fruit of the smallest cost is that of successful market gardeners who have grown as high as 250 bushels per acre. With these large crops the principal cost is in picking and marketing, while with a small crop the expense of cultivation is not infrequently fifty cents to one dollar per quart, and the berries so scattered that they are scarcely worth picking when grown.—*American Cultivator*.

F. C. Miller & Son have been remarkably successful with this fruit, and have next season's crop engaged. Last year they sold their fruit at a good price, and could have sold far more than they had. At the same time common berries were a

drug in the market. They grow an early crop on the land, and in July a large amount of manure is applied and the soil plowed and stirred until it is as fine as ashes. It is then planted with potted plants, after which it is kept clean and mellow. Every runner is cut off. The cultivating is done with a hand cultivator, which is pulled by one man and held by another.

The following is their method of growing potted plants, as given in *Orchard and Garden* :

Just as soon as the runner is ready to root, cut it off close to the parent plant and drop it in water. When all are cut, fill thumb pots with good potting soil, then prepare the bud (embryo plant) by cutting the runner off, leaving on the plant that-is-to-be only a piece one and one-half or two inches in length—like a handle. Now insert this tail end into the pot, the same as any cutting, so that the bud is about half in the soil. Press the soil firmly about the plants, place the pots in cold frames close together and *water freely* two or three times a day. Always cover during hot sunshine; uncover during cloudy weather and at night. Our glass is coated with a paint as follows: Turpentine, 1 quart; boiled oil, 1 oz.; white lead, 1 oz.; put on with a whitewash brush. The plants will be ready to turn out in from two to three weeks.

The finest crop of strawberries we ever grew was a bed of Wilson's Albany, on about one-third of an acre that we had manured well in the fall with well-rotted manure and plowed under shallow, and the next spring as soon as the frost was out and ground settled, we plowed it deep, following the common turn plow with a subsoil plow that loosened the ground at least eighteen inches below the surface, but not turning up the subsoil. After harrowing well, we set the plants one foot

apart in the row, and rows three feet apart. We kept it well cultivated and hoed, and the ground well worked, and cut off all runners. Such fine berries and such a mass of them were certainly a sight to see. We are satisfied that one acre of ground thus prepared, planted and cared for, would bring as much actual profit as five acres in the ordinary way.—*A. M. Purdy.*

WORTH KNOWING.

All who have cultivated strawberries must have noticed how inconvenient it is to have the runners extending in all directions. Sometimes they run from one row to the other where they are torn up by the cultivator, and sometimes two plants send their runners towards each other making some parts of the row too thick, and leaving others vacant. All this may be avoided by setting the plants in such a position that they will run in a given direction. I discovered years ago, that the strawberry plant sends out runners in but one direction, or from one side, and that is the side opposite the old runner that produced it. If the side of the plant from which the main runner was cut is set towards the north, that plant will run to the south.

J. M. SMITH, President of the Wis. State Hort. Society, is one of the most successful strawberry growers of the United States. He has often raised over 400 bushels per acre. Last season he raised 1,000 bushels on three acres, and sold them for over \$2,200. This was during one of the most severe drouths ever experienced in Wisconsin. His land is thoroughly underdrained,

and has been made very rich and deep for vegetables. He sets his plants two feet apart in rows both ways, and gives the very best culture. About the last of August he places six runners from each plant at about equal distances apart around the old plant. The surface is kept well stirred, and no weeds are allowed to grow. Of course they are carefully covered in winter.

A COMMON MISTAKE.

When persons buy plants at a high price and are anxious to increase them as fast as possible, they allow the first runners to root. In this way the plant, while yet weak from recent transplanting, exhausts itself in producing a few feeble runners. A much better way is to strengthen the plant by cutting off every runner and blossom until later in the season, when it will send out from three to a dozen strong runners at once. There is nothing gained by working a plant or animal when in a feeble condition.

TESTING NEW VARIETIES.

We make it a uniform rule of practice to get seeds or plants of all the new varieties in which we are interested, which may be offered by reliable dealers. In this way, out of the dozens of new things tested every year, we find one or two valuable sorts which pay a big profit on the money so expended. Those that fail with us we "don't count," except to discard them and try the next year for better kinds. We believe most emphatically in the liberal testing of new varieties on a small scale in any garden.—*Am. Garden.*

DESCRIPTIONS.

Jessie.—Originated with F. W. Loudon, of Janesville, Wis. In the summer of 1884 he sent me 12 potted plants, which fruited in great perfection the next season. In the spring of '85 he sent me another lot. By this means I have been enabled to raise a fine stock of plants, besides giving the variety a thorough trial, both in hills and matted rows. I have watched it very closely, because so much had been claimed for it, and my opinion is that it has not been overrated. I have seen no weak spot in it, and this is more than I could say of any other that was ever sent to me from any source.

The plants I offer are all of my own growing, and I am the only person who has a stock of it, except Mr. Loudon, who sells no plants. This is the only advantage I have over other nurserymen; for I am to pay the introducer in New York the regular trade price for all I sell or plant. Those who have had experience with strawberry plants that have been reshipped and repacked will appreciate the advantage of getting them direct from the grower, especially one who has had a long and successful experience, and who has every appliance for packing in the very best manner.

The following are extracts from Mr. Loudon's letters during the past two years :

"The Jessie is a seedling originated by me in 1880, and has fruited five seasons. The plant is a luxuriant grower, never showing a trace of rust. The fruit is extra large, even to the last picking, the color is even, the flesh so firm as to ship long distances, and the quality of the best. In 1884, 26 selected berries made two quarts, and 22 as picked, made one quart, 1,000 plants set in September, 1884, in hills, the next season produced at the rate of 600 bushels per acre. The past season, by the matted row system, I got 400 bushels on two acres of the plants in spite of the fact that during 96 days not enough rain fell to be measured; the ground was as hard as a pavement, with cracks two or three inches wide under a heavy mulch and dense foliage.

"I sold my crop to one firm at 12½ cents. They retailed at 15 cents when the city was oversupplied with berries at 6 cents. I

had them engaged in Milwaukee at 15 cents, but I could not supply my home trade.

"I had no trouble to get them picked at one cent a quart. One boy earned in one afternoon \$1.80 at that price. Four others picked 500 quarts the same afternoon. I have raised from one stool in a season 1,110 plants of the Jessie."

"I have found the Jessie to be much firmer than I had heretofore supposed."

"In the summer of 1883, nearly all varieties were ruined by three frosts. The Jessie escaped, never showing one blossom injured, but bore a full crop. I sent two crates to Milwaukee, 70 miles from here, and they brought 25 cents per quart when other berries were selling for five cents."

"I don't claim that the Jessie is the biggest berry on earth, but it takes the least number of berries to make a quart of any variety that I ever saw."

"To-day, four persons picked of the Jessie 51 crates of 16 quarts each in seven hours. They averaged 31 to the quart. They were counted at the store by the parties handling them. This is my first picking for market. On the neighboring stands the Crescent and Wilson were purchased and counted, when it required 140 to 150 berries to make a quart."

"I shall not be able to show any very large berries. They will average about two-thirds as large as last year. I set the first week in September last 700 of the Jessie, and by the 20th 700 more. To-day, we counted on the first plat as many as 70 berries on a single plant. Three-fourths of them are ripe, and many specimens of six inches in circumference may be found on nearly every plant. I cannot in writing give you any adequate impression as to the beauties of my strawberries: they must be seen to be appreciated."

"It has the best leaf ever seen on a strawberry. On new rich soil it grows as tall as the Sharpless. The leaf stalk is very stout. I have seen, to-day, runners with strings almost as large as a lead pencil."

"Layer plants set in September have averaged three pints to the hill the next season."

"One bed of 1,000 plants set last September, I covered with mats a week before the meeting, to keep them from burning up. These were in fine condition for display. The berries lay in masses; as many as 70 were counted on a hill. Pres. Smith and wife found berries here measuring nine inches in circumference. Here the crowd separated, each trying to see who would get the most big berries."

"My market wagon, loaded with Jessie in crates for delivery, was next on exhibition. Scarcely a box contained over 30 berries, all properly heaped. All said I had a fortune in the Jessie, and advised me not to sell it, but run it myself. Two men told me they would agree to sell 2000 dozen in the southern tier of counties of Wisconsin."

J. H. Hale, a prominent pomologist, and Master of the Conn. State Grange, writes :

"As I saw Jessie, it impressed me as a perfectly healthy plant, twice as productive as Sharpless, fruit larger and of far better quality, more perfect in form and color, and with a perfect blos-

som. I could see no reason why it should not become one of our most popular varieties."

The Wisconsin State Horticultural Society met at Janesville on June 16th and 17th, 1886. On the afternoon of the first day the Society adjourned to Mr. Loudon's strawberry plantation to see the Jessie and other varieties.

The following resolutions, adopted without a dissenting voice, show their appreciation of the Jessie:

Resolved, That the show of the Jessie upon F. W. Loudon's grounds exceeds anything we have ever seen in size, productiveness and quality, and we believe it possesses more valuable qualities than any variety now disseminated.

Resolved, That in addition to the Jessie we are surprised at the wonderful success attained by F. W. Loudon in producing so many very promising and valuable varieties of strawberry seedlings, many of them exceeding in size and productiveness our best varieties now generally cultivated.

The display of strawberries at this meeting was the best ever made in the State. The Jessie received two prizes, one for the best quart of any variety, quality considered, and one for the best quart of any variety, size considered. A committee appointed to make an additional report, shipped some of the Jessie to a point 600 miles distant, where it arrived in good condition after being on the road forty hours.

The following was written by Vie H. Campbell, of Evansville, Wis., and published in the *Wis. Farmer*:

The summer meetings held by horticulturists in the interest of their labors are like oases in the desert. Especially is this true of the convention held in Janesville, June 16, 1886. The meeting was profitable, and the interest continued unabated throughout the session. A part of the programme, which was of more than usual interest, was the visiting of the grounds of F. W. Loudon, for the purpose of inspecting his new seedling strawberry. Mr. Loudon has made the cultivation and propagation of strawberries his study for years, and although we are told that perfection cannot be attained in this world the Jessie strawberry has upset such theories.

In short, the coming berry has come, and far exceeds the expectation of the most sanguine. The Jessie—named after one of Mr. Loudon's daughters—is of a deep, rich color, attractive in form, a Jumbo in size, (I picked specimens which measured $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference). In flavor it is a delicious pine-apple; it is firm without being hard, thus rendering it a desirable berry for shipment or for the table. The compliments of Mr. Loudon represented by a box of these delicious berries stand before me now, which compare with our Crescents as our Crescents compare with wild berries.

We have had new varieties which promised well but did not prove satisfactory, but the Jessie will thrive and flourish in all soils, having been tested in a great variety of soils. Whenever he heard of a new soil Mr. Loudon would send for a barrel and try growing a few plants of the Jessie in it. He had a number of plants growing in a fine gravel taken from a well thirty feet below the surface. They were small when compared with those grown in good soil, yet no smaller than we have seen plants of other varieties in many of our gardens. There they stood—sturdy little things—full of fruit, as much as to say: “We are going to do our best even if you do abuse us.”

Mr. Loudon has been very successful as a propagator of new varieties. He was the originator of the famous Janesville grape. The man who conducts the long line of experiments necessary to produce a new variety that shall prove satisfactory is a public benefactor, but one whom the public is generally slow to acknowledge. We seldom think, when eating our luscious fruits, of the careful, painstaking labor which has brought them to their present degree of perfection.

An hour was spent in examining the Jessie strawberries, which were literally piled one above another as they grew.

J. M. Smith, President of the Wis. State Hort. Soc., and one of the most successful strawberry growers in the West, spoke of the Jessie as follows :

“The berries lay upon the ground in heaps. They were fair in shape, of good color, averaging very large; one measured nine inches; quarts would measure from six to seven; flavor very fine. If it does as well after dissemination, it will be a great acquisition surely.”

PINE BLUFF, Dane Co., Wis., Nov. 20, 1886.

Mr. F. W. Loudon:

DEAR SIR—I, with other members of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society, visited your grounds. It was the universal opinion of the best growers of strawberries in this State, that they had never seen such fine and so large berries, as your bed of Jessies.

Yours truly,

MATT. ANDERSON.

Treas. Wis. State Horticultural Society.

F. W. Loudon Esq.:

From the display of fruit, both in the exhibition room and on the vine, of the Jessie strawberry, made by you at our State Horticultural Convention in Janesville, I am convinced that the Jessie has extraordinary merit as to *quality*, *fine appearance*, and *production*. The crop, as shown by the acre in your grounds, with only ordinary culture, and suffering from severe drouth, was something wonderful.

J. S. STICKNEY,

President Milwaukee Pickle Co.

[Mr. Stickney is largely engaged in fruit growing, and holds an office in the State Society.]

F. W. Loudon, Esq.:

BARABOO, Wis.

DEAR SIR—I regard your success as an originator of very many valuable new strawberries as truly wonderful. The large planta-

tion of the Jessie I saw at your place last summer, grown in matted rows with most ordinary field culture, and suffering under a protracted drouth, made a show of fruit for size and productiveness such as I had never seen, under the most favorable conditions of culture. I expect to invest at least \$10 next spring in the Jessie. I shall probably attend many of the Institute meetings the coming winter, and will give the Jessie the praise it deserves. I try to avoid all humbugs, but cheerfully give my testimony in favor of any fruit that I think valuable.

A. G. TUTTLE.

[Mr. Tuttle is one of a committee of three on new fruits in Wisconsin State Society.]

[From Country Gentleman.]

WIS. HORTICULTURAL, JANESVILLE.

The strawberries were the best I ever saw. I think I saw half a dozen in New England at the Boston Horticultural Show, but these were grown with great care, and carefully selected. Mr. F. W. Loudon had 65 plates; we adjourned to the strawberry farm of Mr. Loudon, and beheld a sight that baffled all our strawberry knowledge; there were bushels of the Jessie as large as pullets' eggs.

WM. HORNE, M. D.

We have seen the Jessie on Mr. Loudon's grounds in fruiting, and will say that it is ahead of anything we ever saw in the strawberry line. The berries are all large to VERY LARGE, and were of splendid form and color. They were certainly by far the handsomest berries in the crate we ever saw. We were completely carried away with it, and tried to buy some of the plants, but he had not decided to put it on the market at that time. The plant is very robust and strong, and seems to be able to carry through an immense load of fruit.

Very truly yours,

COE & CONVERSE, Nurserymen.

Mr. Loudon's strawberry, the Jessie, I have seen in its original bed, and have bought in the market. It combines four excellencies—size, solidity, sweetness, and delicious flavor. Of all the strawberries, so far as my experience goes, this is the best.

WM. F. BROWN, Pastor First Presbyterian Church.

We have handled Mr. F. W. Loudon's berry crop for the past few seasons. The last two seasons we have had his crop of Jessie, and on account of size and quality we found no difficulty in retailing this variety at from 12½ to 15 cents per quart, while Wilsons, Crescents, &c., were a drug in the market at from 6 to 8 cents.

Respectfully,

VANKIRK BROS.

JANESVILLE, June 17, 1886.

One of the most attractive features of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society exhibit, now being held at Apollo Hall, is the strawberry exhibit of F. W. Loudon, embracing over 70 plates. All were of monstrous size, the most attractive of which was the famous Jessie, just as picked from the vines, a crate full dumped upon the table. Each looked as if selected for a prize. All were large, and the perfection of fruit, the finest, and most perfect that I have ever seen.

CYRUS MINER,

Treasurer Wisconsin State Agricultural Society.

BROADHEAD, WIS.

I saw the Jessie in your grounds in the summer of 1885, growing in alternate rows with all the popular leading varieties. They surpassed any I ever saw anywhere, not only in size but in quality and productiveness. Out of the four or five varieties that were extra fine, the Jessie is my choice. I visited your grounds again in 1886, and found your seedlings producing just as heavy a crop of large luscious berries as they did the year before, notwithstanding we were passing through the most severe drouth.

Yours truly,

N. N. PALMER,

Nurseryman and Fruit Grower.

GRANTON, Canada, Nov. 23, 1886.

I saw the Jessie in all its glory at Matthew Crawford's place. I believe it and Itasca are the leaders of the best strawberries of to-day. Wishing you every success,

I am yours truly,

JOHN LITTLE.

[Mr. Little is the Canadian authority on strawberries.]

Itasca.—This variety was originated by J. H. Haynes, one of the most successful growers in Indiana. I have fruited it two years, and find it to be very productive, and of the highest quality. I have seen 225 berries on a plant. It is a good grower, and free from rust so far. Some plants send out a large number of runners, and others form great stools, making but few runners. Blossom, pistillate. The fruit is about the size of the Capt. Jack or Crescent, roundish conical, and very uniform in shape and size. It is of a fine bright red color, and is not inclined to have white tips. While it is never very large, it holds its size well to the end of the season. It is perhaps the best flavored of all the very productive varieties of its class, that have been well tested. It will be classed with the Crescent for size and productiveness, but it is far superior in quality. With good culture it will produce a great crop of berries about an inch in diameter. It has succeeded wherever tried, and I have heard no unfavorable report of it thus far.

TWO PROMISING NEW STRAWBERRIES.

Editor Indiana Farmer :

Mr. J. H. Haines is one of the most industrious and careful growers of the strawberry that our state has yet produced. He appears to test all promising novelties as fast as they are offered, and has produced at least two new varieties—Itasca and No. 19—which thus far have presented no weak points, and which give every indication of being more valuable than any varieties now cultivated. Both are growing on my grounds this season but have not yet fruited. The plants of each are remarkably robust and

healthy. Itasca is a strong sturdy grower—better than Jewell, near it—but does not equal No. 19 in the production of young plants. In response to some questions recently asked by me, concerning his seedlings, Mr. Haines has sent me the following reply, which will, I am sure, greatly interest many of your readers:

"In regard to my seedlings I can say they are to me of more value than any other or all varieties that I have. Itasca is a seedling from Manchester, fertilized with Seneca Queen under glass, in early spring. It is a most wonderful grower, and as hardy as regards heat and cold as any plant could ever be. It is more productive than Crescent or Wilson—averages larger, and ripens its fruit up to the last. In beauty and quality it has no peer. Plants by the hundred, in single rows, last June averaged 225 berries to the plant. Three plants sent to Mensing & Stecker, of Rochester, N. Y., had on 691 berries, and they have lithographed them for the *Art Journal* for September or October. Mr. Crawford says that these two seedlings are real gems, and his opinion is reliable, I think.

Itasca ripens its first just as Crescent begins to fail, thus prolonging the season to a good length. No. 19 is a seedling of Pioneer, a very healthy plant, immensely productive for so large a berry, almost as productive as Itasca, and the largest berry in size of any on my place. Jewell, Parry, Lida, Crawford, Keller's Seedling, and 40 other varieties fruited in same plat of ground, under same treatment, and no one of them began to equal 19, as can be sworn to by all the prominent men of Delphi who called to see them.

I propose to have 2 oz. berries next year, if I live."

GRANVILLE COWING.

No. 19 is now named "Logan."—*M. Crawford.*

Summit.—This is Crawford's No. 6, the largest berry ever grown on my place. It has been fruited five years, has been exhibited at six strawberry shows, and has never failed to receive the first honors for size. If this were its only merit it would not be offered, but it combines so many desirable qualities that it is deemed worthy of introduction. The plant resembles that of the Cumberland, being very large and stocky. It is a luxuriant grower, sending out many runners, and bearing an abundance of fruit. The blossom is pistillate. Fruit, very large. It received, last season, a prize of ten dollars for the heaviest ten berries of good form. Form, roundish, sometimes slightly irregular, but never cocks-combed or misshapen. Color, bright red; rather darker than the Cumberland, and lighter than the Jucunda. Flesh, firmer than the average of large berries, and of good flavor. The fruit ripens all over at once. The Summit has been very thoroughly tested in many parts

of the United States and Canada, and has given general satisfaction. I have received many reports of it, and am unable to recall one that was unfavorable, except that it has shown some tendency to rust in two or three places.

It is a success at the Ohio Experiment Station. W. J. Green, the horticulturist of the Station, when addressing the meeting of the Ohio State Hor. Society, held in Barnesville, in June, named the Summit and Bubach's No. 5 as promising new varieties that are well worth trying. A. Wood, of this (Summit) county, has grown twelve of the most noted varieties he could procure, and had them on exhibition this season. He pronounces the Summit best of all. Many testimonials might be furnished, but I will offer only the following :

In a letter written June 25th, 1885, F. C. Miller, after speaking of about a dozen different sorts, including the Ontario, Parry, Jewell, and Bubach's No. 5, says of No. 6 :

"This I consider superior to all of the kinds thus far tried. The plant is remarkably healthy, a rampant grower, making runners at a wonderful rate. Size, extra large. Color, good; is firm, good form. *Very productive.* One plant had seven large fruit stalks. Quality better than Jewell."

"Crawford's No. 6 is the largest, heaviest, and best berry on my grounds. Sixteen weighed one pound. Some of the unripe berries now measure four inches, although the season is about done. It has done better this year than ever before."—*John Little, of Canada, July, '89.*

"Crawford's No. 6 has now done very finely with me for two years past. It seems to me worthy of dissemination."—*T. T. Lyon.*

LITTLE SILVER, N. J., July 21, 1886.

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

MY DEAR SIR:—When at your place, in 1884, and saw your No. 6 strawberry in bearing, I thought it, all things considered, the finest strawberry I had ever seen. Since then I have seen nothing to cause me to change my opinion. In no other strawberry have I seen such large size, firmness, beauty, and high quality combined; or plants of such vigorous growth and bearing such a profusion of fruit. I have now fruited it at Monmouth two seasons, and am happy to say it here sustains the favorable impression made by what I saw of it at Cuyahoga Falls.

Yours truly,

JOHN T. LOVETT."

"The Summit is first for size and beauty, second for vigor and productiveness."—*W. J. Green.*

✓ Ohio.—I first heard of this variety two years ago from W. J. Green, of Ohio Experiment Station, where it had been tested alongside of the Kentucky, and found to be fully twice as productive. I received plants from the originator last spring, and have found it to be a very good grower, and healthy in every respect. I have not seen the fruit.

The variety originated with Geo. L. Miller, of Butler Co., Ohio, who speaks of it as follows :

“The Ohio has some excellent qualities. The plant is a good grower, much more productive than Kentucky. Berries bright red, and do not lose their luster or show bruises like Kentucky; furnishing one or two good pickings when Kentucky is all gone. I compare with Kentucky as Ohio is undoubtedly a seedling of that variety, which has no rival in this market, and is one of the most profitable berries grown here. Ohio is a pistillate (and there seems to be a growing prejudice against pistillates, though, as a rule, they are the most productive,) but when properly planted I believe it will produce more quarts and more money than any other late variety with which I am acquainted. It has now fruited with me five years, and I have been more and more favorably impressed with its value as a late variety—especially for market. The plant resembles Kentucky in the shape of its leaves, but is darker in color, more luxuriant in growth, and far more productive. The berries are large, roundish conic, sometimes slightly flattened, bright red, shaded to pink in the center: colors evenly all over, firm enough to ship well, and does not lose color or show bruises in handling. It does not begin to ripen till Kentucky is in its prime. I regret to say that the foliage is inclined to rust some, perhaps no more so than Kentucky, and not so much so as *Cornelia*, *C. Downing*, or *Manchester*.”

“The Ohio is the most productive late berry I have seen. For three years it has produced twice as much as the Kentucky.”—*W. J. Green*.

✓ Bubach's No. 5.—This is as healthy a plant and as good a grower as one could desire. It is very dark green, and sends out a sufficient number of stout runners. The fruit is very large, of good quality, with a somewhat uneven surface. It is a good bearer. It has not been well tested except by the originator, but all agree that the plant is a luxuriant grower, and free from disease.

“I originated in 1882 a lot of about 500 kinds, many of them good. The one I numbered 5, however, surpassed all others in most or all points essential to the best strawberry for the public, for it combines great and uniform size, fine color and form, with unsurpassed productiveness, good quality of fruit, with great vigor, stockiness and hardness of plant. The leaves are large, and of a

very dark green color, and the hottest sun we had last year, 96 to 100 degrees in the shade, did not appear to affect them, and then the plants, unlike the Bidwell, carried every blossom to a perfect berry, and unlike the Sharpless, colored all over at the same time. They are almost as early as the Crescent and as long in bearing, and as productive. They sold last year in our market for 25 cents, when others brought only 12½ or 15 cents per quart. Quite late fall grown plants bore well last year. The plants, with their burden of large and beautiful berries, were an object of great attraction, and the exclamations of "Oh! oh!" so frequently repeated, seemed best fitted to express the beholder's surprise and delight. Many persons said they had seen large berries before, but they always seemed to be exceptions; here they were the rule."—*J. G. Bubach*.

"Mr. Bubach's strawberry patch has been a wonder this season. Among the mammoth varieties the No. 5 seems to be the greatest surprise. We certainly have never seen such berries in any market. There are not just a few big ones, but all are large, and the flavor is very fine."—*Princeton Republican*, June 18, 1885.

"The berries of Bubach's No. 5 readily sold in quantity here at 12½ to 15 cents per quart, when home grown Downings brought only 8 to 10 cents. It seems certain to have a great run. It has been well tested, and thus far is a long way ahead of any other variety."—*Samuel Edwards*, Aug. 27, '86.

"The season of 1886 has more than confirmed our previous good opinion of the No. 5 in every valuable point, especially in size, quality, and capacity to endure drouth. One picker picked 72 quarts by 7 o'clock in the morning, in two hours; another 8 quarts in ten minutes, and this was done without any influence except the pay of one cent per quart, or any intention of making an extraordinary picking. They were nicely and carefully handled."—*J. G. Bubach*.

Jewell.—Originated by P. M. Augur & Sons, of Connecticut. The plant is a very luxuriant grower, free from disease of any kind. It is a very prolific bearer. A friend in Connecticut says it is as large as the Sharpless, and as productive as the Crescent. It is the most productive variety ever grown at the *Rural New-Yorker* farm, where all varieties are tested. It has produced some of the greatest crops ever known. It has a tendency to form immense stools, and send out but few runners, and this is not just what one wants after paying two dollars a dozen for plants. While it is very large, it produces but few misshapen berries. The form is usually conical, or roundish, sometimes slightly flattened. Color, bright red changing to crimson when fully ripe. It is of good quality, but not best. It ripens all over at once. It is quite firm, and keeps well after being picked.

I have fruited it once, and have seen enough to convince me that all these testimonials are true.

"The largest strawberry, in most soils, all things considered, at the present time, may be said to be the Jewell."—*J. B. Rogers.*

J. W. Manning, of Reading, Mass., counted on one plant of the Jewell, of the previous year's growth, 225 perfectly formed berries, many of which were very large. Its ability to withstand heat and cold is remarkable."

"It has three stages of ripening; first, it colors over all at once glossy scarlet, changing later to a deeper shade, finally becoming dark crimson. In the earlier stages it will doubtless be an excellent shipper. At the Massachusetts Hort. Society last year (1885) it was noted to have held its condition and brilliancy remarkably during the show after 110 miles shipment,"—*American Garden.*

Quality *good to very good*, we do not rate it as best. The *Duncan*, *Black Defiance* and *Prince of Berries*, are better than Jewell, and yet purchasers will take the Jewell from a fruit stand, and leave the others: while the yield is two or three to one. We advise market growers to try it, in a *small way*, if they choose, but we believe it is soon to take a larger place in the market than any other variety."—*Fruit Recorder.*

"This new variety is one of so much promise that the eyes of all progressive cultivators are turned towards it. The size of the fruit is very large, its color a bright red, inclining towards crimson when fully ripe, and the quality excellent. The plants possess great vigor, and are enormous bearers, provided the one great essential to large crops, generous feeding, is duly furnished."—*Popular Gardening.*

"I have one dozen Jewell which I took out of the hot bed in April. Had ripe fruit on May 2d, and had ripe fruit for 62 consecutive days, and are still in bloom. Have not made a sign of a runner this summer."—*John F. Beaver Sept. 1, '86.*

"J. S. Woodward has picked a quart from a single plant of the Jewell, and left 43 on it. This was on very rich land."

✓ **Ontario.**—This was introduced in the fall of 1885 by R. Johnston, of Ontario County, N. Y., and was claimed to be the largest berry in the market. I have fruited it one year, alongside of the Sharpless, giving them an equal chance. It is very much like the Sharpless, and I think equal to it in every respect, besides being of better form. It makes very strong plants, and plenty of them, and is free from rust or disease of any kind. It has a perfect blossom. A friend in Canada who has fruited it is very well pleased with it, and will

plant it largely for market. It has an excellent reputation in Ontario County, where it has been grown four years, and the next season's crop is already engaged. I have heard much of the good qualities of this variety, but have never yet heard anything against it. Mr. Johnston thus speaks of it :

"In our long experience we have never seen anything equal to what it has done for us this year. We are more than pleased, for it has gone ahead of anything we ever said of it, and proves itself a very valuable berry. Its large strong plant is evidence of its ability to do large things. It is very fine to handle and ship, and is very hardy. We have seen no rust or blight on it, and all the plants seem to be fruitful. Its large size—averaging much larger than the Sharpless—its dark but bright shining surface, its superior flavor and great productiveness, are qualities that recommend it above any other berry we have ever grown. We never saw such a show of fruit anywhere else as our rows showed this season, and all visitors expressed great astonishment at the amount and size of the fruit, and much enjoyment in tasting its luscious qualities. Our experience this and other seasons will lead us to plant it largely for market. We have never given it unusual culture—no manure at all ; but while it was remarkably fine on some very light sand, it was much more productive on stronger land. The plant is so strong we think it will stand very high culture."

The following is from the *American Rural Home* :

"ONTARIO.—There were four long rows of this comparatively unknown berry, which Mr. Johnston obtained in Canada, and named Ontario. He has had it four years now. The plants were very vigorous, and heavily loaded with fruit, which was just beginning to ripen. The berry is very large, in general appearance resembling the Sharpless, but much better shape. Although the ripe berries were as large as the Sharpless they were quite regular, wedge-shaped, but not coxcombed. In flavor it also is quite similar to the Sharpless, but in productiveness it is far ahead of it. We have rarely seen so large a berry bearing so much fruit. If this variety should, in future years and in other localities, bear as profusely as in this plot, we may calculate upon having a large, sweet berry at a moderate price."

Belmont.—If any one knows anything against the Belmont, he has kept it to himself. Much has been said and written about it, but, so far, it is all in praise of the variety. A large number of horticulturists have gone to Belmont to see it, and they are the ones who are planting it most extensively. It has been the chief prize-taker in Boston for a number of years, and is said to be the finest berry that ever appeared in the Boston market. I have seen enough of the fruit to satisfy me

that it is all that was ever claimed for it. In all parts of the West where it was planted last spring, it is making a good record for healthy, vigorous growth.

A well posted grower in New England, who knows all about the Belmont, wrote me that he would plant all he could afford to buy. Another correspondent in Massachusetts wrote last fall as follows: "The Belmont is a fine thing. I shall set 20,000 plants of it next spring, and as many more in August, pot grown."

"Some years ago Mr. Warren Heustis, of Belmont, Mass., an experienced and well known market gardener and farmer, succeeded in raising this variety, which he named the 'Belmont.' For two years he has sold the fruit in Faneuil Hall market at prices ranging from forty to fifty per cent. above that for any other variety which he carried there. Mr. Heustis says that the Belmont strawberry has been grown by him for four years, and during that time he has found it to do well on both heavy and light soils. It is the best, strongest growing, and most valuable variety he knows of. The vigorous growth of the plant enables it to carry high and mature an abundant crop of fruit, which can remain a long time on the vines without injury. It is not liable to rust or blight, and being a staminate variety, will be found a reliable fertilizer for late pistillate sorts. On May 30, 1884, a sharp frost at Belmont, Mass., seriously injured all of Mr. Heustis's other varieties, while the Belmont, according to Mr. Heustis, not having come into flower, escaped without injury. As a cropper, he cannot say too much in its favor. From 10,700 feet of ground, or scarcely a quarter of an acre, Mr. Heustis realized the net sum of \$596, a portion of the crop being retained for home use. The Belmont berry is large, crimson in color, oblong in shape, very solid and sweet, and of extra flavor and quality. Its texture is exceedingly fine, having no hard or unripe spots. It colors evenly and perfectly and is quite remarkable as a carrier and keeper."—*American Garden*.

"This is a very handsome berry, being of a perfect egg-shaped form. It is about two inches long by one and a half wide near the base, with moderately scattered prominent seeds. The fruit ripens evenly, and is of a dark crimson color"—*Thos. Meehan*.

"The famous Belmont strawberry has just won the silver cup at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's show for the best four quarts. The two quarts which won a first prize were sold afterwards at private sale for five dollars. They were most remarkable specimens. During the past week the Belmonts have taken the lead in Quincy market, presenting the finest appearance, and commanding the highest prices."—*Am. Cultivator*, June, '86.

✓ **Covell.**—This was sent to me by Chas. Carpenter, of Kelley's Island, who claims that it is remarkable for its earliness. I have fruited it twice, and it is the earliest I have yet seen. Last season it ripened here on the 21st

of May—some days before the Crescent. The plant is of medium size, a good grower, perfectly healthy, and a prolific bearer. Blossom perfect. Fruit, medium size; bright red, nearly round, and very uniform in shape. It is a very firm berry, and is of better quality than the average. It will be desirable for its earliness. It has been tested at the Ohio Experiment Station, and the following report is made concerning it:

“The first ripe berries were seen May 17, upon plants of Covell’s Early, a new sort sent out by Matthew Crawford. This was followed closely by Crescent, May King and Wilson. The first named variety is doubtless as early as any now known to the public. It seems to possess no fault except that the berries are only medium in size; but as to firmness, color, form, and quality, they are all that can be desired.”

Lida.—Originated by Wm. Parry, of N. J., from seed of the Crimson Cluster, now being introduced by Peter Henderson & Co. It was put on the market last spring at \$10 per dozen. I planted two dozen, and find it to be all right as far as habits of growth are concerned. From what I have seen of it, and from the character of the introducer, I conclude it must be a good variety.

“This is a berry of fine size; bright red color; regular in form; heart shaped; a good shipper; excellent quality; very productive, and a robust grower. Flowers pistillate. Season medium.”—*Farm & Garden.*

Norman.—This variety was originated by myself, and named for my son. The plant is a vigorous grower and a prolific bearer. The foliage has sometimes rusted, but never to any great extent. It is of very large size—often from five to six inches in circumference, slightly irregular but never coxcombed or misshapen. Color, dark, glossy red; flesh, firm, sprightly, rather acid. Season, early.

John F. Beaver, of Dayton, perhaps the most successful amateur grower in Ohio, prefers the Norman to any other variety he ever fruited, and he has tested nearly all the fine sorts ever introduced.

Photo.—A seedling of my own, and adapted to home use or a near market. It is in many respects a most remarkable variety, being Mr. Beaver’s second choice. He was offered a dollar for a single plant when

full of ripe fruit. I knew a bed of it—perhaps 100 plants—that yielded two quarts to each plant for three years, although greatly inclined to rust. The plant is very stocky, of large size, and a good bearer. Fruit, very large, nearly round, dark, glossy red, and very beautiful. It is very soft, and easily bruised; flavor, sweet and, to most persons, delicious; blossom, pistillate.

✓ **Sterling.**—A variety of great excellence. Originated by myself, and introduced in 1876. It was thought to be a wonderful berry in its day—almost perfection. I have seen 200 berries on a plant, and I have occasionally seen perfect berries over six inches in circumference. [The cut on the cover is from a photograph, and is the exact size.] The fruit is of regular conical form, with a slight neck; color, glossy scarlet with yellow seeds; flesh, firm, and of the most delicious flavor; blossom, pistillate. It has disappointed many, and is seldom found at the present time. I always raise some for their beauty and quality.

✓ **Cornelia.**—A very late variety, originated by myself. The plant is large and stocky. It has proved to be less vigorous than was expected, and is sometimes affected with the rust. It has yielded large crops under high culture. It is no later than Mt. Vernon or Glendale, but is very much larger and finer than any other towards the close of the season. A. D. Webb, of Kentucky, has had it so fine with ordinary culture that 18 made a quart. It is always of regular, conical form, and very attractive in the market. Blossom, pistillate.

✓ **Black Giant.**—Originated by E. W. Durand, of New Jersey. He exhibited 50 that weighed 65 ounces. It is a good grower, quite prolific, very large, and of good quality. It is of very dark color, and often quite irregular in form. Blossom, pistillate. No great acquisition.

✓ **Capt. Jack.**—Originated by Samuel Miller, of Missouri. It is of the Wilson class, and is really an excellent variety, and succeeds in all parts of the country.

Plant, small, dark green, vigorous and productive. It will carry its size through a drouth better than most varieties. Fruit, nearly round, about an inch in diameter, of good color, and ordinary quality.

Henderson.—"It is doubtful if there is another strawberry in cultivation having such a combination of good qualities as the 'Henderson.' The fruit is of the largest size, early, and immensely productive; but its excelling merit is its *exquisite flavor*." With me the plant is all that could be desired, a vigorous grower, and perfectly healthy, with not a trace of rust. The fruit is large, beautiful and good, but it ripened unevenly, and was not sufficiently productive.

Cumberland.—This is one of the reliable standard varieties. It succeeds nearly everywhere. The plant is large, healthy, and quite productive. The fruit is very large, of regular form, light scarlet, and hardly firm enough for a very distant market. The quality is better than most market berries, but not equal to the best.

Sunapee.—This is a New Jersey variety introduced last season. I have heard both good and bad reports of it, and know really nothing about it, not having seen the fruit. The plant is a good grower, of moderate size, and healthy every way.

Anna Forrest.—From Ross county, Ohio. It is now offered for the first time. It was sent to me by an experienced grower, who claims it to be the largest variety in the world. I have not fruited it, and know nothing of it, except that it is vigorous and healthy.

May King.—This is a seedling of the Crescent, and an improvement of that variety. It is a very vigorous grower, and free from rust. It succeeds everywhere. It is very productive, larger than the Crescent, and about as early. Blossom perfect.

C. Downing.—Originated by Mr. Downer, of Kentucky, about twenty years ago. It has been a favorite in nearly all parts of the country, and has been extensively grown both for market and home use. Of late

years it has rusted in many localities, and is being superseded.

Daniel Boone.—This is the companion of the Longfellow and Warren, but more productive than either. Fruit of large size, bright red, and of medium quality.

Parry.—Originated by Judge Parry, of New Jersey. It is a large, fine variety, and has received numerous prizes. In '85 it made a good growth with me, but in the fall it lost most of its foliage with the rust. In '86 a new bed was set with the same rusty plants, and there was not a trace of rust on it last summer or fall. I shall always be somewhat afraid of it.

PRICES, BY MAIL, POSTPAID.

	DOZEN.	HUNDRED.
Jessie.....	\$2 00	\$10 00
Summit.....	2 00	10 00
Ohio.....	2 00	10 00
Itasca.....	2 00	10 00
Anna Forrest.....	2 00	10 00
Bubach's No. 5.....	1 00	5 00
Lida.....	1 00	5 00
Covell.....	1 00	5 00
Belmont.....	60	8 00
Jewell.....	60	3 00
Ontario.....	50	2 50
Sunapee.....	50	2 50
Cornelia.....	50	2 50
Parry.....	25	1 00
Norman.....	25	1 00
Henderson.....	25	1 00
Sterling.....	25	1 00
Cumberland.....	25	1 00
B. Giant.....	25	1 00
Capt. Jack.....	25	1 00
C. Downing.....	25	1 00
Photo.....	25	1 00
D. Boone.....	25	1 00
May King.....	25	1 09

When sent by express, *not prepaid*, the price will be 30 cents per 100 less.

Six and fifty at dozen and hundred rates.

All plants are warranted to reach my customers in good condition. If they fail to do so, I will refill the order if notified *at once*.

DAVID B. WOODBURY, OF PARIS, MAINE,
makes a specialty of the

❁—❁ **PANSY** —❁—❁

and grows large quantities of seed for sale. I believe him to be one of the most careful and reliable florists in the United States. As the Pansy is a favorite with me, I have sent to many different seedsmen for seed, and even imported some from Europe, and I have never seen finer flowers than those raised from "Woodbury's Best." He will mail a packet (100 seeds) for 25 cents. His catalogue is free.

ELMER E. STINE, OF CUYAHOGA FALLS, O.,
makes a specialty of the

❁—❁ **POTATO.** —❁—❁

Every new variety that comes into market is tested, and those of real merit are grown for seed, and the others discarded. He has raised a large number of seedlings, and now offers one, the "SUMMIT," for sale. This is the variety that yielded at the rate of 1,210 bushels per acre on the *Rural New Yorker* farm.

Mr. Stine issues a very excellent Potato Catalogue, which he sends free to any address. Nearly every desirable variety is offered for sale in it. It also contains an excellent essay that Mr. Stine read at the last meeting of our Summit County Horticultural Society.

I do not favor general planting of strawberries in the fall, but from my former dealing with you I know that you always send out good plants in fine condition, and I think, with proper attention, I can secure a start of the new varieties by fall planting. Plants that I have heretofore had of you have been true to name, and every way satisfactory.

GEO. W. PUTNAM, Wis.

I received the plants. They were in good condition. Thank you for the liberal count. That is what we call gospel measure, heaped up and running over. I shall return the compliment by speaking a good word for your fruit business.

DANIEL HEINEY, Ind.

If the plants received from you are a sample of yours sent to your customers, think we will confine our orders to you in the future, as we have not received any such from other sources.

J. S. KIES, Mich.

From W. J. Green, of the Ohio Experiment Station: "Plants arrived in excellent order. I shall recommend you every chance I get to those that I know will appreciate good plants and good packing."

Plants received on time, and in most excellent condition. It is a pleasure to me to handle plants in the condition of yours, especially when I have been out of humor by handling some miserable plants lately.

W. M. HOPKINS, Mo.

The package of plants came to hand a few days ago, all fine ones, and in excellent condition.

J. T. ROBERTSON, JR., Va.

From Prof. J. Troop, of the Indiana Experiment Station: "The plants arrived in first class condition."

Plants received to-day in fine condition. Very much pleased with them. Very thankful for prompt attention to order; also for extras.

JOSEPH FULWILER, O.

The plants were received Saturday morning. They were in the best possible condition, as always when they come from Mr. Crawford.

J. W. FLEEMAN, Mo.

The plants received in good order, and am well pleased.

J. W. HAWKINS, O.

I received the plants all right in fine condition.

J. G. BELDERBACK, O.

Plants came in *most excellent order*. I must say *your packing is perfect*.

H. AVERY, Iowa.

I never received a poor plant from you in all I ever ordered.

D. W. H. TAYLOR, Wis.

I received my plants all right. I think they were the finest roots I ever saw.

J. REMP, O.