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CRAWFORD'S

CATALOGUE

FREE TO ALL

M. CRAWFORD,

GUYAHOGA FALLS, O.

To My Customers.

I commence to fill orders as soon as I can dig plants—about the first of April—and carry on the work as fast as possible. I never have plants taken up in the fall and kept over, to be ready for early orders, but take them up when wanted. I have every convenience for filling orders, and can send plants with perfect safety to any part of the country. Purchasers pay express charges, I pay postage. I warrant my plants to reach their destination in good condition, and if for any reason they should fail to do so, I will make good the loss, if notified *promptly*. I will also correct mistakes, if any occur. I may say, however, that it is hardly fair to keep silent for several months, and then ask me to make up losses which may have come from causes in which I had no concern—as drouth, flood, or neglect. This is occasionally done. Let me say again, if you have any cause for complaint, state it *promptly*.

Money may be sent at my risk, by P. O. Money Order, Express Money Order, Registered Letter, or Draft on New York. Less than one dollar may be sent in stamps. Currency and Postal Notes are unsafe. Individual checks on obscure local banks cost twenty-five cents for collection.

Plants are packed in the best possible manner, in handle baskets lined with waxed paper and damp moss, with the leaves exposed to the light and air. They are trimmed, tied in bunches and labeled, with moss enough between the bunches to keep them in good condition for weeks, early in the season. By this method the package is light (1600 weigh about 30 lbs; 300, 10 lbs.), it is always right side up, and the plants are never blanched nor heated.

When ordering, please state whether others may be substituted in case any of those ordered are sold out. I can often do this to advantage, but never take the liberty without permission.

No plants are sent by freight except at buyer's risk; nor do I warrant plants after May 15th.

SPECIAL OFFERS.—To encourage early cash orders before the rush of the packing season, I make the following special offers:

1. For each dollar received before the first of April, I will send six small, blooming gladiolus bulbs, mixed colors.
2. For each dollar received before the first of April, I will send six choice one-year seedling gladiolus bulbs, no two alike. These are below blooming size, but will make large flowering bulbs for next year.

The bulbs will be mailed on receipt of order, and will serve as an acknowledgment.

DEAD BEATS.—I feel like writing a letter of condolence to a number of men who have bought stock of me on credit, and cannot get their own consent to pay for it. The thought that I am in any way responsible for their loss of self-respect troubles me, and yet I can see nothing I can do in these cases. When a man sells his self-respect for two dollars or twenty, no amount of sympathy will make good his loss, and he must just grin and bear it, unless he can muster resolution enough to pay his debt.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

The strawberry is by far the most important of the small fruits. It responds so readily to good culture that one feels justified in doing his very best, whether growing it for pleasure or profit. We know too well that the average man is not inclined to do very good work. When he engages in strawberry growing, he will raise ordinary berries, and get them picked and marketed in an ordinary way. His profit, too, will be ordinary. Now there is no use in attempting to compete with him in his way, for he does cheap work and never knows whether any crop pays him a profit or not. Perhaps his wife and children help in raising his berries and do all the picking, so that he counts whatever he may get for them as so much clear gain. There are enough ordinary berries grown in almost every locality, so that there is no encouragement for any one to engage in the business unless he intends to do good work.

The strawberry seldom disappoints a well posted, careful grower. For him it yields berries that run from twenty to forty to the quart, and he may get from two hundred to over three hundred bushels per acre. Such berries bring from three to five dollars a bushel in almost any market, and ALWAYS sell. Contrast these with ordinary berries, a hundred and fifty to the quart, fifty to one hundred bushels per acre, at one to two dollars per bushel, and hard to sell. I have seen berries offered for less than a dollar, and I heard an extensive grower say that his berries averaged about thirty bushels per acre. In contrast to this, some of my correspondents get over six dollars

a bushel; and what good grower has not at some time reached a yield of three hundred bushels per acre? Certainly no other small fruit will pay as well for good culture.

At the State Farm, near Lancaster, O., one hundred and fifty bushels of black raspberries were grown on an acre. This yield has never been excelled, to my knowledge, but on the other hand, with the most ordinary culture, or none at all, one half of this amount has been produced. Blackberries yield little if any more under cultivation than growing wild, and I doubt if any one ever raised an acre of them that averaged as much as some small patches in the fields, that receive no attention whatever. All this is simply to show the truth of the statement that no other small fruit responds to good care like the strawberry. This being the case, there is every encouragement for those who wish to raise fine berries.

WHERE THE STRAWBERRY FLOURISHES.

As far as I can learn, the strawberry may be grown to great perfection in any part of our country or Canada. It is the only fruit that ripens somewhere in the United States every day in the year. Many different localities have been noted for their fine berries, but in every instance this was due to the PERSON, and not to the place or the climate. At one time, Mr. Peabody, of Georgia, raised the most astonishing berries ever heard of up to that date. Later, Mr. Knox, of Pittsburg, became the "Strawberry King." He raised hundreds of bushels that averaged ten to the pint. Still later, Mr. Seth Boyden, of New Jersey, was at the head, and then Mr. Durand of the same state astonished the world of strawberry lovers by growing berries that ran from six to nine inches in

circumference. Mr. Augur, of Conn., was one of the most successful growers in the country, and Mr. E. C. Davis, of Mass., has accomplished wonders in that line. Mr. F. W. Loudon, of Wisconsin, and Mr. J. M. Smith of the same state, have a national reputation, and Mr. Jno. F. Beaver, an Ohio man, is to-day, probably, as successful a strawberry grower as ever lived. Mr. John Little, of Canada, is THE strawberry man of that country. Now these men have had different kinds of soil, and widely varying climate, and yet every one had remarkable success. This goes to prove that it is the MAN, rather than the soil or climate.

A BUSINESS FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

The strawberry seems to be peculiarly suitable for old people to spend their time and strength upon, with a reasonable certainty of being well paid for their efforts.

Mr. Little, of Canada, commenced to grow this fruit after he was sixty years of age, and somewhat broken in health. He is now seventy-seven, hale and hearty, and full of enthusiasm.

Mrs. Mabry, of Georgia, at the age of sixty, accomplished more in strawberry culture than most growers do in the prime of life.

Mr. Beaver, who is past sixty, cultivates his berries with his own hands, and has amazing success.

If people in the decline of life can accomplish so much, surely those in their prime may hope to do better. Almost any young man can obtain control of an acre of ground, and if he has learned how to raise three hundred bushels of strawberries on it, he is comparatively independent. Any bright man or woman can learn this by studying the instructions given in

this little book, and can do it by following them.

Whether one wants to grow berries for the family or for market, it will pay to post up, and be well prepared.

THE BEST SOIL,

Is that which contains a good supply of plant-food in an available form. It may be gravel, sand, clay or muck. If it will produce a good crop of corn or potatoes, it will answer for strawberries. It should not be shaded by buildings or trees, nor should it be occupied by the roots of any living tree or plant. Sometimes, trees two or three hundred feet distant send their roots into mellow, well-cultivated soil, and take up much of its plant-food and moisture. The soil should be drained, either naturally or artificially. Although the strawberry needs a good deal of moisture, it does not flourish when its roots stand in stagnant water.

All other things being equal, it is best to choose land that is high, so that the cold air on a frosty night may settle into lower ground. The blossoms of some varieties are easily injured by frost, and for this reason frosty localities are to be avoided if possible. Many of us are obliged to use what we have, and can not choose, but the best place at command will answer very well. No other crop will flourish on so great a variety of soils.

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

It is advisable to have some cultivated crop on land for two or three seasons before it is set to strawberries. This is to make sure that no white grubs are in the soil. They are quite apt to be found in sod, and when it is plowed they are very injurious to the strawberry. It is an excellent plan to raise potatoes on land

the year before it is to be planted to strawberries. If a heavy application of manure or commercial fertilizers be used for the potatoes, they will make good use of part of it, and the remainder will be ready for the strawberries.

If the soil be of such a nature that it pulverizes easily, it will be necessary to plow and harrow only; but if it be at all clayey, such means must be adopted as will put it in fine condition for planting.

FERTILIZERS.

The strawberry is by no means an exhausting crop. If one raises even a maximum crop, and it is sold, what it takes off the land is largely water. It would appear from this that the strawberry might be successfully grown on poor land, but such is not the case. It takes a great amount of plant-food to build it up to a fruiting condition. The whole plant—roots, crown and leaves—is made up of very rich material, and being a perennial, but a small part of the strength of the plant goes into the fruit. This is why the strawberry needs so much plant-food, and yet takes so little away from the soil. Only the fruit is carried off, while the plants are left to enrich the ground for the following crop.

Well decomposed stable manure scattered over the land after plowing, and thoroughly harrowed in, is a good preparation for planting. When fresh manure is used, it is better to apply it before plowing, especially on heavy soil. If stable manure can not be had, any good, complete fertilizer may be used. It may be scattered over the surface and harrowed in after the ground is pulverized ready for planting, or it may be put on with a grain drill. If it be the intention to put the fertilizer in the row, it may be placed with an As-

pinwall potato planter after the land is marked out.

Bone dust is a good fertilizer for strawberries, and when used, it is well to apply a quantity of unleached wood ashes at the same time, or, after the plants are set, taking particular care not to have them touch the leaves.

In regard to the quantity of fertilizer to be applied, —in growing as valuable a crop as the strawberry, it is best to be on the safe side and use enough. Forty two-horse loads of well rotted stable manure, fifteen hundred pounds of complete fertilizer, or one ton of bone dust and forty bushels of unleached wood ashes, would be a fair amount for an acre. Poor land would need more, and rich land less.

Much valuable information on the subject of fertilizers may be found in a pamphlet entitled "The Mapes Manures," sent free by the Mapes Formula and Peruvian Guano Co., 143 Liberty St., New York.

METHODS.

Strawberries are usually grown in matted rows, or in hills, or a compromise between the two.

When the matted row method is employed, the rows are usually set four feet apart, and the plants from one to four feet in the row, according to the ability of the variety to produce runners. Parker Earle, Jewell, and some others would need to be much closer than Crescent, Warfield or Barton.

When grown in hills, the rows are generally set three feet apart, and the plants from twelve to sixteen inches in the row. If they are to be cultivated by hand, two feet or two and a half is space enough between the rows. All the runners must be cut off, AS SOON AS THEY APPEAR.

The compromise method is the same as the matted

row system, except that a few runners,—just what are wanted,—are allowed to grow, and become rooted in their places. After this all runners are to be cut off, both from the original plants and from the new ones formed by the runners allowed to root. This is a very excellent method, giving heavy crops of fine fruit.

CRAWFORD'S METHOD, which originated with myself, has given good satisfaction. It is as follows:

Select ground that is suited to the potato, and as early in the spring as it is fit to work, plow it as deep as possible without bringing the poor sub-soil to the surface. After plowing, spread over the surface a heavy coating of well-rotted manure, or its equivalent in bone dust and wood ashes. This should be thoroughly worked into the soil with the harrow or cultivator, after which the surface should be left smooth. It should then be planted to strawberries three feet by four with rows running both ways. Choice should be made of a vigorous grower, and only strong healthy plants that have not been dried or injured in any way should be used. It is very important that the crown be not covered, or failure will follow. Immediately after setting the strawberries, plant a hill of early potatoes between every two plants, in the narrow space—leaving the wide space for the cultivator. The surface should be kept well stirred with the cultivator and hoe, and every blossom and runner cut off as they appear, until the the potatoes are dug in July. By that time the plants will be very strong and able to send out several large, healthy runners at once. If there are any white grubs in the soil, they will be found in the hill of potatoes, and it is well to look out for them. After digging the potatoes, cultivate the

ground both ways until it is as fine as ashes, after which the cultivator is to be run in the wide space only. The runners will soon fill the space occupied by the potatoes, and as the strip of plants grows wider, the cultivator must be narrowed up; and if any weeds come up among the plants, they must be removed with the hoe or by hand. All deep cultivation must be discontinued in October, lest the surface roots be disturbed, and no stirring among the plants should be done in the spring. If weeds appear, shave them off with a hoe. If however, the bed is mulched as it should be, there will be no trouble from weeds.

As soon as the fruit is picked, plow up the bed and sow it to buckwheat, Hungarian or corn for fodder; or it may be planted to celery, pickles or any second crop. In this way the land produces three crops in two years, while by any other method only one is produced.

I hope to hear from any person who gives this method a trial and finds it unsatisfactory.

Mr. T. B. Terry, the author of "How to Grow Strawberries," has remarkable success in the cultivation of this fruit, largely because he is so thorough in all that he undertakes. His method is as follows:—He starts with the matted row system, and carries it out to perfection until about the last of September. By that time he has broad matted rows, nearly covering the whole surface. He then stretches a line, and cuts out a strip two feet wide between every two rows, for a path. This is done with a hoe. He then takes a trowel, and thins out the plants in the rows to six inches apart, after which all the surplus plants are wheeled off, leaving the bed perfectly clean. It is then too late for the young plants to send out runners,

but they have time to grow strong and stocky. This thinning out involves considerable work, but Mr. Terry has it done after his wheat is in, and his man has nothing else pressing.

Whatever method is decided upon, the planting should be done early, before much growth is made.

After trying various ways of setting plants, I have decided that the following answers my purpose best:

A trusty man takes a spade, and a boy goes along with a pail half full of water and filled with plants. The man puts the spade into the ground where the plant is to go, then pushes the handle forward so as to leave a slight opening behind the spade. The boy takes a plant out of the water, holding it by the leaves, and puts it in behind the spade, holding on to it until the spade is drawn out, and the earth falls back against the roots. As the man steps forward to make another hole, he sets his foot on the earth over the roots, and the plant is insured. Even dry earth adheres to the wet roots, and scarcely a plant in an acre will fail. The man is not hindered by stooping, and the boy soon gets in the way of taking hold of the plant so that when his hand rests on the ground the crown is level with the surface. It is important that the plants be saved from exposure to the sun and wind as much as possible. When we dig plants we put them into a wet sack, and carry them to a shed where they are trimmed—divested of dead leaves and runners.

If for any reason the planting can not be done early, it is a good plan to take up the plants, trim them, shorten the roots to about three inches, and plant them temporarily about four inches apart, in land that will not bake. They may remain there till

it is convenient to plant, even till June. Plants treated in this way will have a mass of new roots when they are wanted for transplanting, and receive almost no check in the process. As soon as blossoms appear they should be cut off, whether the plants are in the temporary bed or have been set out permanently.

CULTIVATION.

After all, the one great secret of success in strawberry growing is thorough cultivation. Nothing else will take the place of it. I am unable to tell exactly why it is, but it is none the less a fact, that constant stirring of the soil has a wonderful effect upon the strawberry plant. It is the only way to keep it growing through the entire season. As soon as a crust is allowed to form on the surface, the plant begins to be less thrifty, and if at all inclined to rust, it will become diseased. This is the main reason why varieties fail in one place while they succeed in another. I venture to say that any variety that succeeds anywhere will do well with Jno. F. Beaver, of Dayton, Ohio.

It is not necessary that this stirring should be deep. Scratching the surface with a steel rake seems to answer every purpose in garden culture. Mr. Beaver, however, does give deep cultivation. In field culture, where the work is done with a horse, it is well to let the stirring be shallow near the plants, late in the fall, so as to avoid disturbing the surface roots that come out when the weather grows cool and damp. I used to be very much opposed to spring cultivation, but I have had reason to change my mind. I am now satisfied that stirring among the plants in the spring is beneficial, if done carefully.

WINTER PROTECTION.

In the northern part of the United States, and Canada, winter protection for strawberries is a necessity. When soil is so sandy that water passes off at once, there is an exception to this rule. It is not that the plants cannot endure the cold, for they can, but the mischief is done by the alternate freezing and thawing, and done in this way:

If the soil freezes at a time when it contains any considerable amount of water, it expands, or rather the water in it expands as it turns into ice, and this causes it to move in the direction where there is the least resistance, sideways and upwards. As it moves sideways it grips every thing within it, plants, labels, and even fence posts, and then as the frost goes deeper the surface is forced upward, pulling with it whatever may have been frozen in its grasp. When it thaws, the soil settles back into its place, but not so the plant. The next freezing takes a lower hold, and gives another pull. It is easy to see what the effect is when this is repeated a number of times. Who has not seen clover roots all over a clay field pulled up six inches during the winter? Dry soil does not expand in freezing, and a mulch of straw or any kind of litter keeps the frost from reaching the soil until the water has had time to pass off. Not only this, but after the soil is frozen, the covering prevents the sun from reaching and thawing it every bright day. Let me repeat—that the mischief is done by alternate freezing and thawing, and this is prevented by covering.

When should this covering be put on? Nearly all writers say, "As soon as the ground is frozen hard enough to hold up a team and wagon," but this is too

late for best results. Very often the crust will not bear up a horse until late in December, and before that time there may have been several hard frosts that have broken some of the roots, and weakened the hold of the plants upon the soil. This makes them peculiarly liable to injury in March when we are most likely to have freezing and thawing. Many have an idea that freezing in March is especially injurious to plants, but the main reason is that the freezing in November leaves them in such a condition that a little more of the same in March proves too much.

The ideal method is to cover the ground—NOT THE FOLIAGE—with some short litter, as cut straw, just as soon as cultivation ceases in October, and when winter sets in, cover leaves and all, so that every leaf is hidden. We are usually cautioned against covering too heavily, but I have never yet seen too much covering put on in winter, PROVIDED IT IS REMOVED EARLY ENOUGH IN THE SPRING. It is very injurious to leave a heavy covering on till the plants have made some growth, and then remove it. The blanched growth made under such circumstances is very tender, and will be killed by a light frost when exposed.

Mr. Beaver has a way of putting fresh stable manure between the rows during the summer and fall, and as he hoes among his plants this is gradually worked under the leaves, so that there is from one to two inches of this half decomposed manure all over the surface within five or six inches of the rows. When winter comes, he covers plants and all with fine hay cut from the lawn, and this is kept in place by narrow strips of wood. To use his own language, "Each plant is as snug as a mouse in its nest."

The common method of uncovering a strawberry

bed is to remove the mulch from over the plants placing it in the paths, to retain moisture, and keep the fruit clean. There are two objections to this method. First, no stirring of the ground can be given, and any hardy weeds that started in the fall are left to grow till after the fruiting season; and second, the mulch prevents the radiation of heat from the ground in a frosty night, and the blossoms are more apt to be killed than when the ground is bare. Some growers remove the mulch to one side of the bed, so that cultivation can be given, and replace it just before the fruit commences to ripen. Each one must decide for himself what is the best way for him.

INSECT ENEMIES.

The strawberry, like most cultivated plants, has its enemies. The most destructive of these is the white grub. Land that has been cultivated for three years before being set to strawberries will contain no grubs worth mentioning. When there are only a few in the soil they can be killed before they do much harm. They eat the roots off just below the surface, and their presence is known by the wilting of the plant. This may be easily perceived in a bright afternoon, after a rain. The young leaf that comes out of the center of the plant is the first to wilt, and lose its gloss. It should be dug up and the grub found and killed before it goes to another plant. Applications of salt, lime, and ashes have been recommended, but they are of no use. The grub can stand more of such treatment than the plant can. It is also recommended to plow the land late in the fall, so as to expose the grubs to the action of the frost, but this too, fails. Those that are turned up soon burrow an inch or two in the ground, and there they may be frozen solid

without injury. Frequent cultivating and hoeing will kill a great many, but the better way is to plant where there are none.

The crown borer, crown girdler, strawberry root worm, leaf roller, tarnished plant bug, and other things, sometimes do considerable injury, but, on the whole, they are not much to be feared. Plowing up the bed, or burning it over immediately after fruiting, usually puts an end to these things. Allowing old beds to stand after fruiting is a bad practice, as they become breeding grounds for insect enemies. The plan of burning over beds is an excellent one, and should be more generally adopted. It destroys many insects and their eggs, and puts an end to leaf-blight for that season. It seems to put new life into the plants, for they commence at once to make a vigorous, healthy growth.

As soon as the last berries are picked, the bed is gone over with a mowing machine or a scythe, and after the leaves wilt, they and the mulching are stirred up. When pretty well dried they are set on fire, and in a few minutes there is not a leaf or any green thing on the bed,—only some black ashes. The cultivator can then be used, and the bed put in any shape one chooses, by making rows either way. In a few days the bed has the appearance of a new plantation, and not a rusty leaf will be seen that season.

In one or two instances this plan has failed. When there is very much material to burn, and the ground is dry, and little or no wind blowing, the crowns of the plants may be injured. At the Ohio Experiment Station an improved plan has been adopted, which, it seems, can not fail. After the bed is mown, the stuff to be burned is drawn into the paths, and a line is

stretched over the center of the row. A man then takes a sharp hoe and shaves off the plants along the edges of the row, cutting towards the rubbish to be burned, and leaving the row the desired width. In a day or two all the insects in the bed are in and under the rubbish, and it is then burned, without danger of injury to the plants left to fruit. The cultivator then does the work as it was done the first year.

The bed may be mown and the rubbish taken off without burning, if one prefers this method. Whatever is done to a bed after bearing should be done quickly, for the plants are left almost dormant, and will remain so for a long time unless waked up in some way. If let alone for awhile, insects and rust get a good start.

Many good growers take but one crop from a bed, and have a new one coming on each year. As soon as the crop is secured, the bed is plowed up, and late sweet corn, fodder corn, Hungarian grass, or pickles are put in. Since the plan of burning over beds has become popular, people are more inclined to take two or three crops from the same plantation.

MARKETING.

I would not encourage beginners to plant extensively with the expectation of shipping berries to a distant market. The chances are that the market will be supplied by growers in that vicinity, who have no express charges to pay. As the strawberry can be grown anywhere, the grower near the market has all the advantages, and if one wants to raise berries for New York or Chicago, he should locate near his market. If one has a very superior article, perhaps he can afford to send it to a large city where it is appreciated, especially as it costs no more to carry that

kind ; but there is no chance for the man who has to ship poor berries. The expressage and commission will take all the profit, and perhaps more.

No man with proper self respect can afford to send poor fruit to any market. If, for any reason, his berries are not up to the standard, let them be carefully sorted, and all the small and ill-looking ones left out. One who has never tried it will be surprised to see how much better berries look after sorting. I have found it better to have a reliable person sort them after they are picked than to depend on the pickers. It can be done quite rapidly, and then one KNOWS what he is selling.

VARIETIES.

Timbrell.—Originated by H. S. Timbrell, of Orange County, N. Y., about five years ago. It has been tested by competent men in a number of localities, and I think that all have reported favorably upon it. I have reason to think that it is a very good variety. The following description is given by Mr. E. G. Fowler, one of the editors of the Rural New-Yorker:

“The plant is a very vigorous grower, and in a field where it was growing with other sorts, its rank foliage enabled one to identify the rows at once. I judge from careful observation that it is as productive as any variety now before the public. The fruit is round and generally symmetrical, the berry being a little longer than the Cumberland Triumph, and it averages much larger than that variety. It is very solid and will bear shipment well. In color it is of a dark crimson, a little patchy in appearance before it becomes fully ripe. Then it is solid crimson. In quality I think it better than any other in cultivation,—it certainly surpasses the Downing or Gandy.”

The plants that I offer were sent to me in October by the originator, and are now growing on my place.

Greenville.—An accidental seedling found near Greenville, O. It has been very thoroughly tested, and found to be of great promise. I have fruited it two years, and am satisfied that it is all that is claimed for it. The following is the description given by the owner of the variety:

“Berry of large size, good quality, medium texture,

very productive, season medium to late, color very even and fine, flowers pistillate, plants very vigorous and free from rust."

From Missouri Experiment Station:

Taken as a whole, it was one of the very best among some 150 different varieties fruited at the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station this season (1891). The Crescent is the only one equaling it in productiveness, while but two excelled it in size.

JOHN W. CLARK, Horticulturist.

From Pennsylvania Experiment Station:

This is a new berry of many excellent points, and will compare favorably with any sort upon the market. The foliage is free from rust: the flowers very large and pistillate. The berries are very large, much like Sharpless in shape, but unlike it in that it ripens evenly. It is very sweet and of good quality. This berry is equally good for market and home.

GEO. C. BUTZ.

From Indiana Experiment Station:

LAFAYETTE, Indiana, July 3rd, 1891.

MR. E. M. BRECHLY, Dear Sir—"The Greenville Strawberry which you sent us in the Spring of 1890 has made a good growth, and we have just finished picking a magnificent crop of fruit. The berry is quite uniformly large, of good quality and makes a fine appearance. I am very much pleased with its behavior this year. Very truly yours,

J. TROOP.

From New York Experiment Station:

"The Greenville Strawberry has been one of the best varieties tested at this Station this year. The fruits are fine and of good quality. The plants make a vigorous growth and multiply rapidly.

PETER COLLIER.

From Ohio Experiment Station:

"The Greenville is a strong competitor of the Bubach, and indeed bears some resemblance to that variety. The plants are a shade lighter in color than the Bubach, make a stronger growth, and are quite as productive. The berries average a little smaller than Bubach, but are more uniform in size and regular in outline, and of finer texture. It seems probable that the Greenville will have the important advantage over the Bubach of being a better shipper."

The above reports were made in 1891, and the same parties report favorably for 1892.

✓ **Muskingum.**—Originated by Mr. Grant Kearns of Muskingum Co., O. It is a variety of real merit, and succeeds in all localities. It blossoms with the Bubach and Haverland, and will be a good variety to plant with them. It is a very healthy, vigorous grower, and a good bearer. The fruit is very large, roundish conical, sometimes slightly flattened, uniform in size and never misshapen. Color, dark, glossy red; quality, good.

✓ **Leader.**—Originated at Reading, Mass. I have heard many favorable reports of this variety, and have no doubt that it is just about what has been claimed for it. It has made a good growth here, but has not fruited. It has received a number of prizes from the Mass. Hort. Soc. The following is the description by the introducer, given last year:

“It is signally the strawberry novelty of the season, and is now offered for the first time. It is a strongly staminate variety; the plant is absolutely perfect in vigor and habit; the fruit is produced in great abundance, on tall, stout fruit stems. It is of large size, FIRM, beautiful in form, and colors all over at once, (no green noses). It originated within a mile of my home. I consider it, by all odds, the most promising berry ever sent out. It was a week ahead of any other variety on my grounds in ripening.”

✓ **Beverly.**—Originated by Benjamin M. Smith, near Boston, Mass. I have no hesitation in recommending this variety to my customers. Besides making a splendid record where it originated, it has fruited with me and has proved itself to be all that was claimed for it.

The plant is a very vigorous, healthy grower, and a

prolific bearer. It has a perfect blossom that is not liable to be injured by a late frost. Its season is from medium to late, and it bears a long time, holding up in size well to the last. The berry resembles its parent, the Miner's Prolific, being of large size, regular form, and often a little uneven on the surface. It is dark, glossy red all over, and not inclined to fade. The flesh is firm, and very good. The originator received eight dollars a bushel, at wholesale, for his whole crop last year. I have heard no unfavorable reports so far.

✓ **Childs.**—Introduced last year by the well-known seedsman, John Lewis Childs, of Floral Park, N. Y. It has not fruited here. My plants are grown from stock received of Mr. Childs. It has made a good, healthy growth. The following is Mr. Childs' description:—"Its grand qualities are told when we say that it is the largest and handsomest sort grown, a free grower, robust, hardy, vigorous, and of unsurpassed quality. Little else need be said. Plant it and you will surely get the handsomest berries you ever saw. They are enormous. Blossoms, perfect.

✓ **Middlefield.**—This is the berry for careful growers who want something extra fine. The plant is all that could be desired, and with good culture, it produces a fine crop of very large and beautiful fruit. I doubt if it is surpassed by any in this respect. The Jucunda in its best day was not finer looking. In size and shape it resembles the Cumberland, but the color is a brilliant, glossy red. Blossom, pistillate.

✓ **Regina.**—Originated by a strawberry specialist of Alabama. It is said to be a fine grower, very productive, of large size, and the latest of all. Blossoms,

pistillate. I have not fruited it.

Auburn.—From southern Ohio. I have fruited this once, and am well pleased with it. The plant is healthy and productive. Blossoms, pistillate. It is rather early, of regular, conical form, fine looking, and of good quality.

Princess.—Originated by John C. Kramer, of Minnesota. It is one of the most desirable market berries ever produced, of large size, round, attractive looking, and a most abundant bearer. No one is likely to make a mistake in planting it.

Parker Earle.—This variety has gained in popularity ever since its introduction. If it has failed anywhere, the fact has not been made public. The plant is strong and healthy, and more inclined to develop a large number of fruit buds than to send out many runners. It has a perfect blossom and is enormously productive. The fruit is of good size, rather long, conical, very bright red, and one the most attractive looking. The quality is above medium.

Gillespie.—A seedling of Haverland, from southern Ohio. I have heard most excellent reports of this variety, and am favorably impressed with it from one year's fruiting. It did not, however, have a good chance here, as most of the plants were dug up, and those that remained were injured thereby. I have heard one unfavorable report from Virginia, and that is the only one. I have a fine stock of plants to bear next June, and will know at that time what merit there is in it. In the mean time I will put the price low enough for all to test it for themselves.

Lovett.—This 'was fruited in all parts of the country last season, and from all I can hear it suc-

ceeded everywhere. Any person may plant it with confidence, either for home use or market. It belongs to the class of productive, hardy varieties like the Crescent and Warfield, and seems to have no weak point. It has a tough, healthy plant, a perfect blossom, and is one of the most prolific. The fruit is of good size, and the plant is so vigorous that it maintains its size better than most varieties. The form, color and flavor are all right, and I think all will be pleased with it. It was sent out as Lovett's Early, but I have left off the "Early," as its season is medium.

✓ **Dayton.**—Originated near Dayton, O., and was named by the Montgomery County Horticultural Society. It was so well spoken of by prominent fruit growers of Montgomery County, that I gave it nearly three pages in my catalogue last year. Since that time I have heard no favorable report of it. It failed at the Ohio Experiment Station and, from all I can learn, at its home also.

✓ **Standard.**—This was introduced in '91, and described as large, fine shape, very firm, bright and sprightly in flavor, and of a beautiful crimson color. Season medium to late. This variety fruited on my grounds last season, and dissatisfied me somewhat. I think it has been over praised. I have a fine stock of plants that any one can have at a low price if he wants to take the risk.

✓ **Enhance.**—Originated by Henry Young, of Ada, O. It was sent to me on trial five or six years ago, and I found it to be a very healthy, luxuriant grower, and a great bearer. It has a hardy, and perfect blossom. My objections to the variety were that it was

too dark, too much inclined to be uneven on the surface, and not good enough in quality. These are its only faults. It is an enormous bearer, of good size, dark, glossy red, never cox-combed, but often ridged and furrowed on the surface, very firm and almost certain to produce a good crop in any season. When we take into account that the demand is for darker colored berries, and that good quality is not indispensable in a market berry, it may be that the Enhance will be found a very profitable variety.

✓ **Gov. Hoard.**—Originated by Mr. F. W. Loudon, of Wisconsin. The plant is strong and healthy, free from rust, and very productive. The blossom is perfect, and the fruit ripens quite early. Berries large, roundish conical, slightly flattened, and usually necked. Color, deep, brilliant red. The flesh is firm, and of a rich and agreeable flavor. I think that this berry will disappoint no one.

✓ **Saunders.**—Originated by Mr. John Little, of Granton, Ont. This has been tested in many localities, and found to be a valuable market berry. The plant is a luxuriant grower and a very great bearer. Blossom, perfect. Fruit large to very large, conical, slightly flattened, dark, glossy red, flesh of the same color. Quality, good. Season, medium.

✓ **Martha.**—From Minn. A berry to grow for profit rather than pleasure. The plant is tough, hardy, and deep rooting. Blossom, pistillate. The fruit, which is produced in great abundance, resembles the Wilson, but is larger and of darker color inside.

✓ **Beder Wood.**—Originated at Moline, Ill. It has been thoroughly tested all over the country and

is generally conceded to be the best early berry. It is a very vigorous grower, sometimes inclined to rust, immensely productive, and VERY early. Blossom perfect. Fruit of good size, roundish conical, bright red, moderately firm, and of good quality.

✓ **Williams.**—A Canadian berry of the Sharpless style, but much more productive. It has not been grown much outside of Canada, but is highly spoken of at home.

✓ **Bubach.**—The best known and most popular of all the very large varieties. The plant is large and stocky, a healthy, vigorous grower, and a good bearer. Blossom, pistillate. Fruit, very large, roundish, slightly flattened, and usually creased on one or both sides. Color, orange scarlet, of medium firmness, and average quality.

✓ **Warfield.**—Found growing wild by B. C. Warfield, of southern Ill. It is immensely popular with growers who ship their fruit, as it always reaches its destination in fine order, and brings a good price. It is a good grower, and makes many runners, but the plants are small. Purchasers who do not understand this sometimes report that their plants were all fine except Warfield. It is very productive and the fruit is large, and apt to continue so to the end of the season. Form, obtusely conical, sometimes slightly necked, and very uniform. Color, dark, glossy red. Flesh, firm and of good flavor.

✓ **Haverland.**—From southern Ohio. Its prominent characteristics are healthy, luxuriant growth and great productiveness. It is one of the best in these respects. I have picked at the rate of over 100 bushels to the acre at a SINGLE PICKING. Fruit,

large, bright red, rather long, moderately firm, and of fair quality. Its fruit stalks are not strong enough to hold up the load of fruit, but if the ground is mulched as it should be, the berries are not soiled by lying on the mulch. The fruit is not firm enough for a distant market, and in a wet time it is quite soft.

Sterling.—Originated by myself over twenty years ago. I have found this to be a very satisfactory variety, although it has disappointed some people. It is a good grower, and bearer, with a little inclination to rust. I have seen it over six inches in circumference, and of good form; and have counted over two hundred berries on a plant. It is never misshapen. The color is very bright red, and its seeds lie on the surface, enabling it to bear handling. It is a firm berry, and with its green hull, delightful fragrance and extra good quality, it combines, in a high degree, nearly all the good points of a perfect berry. The cut on the cover of this book was engraved from a photograph of the Sterling, and is the exact size.

Photo.—A seedling of my own; too tender for a market berry, but one of the best for home use. It is a good grower, and very productive. It is quite liable to be affected with rust in the summer, but is sure to be green and healthy in the spring. The fruit is large, nearly round, dark glossy red and of good quality.

Cumberland.—Originated by Amos Miller, of Carlisle, Pa., from seed of the Green Prolific. For about twenty years it has occupied a high position with nearly all who have tested it. The plant is a model of healthy, luxuriant growth, succeeding on

all soils and in any locality. It has a perfect blossom and bears a good crop in quarts and bushels, but not in number of berries. Fruit, always large, and uniform in shape; rather light colored, and only moderately firm. Quality, excellent.

Wilson.—This is the old, reliable market berry that almost every one is acquainted with. A moderately good grower, with a perfect blossom, and enormously productive. Inclined to rust more than formerly. Fruit of good size, uniform in shape, dark red when fully ripe, and firm enough to bear shipping to distant markets.

E. P. Roe.—Originated in Newburg, N. Y. It was introduced last year, and was well recommended. I bought a large number of plants from the introducer, and supplied a good many to my customers, but they were so weak and miserable that most of them died. I pride myself on being able to save a plant if there is any life in it, but I failed with most of these. Nearly all I raised went to supply my customers who had failed with theirs. I had some fine plants in the fall, and have a small bed to bear, and it may be that it is all right. I have none to spare this spring.

Crawford, Wolverton and Barton's Eclipse. I regret to say that, owing to the depredations of the white grub, I am unable to furnish plants of these three fine varieties.

A NEW BERRY.

(FOR TRIAL.)

I have fruited this variety with great satisfaction for three years, and consider it very promising. The plant is healthy, vigorous, and very productive; blossom, perfect; season, late; fruit, large, long, usually necked, bright glossy

red, and of excellent quality.

Before introducing it I want to have it tested in all parts of the country, and for this purpose I will mail one or two plants,—not more than two—at ten cents each, to any person who will agree to two things, viz.:

To report on its behavior in July, '94, and to keep the stock within 25 plants in '93, and 100 in '94.

If it succeeds, you have 100 plants to commence with in '95, at a cost of ten cents; if it fails, you lose your dime.

"HOW TO GROW STRAWBERRIES."

This little book was written by T. B. Terry, *after* he had had some years of very successful experience in raising this fruit for home use and for market. It is perhaps the best work ever written on the subject. Mr. Terry does very thorough work in everything that he undertakes, and when he writes, he tells what he knows and not what he presumes, or what he expects to find out at some future time. Beginners should, by all means, get this book, and study it before engaging in the work. Experienced growers should read it, so as to get enthused on the subject of doing *good work*.

Price by mail, 40 cents. I will mail twelve small *gladiolus* bulbs, blooming size, to each purchaser.

TO CANADIAN HORTICULTURISTS.

My friend, Mr. John Little, of Grinton, Ont., is the most careful and painstaking strawberry specialist that I know of in Canada. He tests nearly every variety introduced, and a great many new seedlings. He issues a catalogue containing true descriptions of most of the standard varieties, and many that are rarely found elsewhere. He packs plants with great care, and is perfectly reliable. I recommend my Canadian customers to buy of him, as, by so doing they escape the vexatious delays of the customs department. His catalogue is sent free to any address.

SCHEDULE OF PRICES BY MAIL.

Varieties marked P, are pistillate; those marked B, have bisexual or perfect blossoms.

	DOZ.	100
TIMBRELL.....P.....	\$2 00	
GREENVILLE.....P.....	2 00	\$10 00
MUSKINGUM.....B.....	80	4 00
LEADER.....B.....	50	2 50
BEVERLY.....B.....	50	2 50
CHILDS.....B.....	50	2 50
MIDDLEFIELD.....P.....	50	2 50
REGINA.....P.....	40	2 00
AUBURN.....P.....	40	2 00
PRINCESS.....P.....	40	2 00
PARKER EARLE.....B.....	25	1 00
GILLESPIE.....B.....	25	1 00
LOVETT.....B.....	25	1 00
STANDARD.....B.....	25	1 00
ENHANCE.....B.....	25	1 00
GOV. HOARD.....B.....	25	1 00
SAUNDERS.....B.....	25	1 00
MARTHA.....P.....	25	1 00
BEDER WOOD.....B.....	25	1 00
WILLIAMS.....B.....	25	1 00
BUBACH.....P.....	25	1 00
WARFIELD.....P.....	25	1 00
HAVERLAND.....P.....	25	1 00
STERLING.....P.....	25	1 00
PHOTO.....P.....	25	1 00
CUMBERLAND.....B.....	25	1 00
WILSON.....B.....	25	1 00

Plants sent by express, not prepaid, at five cents per dozen or twenty cents per hundred less than the above prices.

Six plants, OF ONE VARIETY, will be sold at dozen rates, and fifty at hundred rates.

THE GLADIOLUS.

The gladiolus possesses characteristics that make it immensely popular wherever it is known, and as its circle of acquaintance widens, the demand for it increases. People get along very well without it while they know nothing of it, but every year it makes thousands of new friends, they become enthused over it, and the next season they procure bulbs, and commence growing it for themselves. The next year they want more, and so on, for I never yet saw a lover of the gladiolus who had enough. An amateur customer of mine, who has had a very large number of named varieties, is no longer content without the latest introductions of this country and Europe. Last winter I sold over half a million bulbs to a dealer who already had several millions, and he now announces that the demand has made such inroads upon his stock that he has been obliged to advance the price. So it seems that even he is not supplied.

I am often asked if the gladiolus is not liable to be superseded by some other flower. There is no prospect of it. We have no other that can take its place in every respect. We pay from one to ten dollars a dozen for lily bulbs that will each produce from one to half a dozen flowers the first season. They are slow to increase, and require some skill in their management. A dozen gladiolus bulbs may be bought for twenty-five cents—less than that, even—and they will produce five times as many flowers as the lilies, stay in bloom over a month, and double the stock in the fall, even with the most ordinary culture.

The new French cannas are very desirable, but they are costly, and somewhat difficult to keep over winter.

The rose and the carnation are beautiful, but the flush of their bloom is over about the time the gladiolus comes, and

their propagation is too difficult for the average farmer or his wife. No, there is nothing equal to the gladiolus for furnishing a wealth of bloom in the summer and fall, and bloom that is so charming to flower lovers and so suitable for decorative purposes. Hundreds of people come to my place to see them in bloom, and thousands of spikes go out from here to decorate churches, halls, Sunday school rooms, and dwellings. Many people keep great masses of them inside their front windows or on their porches or steps.

They are very suitable for planting among roses or shrubbery, as their flowers form a pleasant contrast to the green about them.

The gladiolus succeeds on all soils, and in all localities. The blooming bulbs should be planted about four inches deep, and may be set at any time in April, May or June. In October they should be taken up and dried for a few weeks, after which the roots and tops may be removed and the bulbs placed in handle baskets and suspended from the joists in the cellar for safe keeping through the winter. For ease of culture, pleasure, and profit, this flower stands near the head of the list.

ONE-YEAR SEEDLINGS.

Last season I had better success than ever before with gladiolus seedlings, and raised about three hundred thousand. The seed was the best that could be found in this country and Europe.

I never saw one-year seedlings offered for sale until I offered them myself. There are three good reasons why they are not sold like other bulbs. First, good seed is scarce and dear. It is very seldom quoted by the pound in seedsmen's catalogues and when sold in small quantities it sometimes costs its weight in gold. Second, it requires skill to raise seedlings. A beginner is very likely to

fail. I venture to say that even a careful gardener will rarely get twenty-five bulbs from one hundred seeds. After I had been growing seedlings more than ten years, I purchased, one spring, about thirty papers of seed, and with the greatest care I raised less than ten per cent. In 1891 an experienced grower on Long Island raised 100,000 from fifteen pounds of seed, but he refused to sell any. Third, the large number of choice varieties obtained from a lot of seedlings makes them very valuable. In a thousand seedling strawberries, one is not likely to find one that is very superior; but in a thousand gladiolus seedlings nearly every one will be admired by some person, and even an expert will find quite a number that are very choice, and worthy of being named. A friend of mine who has a large stock of bulbs said to me last summer that if he owned the "Mrs. Crawford," a grand buff variety with finely shaped flowers beautifully arranged on a spike two feet long, he would not sell the bulbs for their weight in gold. I have raised many seedlings that could not have been bought for their weight in gold the first year they bloomed. Thus we see that the difficulty of obtaining choice seed, the skill required in growing it and the real worth of the product, are good reasons why one-year seedlings are not offered for sale.

It is my candid opinion that I never before gave my customers so good a chance to get something choice for a little money, as in offering these seedlings. One hundred, costing a dollar, may be grown on three square yards of ground, at a cost of a few cents for labor. They should be sown in drills a foot apart, and two inches from each other, and covered two inches. If they receive good care, they will make one hundred blooming bulbs, *unculled*, no two alike.

MY STOCK.

My collection is one of the best, consisting of a large num-

ber of named sorts and fine seedlings. It has not been culled, as I sell no named varieties, nor any of separate colors.

Every spring I add several thousand choice seedlings, and a person who bought a hundred bulbs of me last spring, will find if he buys another hundred this season, that half of them will be different from anything he had before. Some of my very best are reserved for seed, until such time as I see fit to add them to my general collection. Many of the most desirable of the new introductions are purchased for the same purpose, and I have paid as high as three dollars each for new kinds. All these ultimately find their way into my general collection. In this way it is improved in quality and enhanced in value, and I have also another method of working to the same end. Every summer, in blooming time, I pull up and destroy those that are the poorest and least desirable. Thus the mixture from which my customers are supplied is doubly enriched, and those who buy will find it worthy of the praises bestowed by those who have already proved its excellence. My aim is to sell good stock at a reasonable price, and so give satisfaction to every purchaser. If one wants to grow separate colors, he can buy mine and classify them when they bloom, and save half the expense.

SIZE OF BULBS.

No. 1 are from one and one-half inches to three inches in diameter. These may be expected to send up from two to four spikes of flowers each, and they will come into bloom earlier than those of a smaller size.

No. 2 run from one to one and one-half inches in diameter. Each bulb sends up one or two spikes of bloom, and they are a little later than No. 1.

One-year seedlings are less than half an inch in diameter, and are not expected to bloom, but some of them may.

PRICE LIST OF GLADIOLUS BULBS.

(BY MAIL.)

First size—No. 1—30 cents per doz., \$2.00 per hundred.

Second “—No. 2—25 “ “ “ \$1.50 “ “

One-year seedlings, “ “ “ \$1.00 “ “

One fourth off from the first two when sent by express, not prepaid.

A GLADIOLUS FARM.

Mr. E. H. Cushman, of Euclid, O., whose place is on Euclid Avenue, five miles east of Cleveland, is the most successful grower of the gladiolus that I know of. This is accounted for by a combination of circumstances seldom seen. The location is especially favorable, being protected from frosts by Lake Erie, which is some two miles north, and in plain sight of his place. He has a variety of soils, and the opportunity of getting any amount of manure from the cattle cars near by.

He has a system of water works of his own that is very near perfection, by which he can irrigate at pleasure. Last and best of all, he possesses the characteristics that will enable him to make the most of his opportunities. He is a life-long horticulturist, and a lover of the art, having been born and raised on the place he now controls. He has no end of energy and push, and he does as good work in horticulture as T. B. Terry does in agriculture—the best that is possible. He now has a million blooming bulbs in his cellar, and he has both the ability and inclination to add to his collection every good thing that the world produces.

I have written this without his knowledge or consent, so as to encourage any person who sees this notice, and who may have occasion to pass through Cleveland, to go and see this fine collection. During August, September and October, Mr. Cushman will have his exhibit at the World's

Fair, on the second floor of the horticultural building, near the center, to the right as you enter from the west. He is a leader in a community of horticulturists, and has been president of their horticultural society from its start. He was instrumental in starting the farmers' institute in his town, and its wonderful success is largely due to his planning and executive ability.

The New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad runs through his grounds, and the electric cars on Euclid Avenue will carry great numbers from Cleveland to see his flowers. I predict that in the near future his place will be better known than any other on Euclid Avenue, the most beautiful avenue in this country.

GLADIOLUS TESTIMONIALS,

"The gladioli are very fine, in fact the best collection I ever saw in the west."

W. R. HARRIS, Tecumseh, Neb.

"The gladiolus bulbs I purchased from you last spring have turned out very satisfactory. They are a splendid collection, many of them being exceedingly beautiful. The friends who ordered with me are delighted with them."

E. J. LIDICOATT, London, Ont.

"The collection received from you last year gave us great pleasure, particularly those grown at the station, being admired by every one."

E. F. YOUNGS, West Camp, N. Y.

"The gladiolus bulbs you sent me last spring were very fine. We never grew any flowers before that gave us so much pleasure. They were greatly admired by all who saw them."

W. H. TOWNSEND, Goodland, Ind.

"Last spring I bought 100 of the small one-year seedlings which you claimed would not bloom till next summer. I took great pains with them and thirty of them bloomed, and no two were alike. They were very fine, in fact the finest I ever saw."

MRS. GEO. TUTTLE, Newton Falls, O.

"I again write you a few lines to tell you how well pleased we are with the gladioli. They are simply grand, and I am glad I ordered them, as they have afforded us great pleasure, and have added greatly to the appearance of my little garden."

W. E. MINHINNICK, Muskegon, Mich.

"The hundred gladiolus bulbs I bought of you last spring are a sight to behold at this writing. Although they were third size bulbs, every one of them is going to bloom, and there is every color imaginable among them. I can frankly say that it is the best dollar I ever invested. I want to thank you for your liberal count, and shall recommend you to all my friends. WALTER J. MOYLE, Yorkville, Wis.

"I can not keep quiet any longer in praise of those seedling gladiolus bulbs (100) I got of you last spring. For one month the bed has been gorgeous with colors of all hues, except maroon and yellow. Some were five feet high. The plants bid fair to bloom a week longer."

E. H. COCKLIN, Bowmandale, Pa.

"Your new departure in the cultivation and sale of gladiolus bulbs is a great success. My bed, planted with 100 bulbs costing, delivered, \$1.75, is greatly admired, and is not in any respect inferior to beds of my neighbors planted with bulbs costing \$3 per dozen. As the character of your bulbs becomes known, you will find a prompt sale for all you can raise."

M. C. READ, Hudson, O.

"As the season of blossoming is now about to close for this year, I feel that I would but ill requite the pleasure for which I am indebted to you did I not speak of the rare gladioli that you sent me last spring. Although you described them as not quite large enough to be suitable for the trade, their varied tints and colors, each blushing in harmony with the others, made them a kaleidoscope so charming to the eye that only nature's gorgeous painting in the rainbow can compare with them. Indeed, as described in holy writ, of the lily, "Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. MRS. D. S. SKINNER, Putman, Conn.

"I have some of the loveliest gladioli of almost all colors. They are admired by every one who passes by. I do not think that some of them could be excelled by the professional florist.

S. GAMBLE, Emmitsburg, Md.

"Your gladioli are remarkably fine. They all give me credit for having the best grown in the city, and all who purchased them are pleased. As you may remember, I bought them of you last fall."

CHAS. L. BURR, Seedsman, Springfield, Mass.

"Last spring I bought about 200 long-named, big-priced gladioli. Afterwards I saw your advertisement in American Gardening. I bought 200 of your cheap bulbs. They would have been cheap at any price. You said your dry season had kept them small, so I expected to have to wait for another season to see them bloom. I planted them all in rows like onions—the dear ones first, then yours—but I was surprised to see one of yours come into bloom first. Out of the 200, there were about 175 that bloomed. The number of different sorts was surprising. Only one red, and that nearly black like plush. I started on a fool's job. I began to label the best as they opened, till I had about 100 labeled, then had to give it up, as the remainder were all better. Nearly all the blossoms were given away. Some went to Toronto, and some to Baltimore. A lady from London said that she never saw such gladioli in her life—and she is not young."

URIAH LEAVER, Hamilton, Ont.

A SPECIALIST.

D. B. Woodbury, of Paris, Me., makes a specialty of the Pansy, and is prepared to furnish seed of extra quality. I have tested it many times and know that it is superior, though sold at a moderate price. He also raises seedling potatoes and many other things in which most tillers of the soil are interested. His catalogue is sent free to any address.

Spray
your
Fruit
Trees
and
Vines

Wormy Fruit and Leaf Blight of Apples, Pears, Cherries and Plums prevented; also Grape and Potato Rot—by spraying with **Stahl's Double Acting Excelsior Spraying Outfits**. Best in the market. Thousands in use. Catalogue, describing all insects injurious to fruit, mailed Free. Address

WM. STAHL, QUINCY, ILL.

A NEW POTATO.

As my customers know, I have tested a great many potatoes, and introduced the "*Ideal*." I have a weakness for a *good* potato, but at the present time I have none for sale. Last season I tested a number of seedlings for the pleasure of it, and found one—the St. Clair—that promises to be a real acquisition. It is of the Beauty of Hebron style but longer, fine looking, early, very productive, and of first quality. It is not for sale, but any person can procure a single tuber by sending ten cents to the originator, St. Clair Steele, of this place, and promising to report on its behavior next October.

Unsolicited Testimonials for 1892.

"The plants came to hand on Saturday evening all right; good plants, well packed."
SLAYMAKER & SON, Dover, Del.

"The plants arrived in excellent condition. I put them out, and nearly all are living, and I expect them to do well."

P. D. ROTHWELL, M.D., Denver, Col.

"The strawberry plants arrived the 25th ult. and are the finest plants I have ever seen."

F. D. MITCHELL, San Francisco, Cal.

"The plants were received in fine condition, and were as good and fresh as if I had gone out in my own field and dug them."

MOSES H. KELSEY, Salisbury, Vt.

"I received the strawberry plants in splendid order some days ago. Many thanks for your liberal count. I must say that they were the most skillfully packed plants I ever saw."

B. A. BARNES, Trenton, Mo.

"Plants received all right in splendid condition. Accept thanks for extras and liberal count."

GEORGE IRWIN, Ashland, Oregon.

"Strawberry plants received in fine condition, for which accept my gratitude."

O. N. WILLIAMS, Richmond, Texas.

"Plants received in good condition yesterday morning."

C. W. MATHEWS, Experiment Station,
Lexington, Ky.

"Plants received in good shape. Think I ought to hold you in everlasting remembrance for your very great liberality. I assure you I appreciate it, and will never fail to speak a kind word for you."

H. L. BOSS, Caro, Mich.

"We received plants in good shape. Thank you for extras. The plants we got of you last year did very finely."

DIXON & SON, Netawaka, Kansas.

"The strawberry plants came in good time and in fine order, and more of them than I paid for."

MARIA E. HAWKINS, Horse Cove, N.C.

"The strawberry plants you shipped me by express came to hand to day. They were in *extra fine* condition, and were the *best* plants I have ever received during my twenty-five years in the business."

A. W. CLARK, Ashton, R. I.

"The plants were received in splendid condition. Such beautiful plants and abundance of good, healthy roots, packed in such a perfect manner, made it a pleasure to handle them."

C. K. CARY, So Rumford, Me.

"I desire to tell you that the strawberry plants received from you this spring, by mail, are living and growing, every one. Better plants I never saw—strong, stocky and fresh, as if just dug. Thanks for the extras and gladiolus bulbs sent us—better value never had for one dollar."

S. RUNNING, Menomonie, Wis.

"The plants received in splendid order; fine, healthy, large plants and extra count."

JACOB DINGEE, Sudsburyville, Pa.

"I have learned to consider you a better judge than myself of what I want for varieties in strawberry plants, and so remit with this for a few dozen of each of the best new varieties, leaving the selection mainly with you, knowing that I shall get the best and the truth about them. And then your methods of packing are such that one need not worry about the condition of the plants when received, even though