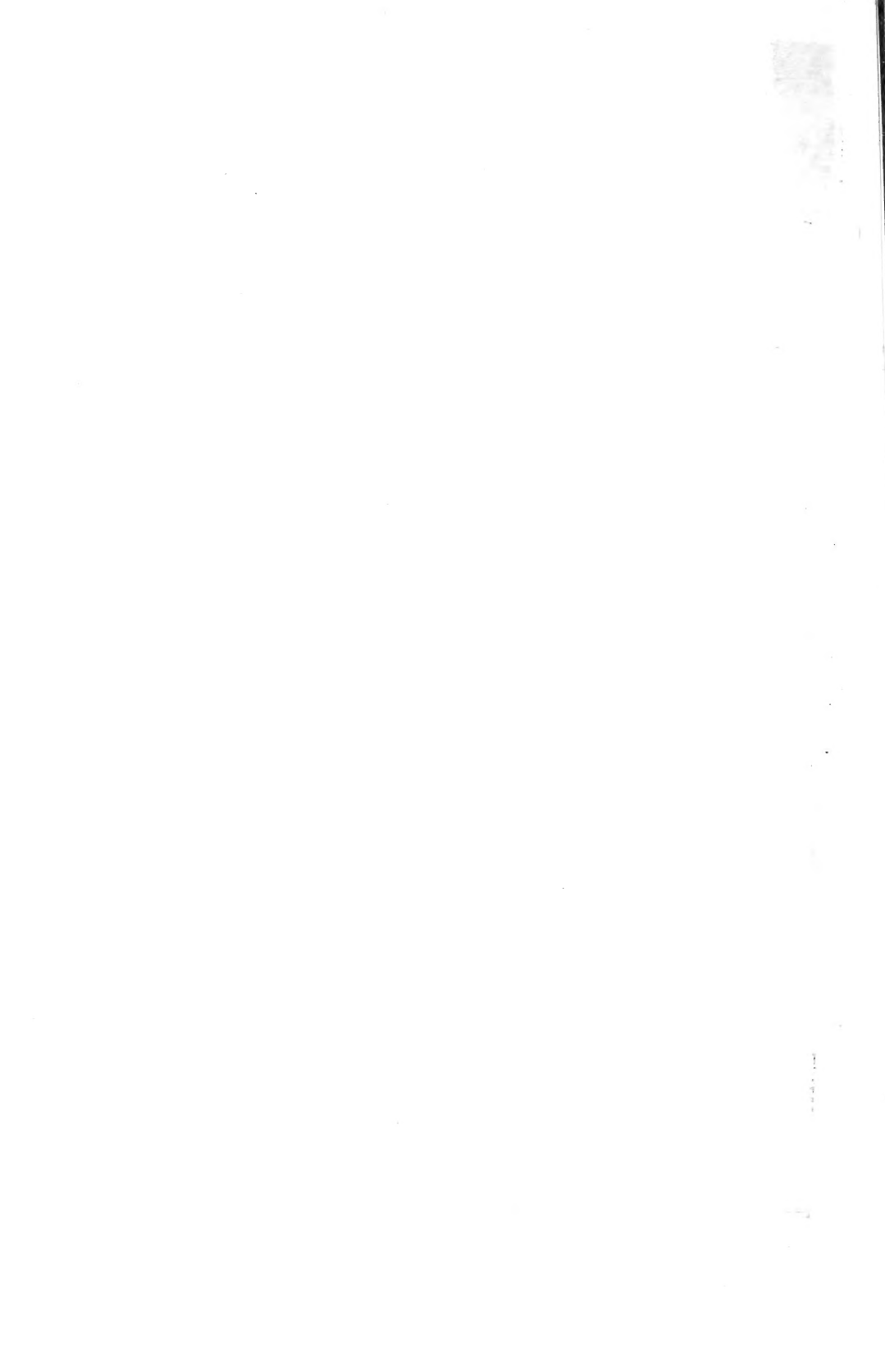


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**PACKARD'S**

AGRICULTURAL AND POMOLOGICAL  
INVESTIGATIONS

**SEED <sup>AND</sup> PLANT**

**1896**



**HUSTLER**



Containing Thoroughly Reliable Information About

**Crimson Clover**

**Winter Oats**

**Cow Peas**

**SEED CORN, FOR ENSILAGE  
AND FODDER.**

— AND THE —

Money Growing Varieties of



**Strawberries,**

**RASPBERRIES, ETC.**



**ELBERT G. PACKARD,**

**SEED AND PLANT GROWER,**

**DOVER, - DELAWARE.**

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# AN INVESTMENT THAT PAYS.

▲

There are so many papers smuggled into farm homes with cheap chromos and gilded premiums that farmers are apt to look with disfavor or indifference on the real useful and helpful papers. I myself am a subscriber to

## The Rural New-Yorker

and, in my judgment is the best Farm, Garden and fruit paper published. I pay \$1 per year for it in advance, and it stops when the year is out, unless I send in dollar promptly, which I usually do. I make no better investment of a dollar during the year. Send to the Rural New-Yorker, New York, for a free sample. If you will include an extra dollar with remittance I will see that you get it every week for a year, and I will return the dollar any time during the year if you are not satisfied with the paper and the investment.

**E. G. Packard, Dover, Del.**

# Are You Scribbling Yet?

DON'T, it hurts your business, for everyone knows that you can get a

**New Model No. 2 improved  
AMERICAN TYPEWRITER FOR \$8.**

*STANDARD MADE, SIMPLE AND DURABLE.*

The first low priced Typewriter that will do PERFECT WORK rapidly and easily. With the "duplicator" will make 150 good copies in 20 minutes. An ideal outfit for Circular Letters, Price Lists, etc. For sample of work and handsome art Catalogue, kindly address

**E. G. PACKARD, Gen. Agent, DOVER, DEL.**

# To My Customers.

I am a grower of Crimson Clover Seed, Small Fruit Plants, Winter Oats, Cow Peas and Seed Corn. The soil and climate of this part of Delaware are particularly adapted to the growth and developement of these specialties, and I give my attention to them exclusively.

I have always considered a satisfied customer the best possible advertisement, and my constant aim is to secure as many such as possible.

I never send out any but fresh tested seeds, free from filth, and that are sure to grow. I always send full weight, well packed, in secure packages, that reach the buyer without loss. Hundreds of former customers know this to be true already, and thousands more can easily prove it by trial.

**When To Order.**—Order early. I will book orders and hold stock, to be shipped at any desired date, when 20 per cent of the money is sent with the order; balance to be paid before shipment.

**Dont wait** until you are ready to sow or plant the seed, or to set out your plants, and then order in a hurry and wonder why it takes so long to get your order filled.

**At prices given** in this catalogue for seeds or plants, I furnish all necessary bags, barrels or boxes free, pack in the best manner and deliver in good order to forwarders here.

**Terms, Cash With Order.** No goods sent C. O. D. unless the order amounts to \$5.00 or more, and then only when one fourth of the amount is sent with order. My prices are as low as any one can afford to furnish the best quality of reliable seeds and plants for.

**Send money by** Express or P. O. Money Order, Registered Letter, Bank Draft or Certified Check. In any of these ways at **my risk**. I will **not** be responsible for money sent by mail if **unregistered**.

**I grow my seeds** and plants on rich ground, give them good culture, and plenty of room; and I **know** that no better or more reliable seeds and plants can be had any where or at any price.

**Be sure** to give your **name, post office, county and state** every time you write, state plainly whether shipments are to be made by mail, freight or express.

Experience has proved that no matter how careful the seedsman may be, there are conditions and causes affecting the germination and purity of seeds that are beyond control, so that we, in common with other seedsmen, decline to give any guarantee; and while we exercise the greatest care to have all seeds pure, reliable, and true to name, our seeds are sold without any warranty, expressed or implied, and without any responsibility in respect of the crop. If our seeds are not accepted on these terms they must be returned at once, and any money that has been paid for same will be refunded.

**E. G. PACKARD, DOVER, DEL.**

## REFERENCES.

Farmer's Bank, Walter Morris, Cashier; Postmaster T. M. Gooden, Adams Express Agent, H. McDaniel, all over Dover, Del.; Rural New Yorker, New York, N. Y.; Country Gentleman, Albany, N. Y.

# Strawberries.

The Strawberry is king of the small fruits. It stands at the head. It ripens first of all in the spring, yields the largest, brings best prices, commands a greater sale, is relished by all people, and leaves a most satisfied feeling in the mind, stomach, and pocket-book of the grower. I am always glad when they come, and sorry when they are gone. I want the earliest variety I can get, and the very latest.

If the business be properly conducted, on business principles, there is big money in growing strawberries for market; and certainly no crop will better repay its cost, either on the farm or in the garden, than a plentiful supply for home use. The requisites to success are strong, healthy plants of the best varieties, rich soil and clean culture.

Wonderful improvement has been made in the strawberry in recent years. The best varieties of to day are far better in productiveness, size and quality, and are a much better investment at prices now asked, than such sorts as Wilson, Crescent and other old varieties would be if taken as a gift.

In this list I shall describe a few of the novelties which seem to come with the most trust-worthy recommendations, and such of the newer sorts as have been tested long enough to prove their value. All the varieties described herein are NOW GROWING ON RICH SOIL IN MY OWN FIELDS. They are unmixed and true to name. Big, strong, healthy plants that are freshly dug and packed as ordered.

If you want the best plants you ever saw, full count, well packed, and that will reach you in perfect order and give entire satisfaction, give me a trial order and I will endeavor to make a permanent customer of you.

The season of 1895 was one of the most discouraging ever known to berry-growers. The strawberry crop was so badly injured by the late and severe frosts, followed by a long term of dry, hot weather that no variety did its best, and many were a total failure. A short crop and low prices proved a bad combination, and it looked as if, for once, the strawberry would be obliged to leave its place as the most profitable fruit.

But the drought continued. Raspberries and blackberries were nearly burned up, and produced little or nothing. Apples and pears sold so low that in many cases they brought the shipper in debt. Peaches brought good prices but were a short crop, and when the returns were all in, it was found that the **strawberry** still kept its old place at the head of the list for profit.

By constant and thorough cultivation through the drought of 1895 I kept my plants growing, and I now have, for the spring trade, the largest and finest stock of plants I ever had.

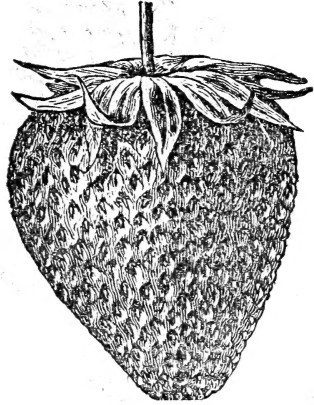
The list of **varieties** is now almost endless, but the list of really superior and desirable sorts is less than a score.

**No Charge Made for Packing.**—All stock delivered to railroad or express office here at prices named in catalogue.

I claim the right to substitute equally good or better varieties, when out of any particular variety ordered, **unless** "no substitution" is plainly stated.

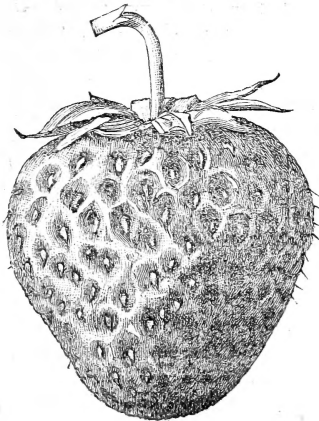
**Estimates** given on large quantities of stock. It costs nothing but will pay you.

**LADY THOMPSON.**—This is a new North Carolina variety which, by the astonishing prices the berries brought on the Northern markets, created such a stir among fruit growers. Owing to its large size and strong points as a shipping berry, it brought from 30 to 40c. a quart, while other kinds were selling at less than half that price. The fortunate man who got it first grew 10,000 quarts an acre. and cleared \$13,000 on it in one season. I have not yet fruited it, except on young plants, but I have taken much pains to correspond with disinterested men who have, and they consider it to have a distinct place of its own as a great market berry. Of 100 or more varieties on my place, it is the most independent of drought and the quickest and fastest grower of all. It will thrive and do well on any soil. A staminate and good pollenizer of itself and other kinds. 25c. per dozen, 60c. per hundred, \$3 per thousand.



LADY THOMSON.

**ELEANOR.**—“The earliest large strawberry yet produced. In size it ranks with Sharpless and Gandy, and retains its size well to the last picking. In color, form and firmness, it resembles the Wilson, coloring evenly all over, with no white tips, and is of excellent quality. Plant large, of vigorous growth and not a sign of rust about it. It is exceedingly productive. The signal merits of Eleanor are earliness, productiveness and large size.”—Introducer’s description. Not fruited here. Price—dozen, post paid 50c. 100 for \$2.



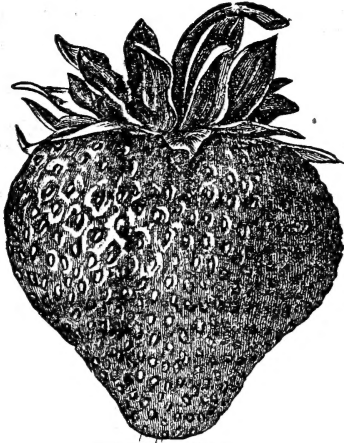
ELEANOR.

**CYCLONE** bears a heavy crop. The berries are of good size and color a bright red to a dark red when fully ripe. Quality excellent, Perfect blossom, season early. This variety is highly recommended by such well known authorities as M. Crawford, Dr. Stayman and C. J. Bauer. My plants are very fine. Price per dozen, post paid 25 cents, 100, 50 cents, 1000 by express not prepaid \$3.

**SPLENDID.**—Perfect blossom. Fruit large, round and very firm; very hardy Mr. M. Crawford says, “I have no scruples in recommending Splendid as one of the reliable varieties. It produces a large crop of fine fruit. It is probably the deepest rooting plant I have.” Price, dozen, post paid, 50c; 100, \$1.

**FOR \$1.00** I will send by mail, prepaid, fifty plants each of four best varieties, early medium and late—200 in all—which, if well cared for, will furnish any family with plenty of choice, fresh, berries all through the season.

**MEEK'S EARLY** is the very best extra early berry that has been thoroughly tested, medium to large size, color dark red shape uniformly like that shown in cut, quality best, unexcelled for canning, very strong grower with no weak points. Price per dozen, post paid 25c. 100, 50c. 1000 by express not prepaid, \$2.50



MEEKS EARLY.

**COLUMBIAN.**—The originator says: "In placing this berry before the public we do so with a feeling of assurance that it will please, as its place with us is first on the list. We consider it is the best berry in cultivation. It is a bright scarlet color, so much desired in a market berry, and is quite firm and remarkably large for an early berry. Ripens with Mitchel's early and Hoffman and is an immense yielder; it actually bears in piles. Most early berries are shy bearers and small in size, but the Columbian reverses this. We do not claim it to be as good, but the best

early berry. It is a strong grower and has a perfect blossom. All who have tried the Columbian give it the highest praise. It is free from rust, sends its roots deep in the ground, thereby standing droughts without dying out in spots." Not fruited here. My stock of Columbian is large and fine, and I put price so low that all can afford to try it. Price, doz., post paid, 25c; 100, 40c; 1000 by express, not prepaid, \$2.

**PRINCETON CHIEF.**—This is a large long, very productive berry. It has one peculiarity which will make it of value to many growers: the fruit is borne on such long, stout fruit stems as to stand well up out of the dirt. Where mulching is scarce this is a valuable quality, as the berries will be kept free of grit without mulch. The plant is exceedingly healthy and vigorous, standing drought well and growing finely on even very poor soil.

It is a delicious table berry and very beautiful. 25c. doz. 60c. 100; \$3 1,000.

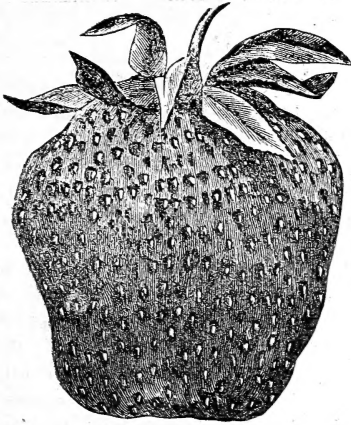
**RIO.**—A very early berry. Plant growth among the most vigorous I ever saw. Even on very poor or very thirsty land on which many varieties fail to grow, or die outright, the Rio not only grows but flourishes. Yet it loves good land as well as any. The berries are somewhat irregular in size; most of them very large. To do well and bear heavily this variety should be heavily fertilized with wood ashes or some fertilizer rich in potash. Not much ammonia is needed. Thus fertilized it is a valuable early market variety. Most nursery-men are selling them exorbitantly high; I put the price within the reach of all 25c. doz; 60c. 100; \$3 1,000.

**ENHANCE**—This is one of the most powerful pollenizers known. Pistillates planted with it never fail to bear heavily. The Enhance itself is a heavy bearer of large firm irregular shaped berries. Is strictly a market berry and not a good table berry. Price per dozen post paid 25c, 50c per 100, \$2 per 1000 by express not paid.

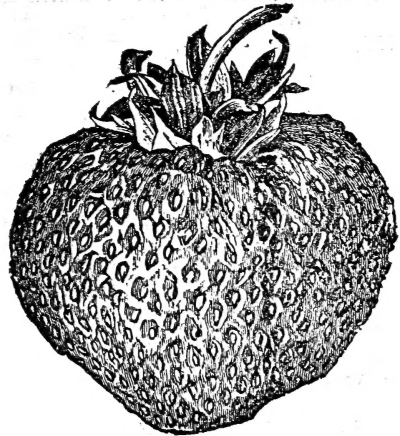
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**YOU CAN BUY STRAWBERRY PLANTS** for less money than I ask, but you cannot get better plants at any price.





TENNESSEE PROLIFIC.



BUBACH NO. 5.

**HERE IS A BUSINESS PAIR** hard to beat. The Bubach No. 5 is a crowned Queen of the strawberry world. When properly fertilized it is unsurpassed in productiveness, and its magnificent size and appearance always sells it at good prices. I have taken great pains to improve my strain of this variety and there is none better. Either Tennessee Prolific or Woolverton are excellent fertilizers for Bubach No. 5. Prices, post paid, per dozen, 25c; 100, 60c; 1000 by express not paid, \$2.50.

**GREENVILLE**—This is also one of the crowned queens of berry kind. Very productive of large berries, which are beautifully colored. Medium early, ripening with Crescent. Whoever wishes a berry of mammoth size and which will be a glory and a wonder, should hasten to get stocked with Greenville. It gets better and better every year with me. For either table or market it is unsurpassed. My Greenville plants are pure and first class. Pollenize with Woolverton or Tennessee Prolific, planted every fourth row. Price, post paid, 25c per dozen, 60c per 100, \$2.50 per 1000 not paid.

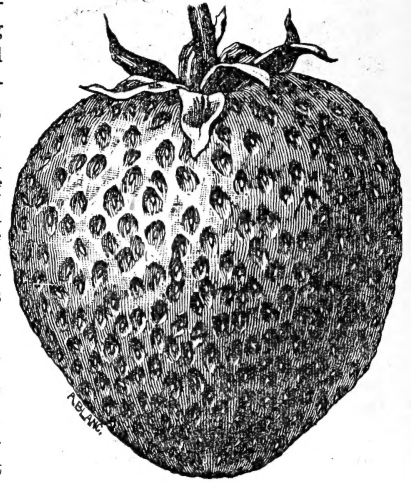
**TENNESSEE PROLIFIC**—A seedling of Sharpless and Crescent. A very strong grower and a profuse bloomer of perfect blossoms and is one of the very best to pollenize Bubach No. 5 and Greenville. Fruit large, bright red color fairly firm, as productive as Haverland and far superior in every way. Price post paid 25c per dozen, 60c per 100; \$2.50 per 1000 by express not paid.

**MARSHALL**—Of the very largest size, far surpassing in that respect any other sort; in color very dark rich crimson to the core, flesh fine grained and of a delicious flavor, and with the peculiar aroma of the native wild strawberry from which it is thought to have sprung. The blossom is perfect and needs no fertilization. The plants are the strongest and most vigorous I have ever seen. The foliage is heavy, and thick enough to protect the blossoms from late frosts and the roots from the winters cold. It is a remarkably fine keeper and carrier, which will commend it to all growers for market. Price, post paid, 35c per dozen, \$1.25 per 100; \$6 per 1000 by express not paid.

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**DON'T ECONOMIZE** IN THE QUALITY OF YOUR PLANTS, **IT WILL NOT PAY.**

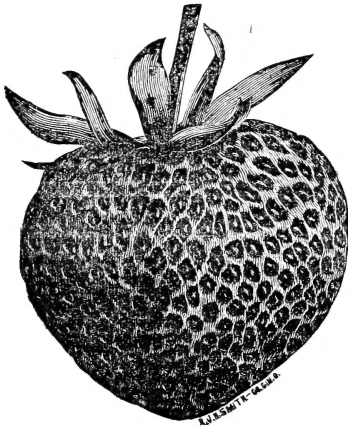
**WOOLVERTON** is a splendid grower and an abundant bearer. Wherever it has been tested it has proved very satisfactory. The fruit is large resembling Bubach No. 5 in form, color bright red and of good quality. The blossom is perfect and remains in bloom a long time, and of great value to fertilize other mid-season varieties. Originated by John Little, the great strawberry grower of Canada. One of the best to plant with pistillate varieties. Plant largely of Woolverton. Price per dozen post paid 25c, 50c per 100, \$2.50 per 1000 by express not prepaid.



WOOLVERTON.

**GANDY**—This is the standard very late berry everywhere. It grows to the largest size, is magnificently colored, ranks as a strictly fancy berry and commands the highest price on every market Men have made and are making fortunes on this berry alone. Price per dozen post paid 25c; 60c per 100, \$3 per 1000 by express not prepaid.

**BRANDYWINE** is one of the most valuable varieties ever sent out, and seems destined to become as popular as Bubach No. 5. On the originators grounds in Pennsylvania last season, one single picking from 1½ acres gave 1650 quarts.



BRANDYWINE.

and many. Medium red; flesh red, firm and solid for so large a berry—none more so. Quality not the best, but fully as good as Sharpless, and better than Bubach. Vines exceedingly prolific. The best berry in our collection of this season up to date. Brandywine continues a long time in fruit, and is of superior shape, quality and size for so large a berry. Foliage perfect.”

I have fruited it only on spring set plants, but it appears to come fully up to the recommend. My stock of plants were direct from the originator. Price per dozen, post paid 50c.; 100, \$1.00; 1000, \$6.00, not prepaid.



**MARY**—The introducer says in his fall of 1895 catalogue: "In introducing this superb variety two years ago we said, 'of the largest size, the most prolific in bearing, the most beautiful in appearance and the firmest large strawberry yet introduced.' We have since fruited it for two more summers and we would not today wish to withdraw or modify one word of the commendation we then gave it. It has in all respects fully satisfied us and what is perhaps more convincing has greatly pleased all who have fruited it. The berries are uniformly of extra large size, conical form with blunt apex, regular in size and shape, never coxcombed, deep crimson in color and of a rich high quality. Its great firmness and solidity renders it of exceptional value for distant shipment and it keeps in good condition and retains its fresh color remarkably well. In season it is medium to late and retains its large size to the end. In market it is reported as one of the best in color, flavor and size, always bringing the highest market price.,,"

I fruited the Mary last season on my grounds at Dover and found it worthy of all the praise the introducer has given it. It was truly a wonder of size productiveness and vigor. Price per dozen post paid 60c, \$1.50 per 100, \$6 per \$1000 by express not prepaid.

## MILLER RED RASPBERRY.

Here is an instance of one of the good things of life which has been kept from the public for some years by a few growers, who preferred to market the fruit rather than sell the plants. This berry has been fruited for some years past, and would probably have remained in seclusion for a long time to come if it had not been brought to public notice by a few enterprising fruit men who desired that the horticultural world should know more of its good qualities and reap some of the profits thereof. Only a short description is necessary.

The bush is a stout, healthy, vigorous grower, not quite as tall as Cuthbert, but rather more stalky and dwarfish. It is well calculated to hold up the immense crop of fruit with which it loads itself.

As compared with Cuthbert and Thompson, growing in the same field, it has never yet shown any signs of winter killing, whilst these both suffered considerably in mild winters. Berry is as large as Cuthbert, holding its size to the end of the season; round in shape, color bright red, does not fade, but will hold its color after shipment longer than any other red variety; core very small, does not crumble, making it **the firmest and best shipping berry in existence**; has not the flat taste of some varieties, but a rich, fruity flavor entirely its own. The time of ripening is with the very earliest, the first picking being with Thompson's Early, June 11th, the Miller producing double the quantity of berries at each picking that Thompson did, in the same field, under the same conditions, continuing until August 3d—Thompson having been gone three weeks, fully as prolific as Cuthbert. It does not seem particular as to soil, having been fruited on light, sandy, gravelly and heavy clay soils with equal success.

As long as my stock of plants holds out I will supply my customers with genuine Miller raspberry plants at the following prices. Dozen, \$1.00; 100, \$8; 1000, \$22.

## EARLY HARVEST BLACKBERRY.

The earliest blackberry, a strong grower and heavy bearer. Fruit medium size, sweet and an excellent shipper. Will bear a large crop every year, and for a market that pays good prices for early berries the EARLY HARVEST is the best of all.

I have a splendid stock of genuine root cutting plants (no suckers) and will sell them at prices to suit the times. Dozen, 40 cts; 100, \$1; 1000, \$6.

With MEEK'S EARLY and LADY THOMSON for earliest, TENNESSEE PROLIFIC, WOOLVERTON, BUBACH No. 5 and GREENVILLE for mid-season and BRANDYWINE and MARY for late, you have a mammoth combination that will give you fine fruit and plenty of it all through the strawberry season, and is guaranteed to maintain a most agreeable and satisfied condition of mind, stomach and pocket-book.

For \$5.00 I will send post paid 100 plants of each of these eight magnificent varieties—800 in all—and a six months subscription to either Rural New-Yorker or American Gardening.

**IF YOU WANT** A LARGE BILL OF PLANTS, SEND YOUR LIST FOR MY PRICES.

**NO ORDER IS TOO SMALL FOR ME. AND NONE TOO LARGE, SEND IT ANYWAY.**

# Seed Corn.

**INDIAN CORN** grows in greatest luxuriance, and attains its highest perfection in Delaware which is the natural home of this great staple. The rich alluvial soil, long seasons, with a dry sunny autumn, combine to produce SEED CORN that ranks second to none in vitality and reliability. MY SEED CORN is grown for me on the best corn land in Delaware.

Every ear I sell is carefully selected by hand and all tips and objectionable kernels discarded before shelling. It is well fanned up and shipped in strong bags or barrels, which I furnish free. Practically every kernel will grow, and I defy any man to buy BETTER SEED CORN AT ANY PRICE than I send out with every order. When QUALITY is considered, I think my prices will be found as low as the lowest.

For years I have made a specialty of seed corn for

## ENSILAGE AND FODDER.

I have tried all the leading varieties of corn in the market for this purpose and have sifted out all but the following varieties, which have no superiors.

**IMPROVED LEAMING**—The best 90 to 100 day corn for fodder in the north. Grows a tall leafy stalk and a medium sized ear with very deep orange yellow grain. One bushel of ears will shell out three pecks of corn. Will ripen ears to glazing stage in 100 days of good weather from planting. My stock is very fine. Prices, single bushel, \$1.25; bag of 2 bushels, \$2.00; barrel of 3 bushels, \$2.75.

**PACKARD'S IMPROVED EARLY MASTODON**—This is a favorite variety in many sections, and is valuable alike for the immense amount of grain and forage produced on a given area. One hundred and ten days from planting will ripen the crop of grain, and 90 days are sufficient if used for ensilage. Too well known to need further description. My seed is A No. 1. Prices, single bushel, \$1; Bag of 2 bushels, \$1.80; Barrel of 3 bushels. \$2.50.

**CHESTER COUNTY MAMMOTH**—A grand variety for fodder and ensilage where it matures, and further north if ripe ears are not required. Will mature in 120 to 130 days. Furnishes a large amount of fodder 12 to 16 feet high. Ears are very large containing sixteen to thirty rows of grains, and will yield from one hundred to one hundred and forty bushels of shelled corn per acre on rich land with high culture. I have the largest and finest stock of this variety that I ever had. Prices, single bushel, \$1.25; bag of two bushels, \$2; barrel of 3 bushels, \$2.75.

**NEW GOLDEN GIANT**—This season I take pleasure in introducing what I believe to be the largest and finest yellow corn that grows, either for grain or fodder. It is the product of many years judicious mixing and selecting of seed by one of the best farmers in Delaware. His object being to develop the longest possible ear, with very deep grain and high color. This object has been fully attained in the NEW GOLDEN GIANT which is now offered for the first time for sale. It has proven an enormous yielder of both corn and fodder and in addition to its other good points has proved itself a DROUTH PROOF CORN this past season, during the terrible drouth of 1895, the worst ever known here.

Hundreds of acres of corn were literally BURNED UP so there was no corn at all worth husking, but the GOLDEN GIANT gave us ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY BUSHELS OF EARS PER ACRE, over the whole of a thirty acre field, and an average of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE BUSHELS PER ACRE on sixty acres, and of the largest, finest corn I ever saw. I could pick out thousands of ears over twelve inches in length and many fifteen inches or more. The fodder stood twelve to fifteen feet high and full of leaves.

In New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and states south, I think the NEW GOLDEN GIANT will be found the most profitable variety in cultivation to grow for the grain, while its great value as an ENSILAGE and FODDER corn cannot be over estimated. I have only a limited quantity of seed corn of this grand variety for sale. Prices,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel, \$1; 1 bushel, \$1.50; bag of 2 bushels, \$2.50; barrel of 3 bushels, \$3.50.

It will pay to give Golden Giant a trial this season.

**HICKORY KING**—This white field corn has the largest grain and smallest cob of any white corn grown. Of strong vigorous growth, the stalks take a firm hold in the ground and stand upright, resisting severe storms. Cannot be relied upon to mature its crop of grain north of Pennsylvania, but it has been found excellent for ensilage and fodder in New York and Eastern states. Prices, single bushel, \$1.00; bag of two bushels, \$1.90; barrel of three bushels, \$2.70.

**WHITE SOUTHERN SHEEP TOOTH**—A standard variety for ensilage and fodder, and well known everywhere. My stock of seed is very fine. Prices, single bushel, 80c; bag of two bushels, \$1.55; barrel of three bushels, \$2.15.

## **WHAT SOME OF MY CUSTOMERS SAY.**

### **FROM A FARMER'S CLUB IN CONNECTICUT.**

The corn (Mastodon) was No. 1 and gave good satisfaction and several of those who had it, have told me they want more next spring.  
December 6, 1895.

G. B. Porter.

### **FROM ANOTHER CONNECTICUT COUNTY.**

The seed corn I had of you gave me the largest and best growth of ensilage I ever raised. Every one that saw the field said it was the 'largest' and biggest corn they ever saw. I shall want more next year.  
December 10, 1895.

G. A. Vincent.

### **FROM THE EMPIRE STATE.**

The corn did very nicely; grew ten feet or more high and eared well. We thought it yielded twenty tons or more per acre.  
December 9, 1895

J. E. Haviland.

### **FROM A NOTED JERSEY BREEDER IN NEW YORK.**

I never saw as fine seed of the Chester County Mammoth corn as you sent me  
May 28, 1895.

A. H. Cooley.

### **FROM CHEMUNG COUNTY, NEW YORK.**

We have been very much pleased with the Hickory King. Our corn grew about 14 feet high and the ears were quite fair, some were extra good. Hickory King is the king to grow for the silo. We have two silos each 16x20 feet and 22 feet deep. We filled both as full as they would hold, from 14 acres.

A. Roy.

# Crimson Clover,

(TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM.)

ALSO CALLED SCARLET CLOVER BY SOME.

## THE CREAM OF THE CLOVERS.



CRIMSON CLOVER— $\frac{1}{3}$  natural size.

of the New Jersey State Experiment Station, are devoted entirely to the properties, merits and uses of this most wonderful plant and should be in the hands of all interested in it. Crimson Clover has come to stay. It is the rich farmers' friend and the poor farmers' benefactor. By its intelligent use as a nitrogen gatherer, combined with proper applications of potash and phosphoric acid, any farm may in comparatively short time and light expense be brought up to a high state of productiveness.

This is a big subject. I could fill a large volume with strictly reliable information about this wonderful plant, but in the few pages given to it in this little book I have only room to outline in a general way some of its qualities, characteristics and uses. This clover is not new to me. I have grown it very successfully for years, and the longer I grow it, the more highly I esteem it, and the more uses I find for it. A few years ago it was comparatively little known in this country, but through the efforts of several of the State Experiment Stations, and of such live agricultural newspapers as the Rural New Yorker and the Country Gentleman, its great value in American agriculture is fast becoming better known. I am not a prophet, nor the son of one, but I am firmly convinced that the day is not far distant, when the acreage of Crimson Clover will far exceed that of Red Clover. With beauty and utility combined, it is bound to force its way in spite of any pre-existing prejudice, and though there will be occasional failures, they will be rare, compared with those of its cousin, Red Clover. Bulletin XVI of the Delaware Station, and Bulletin 100

Crimson Clover is an annual, in the sense that as soon as it matures its first and only crop of seed, the whole plant dies. It is, however, perfectly hardy, and will live and keep green through zero weather when the tops of the common red and other clovers are brown and dead.

**WHEN TO SOW**—It may be sown in either fall or spring. Here in Delaware it is sown from the middle of July to the last of September. It is important to sow it early enough to develop a good strong root before freezing weather. In some of the Southern states October has been found early enough to sow, while in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, etc., July is the month to sow in. If sown at these dates in localities mentioned, it develops a strong root before winter, and keeps growing during every mild spell of weather, and in the spring starts off very early and grows much faster than red clover, so that early in May it comes into full bloom and is from one to two and a half feet high, according to the richness of the soil. If sown in spring it should be in May or June, after freezing weather is past, in this case it blooms the same season in about ninety days from sowing.

**HOW AND WHERE TO SOW**—If sown in spring, use ground freshly and finely fitted, sow broadcast as evenly as possible. A light rolling after is beneficial on most soils. In July or later, sow among growing crops of corn, tomatoes, beans, turnips, melons or in any other cultivated summer crop, immediately after last working, and while the soil is still fresh. Some run a fine tooth cultivator once in each row after sowing. This does no harm and in some cases insures prompt germination if rain be delayed. In growing corn I sow from on horse-back casting over three rows at once. In the apple, pear, peach or plum, orchard is an excellent place to sow Crimson Clover in midsummer when cultivation is suspended for the season: Crimson always takes well in an orchard and furnishes a heavy and valuable growth which may be utilized in many ways, or be plowed down the following spring to enrich and keep moist the orchard soil during the summer.

**HOW MUCH SEED PER ACRE**—Use from ten to fifteen pounds per acre of good clean seed. If you wish it for seed, ten pounds is right. If for hay, ensilage or to plow down, twelve to fifteen pounds will give a heavier and better stand.

**DO NOT SOW IT ON WHEAT** or rye as you would red clover without mellowing the soil or covering. It is not adapted to this use and will be a failure if so treated.

## **USES OF CRIMSON CLOVER.**

**TO PLOW DOWN AS MANURE**—Nitrogen is needed for all crops, and is the most expensive of all the essential fertilizing elements, in whatever form purchased. Scientists have shown us that leguminous plants like clovers, peas, etc. having the peculiar power of securing nitrogen from the air and storing it up in their roots and branches for the use of future crops. Crimson Clover is the

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very best of these for the reason that it may be sown at last cultivation of summer crops, and occupies the ground at a season otherwise idle, and matures its crop early enough in the spring to plow down for any of the summer crops. Careful and accurate experiments made at the New Jersey Experiment Station have shown that a single acre of heavy Crimson Clover which on May 31st stood 28 inches high, contained of nitrogen 212 pounds; phosphoric acid, 52.9 pounds; potash, 186.5 pounds, and organic matter, 6,997 pounds. This amount was found in the tops, stubble and roots. The nitrogen alone is more than equal to that found in 20 tons of stable manure, and could not be bought for \$30. In the earlier stages of growth, April 24 and after, the plants were, of course, smaller and contained less nitrogen, still at any period it provided a large amount of fertility, and far more than paid the cost of labor and seed. In four counties of southern New Jersey, over 85,000 tons of horse manure was shipped, the nitrogen alone of which cost \$127,500; and this does not represent one-third of the total cash expenditure for nitrogen in these counties. The point is that the nitrogen in Crimson Clover is just as good as that in the manure, and may be had at a mere nominal expense of time and labor. There is no time for details here, as to how this clover may be utilized and what changes should be made in rotations, etc. The truth is this Crimson Clover offers the farmer a chance to cut down his immense bills for manure. The possibilities are perfectly sure in this case.

**AS STOCK FOOD**—In most situations, Crimson Clover is too valuable as a stock food to be used directly as manure. Its feeding value should be utilized also. As pasture it is much earlier than the red clover or the grasses. When pastured early in the spring and plowed under later for corn, the farmer will obtain the full benefit of the clover and if he will use on the corn muriate of potash and some form of phosphoric acid, he may continue to grow corn and clover on the same ground year after year—with the soil improving all the time. As a soiling crop, when in bloom, the Crimson Clover will give excellent results. Prof. Vorhees suggests a daily ration of 50 to 75 pounds of green clover and eight pounds of corn meal. It is hard to conceive of anything cheaper than this, considering the way the Crimson Clover is grown, or of anything that will come closer to first class pasture. Prof. Vorhees concludes from his experiments that one acre of Crimson Clover in bloom will provide food for 10 cows in full flow of milk for 20 days—worth, at present feed prices, at least \$25.

**FOR SILAGE**—Crimson Clover comes in full bloom early in May, about the time when the silos are cleared of the corn ensilage stored the previous fall. By refilling these silos with the clover, an abundant supply of very superior silage is secured to carry the stock through until corn silage in the fall. This plan has been practiced here in Delaware for several years, with excellent results. Cows can be kept on much less land than if pastured, will do better and give more milk, besides enabling the farmer to do away with that greatest of all taxes, his fences.

**FOR THE HORTICULTURIST**—In no other place in Delaware farm management has the Crimson clover found a better or more useful field than in the orchards. Where land is very poor, capable of producing ten bushels of corn per acre, there a heavy burden of green matter can be plowed under in May. The custom has arisen to turn the sod in such a manner that many of the blossoms

remain above ground. In time, seed ripens; by harrowing the land, this seed is scattered, and a very heavy crop of clover soon begins to grow therefrom. This method of seeding involves no expense whatever.

It is found profitable here also to sow in between rows of blackberries, dewberries, raspberries, currants, etc., in August to be plowed under the following spring. As a rotation crop on a strawberry farm it is invaluable. A strawberry field is plowed and well harrowed immediately after removing the crop of fruit and CRIMSON CLOVER sown. It grows very rank and gives a heavy coat of humus to turn under for the next fruit crop.

**FOR POULTRY AND BEES**—Poultry of all kinds are extremely fond of Crimson Clover, and as it keeps green and grows all winter, poultry men will see at once that it is of the highest value to provide that green vegetable food in winter so essential to a successful poultry business.

The Apiarist will see at once the advantage to him of securing such an early and profusely blooming honey plant as Crimson Clover. The honey bees know a good thing when they see it, and the myriads of them found constantly in every Crimson Clover field while in bloom shows their opinion of it very clearly. I am not a hog man, but I do know that if there is any food on earth that a hog will eat with the greatest relish and fatten upon in the shortest time, it is this same CRIMSON CLOVER.

**ABOUT THE SEED**—Of the five varieties of this clover, known to European writers, four have crimson blossoms and differ from each other essentially in their relative powers to withstand winter weather. In that respect the original seed supply of Delaware seems, fortunately, to have been of the sturdiest type. The variety which I grow is perfectly hardy. More so, in fact, than Red Clover and thoroughly acclimated. The seed I shall offer to my customers this season is strictly pure, acclimated, tenth generation seed, Delaware grown. It is thoroughly tested before being sent out and is guaranteed to grow.

**IMPORTANT**—The seed crop of the Crimson Clover is harvested here in the month of June and I begin shipping the new crop seed for fall sowing the last week in June. Orders should be sent in previous to that date to secure prompt shipment of the fresh, new crop seed. I will book orders any time, to be filled at market price as soon as seed is ready. I will always sell as cheap as reliable, clean, Delaware grown seed can be bought for of others. For spring sowing use seed of the previous year's crop. I keep it constantly on hand and can fill all orders promptly.

**DON'T BUY IMPORTED SEED.**—Many dealers handle imported seed because they can buy it for less money than they can the Delaware grown, and make a larger profit on it.

In buying foreign seed, you are liable to get some of the less hardy varieties, or the white Egyptian Clover whose seed is almost exactly like that of Crimson Clover. Besides this, the foreign seed is generally foul with pestiferous weed seeds and often contain clover cancer, dodder, etc.

**THE DROUGHT OF 1895.**—The summer of 1895 was one of great and long extended drought all over the country. In Delaware it came on in June and held until November. For the first time in its history, CRIMSON CLOVER seeding was a failure over a large part of its area in Delaware. To be sure, there

are many fine fields of it now growing here, but the bulk of the seed sown failed from lack of moisture. This being the case, it is no wonder that many who tried Crimson Clover for the first time last season in other parts, failed also. This should not discourage. Crimson Clover is worthy of all that has been said in its favor. It is today the most valuable single crop that can be successfully grown in America.

### PRICES OF SEED.

At this writing (Jan. 1, 1896.) no one can determine what the probable price of new crop seed will be for Fall sowing. I shall issue a special Crimson Clover Bulletin about June 15th giving all the latest information about the crop, and prices of new seed, which I shall be pleased to send free to all who request it.

The prices given here are for seed of 1895 crop for spring sowing. Best re-cleaned seed, 4 lbs. post paid, 75 cents; 15 lbs. (enough for one acre) by express not prepaid \$1.25;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel (30 lbs.) \$2.25; 1 bushel, \$4.00.

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Jan. 11, 1895.

Mr. E. G. Packard, Dover, Del.—Dear Sir:—It gives me great pleasure to state that the Crimson Clover Seed purchased from you in the past few years have given most excellent satisfaction; it has been entirely free from weed seeds, true to variety and of strong vitality.

Yours very truly,

E. B. VOORHEES, Director.

## Cow Peas.

Cow Peas and Crimson Clover are the greatest nitrogen gatherers and soil improvers known. With Crimson Clover for fall and winter growth and Cow Peas for summer, accompanied by intelligent applications of potash and phosphoric acid, we have at hand the means of cheaply, quickly and permanently restoring wornout soils to fertility. Cow Peas will not stand severe frosts—they may be planted any time after danger of late frosts is past. I have found the best way to sow them, when intended for hay, soiling or plowing down, is to use a common wheat drill set to sow four pecks per acre and use all the tubes. In this case no further cultivation is required. There are many varieties of Cow Peas, but most of them are too late in maturing to be desirable in any latitude north of Delaware. I have tried all known varieties—Clay, Whip-poor-will, Black Eye, Stewart, Wonderful, Black, etc.

For Delaware, Maryland, Ohio and all states north, I consider the BLACK COW PEA the very best variety grown. The Black pea matures seed perfectly here and will produce as heavy a growth of vines in 60 to 90 days as any known variety. On good soil with favorable weather, they will grow three feet, or more, high and mature seed in 90 days from planting. My stock of seed is first class. Price, \$1.50 per bushel of 60 lbs., sacked,

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**MISS CLOVER AND MR. COW PEA** will drag nitrogen out of the air and GIVE it to you. The fertilizer dealer bags it and makes you pay 16 cents per pound for it. The difference in price between dragged and bagged nitrogen may represent the difference between profit and loss.—Rural New-Yorker.

## EARLY ORANGE SUGAR CANE.

I have grown this variety of Sorghum for several years to feed milch cows during the droughts of summer when pastures are short. It grows rapidly, laughs at dry weather, and produces an immense amount of green fodder that is greatly relished by cattle. Should be sown with a grain drill, one bushel per acre, using all tubes. Begin to cut when waist high and you can keep cutting until frost. It sprouts up again quickly, after cutting and produces a second crop equal to the first. Price of well cured clean seed, peck, \$1; half bushel, \$1.75; bushel, \$2.50.

## Winter Oats.

The TRUE DELAWARE WINTER OATS have been grown here very successfully for a number of years, and their merits are just beginning to be appreciated in other sections. They are a much surer crop than spring oats and generally yield about double the amount. The TRUE DELAWARE WINTER OATS for FALL SEEDING should be sown broadcast at the rate of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre, in August or September; or further south can be sown as late as the 20 of October. They are as hardy as wheat and will stand as much cold as that crop when they are well established. They make a good growth before winter sets in and furnish excellent grazing during the late fall and early spring and during open spells in the winter, without injury to the grain crop afterwards. Their turving and stooling qualities are remarkable, and even when thinly sown, they will, under anything like favorable conditions, soon spread and cover the ground with thick heavy growth. The yield of grain is very large; yields of fifty and seventy five bushels per acre can reasonably be expected on good soil; on rich soils and under favorable circumstances they will yield as high as one hundred bushels to the acre. The grain is a dark gray color, with distinct stripe; it is heavier than the ordinary oats, weighing from thirty five to forty pounds to the bushel.

SPRING SEEDING.—These oats are also largely used for spring seeding, and if put in before April first will make a much larger yield than the spring oats and in this section are considered a much surer crop for spring seeding than Spring Oats; and this fact has caused Spring Oats to go almost altogether out of use with our farmers here.

In conclusion I would strongly recommend our farmers all over this country to sow the True Delaware Winter Oats, and to sow them largely. The advantages of fall seeding, its turving and grazing capacity and the increased yield of heavy grain, so strongly recommend it over all other varieties of oats now in cultivation. It is only a question of a few years when these oats will be very generally grown all over the United States. I shall take pleasure in quoting prices or sending samples of these oats on application.

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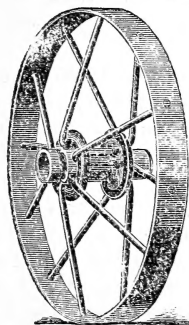
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