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LIBRARY RECEIVED AGRICULTURAL AND POMOLOGICAL

OUR TWELFTH ANNUAL WHOLESALE CATALOGUE FOR 1899 ★

... OF ...

STRAWBERRIES, GRAPES, Etc., Etc.

THOMPSON'S SONS,  
RIO VISTA, VIRGINIA.



EXCELSIOR

EVERYBODY WANTS THE EARLIEST STRAWBERRIES IN CULTIVATION.

For \$2.50 we will send free (by mail) three plants of each of the following varieties, viz.: Darling, Earliest, Excelsior, Fendrick, and Ida, and all have a perfect blossom except Ida.

**EGYPTIAN, or WINTER ONION SETS.**—The new sets are usually ready to ship about July 1st. We still have a few old sets on hand we can send (by mail), with instructions how to plant them, for 25 cents per quart. By freight or express—peck, 60 cents; half bushel, \$1.10; bushel, \$2.00.

**IDA. BLACKBERRY.**—In this new berry we are offering one that is earlier and nearly as large again as early Harvest, a berry that will be wanted by every one. It is not only the earliest blackberry in cultivation, but it matures its crop of berries nearly all at once. We only offer one plant to each customer this year at \$1.00 each (by mail).

[Inspector's Certificate.]

VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION,  
BLACKSBURG, VA., September 3, 1898.

This is to certify that I have, under Act of Assembly approved Feb'y 23, 1898, examined the nursery of Thompson's Sons, Rio Vista, Va., and found it to be apparently free from San Jose Scale and other dangerously injurious insects or plant diseases.

This certificate invalid after June 1, 1899.

J. L. PHILLIPS, Ass't Inspector.



WHOLESALE CATALOGUE AND PRICE-LIST  
OF  
**THOMPSON'S SONS,**  
RIO VISTA, VIRGINIA.

For Spring and Fall of 1899.

INTRODUCERS OF  
**THOMPSON'S EARLY PROLIFIC RED RASPBERRY** (the best early to-day), **PRIDE,**  
**KING, PALMER,** and many others. In Strawberries we are pioneers. Will only  
mention a few—**HAVERLAND, Mrs. CLEVELAND, GREAT PACIFIC, FLORENCE,**  
**EUREKA, SADIE, VAN DEMAN, BELLE, CLEVA, AROMA, IVANHOE, CYCLONE, TEN-**  
**NESSEE PROLIFIC, RIO, ISABELLA, CARRIE, EARLIEST, DARLING, FEN-**  
**DRICK, CLARENCE,** etc., etc.

This year we desire to call your special attention to **DARLING**—the most productive early berry  
we have ever tested. Will stand drought better than most any other variety except "Earliest" we  
have ever grown. When kept from making too many runners will form from two to six crowns  
and make some of the finest plants ever seen. All who are looking for a productive early berry will  
find it in the "Darling." After another year's trial of "Earliest" we are more pleased with it than  
ever, and were we confined to two berries for money in our market they would be "Darling" and  
"Earliest." Then **CARRIE**, for medium to late of all berries in our picking shed at picking time  
was the most beautiful color, firm and so large. But we will leave the testimonials of others for you  
to select from what you think the best. Don't overlook **CLARENCE** if you are looking for a berry  
for shipping.

**FENDRICK**.—Owing to the large demand for these plants, we shall not fill any more orders until  
August 1st. Potted plants \$2 per dozen.

Of other kinds, we will make special mention of **HOWELL**. It is a beauty to fertilize "Carrie" both  
in color, size, shape, firmness, and productiveness. It carries its fruit on long stems. The foliage  
so far with us is healthy, and those who have the berry we feel sure will be proud of it.

We have grown this berry now four years, and it pleases us better every year. It is as near per-  
fection as we have yet seen.

**EXCELSIOR**.—In this berry the originator says: "I will put this berry against any new or old extra  
early berry, and forfeit \$50 if it is not the best extra early berry for all purposes now grown."

**EQUINOX**.—This is the latest berry on our grounds, and by planting "Earliest," "Equinox,"  
and "Carrie" the strawberry season can be prolonged fully five to six weeks.

We have the largest and best stock of strawberries we have ever grown, and all on new land that  
never grew strawberries before. They were well worked, and the finest roots we ever saw; hence  
with our large stock of plants we are able to make low prices.

We have planted our strawberries by machinery for the past four years, hence we put them in  
better and faster than by the old method.

**KING RED RASPBERRY**.—This berry after another year's trial still stands the best red raspberry  
we have seen or grown. We are only too sorry we cannot fill half the orders we get for it. Will fill  
not over one dozen to any one party until stock is exhausted.

It sells for double the price of any other raspberry.

**SHIPPING STRAWBERRY PLANTS BY FREIGHT.**

During December, January, February, and to middle of March we can ship by freight and so pack  
that plants will stand from two to four weeks in transportation. After the middle of March, as the  
weather gets warmer, plants will not stand so long to go south, but north, east, and west will stand a  
long time. We pack as carefully as we can.

**TERMS.**

**PAYMENTS INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.**

This is the ordinary rule of nurserymen, and is a reasonable one. We have been years in building  
up a business, and are known to the public. Moreover, our success depends on fair and careful  
dealing. We believe that it depends still more on liberal dealing, and we think our patrons will  
testify very generally that we have consulted their interests as truly as our own. It is our wish and  
intention that no one shall suffer loss in their transactions with us. We prefer taking a liberal  
course at the outset to doing a credit business, assured that it is the better course for both parties.

If purchasers wish strawberry plants in quantities of 50, 100, or more, to be sent by mail, let them  
add to the catalogue price 20 cents per hundred for postage. Thus those at a distance from railroads  
can obtain plants promptly.

To parties living long distances from express offices it may often be a great convenience to receive  
raspberry, blackberry, currant, and gooseberry plants by mail; if so, let them add 20 cents to the  
price per dozen, 40 cents to the price per fifty, and 75 cents to the price per hundred. Of course,  
larger and better plants can be sent by express than by mail.

Large and mixed orders, and all plants at a thousand rate, go by express. *We make no charge for  
packing.*

Freight and express charges are in all cases paid by the purchaser, except where noted.  
We ship from Richmond, Va., and can ship by boat or railroad, so we are sure of getting low rates  
by so much competition. We are situated three miles from the boundary line of Richmond, and  
five miles from the post-office.



The buyer should go to his nearest express office, and learn the probable charges on his purchase, and thus save himself unpleasant surprises. In some instances he may learn that it will be cheaper for him to avail himself of our mail rates. We pack as lightly as we can, in view of the safety of the plants.

*Fast Freight.*—Early in the season, when the weather is cool, plants can often be sent quite cheaply by fast freight; but we take no responsibility in such cases, as there is often great delay.

Our shipping facilities are from Richmond, Va.

**Mistakes Remedied on this Condition.**—The package must be opened *promptly on its receipt*, and the plants counted. If, then, they are not in good order, or fall short, please notify us at once, and we will make all right. We take our patron's word and make up to him all losses for which we are to blame. But it is not fair to us to complain where mails and express matter are not regularly obtained or the plants not promptly opened or counted until days after being set out. Let us here distinctly state that the *young* plants of some of our best kinds are often small.

The *Crescent Seedling* is another example, and the young plants are scarcely more than half the size of *Isabella* and *Carrie* and others. Some varieties of grape-vines, such as *Lady*, *Delaware*, etc., are also much smaller than others. We shall always try to send the best plants of the kind.

*Dip* the plants, as soon as received, in water, and bury the roots in moist, shady ground till you are ready to set them out. If cold, hot, or windy when received, place in a cool cellar, and cover the roots, not tops, with moss or wet grass, but set out as soon as possible, since plants out of the ground lose their vitality. Water after setting out, if dry, and shade until the plants do not wilt in the sun.

We would esteem it a favor if our patrons would send their orders as early in the season as possible, as we are always liable to be sold out of just what you want, by leaving your orders so late. All orders filled as received, in their turn.

### IMPORTANT.

In view of our purpose to furnish good plants, true to name, and the great pains we take to secure plants of such a character, we know that our prices are very reasonable. In no other article of merchandise should quality count for more than in plants; since their first cost, at highest price, is trifling, compared with the labor and expense that must be put upon them afterwards. Good plants cannot be sold below a certain rate, any more than good cloth at shoddy prices, without loss to some one. We are not only anxious that our plants should please when received, but also when coming into bearing. We give to them close personal supervision, and sell only such as we would set out ourselves. We give liberal count, and remedy all errors. It is our sincere wish that every transaction should be to the advantage of the buyer as truly as to ourselves.

That our prices are more moderate than many in the trade, is due to the fact that we do business in small fruits on a large scale. We are willing, moreover, to conform our prices to other honorable dealers, and will not be undersold by any first-class nursery. We think we can do as well by those desiring to purchase as any one, and, therefore, invite correspondence.

In ordering, please remember to give Name, Post-Office, County, and State, and be sure the name given is the name of the Post-Office. If Express Office is different, please mention.

In instances where parties expect to order largely, we would like an opportunity to price their list.

Address,

**THOMPSON'S SONS, Rio Vista, Va.**

### DIRECTIONS FOR SENDING MONEY.

Money can be sent in New York Drafts, Registered Letters, Express Orders, and Post-Office Orders, but where Post-Office orders are sent, have the postmaster make them payable at Richmond, Va., as our office is not a money-order office.

In telegraphing us, please send to Rio Vista, Va., via Richmond, Va.

Any one ordering not less than \$5, may deduct five per cent. where cash is sent with order.

*Important to all* who have to buy plants at a distance, whether strawberries, raspberries, black-berries, grapes, etc. Many will put off ordering until their land is ready to plant. We think this a great mistake. It is a great mistake also to leave plants in packages upon arrival for days and weeks. One good man can easily heel in 10,000 strawberry plants in one day, and when once heeled in, they will start new roots, and will be ready to take up and plant when you are ready. The same applies to all plants and trees. Get them early. We can dig plants in Virginia almost at any time, as our soil is sandy, enabling us to get fine roots; and all our customers say plants grown in Virginia do better than almost any other section. Don't compare our plants with those who are not established in business. We can ship plants by express or mail to any part of the United States or Europe. Our June-budded Peach-trees give wonderful good satisfaction. Our Cabbage plants are all grown outdoors, and ready to plant any time. Our season for shipping plants is from August 1st to May 10th.

### CLUBBING TOGETHER.

Many of our customers have for years gotten their neighbors to join with them and send a list of what each one wanted, and have us price it, having these orders all shipped to one address. In this way each order is put up separately but consigned to one person. Thus we can often make a discount on the amount, and our patrons get the lowest express rates. Our discount is 20 per cent. off the regular rates with the express company. This is a great saving to our customers.

### OUR NEW CATALOGUE FOR 1899.

We have taken a new departure this year from many in the trade. We have described each variety separately; told our experience with honest descriptions as near as we could, but have omitted many electrolyses.

We thank our many friends for the interest they take in getting us up clubs and the many words of praise they send us. It will be our endeavor again this year to try and send you good stock, true to name. We wish you all a happy and prosperous year.

Darling, Earliest, Excelsior, Ida, and Fendrick are the five earliest berries in cultivation.

Edith is the largest grown, immensely productive, and Carrie is the handsomest berry ever grown. CABBAGE.—There is more money in one acre of early Cabbage than ten acres of late. Our new Cabbage, Thompson's Earliest of All, is a week to ten days earlier than Wakefield. We have only a limited number of plants. 75 cents per 100, by mail; 500 by express only \$2.00, all hardened off ready to plant.



## STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

On arrival, unpack them at once, loosen the bunches, heel them in the ground, or dip their roots in a muddle made by mixing earth in water until the consistency of cream and lay them away in a cool, damp cellar, where they can neither dry nor freeze, until they can be planted where desired. All varieties marked "p" are Pistillate, and need some other perfect blossom planted beside them about every third or fourth row. The Pistillate varieties are generally the most productive when so treated. When planted in matted rows, they should be planted one and a half feet in the row, and rows three to four feet apart, and never allowed to be too thick. After fruiting season is over they should be thoroughly dragged and cultivated between the rows, setting the cultivator very narrow, and then every weed hoed up; but do this just as quick as you are through picking so as to give your plants all the chance to prepare for fruit for next season. All berries should be thoroughly mulched, just as soon as winter sets in, with about two tons of straw to the acre, free from seed as can be got. The straw will keep your berries clean, and often add double the price to the crop. Some say it don't pay; but we say if it pays to grow them at all, it pays to raise them to perfection. Don't plant your whole farm in any new varieties because you read in some agricultural paper that they were the best, but get a few of each variety, and test them on your ground, and if they do well, you will go at it intelligently. But don't let your neighbors beat you, try a few varieties of all new kinds, and go at it; work with all your skill, and success will be sure to crown you in the end. The same applies to all new fruits. Try a few, and give them proper treatment.

In bringing our new Catalogue for 1899 before our many thousands of customers, we desire to say we thank you all for your generous patronage; that the past year was the largest trade we ever had, and yet we think that the coming year will be still larger. This year we issue one-third more Catalogues than we have ever before. We do not expect to increase our trade by selling plants for nothing, or below the cost of growing them, as you all know to grow plants, pack them, dig them, tie them, get out Catalogues, and advertise them means money. We expect, as in the past, to sell at reasonable prices, send good stock true to name, and by that means people are always willing to pay a reasonable price.

We give you our experience with the different varieties, it is for our customers to choose what they think will best suit them and their markets. Most of our commercial growers find the earliest of everything brings them more profits than late ones, to this end we have the past few years been trying to get the earliest Strawberries in cultivation up to this date. We will give you a summary of our experience up to this year. To commence with—

Up to this year **EARLIEST** has been our earliest berry. It is a great plant-maker, and will stand drought better than most any other. It ripens all over alike. It is a good shipper, and very productive the second year. We have tested it five years.

**DARLING**.—This we have tested for years, and find it is three to four days earlier than "Earliest," and much more productive, both on one and two year beds. This year we had about one-fourth acre in fruit and very poor soil, but we had the finest show of berries we ever saw, and all were gone when other later berries came on. They were a fine sight to see. They are the most valuable for home market. All the season Darling was the finest plant on our place—free from rust.

The following is the report of Baton Rouge, La., Experimental Station, May 17, 1898:

"We both think the 'Darling' will prove an acquisition. It stands our hot weather so well."

F. H. BRUNETTE, *Horticulturist*.

W. C. STUBBS, *Director*.

**EXCELSIOR**.—This new berry is making quite a sensation where it has been tried. It is like the two above, great plant maker, healthy foliage. The earliest, immensely productive, large, firm, high-colored, and one of the best shippers.

The above three berries will be planted very largely this season, and as the supply of plants is only limited, large planters had better secure their stock in time. Our plants of these varieties are very fine, some of the roots will measure from ten to fifteen inches long.

**IDA (P)**.—This new berry will be a competitor next year to the three above varieties. The originator claims it as early as the earliest; very productive. Ripens all over alike, and much resembles "Ri" in size, shape, color, and shipping qualities. As we are on'y handling same on a percentage we have to sell at originator's price, viz: \$5 00 per dozen. These will not be sold in any larger quantities, and with the distinct restrictions that in 1900 the retail price will be \$2 00 per dozen; \$10 00 per 100; \$80 00 per 1,000. We have tested this berry now four years and find same all the originator claims.

**CARRIE**.—After another year's trial we must confess we have not seen a berry that can touch this. Our demand for plants has been much more than we can supply, running short last year near 30,000. Owing to the scarcity of these plants many are offering cheap plants of Carrie, but to be sure and get the genuine it is the safest to get them direct from the introducers.

**EDITH**.—It is now nine years since we first fruited this large berry, and we have tried all these large so-called berries, but none can touch Edith.

**OUR BIG SIX COLLECTION No. 2**.—We are pleased to be able to say in this collection, viz: "Darling," "Earliest," "Carrie," "Clarence," "Howell," and "Pride of Cumberland," you will find a valuable collection.

CLINTON, N. Y., May 14, 1898.

Dear Friend Thompson:

I am delighted to get the Howell plants. Your plants are superb always.

E. P. POWELL.

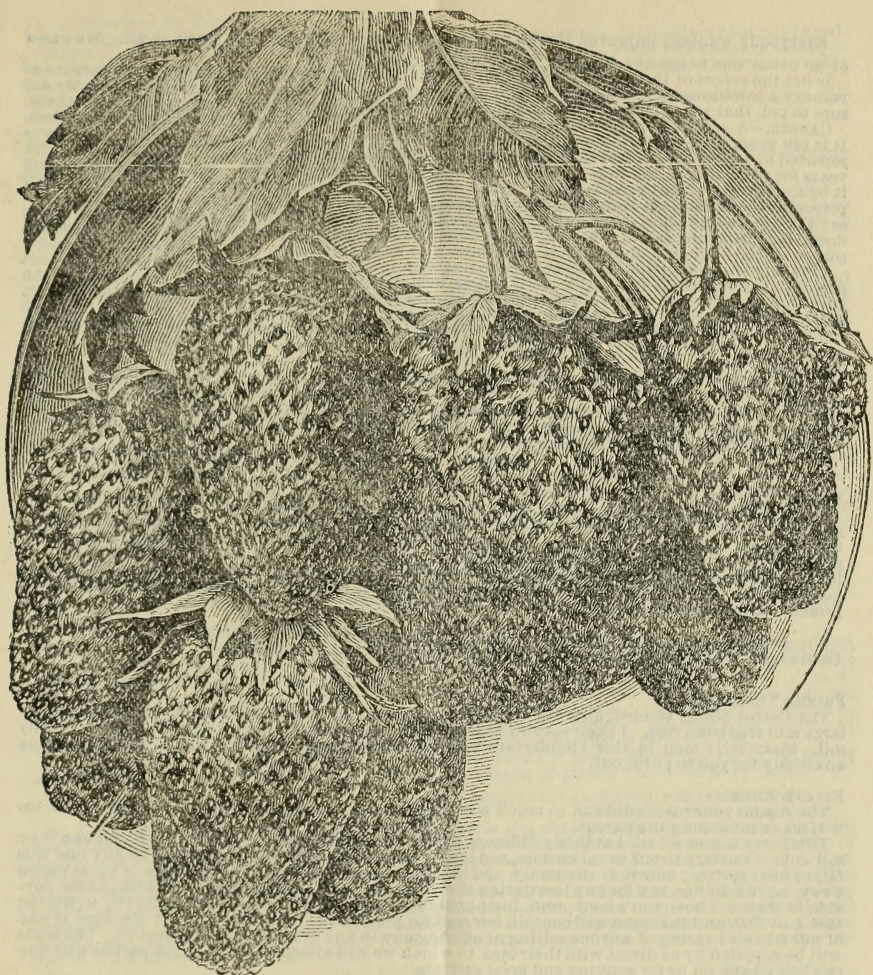
STARK Co., O., May 11, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The Strawberry plants arrived safe in fine condition.

H. A. HOLEBAUGH.





### CARRIE, THE QUEEN OF STRAWBERRIES.

After another year's trial of Carrie, we are satisfied for a fancy berry this fills the place.

1. It has one of the most beautiful and attractive color.

2. It is firm and will stand shipping

3. It is a fancy berry and will sell when others wont.

4. It is wonderfully productive, and from all reports is superior to its parent in all points.

The spring of 1896 we spoke of Carrie being such a fine berry, etc. Mr Solomon Adams, of Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, wrote us that he had a berry he would put besides any we had. His berry was Adams' Favorite. Each of us sent one dozen plants to the Pennsylvania Experiment Station for trial. This is the report

Prof. George C. Butz, Horticulturist, sends us, July 27, 1897—Our records for Adams' Favorite and Carrie strawberries for the season are as follows:

	1st Flower.	1st Ripe.	Last Ripe.	Ave. Wt.	Total Yield.
Adams' Favorite . . . . .	May 9	June 10	July 12	6.40 gr.	10,957 gr.
Carrie . . . . .	May 11	June 15	July 8	10.00 gr.	18,400 gr.

You will note the average weight of Carries is nearly double that of Adams' Favorite, and also nearly double the yield.

*Report of the Ohio Experimental Station for 1897:*

CARRIE (F), a seedling of Haverland, which it resembles closely but is an improvement upon that variety in color and firmness. It has been on trial here two seasons and has proved satisfactory in every respect. It has the fault of the Haverland—long fruit stems—which exposes the fruit to injury by trampling of careless pickers. Every fruit grower will appreciate an improved Haverland because of its prolificacy and reliability, hence it seems safe to recommend the Carrie to their consideration.



Everybody wants an improved Haverland, now that they are within the reach of all. We know of no better one to use as a fertilizer than Howell's Seedling.

Is not the report of the Ohio Experimental Station just what we told our customers the Carrie was before we introduced it? We are confident on account of the orders we now have and those we are sure to get, that a great many who neglected to order these plants in time won't be able to get them.

CARRIE.—A seedling of Haverland; has been thoroughly tested North, East, South, and West. It is ten years since we introduced the parent, and we are proud that it stands so high. One grower reported to us this season that his Haverland produced 500 bushels to the acre. We offered \$100 for years for 100 plants of any new variety that would surpass the Haverland. We have at last found it by the reports. The Carrie is firmer, better color, and better shipper; fully as productive. Our prices for the fall of 1896 were made \$10 per dozen, but owing to the dull times many of our customers say the price is too high, so we have decided to make the price within the reach of all—viz., \$2 per dozen for spring and fall of 1897, and \$1 per dozen for spring and fall of 1898; and these plants are sold with the distinct understanding that those who buy to sell again agree to sell at these prices.

This year we had a much better chance to test it more thoroughly, and can say that we could not discover a weak point in Carrie. It is larger, firmer, better color, and fully as productive as the parent, if not more so. We were so enthusiastic over it that we dug up two plants with all the dirt adhering to the plants we could put with them in a box. The weight was just a trifle less than one hundred pounds. We sent them to Professor Heiges, Chief of the Division of the Pomological Department, of Washington, D. C. This is his answer:

THOMPSON'S SONS:

Yours of the 27th and the two plants of Carrie strawberry were received this morning. Professor Heiges is out of the city for several days, and I therefore opened the box and examined the specimens. The Carrie bears quite a strong resemblance to Haverland, but is apparently a firmer berry, and is perhaps larger than Haverland. \* \* The two plants will be put out by Mr. Saunders, and we will watch them during the summer.

WM. A. TAYLOR Assistant Pomologist.  
HINGHAM COUNTY, MASS.

Very truly,

FRIEND THOMPSON:

I am much pleased with Rio, and think it has come to stay. Carrie was grown in house until the season allowed of placing it in cold frame. All fruit buds were pinched off, and I intended to forego the pleasure of fruiting until next year, but the three plants by May 25th were the largest on the place, and this on poor soil, and had pushed out more fruit-buds. So, as it was so persistent, I allowed it to fruit. Now, of course, three plants fruited in a small way is no fair test, but the result delighted me. So far the plant is better than Haverland. The fruit is larger, of better color, and firmer. Have I said two much with a trial of three plants?

F. W. ROGERS.

No, friend Rogers; your report corresponds just exactly with ours, and is as we wrote you. Carrie is, if we are not mistaken, the best berry ever sent out up to this time.

HINGHAM COUNTY, December 13, 1896.

FRIEND THOMPSON:

The Carrie plants stooled, and did not make as many plants as I wished. The plants are very large and free from rust. I shall set two beds in the spring—one on heavy and the other on sandy soil. Strawberry men in this vicinity are very much interested in this variety, and are waiting anxiously for you to put it out.

F. W. ROGERS.

FRIEND ROGERS:

The reason your plants did run so much was removing them so many times. The Carrie, with us, will make more than the parent.

This berry is now on trial at thirty different places, but no one has any of their own, nor can they sell any. Contrary to our usual custom, not less than one dozen plants will be sent to any one this fall or next spring; and it is distinctly understood that no one can sell or give any of these plants away, nor exchange any for any less during the years of 1896 or 1897, under a forfeiture of \$500, payable to Messrs. Thompson's Sons; and, furthermore, no plants will be sent out except by us during 1896 and 1897, and the same will contain our seal for protection. It will be a great pleasure if any of our friends hearing of anyone selling or offering any in any other way will inform us. The trade will be supplied by us direct with their tags, to which we will attach our seal, so the parties who buy can come back on us for genuine and good arrivals.

GRANTON, ONT., July 1, 1896.

Dear Friend Thompson: I think much of your seedling Carrie. The plant is all that can be desired—free from rust or blight, berries large and bright, productive, medium in ripening. It is well worth being introduced.

JOHN LITTLE.

GRANTON, ONT., October 1, 1896.

Dear Friend Thompson: My experience with your seedling Carrie is much the same as Professor Green's. If the fruit stems were not so long and a little stronger, it would be perfection itself. Where there is such a load of fruit, it is impossible for the stems to hold them up.

JOHN LITTLE.

TEXAS EXPERIMENTAL COLLEGE STATION, June 20, 1896.

M. T. Thompson: I wish to state that your Carrie strawberry did well with us the past season. It was large and productive.

Prof. R. H. PRIOR.

Owing to lack of space we must omit any more testimonials on the Carrie. Could you have seen them on our grounds the past three years, you would have exclaimed, "Ain't they grand! I must have some plants," etc.

The following is the report of the Ohio Experimental Station for 1896 by Prof. W. J. Green: "Of new varieties about to be introduced none please me better than Carrie, sent here by M. T. Thompson. It resembles the Haverland but is an improvement upon that variety in size, color, and firmness, and seems equal to it in prolificacy. If this judgment is correct it will prove to be an exceedingly valuable variety, and will displace Haverland, for this variety is too soft and rather too light in color. It has the same fault as the Haverland, of long fruit stems, and the berries lie out in the row, and are liable to be trampled on by the pickers. While this is a fault, it must be acknowledged that berries of this class are easily seen, and more likely to be picked clean than those having short fruit stems. The price of plants will be almost prohibitive at first, but it will pay growers to keep close watch of Carrie."—Ohio Farmer, August 27, 1896.



*Trial Grounds of the Rural New Yorker for 1896 :*

"CARRIE, from Thompson's Sons, Rio Vista, Va., April, 1895.—June 2—ripening, conical shaped, medium sized, scarlet color, moderately firm. June 4—berries large, vines extremely productive. June 8—very productive, berries rest upon the ground. June 10—height of season. June 19—a fair quantity of ripe and green berries still."

What more good qualities can anyone desire than the above? After fruiting seventeen days, still a fair quantity of ripe and green berries.

*Report of George F. Beede, New Hampshire :*

"CARRIE.—Seedling of Haverland—large, long, conical, bright scarlet, good quality, moderately firm, large plants, very vigorous, very productive, promising."

*Friend Thompson :* I can say that Carrie strawberry acquitted herself finely here. It is about the finest of all the new ones fruiting here for the first time, and when you are ready to send it out, it will have my endorsement.  
MONT COUNTY, MO., June 18, 1896.  
Judge SAMUEL MILLER.

*M. T. Thompson :* The Carrie strawberry you sent me last year has pleased me greatly, and proved to be, as I believe, one of the best strawberries I have ever grown. The plant is large, a strong grower, vigorous, and very productive of large, well-colored, and beautiful berries, exceeding in size of plant and berry the Haverland, and is a long-season berry. I congratulate you upon being the originator of so valuable a berry.

Allow me to allude to some of the other berries you sent. I saved every plant you sent me, while others lost a great many plants that came only a short distance. The Edith is really a wonderful berry, and has favorably disappointed me.  
V. R. CARY.

P. S.—Yes, friend Cary, we take great pains with our plants the moment they are dug. We do not try to compete with growers who take no care whether their plants grow or not. One of our customers says he could buy a certain variety for \$2 per 1,000; we asked \$4. He sends us \$4 for 1,000; got 2,000 from another party for the same money. He says our 1,000 plants were larger than the 2,000; and nearly every plant grew and gave him a nice stand, while nearly all the other plants died; and he would dig up what plants there were, and reset next year; but did not think he would have enough plants after growing them a year to reset the patch; while 1,000 made him not less than 50,000 to 60,000 plants. It cost money to dig plants when they are grown. Better not depend so much on cheapness.

*Friend Thompson :* It is a long time since you wrote me, asking how the Carrie had succeeded. You must excuse the delay. My opinion has not changed, except that I feel more confident that you have an improvement in every way on the Haverland.  
PLYMOUTH COUNTY, MASS., January 11, 1897.  
F. W. ROGERS.

P. S.—Mr. Rogers has had Carrie on trial for two years.

From the experimental grounds of the *Rural New Yorker*, by E. S. Carman, editor, in June, 1897.  
Carrie.—From Thompson's Sons, Rio Vista, Va., April, 1895.—Flower imperfect. June 1: Vines vigorous and productive, a few ripening; broadly conical shape and quite regular. June 8: Ripening freely and highly productive; its chief failing is that the berries are not well held up; quite firm, medium quality. June 11: Not yet at height of its season, though very productive; berries average large size, conical shape and fair quality. June 16: Bearing well; berries of medium size, not very firm. June 21: Still ripening; many berries of medium size.

The above ought to please anyone. After three weeks it is still ripening—many berries of medium size; an improved Haverland. Better get a stock of plants whilst we have them.

OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION,  
WOOSTER, OHIO, June 9, 1896.

*M. T. Thompson :* I am greatly pleased with the Carrie strawberry. It is large, beautiful, and firm while the plants are healthy and prolific. It bears some resemblance to Haverland in habit of growth and shape of berries, but the berries are larger, better color, and more glossy and firmer. The fruit-stems are long like those of the Haverland, and the berries lie out in the row. Whilst this is objectionable, it is not so serious a fault as the opposite defect of short stems. We had a very dry season last year, and our plants did not make a strong growth, hence our crop is cut short on all varieties, and for this reason I feel more confident in expressing a good opinion of the Carrie. Given a good chance, I feel sure it would yield an enormous crop of fine berries. I am greatly deceived if my impressions of it are wrong.

Yours truly,

W. J. GREEN.

We have known Professor Green many years, and have always regarded his testimony on the strawberry as being the most reliable.

**Anna Kennedy (P).**—Originated by Mr. J. T. Lovett, who says it is one of the most beautiful strawberries produced. It did not have a fair chance with us last season, but seems to be giving very good satisfaction.

**Aroma (S).**—This is a very beautiful berry; late as Gandy and much more productive; a splendid shipper, and, where a fancy berry is wanted, this is one that fills the bill. It is large and even-sized and very showy, and is giving excellent satisfaction.

The following is what others say :

Jacob C. Bauer, Arkansas, in *Strawberry Specialist*, September, 1897—This is the only late berry we shall grow for market. It covers a period of from three to four weeks, and begins ripening a week ahead of the Gandy, and continues from a week to ten days later. You want to grow them in matted rows, on clay soil, for best results, and let them mat all they will, as the secret of its prolonged bearing and large size to the end of the season lies in its blooming one plant here and there every day for three weeks, from four to six berries to the plant, but, taking the result as a whole, will fill more crates to the acre ten times over than Gandy, of the largest, firm, highly colored berries that we have ever grown. We cannot get too many of these plants for the next five years to come.

*Michigan Experimental Station for 1897.*—AROMA has shown itself to be a valuable market sort. The plants are productive, the berries are large to the end of a long season and are firm enough to stand shipment well. Its season is with the later sorts.



**Beder Wood (S).**—This is a very early berry, enormously productive of medium size to small. It has a poor color, and very hard to pick. The upper side of the berry is ripe the under side is white or green.

**Brandywine (S).**—Medium; early to late. This berry the past season has not given the satisfaction as formerly. With us it has a very large calyx, making it very showy when it does not blight or dry up. The past season was very wet, and the berries had the appearance of being picked from dead vines.

**Belle (S)**—This was originated by our father some years ago, but was sent out by M. Crawford as his seedling No. 51. The first year or two it showed up well. It is very large; nearly every berry of different shape; of excellent quality, and made a fine record with some, but in general it is far from satisfactory. It, however, is worthy of trial in a small way.

**Bisel (P).**—This berry originated in Illinois and is considered one of the best berries on the Chicago market at its season. It is a beautiful dark color and immensely productive with us. It is giving general satisfaction. Mr. John Little has this to say, and we concur with him:

"A magnificent market variety; a seedling of Wilson and partakes of the firmness, immense productiveness, and other good qualities of its parent, added to excellent flavor and great size; perhaps no variety would excel this in value for market."

This should be planted largely by commercial growers, owing to its good shipping qualities.

**Bouncer (S).**—This berry was sent out three years ago by Messrs. Hale Brothers at \$10 per dozen, and they offered \$10 to the one who proposed the most appropriate name which was A. J. Allen. The claim is large size, fine quality, and long season, and not only large but a heavy yielder.

**Bubach No. 5 (P)**—It is almost needless for us to say anything in favor of this good old variety. It is simply grand. If it was only a little firmer, so it could be shipped. To those who have never tried it, don't fail to include this in your collection this year.

**H. W. Beecher (S).**—We have been growing this now for five years, and it is a grand berry. We really like it better every year. We consider it well worthy of its name. It is of large size, and very productive; makes very large plants with us; should be tried by all.

**Berlin (P).**—Mr. M. Crawford says the following in his catalogue: "I believe the Berlin is just what the introducer claims. The plant is a thrifty grower, of the Bubach type and produces dark-red berries of enormous size holding the fruit well up from the ground. It has a pistillate blossom, and is a prolific plant-maker. Berries as large as Bubach, and as solid as Wilson."

**Brunette (S).**—Berries medium; conical to roundish; very uniform, and regular in size and form; dark red; glossy and beautiful in appearance; quality excellent. For home garden it is highly recommended by the Ohio Experimental Station. The quality is unequalled by any other berry.

**Beverley (S).**—This is a very handsome berry; firm, and immensely productive; good shipper, of medium size; a great plant-maker, and if not checked, is apt to make too thick a mat; a great many runners should be cut out for best results. We consider it one of great value.

**Bismark (S).**—Described by the originator as a seedling of Bubach No. 5; resembles the parent in every way but is more robust and stocky, with the same iron-clad foliage; the fruit is produced in abundance—outyielding Bubach No. 5, and is the heaviest, most solid berry I have ever grown or handled; larger than Bubach, Mary, Timbrell, or Sharpless.

**Clyde (S).**—This new berry was for the first time introduced last spring. We have had it now five years and it did better this past year than ever before. It is simply wonderful. It was originated by Dr. Stayman, of Leavenworth, Kansas from the seed of Cyclone. Is giving most excellent satisfaction from all the reports we hear from Canada to Texas. It is a very early berry, of excellent quality, and a good shipper. We could say much more in favor of this berry, but space will not permit us. It has healthy foliage, a good plant maker, and from our own experience does not require land to be too rich, particularly in nitrogen, but needs more potash in the soil, and a row is a sight seldom seen. Commercial growers will do well to grow it.

**Cyclone (S).**—The parent of the above. We introduced this five years ago with our big 6 collection. It is a grand berry. The price has been high the past years, but we have a large stock of fine plants this spring, grown on purpose to sell to the commercial grower, and shall make the price very low. We could fill this catalogue full of praise from all parts of the United States. We will give you the report of the Ohio Experimental Station: "Cyclone, a new variety grown at the station three seasons. The plant and fruit resemble the Haverland, but the berries are rather broader and shorter, having perfect flowers, and being similar to the Haverland and Crescent can be recommended to be planted with these varieties. It is quite early, and yet continues long in bearing, and holds up well in size to the last picking."

**Crescent (P).**—Well, it is needless to say much about the old standard, but it is still a good berry, from our own experience. It is allowed to make too many plants. In this case the berries run to small plants; should not be closer than three to four inches.

**Cumberland (S).**—This berry is still a favorite with some growers. It does not adapt itself to all soil, and, therefore, does not give the satisfaction as some of our newer varieties.



**Carrie (P).**—Yes, we name this the **QUEEN** of strawberries. It is large, beautiful color, firm, a grand shipper, and should be in the hands of every lover of the strawberry. But we are sorry, as we go to press a great many who put off their orders late will not be able to be supplied, except in small quantities.

**Champion of England (S).**—This berry was brought from England by an English gardener. The plant is one of the strongest grown; very large and healthy. The fruit is said to be immense in size. Berries have been exhibited that measured six inches in circumference, and fourteen berries have been picked that filled a quart box. Everyone should give this a trial.

**Columbia (S).**—This is a bright scarlet berry, quite firm, and good size for an early berry. It is claimed by some to be the largest early berry grown.

**Dew (S).**—This is a very large, fine berry; a beautiful color; nice large green calyx makes it showy. Try in a small way.

**Edith (P).**—They all talk of large berries, but with us we have none that equal this. The plant is rather small—instead of making plants, it makes fruit, and really that is what we want. We could not begin to publish the good reports of this berry.

Wilmer Atkinson, editor of *Farm Journal*, writes May 25 1894: "I have your esteemed favor of May 25th; also the Edith strawberries. They are certainly very fine."

Samuel Miller, in *Fruit Grower*: "Edith is the largest strawberry on my place this year. Well worth having for its great size. I had one in circumference  $7\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches."

W. A. Huntsman, Ray county, Mo.: "The Edith is a grand berry; large, productive, and firm. I like it splendidly."

Reports of 1898 on Edith confirm all that has been said of this berry. It is the largest, most productive, and surest cropper we have, but the demand for plants last spring was so large that before we had our stock we had ours sold, so this year our stock is limited.

**Enormous (P).**—We have been growing this berry for years, and would say it is well named. The first year it fruited with us was by the side of Carrie, and two finer sights were very rarely seen. They were both grand. If it was as firm and as good color as Carrie, it would be equal to it.

**Earliest (S).**—This is the earliest berry yet introduced except **DARLING, IDA,** and **EXCELSIOR**. There are lots of early berries, but there are none to compete with this in earliness, size, color, and productiveness combined. The commercial grower who wants to keep up with the times and make money on early berries, will be behind who does not plant and get a stock as soon as possible. It is more productive on two or three-year-old beds. It is a handsome berry. We confidently recommend this berry to every one who wants the best early. It makes runners quite freely, with long deep roots, but for the best results of fruit, it will pay to keep runners cut. One dozen of these plants, with ordinary soil and attention, will produce 1,000 plants first season, and a hundred plants, 10,000.

The above is what we said of **EARLIEST** last spring. We have again fruited this variety, and say that we think more of it each year. It comes early when no other varieties are ripe and sells for more than double—no over-stocked market. Your berries are picked, sold, and your money in your pocket before most of the other berries ripen. Our early berries sold last year at from four to five dollars per acre of 32 quarts, whilst later ones were hard to sell at one dollar.

You are prejudiced of a stand. They grow whilst other varieties beside them die; but we do ask those who buy them not to let them make too many plants. Where they stand too thick, keep runners cut off.

The following is what Mr. A. I. Root, of Medina, O., says in *Bee Culture*, June 15, 1897, about **EARLIEST**: "The shape is perfect; the color is perfect also. In flavor it is one of the very finest of the tart berries. The plant is a rampant grower; those set out last fall have a mass of foliage as large as a bushel basket. With us it has been at least two weeks in time of ripening ahead of Mitchell's Early."

OSWEGO CO. N. Y., December 15, 1897.

"Messrs. Thompson's Sons.—We liked the growth of the **CARRIE** and **EARLIEST** very much. The man who set **CARRIE** plants said they had the finest roots of any plants he had ever set, and he had set more strawberry plants than any other man in New York State. They made a nice growth, the **EARLIEST** making the largest growth of any plants on our place; each row of them is six feet wide. They made over double the growth of Mitchell's Early. I was at the Geneva (N. Y.) Experimental Station in strawberry season, and they told me there that the **EARLIEST** was a favorite with them."

L. J. FARMER.

We merely speak of it here as we have often seen in some catalogues North that their customers must not compare their plants to those grown in the South. They either mean that their plants are not as good as Southern grown stock or they are better. Our plants grow nearly all winter, and we defy any grower who can produce or does produce better than we do. Our plants grow where others die, side by side if planted at proper season. We have customers to whom we have shipped plants hundreds of miles distant, who say our plants grow and do better than plants dug on their own ground.

NEW YORK EXPERIMENTAL STATION, September, 1896, *Bulletin No. 109*.

"Earliest," from Thompson's Sons, Rio Vista, Va. Among varieties fruited for the first time this season, "Earliest" takes eighth place as to productiveness. This is a good showing when we take into account the fact that it produced a greater per cent of its crop than did any other variety. It produced 61 per cent of its crop before June 15th (simply wonderful for New York State), whilst Margaret stood ninth in productiveness and not a ripe berry picked up to that date.

It succeeds every where. We have taken up plants with full 18 inches of roots.

We have a million of these plants for the trade this year, but we have a great many orders, and those who wish them in ten and twenty-thousand lots we can make a special price.



Oh, have you heard the latest craze  
The berry has come that all should raise;  
Its time is not brief, it has come to stay,  
Then send in your orders without further delay.  
Oh Earliest, Oh Earliest, the glory of the day,  
Your time is not limited, you surely have come to stay.

Your luxuriant growth and foliage so green,  
Not tarnished by rust, we have never seen  
A plant so early, Oh that is the sound  
Whose large clusters cover over the ground.  
Oh Earliest, Oh Earliest, the glory of the day,  
Your time is not limited, you surely have come to stay.

Of earliness it hath no competition;  
Its merits are many, and all are replete;  
For further information if you will apply  
To Thompson's Sons who keep a full supply.  
Oh Earliest, the berry of great renown,  
Whose patrons can attest from many a distant town.

**Edgar Queen (P).**—This berry has been much neglected. It has most beautiful foliage; originated by the same person as Enormous, it is very late, large, and very productive. It will please everyone for lateness.

**Eureka (P).**—This berry we introduced nine years ago, and it is a very productive late berry; runs rich, strong soil, and is a great plant maker; the runners should be cut so the plants do not stand nearer than three to four inches.

**Equinox (S).**—This is the latest strawberry in our collection; is very productive. The New York Experimental Station, of Geneva, N. Y., says: "Fruit medium to large. Among the varieties fruited for the first time this season (1896) this variety ranks second in productiveness."

By planting *Earliest*, *Carrie*, and *Equinox*, there is no reason (the season being favorable) but what you can pick strawberries for five or six weeks. If sold alone, this berry is \$1 per dozen; \$5 per 100; but where *Carrie* and *Earliest* are taken together, an equal number of *Equinox* is sent free by mail or express.

**Evans (S).**—This new berry was brought out by G. R. Evans, of Wicomico county, Maryland. The plant is very vigorous, very productive, strong runners, and entirely free from disease. Berries very large; sixteen have filled a quart; color light red; quality best; round, and very uniform in shape; holds its size well up to the last picking; early; ripens up with *Crescent*. Shipped with *Bubach No. 5*, it netted two cents more per quart, which, on one acre, means many more dollars to the grower. Everyone should try this berry, particularly the commercial grower.

We fruited this berry last year for the first time, and it pleased us very much. It is a most excellent grower, and seemed to stand the drought better than most varieties. We shall plant largely of this berry.

**Epping (P).**—Prof. L. R. Taft, of Michigan Experimental Station, has the following to say: "The plants are very strong, and came through the winter in good condition. They have an excellent foliage, and were free from leaf blight; season medium. The berries were of large size, round, conical in form, bright scarlet. They were quite firm, and among the most productive kinds grown." Try in a small way.

**Enhance (S).**—We have been raising this berry now for nine years. Its originator was Henry Young, of Ada, Ohio. It is a wonderful productive variety; splendid to plant with pistillate varieties; it is quite firm, and late; makes many plants; runners should be kept cut for best results. It is a good shipper.

**Erie (S).**—Claimed by the originator to be the best all round berry. The fruit is large and symmetrical; season late; is giving good satisfaction, from all we can hear. Try a few.

**Eleanor (S).**—This variety was introduced three years ago. The introducer has the following to say:

"For a long time fruit-growers have been looking for a strawberry that was both large and very early, possessing all the necessary properties of vigor and productiveness of plant and firmness, fine appearance, and good quality of fruit. The *Eleanor* is second to none in earliness, ripening with *Crystal City*; in size rivalling the *Sharpless*, retaining its size well to the end; in productiveness surpasses the *Crescent*; very healthy foliage."

**Gandy (S).**—This is a most beautiful berry for late market; very handsome; too well known to speak much of; only lacking in one point—viz., productiveness. It is being superseded by *Aroma*.

**Greenville (P).**—We have fruited this variety now five years, and it is a fine addition to our standard varieties. Give *Greenville* good cultivation and it is wonderful the amount of berries that can be produced on one acre. We can highly recommend it for near-by markets. Our plants are very fine.



**Glen Mary (P).**—It is claimed to be larger than the Sharpless, and from one-fourth of an acre at the rate of 1,280 quarts per acre were picked at one picking, and that twelve berries have been picked that made one quart. We hope this berry will give general satisfaction. The *Rural New Yorker* says the blossom is imperfect; if so, it will need some perfect blossom beside it if you expect good results.

**Giant (S).**—The originator says it is very large, many measuring six to seven inches in circumference; round, smooth, and very solid, and keep in good order long after being ripe. Try a few.

**Haverland (P).**—It is useless to say much of this berry. After eleven years of introduction it has proved all we ever claimed. The advantages of Carrie over the parent, we claim, are firmness, size, a better color, and a little larger foliage.

**Hersey (S).**—This berry is said to contain all the good qualities desired for home use or market; is of excellent flavor. Its form is very attractive, and its color a rich, dark red; very uniform in size; the vines are very thrifty and productive. Mr. Hersey says, in the Massachusetts *Ploughman*, that under ordinary culture 1,000 quarts of fruit have been grown on a plot of ground sixty feet square. It was also awarded first prize at the Strawberry Exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Try them in a small way.

**Hoffman (S).**—This is a most beautiful early berry and a splendid shipper. Its great fault is lack of productiveness, but it is largely grown in the South.

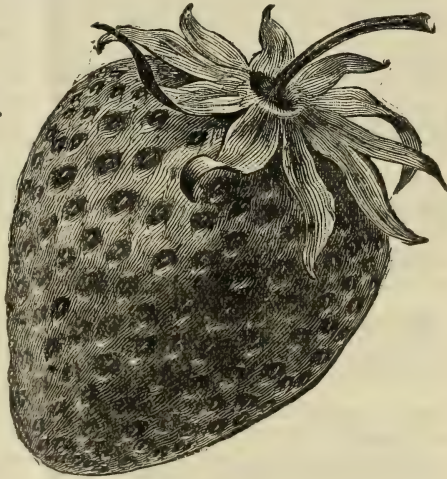
**Holland (P).**—Is a rank grower and wonderfully productive; fruit large to very large; of a dark reddish crimson color clear through; solid and firm; holds its size well; a good shipper. Try a few.

**Gertrude (S).** It is a showy, healthy grower with light green foliage. The season is early, ripening with Bederwood. The fruit is large and productive and firm. The plants resemble *Haverland*, only they are taller and heavier. Try a few.

**Howell (S).**—This is a berry that has attracted a deal of attention where it originated, in Tennessee. They are very uniform in size. The general type is conical, of most excellent flavor, very handsome, and solid. We have not space to give many testimonials of them, but the originator thinks it the greatest on earth. Hear what those who handle them say:

We, the undersigned, dealers in fruit and vegetables on the Knoxville market, having handled Howell's Seedling strawberry for the past four years, can without fear of contradiction say that they are the largest, sweetest, firmest, and in every way the most satisfactory berry ever brought to Knoxville (the queen berry region of the United States). We readily sell them at 25 cents per quart when other varieties (considered the finest) go dull at 10 cents per quart. We have never had enough of them to supply our customers, and would heartily recommend to growers who desire to have berries that will always command a ready sale at fancy prices, the berry that, according to our judgment, leads them all—Howell Seedling.

WM. MORLEY,  
B. P. FLENNIKEN,  
H. E. DANIEL & Co.



*Mr. Howell.*—I have examined and tested your Howell berry, and am pleased to say that they are the largest, sweetest, and finest berries I have ever seen. J. T. JOHNSON.

It affords me pleasure to testify to the fine size and delicious flavor of the strawberries sold me by Mr. Howell of this vicinity, and known as Howell. I don't think I ever saw more beautifully-shaped berries, and certainly none could be more delicious to the taste. E. S. McCLUNG.

We have now fruited this berry 3 years, and would say to those who are looking for a fine berry and one that will ship well, look well, sell well, large size, beautiful crimson color, carries its berries way up from the ground, wonderfully productive, healthy foliage, and a splendid grower, in fact with us it is almost as near a perfect berry for the commercial grower that we have yet raised. We planted it largely last spring because we knew its value. We are proud to be able to speak so well of our Howell berry, and it is bound to become a popular berry, and every one who gets this catalogue should see that the Howell is included in their collection. As a fertilizer for Carrie, it has no equal, as the berries will market well together. We have put the prices this year within the reach of all, but we will only sell to one person 500 plants.

After another year's trial of this grand berry we must say, if we were confined to only one berry, and that only medium early, we would say give us Howell. It is simply wonderful. It pleases everybody, and those who are catering for a fancy berry will find it in Howell.



**Ivanhoe (S).**—This berry is one we introduced with our Big 6 Collection No. 1. It is one of the most beautiful ever sent out. It is firm; most excellent shipper, and of most beautiful color. In plant growth it very much resembles the Haverland. This is a berry that is giving most excellent satisfaction from all we have heard. Here is what the New York Experimental Station says: "Ivanhoe of vigorous growth; produces runners freely, and free from blight; the fruits, which are produced in abundance, are obtuse conical; bright, showy scarlet; from large to very large; firm, and of the best quality. It blooms abundantly; a very perfect flower, with pollen of strong fertilizing proclivities. It is one of the best for fertilizing other varieties. Taking all its good qualities, it is hard to detect a fault.

**Ideal (S).**—A strong, vigorous plant; fruit large to very large; calyx prominent. The berry is broadly-heart shaped; very uniform; said to be a few days earlier than Bubach No. 5.

**Isabella (NO NAME, OR GANDY BELLE) (S).**—This is the proper name for this berry. We became the possessor of plants before its introduction, and can and do highly recommend it. It is of large size; early; wonderfully productive; and for fertilizing pistillate varieties there is no better. It is firm; of excellent quality; long season; and the berry holds out good size to the last picking. We have always planted largely of this variety as a standard. It is a splendid shipper, and the load of fruit it carries is wonderful.

**Jersey Queen (P).**—This is a very fine berry on some soils; excellent flavor; late in ripening; should be tried in a small way.

**Lovett (S).**—Very productive; medium to large; firm; ripens midseason to late long season. It is vigorous, healthy grower, and a strong staminate, making it a valuable variety for fertilizing pistillates. Its color and productiveness make it a favorite.

**Lady Thompson (S).**—It is only five years since this berry was introduced, but we must say few berries have made their way as fast as the Lady; and we can also say that it is one of the best-paying berries yet sent out. Its name and fame has spread all over the United States. The demands for the plants are enormous. Its early ripening, large and even size, with its color and shipping qualities, makes it a favorite with all shippers as well as buyers. Our catalogue would not hold half the good reports we have heard of Lady Thompson. It is one of the earliest best shippers; bright color; does not turn dark after picking like many; it brings the highest price in the market. There may be a person once in awhile that does not like it, but we have never heard of but one so far. If you want plants, order early so as to be sure of them. Our plants of this variety are simply grand; never saw finer.

The Lady is greatly improved in color by using fertilizers that contain large per cent. of potash.

**Lanahan (S).**—This berry was originated in Mississippi, and was sent to us by E. T. Hollister, commission merchant, of St. Louis. It is claimed to be the best shipper, and arrived in St. Louis market in better condition than any others. Very productive. Our advice is to try a few first. If they are what you want, you can soon have plenty.

**Murray's Extra Early (P).**—This is a very early, fine berry, but, with "Earliest" and Darling as our standards, we find it no use, as they pay us much better.

**Marshall (S).**—It is very large, beautiful berry; handsome and attractive. Four years ago we paid \$1.00 per dozen for our stock. The originator claims to have counted 110 berries on a single plant, and has produced 3,000 quarts on one-third of an acre. It is quite early for a large berry; perfect form; dark crimson when fully ripe; it is also firm. Our plants are very fine.

**Mitchel's Early (S).**—For extreme earliness this is a good berry. Where an early berry is wanted we know of but four that are earlier—that is, Earliest, Darling, Ida, and Excelsior.

**Muskingham (S).**—This is a most beautiful berry, almost as round as an apple; dark red; medium early. Well worth trying.

**Michigan (S).**—This is claimed to be the latest berry in cultivation; but with us, as usual, Equinox is our latest.

**Mary (P).**—This is a very fine berry and one that should be in the hands of every grower.

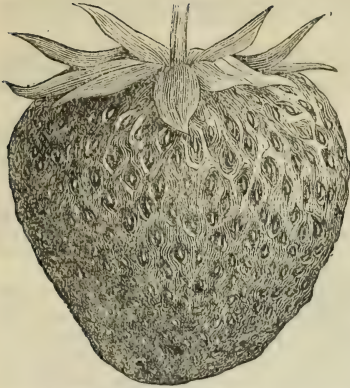
**Omega (S).**—This is said to be one of the largest berries grown. It is very late, large, and attractive. Worth of trial in a small way.

**Orange County (S).**—Originated in New York. Said to be very early, productive, of excellent quality. One worthy of trial.

**Ocean City (S).**—Our plants are very nice. This was the first year it fruited with us, but we dug our plants so close it had rather a poor show, so we could not say much for or against it.

**Orlole (P).**—An extra early berry, ripening only two or three days behind Mitchel's Early; so say Messrs. Stymaker & Sons, the introducers. It is also a large berry, the average measurement being an inch and a quarter across the berry and four inches around; very productive; a deep red color, with colored seeds standing well out on the surface. It is well worthy of trial.





**Pride of Cumberland (S).**—This new berry came to us three years ago the first time. Mr. Frank Gandy, of Cumberland county, N. J., says: "There is nothing to compare with the Pride of Cumberland for general market purposes and profit to the grower, nor have I seen its equal anywhere. The berry is large, solid, and of a deep red color. It is of fine flavor; double green calyx, making it very attractive in appearance, and as a shipper it is unequalled by any. During the past season it sold in market from two to four cents per quart higher than Gandy's 'Pride.'"

Of new varieties this is one of the good ones that no one should overlook. If you only plant one dozen or 100 don't fail to try it. The foliage is a very dark green, and it will surprise you the lead of fine fruit it carries. It is simply wonderful. We wish we could tell you only half the good reports of this berry.

BRIDGETON, N. J., 1895.

MR. W. S. GANDY:

Dear Sir— I have taken a great interest in your new berry, Pride of Cumberland, and have visited it several times at your place to find its probable value as a market berry. I find it one of the most beautiful berries I ever saw, of large, even size, of excellent quality and productiveness. I believe it will sell at two cents a box in price more than other varieties. The market demands a large, beautiful berry, a good carrier, and of even size. I find all of this in your new berry. The plants you sent out are always of the best I ever saw, and properly cared for, no one need lose one in a hundred.

Yours truly,

ELI MINCH.

**Parker Earle (S)**—This berry has become well known, it is needless to say much of it. It is simply a wonderful berry. It needs very rich soil—plenty of manure and plenty of moisture. Unless these are in the soil, it is impossible for it to mature its enormous load of fruit; it is useless to plant on poor thin soil, otherwise Parker Earle is a grand berry.

**Princess (P).**—This is something after the nature of Parker Earle—needs plenty of moisture and rich land, and it is a grand berry, well worthy of trial as a large fancy berry.

**Princeton Chief (P).**—This is another berry after the same nature as the two above—needs rich soil and plenty of moisture. It is a great runner, and the runners must be cut out, or it stands too thick. The berry is very beautiful, a very large calyx making it very attractive in the basket. It is an enormous yielder.

**Rio (S).**—It seems useless to say much of this berry. It is one of our Big 6 Collection, introduced six years ago, and was this year the pride of the market at its season. It was admitted by all that it was the best berry coming in market at the time and sold readily for \$1 to \$2 more per crate. It is a berry that needs plenty of potash and moisture to mature the enormous load of fruit that it sets.

**Saunders (S).**—This is a seedling of John Little's, and is a very fine berry.

**Sharpless (S).**—This is still a grand berry, particularly on stiff, heavy soil.

**Shuster's Gem (P).**—This is also a very good berry on rich soil; rather soft for shipping, but for near-by market, it certainly has shown us a most beautiful lot of fruit.

**Staples (S).**—This variety is a seedling of the Warfield, originated by a Mr. Staples, now deceased, of Dayton, Ohio. The plant is only of moderate size, but one of the most vigorous and healthy varieties ever seen. As many as 1,142 plants have been grown from one in a single season by ordinary layering. A market gardener near Dayton set out forty-eight plants on August 12, 1892, and from them and their runners he had over four bushels in 1893. It is enormously productive, and yet it has a perfect blossom. We are inclined to think that it is destined to become a favorite for both home use and market. The fruit has brought from three to five cents a quart more than other varieties where it is best known. Last June it sold for thirty-five cents in Dayton at the beginning of the season. The fruit is about the size and shape of the Warfield, has a slight neck, and the color is very dark, glossy red. It is doubtful if any other variety is so dark clear through. The quality is superior to most dark berries.

**Solendid (S).**—J. T. Lovett describes it as "a valuable new variety that is giving satisfaction, and is well worthy of confidence. It possesses a healthy strong plant, of luxuriant growth, even more productive than Bubach; the berries are medium to large, globular in shape of bright color and attractive in appearance; moderately firm, and of very good quality. It is desirable for home use or market, and we believe that it will give general satisfaction. Early."

**Sunrise (P).**—The following is what Messrs. G. H. & J. H. Hale say: "A very vigorous growing plant of the Crescent type, fully as productive, and averaging one-third larger." Try a few at least.



**Saltzer's Everbearing.**—Mr. E. J. Hull says the following: "This is an ever-bearing variety, and is the only one I have found yet. The plants are small, and the berries also, or mild flavor. I picked ripe berries every month from June till November, last season. Try a few."

**Tubbs (S).**—We have fruited this berry now three years, and would say at the season it ripens it is a grand berry, and is hard to beat. It is of large size, wonderfully productive, very firm, and is one that catches the eye of the buyer. It is an excellent grower, and stands our drouth well. It is a grand berry for the commercial grower.

**Tennyson.**—The following is what Messrs. J. T. Lovett & Co. say: "Some of the finest berries we have seen the past season were of this variety. Though rather irregular in shape, they are of great size, bright scarlet, firm, and of excellent quality. The plant is a fine grower, with abundant, tough, healthy foliage, bearing early in the season a heavy crop of very handsome fruit. Later it produces a second crop, which, though in smaller quantities, are equally beautiful and fine flavor, the plants continuing to produce ripe berries sparingly until early frost. This unusual character of everbearing, which is manifested more or less in accordance with circumstances, gives it special value for the family garden; for which its large size, handsome appearance, and good quality also commend it.

**Tennessee Prolific (S).**—When we introduced this berry, four years ago, to our customers in our Big 6 Collection, a great many thought we held great claims. So we did, and do yet claim that our Big 6 Collection—viz., Rio, Ivanhoe, Isabella (or No Name), Cyclone, Aroma, and Tennessee Prolific—was at that time six of the best varieties ever introduced by any nurseryman or fruit-grower in the United States, and they have all turned out standard varieties. We have the finest lot of plants this year of this variety we have ever grown, and are in shape to make the prices lower than most growers can afford to, and in an order of 50,000 lots we will send free 1,000 plants of Murray's Extra Early while the stock lasts. The following is what Mr. O. W. Blackall, of North Carolina, one of the largest growers, says:

"TENNESSEE PROLIFIC—This is a seedling of Crescent and Sharpless; inheriting great productiveness from Crescent and very large size from the Sharpless. No variety has ever before become so widely and quickly popular. The sight of it in fruiting time is all that is needed to convince one of its value. It is a member of the great triumvirate of staminates, of which Gandy Belle and Woolverton form the other two. These three surpass in size, productiveness, beauty, and general excellence any of the medium early staminates. For a grower not to have them is 'not to be in.' In some sections and on some soils one is a little better, and at different places another is better. But all are good everywhere so far as tried, and I have taken special pains to get the facts in regard to them from every part of the country. This is not 'the coming berry,' for the simple reason that it has already come, and come to stay. We have never heard anything but praise of this berry, and it will make your eyes open to see acres of them."

Hear what F. M. Hexomer, editor of *American Agriculturist*, says:

NEW YORK, July 1, 1895.

"*Thompson's Sons*.—Yours of yesterday received. The place where I planted the sample straw-berries last year has changed hands. I was very favorably impressed with all of the Big 6 Collection, especially Cyclone, Ivanhoe and (No Name) Isabella. When I have a permanent place again I shall certainly endeavor to give these varieties another and more complete trial."

*Why we named this collection was that all six were grand berries and all had perfect blossoms.*

**Van Deman (S).**—This is a most beautiful berry; early; splendid shipper and good color, but it does not give general satisfaction, and is not worthy of so good a name. The first year or two it gave the best of satisfaction, but seemed to go backward. It was introduced with the best of confidence.

**Victor Hugo (P).**—This variety is very highly recommended wherever tried. I have received letters from different parts of the country praising it. The plants are all that could be desired. This is one of the earliest, ripening ahead of Crescent. It is one of the most productive berries in cultivation. The berries are large and very firm. Include some of this variety in your order.  
E. J. HULL, Pennsylvania.

**Wm. Bell (S).**—The following is from M. Crawford's catalogue report for 1896:

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

With us this berry has neither size, production, nor any other qualities that we can recommend. We are glad to hear that it does well with some. Will make the price of plants low, as we wish to dispose of them.

**Weston (P).**—It does not seem to make much progress here—of very little value.

**Warfield No. 2 (P).**—This is still one of our standard varieties; fertilized with Rio, we find it does better than any other variety in productiveness. It is simply wonderful. It has one great fault—it makes and sets too many plants. The runners must be cut off for best results.

**Wolverton (S).**—This is another most beautiful berry; firm, good color, large, and a good shipper.



**Williams (S.)**—We have been growing this berry for years, and it does splendidly for us. Everyone should try a few.

**West Lawn (S.)**—We have had this berry a number of years. It is a most beautiful berry; color beautiful. It seems to do better on two-year beds. No one will ever regret planting West Lawn.

This berry is like "Earliest" in one particular, that is, it is very productive on two-year beds. It is one of the very best berries in cultivation. Its size, color, firmness, and shipping qualities will command the highest price.



J. L. HILL Printing Co.

**Seaford (P.)**—This new berry was introduced two years ago for the first time. Being of much value, we took good care of same and have a nice stock of very fine plants. We will here give you the words of the introducers:

*Seaford Strawberry (some claim Seaford and Lloyd same.)*—At the head of the list we put this berry, now offered to the public for the first time. Found as a chance seedling, apart from other plants, its bright and vigorous habit of growth attracted the attention of a farmer, who stayed the hoe uplifted to destroy it as a weed, and instead transplanted and watched it. The reward came in a berry of tremendous size and beauty, produced with an abundance that was simply astonishing. The years that have gone by have only confirmed the first judgment, and we offer *Seaford* to the public with confidence in its extraordinary value as a market strawberry.

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

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

In a strawberry for market-growing, size, productiveness, and good shipping quality are all important; and it is in these particulars that *Seaford* is a most remarkable acquisition. The strong and vigorous plants produce fruit clusters of great size, bearing handsome fruit of proportionately great size.

We commend this new berry to our friends with confidence born of experience with it in test with all the leading varieties of the day; it will easily keep at the head of the procession. The fruit sent to market in 1896, promptly brought higher returns and a demand from the commission men for "more."

After fruiting this berry for the first time this year we would say it pleases us very much. It is large, firm, and we recommend it. Our plants of this variety are very large, so large we have to cut off the roots to save charges. It is one of the earliest.

CLARK CO., ARK., Oct. 18, 1898.

Gents:

The plants came Monday in strictly first-class condition. An extra fine lot well rooted.

JNO. R. BODDIE.

**Ruby (S)**—This comes highly recommended from Illinois, and is believed to be a seedling of Crescent and Sharpless. It is a chance seedling that came up with a number of others in an old quince orchard where an old strawberry bed had been plowed under before the crop was all harvested, owing to the low prices of the fruit at that time. The originator says: "I had quit growing strawberries for market some years ago, but thinking the seedling worthy of general planting, I decided to try it in field culture on a scale large enough to show its character as a shipper. I therefore planted several acres of it and a few rows of other standard varieties, such as Capt Jack, Warfield, Bubach, Haverland, Greenville, etc., for comparison. The result has been that Ruby has proven itself to be a better berry in every way than any of these or later introductions up to the present time. All plants, no matter how late they take root in the fall, fruit the following spring. Its good points are: Strong, healthy plants; large staminate blossom; uniformly productive; fruit of large size; dark red color clear through; firm enough to ship well; a fine keeper after being picked; and of the highest quality. If it has any fault I have failed to discover it."

Samuel Miller says: "I deem Ruby one of the very best of the hundred varieties I have growing."

**Manwell (S)**—The Manwell strawberry originated in Iowa by Allen D. Manwell. This berry is a seedling of the Crescent fertilized with the Sharpless, and is described by the originator as follows: "The Manwell combines all the good qualities of both parents. It has a very small calyx, which does not part from the berry without an effort; in fact it retains its hull (cap) better than any variety we have yet tested. This, combined with its firmness, large size and glossy crimson color, makes it the great shipper that it is. Our customers when ordering say: 'Send us all the Manwells you can, as it is difficult to sell Warfield and other small berries by the side of those Manwells, which are the finest we ever saw.' We have fruited this berry five seasons and it retains the vigor of the original plant. It ripens all over at once without any green tips. It has a perfect blossom, and bears its fruit on large fruit stems which often bring to perfection as many as twenty berries on a single stem. It is not immensely large, but its great beauty, firmness, earliness, good flavor, productiveness, and vigor, combined with good size, make it exceedingly popular. Ripens at same time as Crescent."—Originator's description. The Manwell fruited here on spring-set plants and bore some very fine fruit.

**Mele (P)** Originated by A. H. Griesa, Kansas, originator of the Kansas raspberry. The following is what he says: The Mele strawberry, which is a chance seedling, was first planted beside the Crescent for trial, where it produced plants freely and was more productive than even the famous Crescents were. Then in August it was set beside a row of Timbrells, where it produced as well under these uneven conditions. Then it was set in June where others had failed in the spring planting, beside the Splendid, Marshall, Mary, Rio, Tennessee Prolific, Parker Earle, Cyclone, Aroma, and others, where it made full rows of plants, in which some others failed, and in its fruiting was more productive to the plant or row.

In the spring of 1895 they were set like other plants, and given the same care from the start, and to-day the greater productiveness over such as Ocean City, Berlin, Bismark, Brandywine, Paris King, and many others, is apparent. I mention these trials to show the comparisons made.

The merits of the Mele are its exceedingly healthy plant, foliage, and productiveness. The berry is not the largest size, but larger than the Crescent, and holds out its size well to the last. It is uniformly round, never coxcomb, no sharp tips, ripens evenly, of bright color, moderately firm with very small calyx, and every plant productive when not too close in a row. It has the least unproductive plants of any except Parker Earle, which makes but few plants. Then, unlike many others, it does not succumb to rust because it is a great crop producer, but grows at once a crop of plants as if that was its chief mission.

**Plow City (S)**—The following is what is said by E. J. Hull: This is the latest berry I ever fruited of any variety yet introduced. Fine, ripe berries June 17th, twenty days later than Staples and Bederwood. Plants are of Haverland type; fruit dark red; firm; good flavor.

**Gertrude (S)**—It is a showy, healthy grower with light green foliage. The season is early ripening with Bederwood. The fruit is large and productive and firm. The plants resemble Haverland, only they are taller and heavier. Try a few.

**Princeton Chief (P)**—We have fruited this berry a number of years, and we find it a very productive, handsome berry. It has one of the largest green calyx of any berry we have; it is a great plant maker, and the cultivator must be kept moving or the runners cut or plants set too thick.

**Sparta (S)**—This berry was originated on the farm of M. A. Thayer, of Wisconsin.

**Jersey Market**—Introduced two years ago by Messrs. J. T. Lovett & Co., and they have the following to say [it has made a remarkable growth here considering the dry season]:

"The Jersey Market originated in New Jersey, and has been fully tested by us. In a general way it is an improved Charles Downing, resembling that old reliable and favorite variety in appearance, but is larger, firmer in texture, and with large, abundant clean foliage that has never been affected by rust or scald. The berries are bright crimson in color and of large but not of mammoth size, being remarkably uniform in both size and color. They are above the average in firmness, of rich delicious quality, and ripen in mid-season. Plant of exceptionally strong, healthy habit, and a heavy, reliable yielder under all conditions; blossom pistillate. It is not what might be termed a fashionable or aristocratic berry (one that, under favorable conditions, will elicit the admiration of the few), but a 'strictly business' sort—one that everybody can depend upon and not be disappointed."

ESSEX CO., VA., July 18, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I got some plants from you four years ago that proved satisfactory, and some since from — that did not, bought much cheaper. \* \*

A. D. GARNETT.



**Cobden Queen (P.)**.—Originated by J. McCaffrey, Illinois, the following is what Mr. E. G. Mendenhall, secretary and treasurer of Southern Illinois Horticultural Society:

"J. McCaffrey, Cobden, Ill.

Dear Sir,—You write asking my opinion as regards your new strawberry, Cobden Queen. I don't think can add any stronger language in its favor than did a year ago. It is a remarkable berry, both in fruit and plant. Have been fruiting it now two years, and have visited your place to see it both years (one hundred miles from here), and am so favorably impressed with it shall continue to urge its being planted. Could not give any statement other than just what I really believe, as to your fruit, or on that of any other.

Allow me to add that your Cobden King is a wonderful bearer, a fine flavor, good color, none better as a fertilizer, stands drought well, but can recommend only for home market, little too soft to carry a long distance."

**Maytrott (S)**.—Report of *Rural New Yorker* Grounds, 1896:

June 8.—This is to-day one of the most productive varieties that we have. Though the pendicles seem stout, they are not strong enough to hold the very heavy clusters of fruit. The variety bears through a long season. Berries crimson color, heart-shaped, generally regular; above medium size; fairly firm; fair quality.

**Morgan's Favorite**.—Mr. E. J. Hull, of Lackawana county, Pa., says of this berry: I fruited this variety last year for the first time. The plants are very large, strong, and healthy, even larger than Marshall. I fruited 141 varieties of strawberries last season, and the fruit of this variety was the largest of any. Flavor very sweet; rather soft. For home use and near market it is all right. If you want big prices for your berries plant Morgan's Favorite.

**Magoon (S)**.—This is a new berry from the Pacific Coast. We find it healthy: a good plant-maker; foliage healthy. The following are some of the claims by the introducers:

"Best shipper known in this valley. Unlike all other large berries, it is firm and solid."

"Brought over 25 per cent. more in the market than other berries this year."

"Perfect in color, size, shape, and flavor."

"Superior to any for canning or shipping."

"Plants continue in full bearing five years."

"Third picking on June 30th, averaged a box of berries to the plant."

"This year all kinds of berries were a short crop, but two rows of five-year-old Magoons averaged nine pounds to the plant."

**Improved Parker Earle (S)**.—This is claimed to be an improvement of the old variety. Not fruited with us yet, so cannot say.

**Hunn (S)**.—This is claimed to be the latest berry in cultivation. Not fruited here yet.

**Patrick (S)**.—It is claimed to be very early, and four times as productive as Mitchell's Early. Not fruited here.

**King Worthy**.—It is claimed to be large, splendid color, very attractive, and very firm.

**Drouth King (P)**.—Claimed to be an improved Crescent. Larger, firmer, better color and more productive.

**Ridgeway (S)**.—The *Rural New Yorker* claims in 1897 it was one of the most promising new varieties.

**Star (S)**.—This is claimed to be very large and handsome, something the shape of Gandy. Its season is about with Haverland. It has not fruited here yet, but is highly recommended.

**Marguerite (S)**.—Claimed to be very productive; fruit extra large size. Needs high culture. It has not fruited here.

**Nick Ohmer**.—This is claimed to be one of the promising new varieties. It has not fruited here yet, but made a very poor growth. We hope it will prove all that is claimed.

**Delaware (S)**.—This is a new berry, highly praised. Not fruited here yet. Introduced last spring.

**Hall's Favorite (S)**.—Originated with J. W. Hall, of Md. This berry pleases us very much, and is claimed to be doing well in a great many places. It is well spoken of by the Ohio Experimental Station and many others. We cheerfully recommend this berry for trial

FRIEND THOMPSON:

LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO, July 17, 1897.

Carrie pleased me very much this year; it was better than Haverland.

W. W. FARNSWORTH, Sec'y Ohio State Hort. Society.

BERGEN Co., N. J., April 4, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons*.

I have been so busy that I could not find time to tell you about the arrival of the Strawberry plants—thirty-two varieties. Through carelessness of our local express they remained on the dock in New York over three days, but in spite of that they unpacked in perfect order showing what skilled packing will do. You certainly are to be commended on three points—skill in packing for long distance, nice grading, and clean, healthy stock. It looks as if you had discarded the small plants. \* \* \*  
M. MATTESON.

RICHMOND, VA., July 1, 1896.

THOMPSON'S SONS:

The King red raspberry as I see brought to this market by you is the finest, largest, brightest color, and sells the best of any red raspberry I have ever seen, and I have been growing raspberries for thirty-five years.  
J. W. NICH (formerly of Piqua, Ohio.)

*Thompson's Sons*:

BARTON Co., Mo., March 25, 1898.

Strawberry plants received in good condition. Many thanks for the extra.

J. W. BRANSON

NAMES.

We will be pleased to have anyone who receives this catalogue to send us a list of names of parties who are actually interested in what we have for sale.

**CORRECTION OF OUR MAILING LIST.**

If parties receive more than one catalogue, we would be pleased to have you notice wrapper, and let us know what letter is written on same—A, B, C, D, and so on, so we can tell in what book your name appears. Should any party get our catalogue who does not want same, please drop us a line, and your name can be taken off our list. But please observe the letter on wrapper, so we can find same.

In *Gardening*, July 15th, by John Craig: "These thoughts were impressed upon me in looking over the varieties under test in the Cornell Experiment Station grounds. The following are some berries that would appeal to the amateur; of medium size, round, crimson, glossy, with prominent seeds, and, like most berries of this type, very high flavored: Carrie, a seedling of Haverland, with dark green, healthy, deeply cut leaves; berries pointed or conical, glossy, dark red, fairly firm, rich, and luscious. It may be that Carrie will be prized by the professional who caters to a fancy market. The last berries of the season seem to be equal to the first.

**PRICES OF STRAWBERRIES FOR SPRING OF 1899.**

We never had a finer lot of plants than this year. Where large quantities are wanted of different varieties send your list, and we will do the very best we can.

We pay postage on dozen lots. If 100 lots are wanted by mail, add 20 cents per 100 to pay postage; 1,000 lots go by express, purchaser paying charges.

	Doz.	100	1,000		Doz.	100	1,000
Anna Kennedy . . . . .	\$ 25	\$1 00	\$ 4 00	King Worthy . . . . .	\$ 25	\$1 00	\$ 8 00
Aroma (fine) . . . . .	25	75	4 00	Ida (very fine, fall)	5 00		
Bederwood . . . . .	30	50	2 50	Jersey Market (fine) . . . . .	25	75	5 00
Brandywine . . . . .	20	50	2 00	Lovett . . . . .	30	50	2 00
Belle . . . . .	25	75	4 00	Lady Thompson (fine) . . . . .	30	40	2 00
Bisel . . . . .	25	50	4 00	Lanahan (shipper) . . . . .	30	1 00	6 00
Bouncer . . . . .	25	50	4 00	Margaret (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	6 00
H. W. Beecher (fine) . . . . .	30	50	3 00	Milee . . . . .	25	1 00	8 00
Bubach No. 5 (fine) . . . . .	30	50	2 00	Murray's Extra Early . . . . .	30	50	3 00
Berlin . . . . .	30	50	3 00	Maytrotts . . . . .	30	1 00	6 00
Brunette . . . . .	30	50	4 00	Marshall . . . . .	30	50	4 00
Beverley . . . . .	30	50	2 00	Morgan's Favorite (fine) . . . . .	25	50	3 00
Bismark (fine) . . . . .	25	75	3 00	Mitche's Early . . . . .	20	40	2 00
Cobden Queen (fine) . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00	Magoon . . . . .	25	1 00	8 00
Clyde (fine) . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Muskingham . . . . .	30	40	2 00
Cyclone . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Mannell . . . . .	25	1 00	6 00
Crescent . . . . .	20	40	2 00	Mary (fine) . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Cumberland . . . . .	20	50	2 00	Michigan . . . . .	20	75	5 00
Clarence (fine) . . . . .	2 00	12 00	100 00	Nick Ohmer . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00
Carrie (fine) . . . . .	75	4 00	30 00	Omega (fine, late) . . . . .	25	75	5 00
Champion of England . . . . .	25	1 00	6 00	Orange County . . . . .	25	50	4 00
Columbia . . . . .	20	50	2 00	Oriole . . . . .	20	50	2 50
Darling (fine) . . . . .	2 00	12 00	100 00	Ocean City . . . . .	20	50	3 00
Dew . . . . .	25	1 00	4 00	Parker Earle . . . . .	20	50	4 00
Drouth King . . . . .	25	2 00	10 00	Patrick . . . . .	25	1 00	6 00
Delaware . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00	Princeton Chief . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Excelsior . . . . .				Plow City . . . . .	25	75	5 00
Edith (largest of all) . . . . .	50	2 50	20 00	Pride of Cumberland (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	5 00
Enormous . . . . .	20	65	4 00	Princess . . . . .	25	50	3 00
Earliest (fine) . . . . .	50	1 00	5 00	Ruby . . . . .	50	3 00	15 00
Edgar Queen (fine) . . . . .	20	50	3 00	Rio (fine) . . . . .	20	40	2 00
Eureka (fine, late) . . . . .	25	50	3 00	Ridgeway (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	10 00
Equinox (latest) . . . . .	40	2 00	10 00	Star (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	10 00
Evans . . . . .	25	75	4 00	Saltzer's Everbearing . . . . .	40	2 00	15 00
Epping . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Seaford (Lloyd) . . . . .	25	1 00	6 00
Enhance . . . . .	20	50	2 00	Sparta . . . . .	25	1 00	2 50
Erie . . . . .	20	50		Saunders . . . . .	25	40	3 00
Eleanor . . . . .	25	40	2 00	Sharpless . . . . .	20	40	2 50
Fendrick (fine) . . . . .	2 00	12 00	100 00	Shuster's Gem . . . . .	20	40	2 50
Gandy (late) . . . . .	20	40	2 00	Staples . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Greenville (fine) . . . . .	20	40	2 00	Splendid . . . . .	20	50	2 50
Glen Mary (fine) . . . . .	25	75	3 00	Sunrise . . . . .	25	50	4 00
Gertrude . . . . .	25	75	4 00	Sunny Side . . . . .	20	50	2 50
Giant . . . . .	25	75	5 00	Tennyson (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	8 00
Hall's Favorite (fine) . . . . .	25	50	5 00	Tennessee Prolific (fine) . . . . .	20	40	2 00
Haverland (fine) . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Tubbs (fine) . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Hunn (latest) . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00	Timbrell . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Hoffman . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Van Deman . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Holland . . . . .	25	50	4 00	Victor Hugo (fine) . . . . .	40	1 00	8 00
Howell (very fine) . . . . .	50	3 00	20 00	William Belt . . . . .	25	50	4 00
Hersey . . . . .	40	1 00	8 00	Warfield No. 2 . . . . .	20	40	2 00
Ivanhoe . . . . .	25	75	10 00	Wolverton . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Ideal . . . . .	25	75	5 00	Williams . . . . .	20	40	3 00
Improved Parker Earle . . . . .	25	2 00	15 00	West Lawn (fine) . . . . .	25	1 00	8 00
Isabella or Gandy Belle . . . . .	20	50	2 50	Weston . . . . .	25	50	3 00
Jersey Queen . . . . .	25	50	3 00				



## Our Big 6 Collection No. 2 for Spring, 1899.

**No. 1, Darling (S).**—The most productive early strawberry ever sent out. This berry is sold only on restrictions. Those that buy cannot sell, exchange, give away, or any other way dispose of them this spring or next fall for less than \$3.00 per 12, \$30.00 per 100, \$150.00 per 1,000, and for the spring and fall of 1899 the prices will be \$2.00 per 12, \$12.00 per 100, \$100.00 per 1,000. Every one in ordering these plants will please put on their order the following: We agree to the restrictions of the Darling strawberry for the years 1898 and 1899. [Signed]

In case you fail to sign said contract at the time, the purchase of plants is sufficient that you agree to same and we hold the purchaser just as liable as if he had signed same.

The above is the condition that Darling was sold under last spring, so any one who violates this contract is doing himself a great injustice, besides being liable to us. The Price of Darling for 1899 is, \$2.00 per 12; \$12.00 per 100; \$100.00 per 1,000.

After this year's trial again we are convinced that for a home berry Darling is the earliest yet introduced, it makes a great many plants, and for best results must not stand too thick.

**No. 2, Earliest (S).**—This berry has been thoroughly tested North and South by our Experimental Stations and prominent growers, and their testimony is that it is from one to two weeks earlier than any other berry in cultivation. It will stand the most severe droughts, and grow while other varieties will die side and side. Price, 30 cents per 12, \$1.00 per 100, \$5.00 per 1,000.

**No. 3, Carrie (P).**—A daughter of Haverland tried and proven by our Experimental Stations and pronounced an improved Haverland in color, size, firmness, productiveness, and everything that constitutes a grand berry. For testimonials see other part of this Catalogue. Price, 75 cents per 12, \$4.00 per 100, \$30.00 per 1,000.

**No. 4, Clarence (S).**—This is another berry originated by our father, M. T. Thompson, and is one of the most peculiar berries we ever saw. When it commences to ripen, it has little scarlet streaks running all around, and as soon as they appear it is ready to pick. It will keep for days, and ripen all over alike in two days. It has one of the prettiest colors we ever saw, and so firm it can be shipped hundreds of miles. For near-by market you can pick and keep it for two or three days, and it will look better than most berries freshly picked. \$2.00 for 12, \$12.00 per 100, \$100 per 1,000.

**No. 5, Howell (S).**—One of the most beautiful large berries we ever saw. Immensely productive, and produces some of the largest trusses of berries we ever saw, that are held up by a very strong truss. It is not only a grand berry for home use, but is firm and is a splendid shipper. Its season is medium to late, and is a most splendid companion for Carrie. It has a most beautiful, healthy foliage, and a good plant maker. 75 cents per 12, \$3.00 per 100, \$25.00 per 1,000.

**No. 6, Pride of Cumberland (S).**—In this berry we find something wonderful. Its large size, firmness, productiveness, good grower, splendid shipper, beautiful color, large green calyx, make it one of the handsomest berries we ever saw, and no one can make any mistake in planting largely of it. 25 cents per 12, \$1.00 per 100, \$4.00 per 1,000.

The above constitutes our Big 6 Collection No. 2 for 1899. All have a perfect blossom except Carrie. With such a collection your berry season will last from four to five weeks at least, and in order to make our customers one of the finest collections of strawberries ever introduced, we will make the following liberal offer while stock lasts, viz.: We will send by mail, postage paid, to any post-office in the United States and Canada, 12 plants of each variety for only \$6.00; 100 plants of each variety, 600 plants in all, by mail or express (we pay charges) for only \$30.00. This may seem rather high, but these are all fine plants, healthy foliage, good runners, and with proper care, planted at proper season, each variety will make enough plants this season to plant an acre next spring. That would be only \$30.00 laid out now for enough plants to plant six acres and to spare, which would be less than \$5.00 per acre. In this grand offer we will send 6 plants of each variety for \$3.00, 50 of each variety for only \$15.00, whilst stock lasts. Don't put your orders off too late, for we are sure to run short of plants of some variety. Last spring we refused orders for over 30,000 Carrie, and near the same amount of Howell, also Clarence, and are satisfied we will not be able to fill all the large orders that will come this year.

How Far Can You Ship Plants Safely by Express or Mail? Read the Following:

ST. CATHARINES, ONT., CANADA, April 3, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

I have received my 2,000 Cabbage and Strawberry plants to-day, and thank you for your prompt attention to my order. In regard to the plants I must say that they are the finest I ever saw. They look as though they were fresh dug this A. M. instead of coming from Rio Vista. They had laid in the express office two days, but don't look it.

LEW GRAY.

SHASTA Co., CAL., December 19, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The Big 6 Collection No. 2 of Strawberry plants that I ordered last spring came to hand three days after card notifying me of shipment, and all grew nicely, although they had been a little too warm on the way. \* \*

SAMUEL HILTON.

BLUFFTON, MO., March 29, 1898.

Friend Thompson:

The plants all here O. K. Thanks for them so early. The "Earliest" are the finest plants I ever saw.

S. MILLER.

If any person ever knew a good plant it is Sam'l Miller. When you place your orders better not be penny-wise and pound-foolish—buy the best or none.



### **KING, \$5,000 RED RASPBERRY.**

It is with the greatest confidence we now offer what we think the most beautiful red raspberry ever sent out. It is the brightest red; most easily picked. While in the past season red raspberries sold at four and five cents per quart, we had more demand for our King than we could furnish at from eight to twenty cents per pint. In the field it was the universal cry with everyone that saw them: "This is the finest red raspberry I ever saw. What kind are they? I must have some plants," etc. It is needless for us to say any more. Read a few of the many testimonials we have from the best authorities North and South. The King originated by our father in Ohio eight years ago, and is succeeding in the North fully as well as in the South. It is the brightest red ever put on the market, and can be sold where other varieties go a-begging, and at double the prices. Everybody wants them. The prices will remain the same for two years—viz.: Twelve, \$3; one hundred, \$30. One hundred plants, well cared for, in two years will easily make from 5,000 to 10,000 plants. Get your plants this fall if you can. Dozen lots go by mail prepaid; larger lots by express.

Report of Prof. H. E. Van Deman, Pomologist, Washington, D. C.:

"From Thompson's Sons, Rio Vista, Va. Round medium size; light crimson color; droops largely; few with suture very plainly marked; moderately firm, and of excellent quality. A seedling of Thompson, ripening at about the same time, but larger and more productive."

We would add, this berry the last three years looks very promising. It has a most beautiful dark foliage, and holds its color good. We sent a few berries by mail to J. T. Lovett Company, Little Silver, N. J., June 21, 1893. This is what they say: "The berries received in good condition, which is a very unusual thing for raspberries sent by mail, proving their exceptional firmness. The King is certainly a large and handsome berry. We would like to know more of it."

Mr. Samuel Miller, of Bluffton, Mo., writes that from one plant he had on trial in the fall of 1892, it bore some of the most beautiful red raspberries he had seen for years. We shall watch further developments of this berry with great interest. We have in about one acre now, and this season will give us a fair chance to see what this new-comer will do in Virginia, at least. Should it continue as it has done, it will be what every person will want. It is firm, early, large, and such a beautiful bright scarlet that it catches the eye at sight.



LITTLE SILVER, N. J., July 1, 1895.

M. T. THOMPSON:

It affords me extreme pleasure to be able to make a most favorable report upon the King raspberry. It was fully ripe here on June 25th, and exceeds in size any red raspberry I have yet fruited. It is also very handsome; of excellent quality, and exceedingly productive. Although the past winter was one of the most trying ones upon red raspberries we have ever experienced, the King was not injured in the slightest, even small, young canes leafing out to the very tip.

J. T. LOVETT.

Mr. Lovett is a gentleman who knows a good thing when he sees it.

OHIO EXPERIMENTAL STATION, July 29, 1895.

M. T. THOMPSON:

The King raspberry is a good grower here, and its hardy berries large and fine in appearance; of good quality. We can say nothing of the earliness, but it seems to be a little later than (Prof.) W. J. GREEN.

RICHMOND, VA., June 15, 1896.

THOMPSON'S SONS:

I have been selling raspberries in Richmond market ever since the war. I buy nothing but the best, and I get the highest prices. Your King raspberry is the best: sells the best of any I have ever seen; in fact, I hardly know how to praise it enough. The only fault I find is you sell them to everybody, and I cannot get what I want.

R. R. CARTER.

WATERVILLE, OHIO, June 26, 1896.

FRIEND THOMPSON:

Your King raspberry has done remarkably well. It is a good grower: early, bright, firm, productive, and not inclined to crumble. I picked a few ripe berries from it June 7th, a full week ahead of Palmer and Eureka.

W. W. FARNSWORTH (Sec'y Ohio State Hort. Soc'y).

Friends, just think of the best red raspberry yet produced ripening its fruit one week ahead of black raspberries. June 7th in Ohio is very early. Is this not the raspberry you are looking for?

PARKSLEY, VA., June 24, 1896.

MY DEAR FRIEND THOMPSON:

Your letter at hand. You ask me what I have to say about the King red raspberry. Having seen it in full bearing in this State, besides many others, reds as well as other classes of raspberries, I am glad to have a chance to say a good word for it. The plant is very healthy and robust, and exceedingly productive. The fruit is as large as any berry of its class that I have seen, and that includes about all the new ones. Its color is very bright for a red variety, and its flavor is equal to that of any of them. My experience with it is that the berry is firm enough to ship to any market in good condition. In season it is among the very early ones. If I was going to set red raspberries extensively or in a small way, I would put King in as one of the leaders.

PROF. H. E. VAN DEMAN.

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION,  
SOUTH HAVEN, MICH., July 2, 1896. }

M. T. THOMPSON:

I am very favorably impressed as to the vigor, color, size, and productiveness of the King raspberry.

T. T. LYON.

How it succeeds at the Experiment Station, Minnesota:

FEBRUARY 12, 1896.

THOMPSON'S SONS:

Had King red raspberry from you in 1894. A vigorous, healthy plant, producing a good crop of large, bright red, rather firm berries. Season a little earlier than Cuthbert. Very promising.

SAMUEL B. GREEN, Horticulturist.

ROCKINGHAM CO., VA., March 28, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

Received the Raspberry plants in fine order, well packed and perfectly fresh. You may hear from me again.

P. HERRING.

CHESTER CO., PA., March 25, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The plants by mail reached us promptly, and opened in extra good condition. You pack drier than some shippers, and the result is that plants carry better.

J. H. LADLEY.

HANDCOCK, OHIO, March 24, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The plants arrived this morning all in fine shape, and extra good plants. Thanks for the extras.

WM. STRINGFELLOW.

DUTCHESS CO., N. Y., March 23, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

Plants arrived this P. M. in excellent condition.

W. ELERICKES.

WHATCOM CO., WASH., March 27, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The strawberry plants received March 19 in good condition, and were nice plants.

PRESCOTT UNDERWOOD.

WESTMORELAND CO., PA., April 11, 1898.

Thompson's Sons:

The 10 000 Cabbage plants arrived in good order, but we have a blizzard with four degrees of zero. They are fine plants. \* \*

JOSEPH BRINICH.

**A New Red Raspberry.**—Mr. M. T. Thompson, of Henrico county, Va., has brought us a basket of his new red raspberry ("The King"), and also a bunch of cane, showing the prolificacy of the variety. The berry is a beautiful light bright red, large in size and full of flavor, and is the best raspberry we have ever seen in the South. The canes are strong and with fine, healthy foliage, and the fruit hangs thick upon them from top to bottom. This berry is certainly an acquisition, and bound to be in demand when known.—*Southern Planter, Richmond, Va., July No., 1896.*

OHIO EXPERIMENTAL STATION, WOOSTER, OHIO, July 24, 1896.

**M. T. THOMPSON:**

The King raspberry is fine indeed. Large, firm, beautiful color and prolific. It is far ahead of London or Miller here.

PROF. W. J. GREEN.

Is this the kind of raspberry you want, or do you want to continue growing worthless varieties? After another year's trial King still leads all others.

CULLMAN COUNTY, ALA., April 3, 1897.

Thompson's Sons.—The 1,000 Brandywine Strawberry plants received in fine order. Such plants will give satisfaction to any grower. I will recommend you in future.

A. FEIST.

### PRICES FOR RASPBERRIES.

BLACK.	Doz.	100	1,000	RED.	Doz.	100	1,000
Cromwell . . . . .	\$ 50	\$1 50	\$10 00	Brandywine . . . . .	\$ 50	\$1 00	\$ 8 00
Doolittle . . . . .	30	1 00	8 00	Cuthbert . . . . .	50	1 00	6 00
Earheart Everbearing . . . . .	1 00	5 00		Golden Queen . . . . .	50	2 00	12 00
Eureka . . . . .	50	2 00	12 00	Japanese Wineberry . . . . .	1 00	4 00	
Gregg . . . . .	30	1 00	8 00	Marlboro . . . . .	50	1 00	8 00
Lovett's, or 1,000 . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00	Miller . . . . .	50	1 00	8 00
Ohio . . . . .	40	1 00	8 00	Naomi . . . . .	50	2 00	
Palmer . . . . .	50	1 50	10 00	Pride (new) . . . . .	4 00		
Progress or Pioneer . . . . .	50	1 50	10 00	Shaffer's Colossal . . . . .	50	1 50	12 00
Smith's Improved . . . . .	50	2 00	10 00	Thompson's Early Prolific . . . . .	75	2 00	15 00
Souhegan . . . . .	35	1 00	8 00	Columbian . . . . .	1 00	2 00	
Winoma (very fine) . . . . .	75	2 50	20 00	King, best of all . . . . .	3 00	20 00	

### BLACKBERRIES.

	Doz.	100	1,000		Doz.	100	1,000
Agawam . . . . .	\$ 50	\$1 50	\$10 00	Lucretia Dewberry . . . . .	\$ 50	\$2 00	\$12 00
Ancient Briton . . . . .	50	3 00	20 00	Minnewaski . . . . .	50	2 00	20 00
Early Harvest . . . . .	35	1 00	8 00	Snyder . . . . .	35	1 00	9 00
Early King . . . . .	75	3 00	20 00	Taylor . . . . .	40	1 50	10 00
Eldorado, 25 cents each . . . . .	1 00	3 00	25 00	Wilson's Early . . . . .	40	1 50	10 00
Erie . . . . .	50	2 50	20 00	Maxwell . . . . .	50	1 50	8 00

### GOOSEBERRIES.

	Doz.	100	1,000		Doz.	100	1,000
Champion, the best of all, 25 cents each . . . . .	\$2 00	\$15 00		Houghton, 2 years . . . . .	\$ 60	\$ 4 00	\$30 00
Downing, 1 year . . . . .	60	4 00	\$35 00	Industry, 2 years . . . . .	2 00	12 00	
Downing, 2 years . . . . .	75	5 00	45 00	Smith's Improved, 1 yr. . . . .	75	5 00	
Houghton, 1 year . . . . .	50	3 00	20 00	Smith's Improved, 2 years . . . . .	1 00	6 00	

### CURRENTS.

	Doz.	100	1,000		Doz.	100	1,000
Black Naples, 1 year . . . . .	\$ 50	\$ 2 50		La Versailles, 2 years . . . . .	\$ 65	\$3 50	\$25 00
Black Naples, 2 years . . . . .	75	3 50		Lee's Prolific, 1 year . . . . .	60	2 50	
Cherry, 1 year . . . . .	50	2 50	\$22 00	Lee's Prolific, 2 years . . . . .	75	3 50	
Cherry, 2 years . . . . .	65	3 50		Victoria, 1 year . . . . .	50	2 00	15 00
Crandall, 20 cents each . . . . .	2 00	15 00		Victoria, 2 years . . . . .	60	2 50	20 00
Fay's Prolific, 1 year . . . . .	1 50	9 00		White Grape, 1 year . . . . .	50	2 50	
Fay's Prolific, 2 years . . . . .	2 00	12 00		White Grape, 2 years . . . . .	75	3 50	
La Versailles, 1 year . . . . .	50	2 50	20 00				

We desire to call our customers' attention to Thompson's (Early Prolific) Red Raspberry. We first introduced this berry in 1887 as the best early Raspberry in cultivation. It has stood twelve years, and we still claim it the best early Red Raspberry in cultivation. During all these years we have never known it fail. A great deal has been said comparing Miller to the Early Prolific. We planted two rows of Miller beside two of Early Prolific. They were from ten days to two weeks later. Our Early Prolific sold for 20 cents a pint, and when Miller was ready they sold at from 5 to 10 cents. In



productiveness they about equal. The two rows of Early Prolific brought us, after deducting picking, \$33.68; the two rows of Miller netted us \$11.17—all planted same time. Miller is a good strong grower, but has no comparison to Early Prolific for earliness. In fact we have never been able to furnish enough plants of the latter. We have had plants sent us from a great many prominent growers as samples, and out of all of them only one had true plants. Our plants are true. At the same time we introduced this berry another party introduced a berry called Early Prolific, and sold them cheap, and many that bought them supposed them the same.

The following is what Enos W. Dunham, of Berrien county, Mich., says for 1898 of Thompson's (Early Prolific): This is the best early Red Raspberry: thrifty grower; fair size; productive; firm. Same season as Hansel; much better grower and better yielder. This season it yielded nearly one hundred bushels per acre here. It without doubt is the best extra early berry.

We have told you about this grand berry for the earliest, and we claim to-day without any boasting that the King Raspberry we are offering is the best medium season Red Raspberry ever brought out, and will outsell any other in a glutted market. Its bright color and long keeping qualities place it at the head of the list of Red Raspberries, and the stock will be high for some time as the demand is in excess of the supply.

The following is what W. W. Farnsworth, Sec'y of Ohio State Horticultural Society, says, July 16, 1898: *Friend Thompson*,—King Red Raspberry has again done finely.

## GRAPE VINES.

### ONE YEAR.

NAME.	Each.	12.	100.	1,000.	NAME.	Each.	12.	100.	1,000.
Agawam . . . . .	\$ 10	\$1 00	\$ 4 00	\$ 30 00	Jessica . . . . .	\$ 25	\$2 50	\$15 00	\$120 00
Amber . . . . .	10	1 00	6 00	40 00	Jewell . . . . .	50	5 00	30 00	200 00
Amber Queen . . . . .	25	2 50	8 00	50 00	Lady . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	35 00
Aminia . . . . .	15	1 50	5 00	30 00	Lady Washingt'n	25	2 00	15 00	120 00
August Giant . . . . .	30	3 00	7 00	50 00	Lindley . . . . .	10	1 00	4 00	20 00
Bacchus . . . . .	15	1 50	3 50	25 00	Leader . . . . .	25	2 00	15 00	120 00
Barry . . . . .	25	2 50	10 00	90 00	Marion . . . . .	15	1 50	5 00	30 00
Beauty . . . . .	20	2 00	9 00	80 00	Martha . . . . .	10	75	3 50	25 00
Berkman's . . . . .	50	4 00	15 00	125 00	Massasoit . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	40 00
Black Eagle . . . . .	25	2 50	10 00	90 00	Maxatawney . . . . .	20	2 00	8 00	50 00
Brighton . . . . .	15	1 00	5 00	40 00	Merrimac . . . . .	15	1 50	5 00	30 00
Catawba . . . . .	10	1 00	3 00	18 00	Moyer . . . . .	50	5 00	15 00	100 00
Centennial . . . . .	40	3 50	13 00	110 00	Montefiore . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	40 00
Champion . . . . .	10	90	3 00	18 00	Mo. Riesling . . . . .	19	75	4 00	25 00
Clinton . . . . .	10	10 00	2 90	18 00	Moore's Diamond	50	5 00	10 00	60 00
Coleran . . . . .	1 00	10 90	75 00	400 00	Moore's Early . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	35 00
Concord . . . . .	10	60	2 00	15 00	Mills . . . . .	1 00	8 00	30 00	250 00
Concord Chasselas	1 00	8 00	30 00	250 00	Nectar . . . . .	90	7 00	27 00	250 00
Cottage . . . . .	10	1 00	3 00	20 00	Niagara . . . . .	15	1 25	3 50	25 00
Cynthiana . . . . .	25	2 50	10 00	65 00	Noah . . . . .	15	1 25	3 50	25 00
Delaware . . . . .	15	1 25	6 00	40 00	Norfolk . . . . .	75	6 00	20 00	150 00
Diana . . . . .	15	1 50	6 00	30 00	North Muscadine	20	2 00	8 00	50 00
Dracut Amber . . . . .	30	2 00	6 00	30 00	Norton's Virg'a . . . . .	20	2 00	8 00	55 00
Duchess . . . . .	15	1 50	6 00	35 00	Norwood . . . . .	75	6 00	20 00	150 00
Early Victor . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	35 00	Oneida . . . . .	60	5 00	16 00	110 00
Early Ohio . . . . .	1 00	10 00	80 00	550 00	Oriental . . . . .	50	5 00	15 00	200 00
Eaton . . . . .	50	5 00	15 00	100 00	Pearl . . . . .	20	2 00	8 00	50 00
El Dorado . . . . .	30	3 00	13 00	110 00	Perkins . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	40 00
Elvira . . . . .	10	60	2 00	18 00	Pocklington . . . . .	15	1 75	3 00	20 00
Empire State . . . . .	25	2 50	8 00	45 00	Poughk'psie Red	40	3 50	20 00	170 00
Etta . . . . .	20	2 00	6 00	40 00	Prentiss . . . . .	20	2 00	8 00	50 00
Eumelan . . . . .	50	5 00	15 00	100 00	Rebecca . . . . .	60	5 00	16 00	110 00
Faith . . . . .	20	2 00	7 00	50 00	Roger's Nos. 14, 28, 41, and 32 . . . . .	60	5 00	10 00	70 00
Geneva . . . . .	50	8 00	30 00	200 00	Salem . . . . .	10	1 00	3 00	25 00
Goethe . . . . .	25	2 50	8 00	45 00	Telegraph . . . . .	15	1 75	4 00	30 00
Green Mountain	1 00	8 00	30 00	250 00	Transparent . . . . .	20	2 00	8 00	50 00
Greins Golden . . . . .	20	2 50	10 00	60 00	Triumph . . . . .	75	8 00	30 00	250 00
Hartford . . . . .	10	1 00	4 00	20 00	Ulster Prolific . . . . .	20	2 50	10 00	60 00
Hayes . . . . .	25	2 25	10 00	65 00	Vergennes . . . . .	10	1 00	3 00	22 00
Herbert . . . . .	25	2 50	8 00	42 00	Victoria . . . . .	30	6 00	20 00	150 00
Highland . . . . .	30	3 00	18 00	160 00	Walter . . . . .	50	5 00	30 00	200 00
Iona . . . . .	10	1 00	4 00	25 00	Wildor . . . . .	15	1 00	4 00	25 00
Isabella . . . . .	10	75	2 50	20 00	Woodruff Red . . . . .	40	3 00	10 00	75 00
Ives . . . . .	10	60	2 50	16 00	Worden . . . . .	10	1 00	3 00	20 00
Janessville . . . . .	15	1 00	6 00	45 00	Wyoming Red . . . . .	15	1 50	4 00	28 00
Jefferson . . . . .	25	2 50	10 00	90 00					

Please note the above prices are for one-year-old, good, strong vines. Two-year-old vines are just one-third higher—that is, vines quoted at 20 cents each one year cost 30 cents for two years. The prices of single vines and one dozen are sent free by mail; 100 and 1,000 by freight or express—six at dozen rates, 50 at 100, and 500 at 1,000 rates. Please don't compare these prices with poor vines.

## ASPARAGUS ROOTS.

	BY MAIL.		BY EXPRESS.	
	DOZEN.	100	100	1,000
Palmetto, one-year roots. . . . .	40	\$1 00	\$4 00	
Barr's Mammoth, one year . . . . .	40	1 00	4 00	
Conover's Colossal . . . . .	40	1 00	4 00	

## 5,000,000 CABBAGE PLANTS.

No one has an idea of the amount of early cabbage planted in the United States, and no one has an idea of how much money is lost in our Northern States by market gardeners in trying to winter them over, and the cost attached. We can raise your plants and carry them over winter for half what you can raise them for, if you will make contracts for same in September of the previous year. We sell hundreds of thousands of these plants to nurserymen and seedsmen for their trade; hence we must raise a great many plants. We raise acres of cabbage ourselves for shipping North. The reason we can raise them so cheaply is because we can leave them out all winter, and they are always ready hardened to plant. These plants will stand much cold weather, and as they are tough the little black flea does not injure them like hot-bed plants. Those parties who need from 50 to 100,000 plants should get our prices in September. We have a fine lot of plants ready at any time now at the following prices: 100, by mail, postage paid, 75 cents; 500, by express, \$1.50; 1,000, by express, \$2.50; 10,000, by express, \$20. Varieties: Jersey Wakefield and Henderson. These prices are good only whilst our stock lasts. Please state in your order whether, should we be out of either kind, we should send others in their place. These are bottom prices for spring trade.

**Thompson's Earliest of all Cabbage.**—This is without a doubt the earliest Cabbage in cultivation, and is the first year we have offered it to our customers. It is from two to three weeks earlier than Early Jersey Wakefield planted same time. This is not only a valuable Cabbage for market gardeners and commercial growers, but also for the home garden. We only offer these plants in lots of 50 for \$2.00 by express or by mail postage paid 75 cts. per 100. We are often asked how far we can ship Cabbage plants. We can say we ship to nearly every State and Canada, and our Cabbage grow much better than plants grown in the north with larger heads. We are often asked how late we can ship them. If we have them would say we generally get through shipping the middle of May.

JUDSONIA, ARK.

*Friend Thompson,*—The 10,000 Murray plants came all right on the 15th, and were in such fine shape that I left them in the package, and take them out just as I use them, and I am convinced they are O. K. Shall leave them so until latter part of next week. JACOB C. BAUR.  
The above shows what good packing can do after sending plants hundreds of miles.

OHIO Co., WEST VA., May 17, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I received my Cabbage plants, and must say they were in good shape.

CHAS. BRUNER.

UNION Co., OHIO, April 19, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants received in good condition. I shall know hereafter where to send for fine plants and generous count. It always pays to give gospel measure and quality, though all do not realize it.

MRS. F. H. THORNHILL.

ST. LOUIS Co., Mo., April 16, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I received the plants in due time and in good condition, and I am well pleased with the count and premium. Thanking you for your kindness,

JOHN WOHLSCHARGER.

HENNEPIN Co., MINN., May 14, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The Cabbage plants you sent are all out and growing. Thanks for the liberal way in which the order was filled.

A. B. DUMANN.

QUEENS Co., L. I., N. Y., April 1, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The 10,000 Cabbage plants you sent me arrived yesterday, and just as fresh as if just pulled. Mr. Harper's came yesterday; he was well pleased.

WM. H. WATKINS.

FLOYD Co., IND., March 16, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I received the plants on the 14th, and were in good condition.

CHAS. LEATHART.

VAN BUREN Co., IOWA, April 23, 1898

*Thompson's Sons:*

Emboldened by the way those last plants are growing I want you to fill and send the enclosed order.

JOHN SAX.



BEAVER CO., PA., January 28, 1898.

*Friend Thompson:*

I want to get a number of new kinds of berries this year. I have dealt with you a number of years. I always get good stock, and that is the reason I always like to deal with you.

F. H. MOHREACHER.

GALVESTON CO., TEX., April 2, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

Please give me your price on 4 000 Strawberry plants—Lady Thompson. I could get them around here, but am so pleased with your plants and packing that would rather pay more express on them.

F. ANIZAN.

DUBUQUE CO., IOWA, February 24, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

Please send me your Catalogue as I want to get some more plants. The plants I got from you last fall grow nice.

ALEX. HODEL.

WYTHE CO., VA., April 8, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The Strawberry plants arrived in good condition the 5th. The Carrie, which are the finest plants I ever saw. \* \*

J. I. GRAHAM.

BURLINGTON CO., N. J., May 7, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I received my plants in good shape. It is raining so they ought to live as they had such fine roots. The "Darling" I think is rightly named, as they had the longest roots I ever saw on plants. \* \*

CHAS. S. BUTZ.

PORTAGE CO., OHIO, April 6, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants came all O. K., but we are having freezing weather since arrival. I never had better plants.

L. M. TRACY.

HILLSBOROUGH CO., N. H., April 11, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants ordered of you were received to-day in good condition, for which accept thanks.

AUGUSTUS W. CORNING.

RANDOLPH CO., ILL., April 12, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I beg to inform you that the plants came through in good shape, and are indeed fine as I ever saw. \* \*

J. M. TEMPLE.

NEW LONDON CO., CONN., April 16, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants arrived in good condition. "The Earliest" and Howell are especially very nice.

A. M. GRAY.

SENECA CO., OHIO, May 5, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants came in good condition, and are now growing very nicely.

Mrs. G. A. HISEY.

MCPHERSON CO., KAN., May 9, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The Strawberry plants received from you have exceeded expectations, and are doing finely. This being a club order we set out 200 and have only lost 4, which is more than satisfactory. Hoping our success may bring you additional business from this section.

JAS. B. DARRAH.

WAYNE CO., OHIO, July 12, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

Please give me prices on 50 each of your Big 6 No. 2. I have lots of your Strawberry plants that I got from you when you were in Ohio (9 years ago), and they are all nice ones.

B. BATDORFF.

Yes, our friends, after they buy our stock know what it is. Some Cheap John offers them some cheaper, but cheap plants never hold customers. Owing to the large increase of our business the past year, this year we are obliged to issue one-third more Catalogues than ever before.

LACK CO., PA., July 28, 1898.

*M. T. Thompson:*

\* \* Carrie is a dandy. I wish I had set many more of them last spring.

E. J. HULL.

Carrie is certainly an improvement, both in size and firmness, of its parent, the Haverland.

A. I. ROOT.

Yes, friends, we told you this years ago, even before we introduced Carrie. But there is always a class of people who object to paying a good price for a good thing, and will jump at anything that is cheap. Those who bought Carrie of us when first set out did well. Some will buy Carrie this year and get stuck. There is not enough Carrie to half fill the demand. Every plant we have could have been sold last fall, so better send your orders early.

You remember what we told you about Rio when we first introduced it, that it was the best early Strawberry ever introduced at that time. We knew what it was; we know to-day what it is, but it took our dear friend A. I. Root, of Medina, Ohio, some years to find it out. But we will give you a few lines of what he says in *Bee Culture* this year:

**ANOTHER SURPRISE.** Yes, and this is a happy one too, even if it does run against the one above somewhat. On page 407 I gave you a glimpse of my plan of hill culture for Strawberries. Well, in order to test all the different varieties worked in this way we have to put in one or more rows of all the kinds we could get hold of; and I am watching with very much interest the behavior of the different plants, with runners kept off, and constant cultivation in spring as well as fall. Well, yesterday, after speaking of the Nick Ohmer's earliness, I went up through that hill-culture patch to see how the others were behaving. All at once I was startled by seeing a great big Strawberry, ripened all over, then another and another, until I noticed there were six rows of berries with quite a good many ripe ones right out in the open field. Now, there were a few other kinds that had begun to turn just a little, but nothing like the six rows. What were they? Why, as sure as you live it was our old friend *Rio*. Michel's Early was near by in another patch in a *matted* row, but there was not one berry colored in the lot. The Earliest and Darling had just begun to color, but they were planted rather later than the *Rio* in the same patch. I really do not know why the *Rio* should be ahead of everything else in hill culture, unless such constant stirring of the ground suited the *Rio* better than it did any of the other kinds. That is not quite it either, for the other kinds are making most tremendous growths of foliage and runners. Yes, the greater part of them are putting out runners, even before the fruit has colored. But this constant cultivation seems to have hurried the *Rio* forward, and did not the others—not even the Earliest and Darling. The *Rios* are great strong thrifty plants with stout runners already out, besides a very fair crop of fruit it is going to bear. Now, this thing illustrates a point: Under a special system of cultivation the *Rio* is the earliest good-sized berry we know of. And by the way, friends, there is going to be an enormous crop of berries on that little plantation put out last fall. They were all potted plants however; or if not potted they were set out with our new strawberry-transplanter that I have described and illustrated; and this experiment demonstrates one thing to my satisfaction: With the right kind of culture you can grow an enormous crop of berries from potted plants in only nine or ten months after they occupy the ground.

We endorse what our friend Root says, but when you get to picking berries that sell, and the market bare, for home market we will take the Darling over all other berries now introduced. If we want to ship to distant market we will plant "Earliest" for early, because these two berries are gone when the prices fall. But both "Darling" and "Earliest" are more productive on two and three year old beds. Please bear this in mind.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants are received all right. Thanks.

MIDDLESEX CO., MASS., May 6, 1898.

W. M. WARD.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The plants came to hand in good condition.

ALBEMARLE CO., VA., August 15, 1898.

WM. BLACK.

*Thompson's Sons:*

I have a good stand of healthy and vigorous Strawberry plants from the four varieties received from you last spring, and they look very promising, and I am much pleased with them.

W. C. LITTLE.

ESSEX CO., MASS., September 23, 1898.

*Thompson's Sons:*

The "Earliest" were received by mail to-day in good condition. They are nice-looking plants.

HOWELL CO., MO., June 6, 1898.

HOWARD FRUIT FARM.

This gives our customers some idea how late we can send plants safely from *Rio Vista*. We advise all our friends to get their plants as early as possible, but we send them nearly every week of the year safely to all parts of the United States.

### LETTUCE PLANTS—BIG BOSTON

Big Boston Lettuce plants. By mail, 100, 50 cents; per 1,000 by express, \$2; 5,000 lots, \$8.

### OSAGE HEDGE PLANTS.

One-year, \$2 per 1,000; two-year hedge plants we consider worthless,

### CALIFORNIA PRIVET.

This makes one of the most beautiful hedges around lawns, yards, parks, &c., &c., and is getting more popular every year. We have a large stock of this, and make the prices very low—\$3.00 per 100, \$25.00 per 1,000, by freight or express.

### PEACH-TREES.

Our trade in peach-trees has grown immensely every year—far beyond our expectation—so much so that we could not furnish half the demand. People begin to realize that Virginia-grown trees succeed everywhere better than those from any other State. It seems to be the natural home of the peach. They grow faster, are freer from disease, and we cannot for the life of us see why people will grow so many worthless varieties when they can get three kinds that are worth a dozen others. We make a specialty of June-budded. The freight is less, they cost less, and make much better trees in two years, and are longer lived. Get your peaches from us while you can—viz., Elberta, Champion, and Crosby. We will send you 3 June-budded of either kind, by mail, for 30 cents, or 12 for \$1; 100 by express for \$5. We have some larger trees, 2 to 3 feet, by express, 12 for \$1.50, 100 for \$10, 500 for \$40. Our trees grow, and these small trees are better than large ones.

### TOBACCO DUST.

For market gardeners, truckers, and others who raise early cabbage, radishes, cucumbers, melons, etc., this dust we find indispensable. It is also most excellent for the cabbage maggot for those who are troubled with this insect. We have seen cabbage look most beautiful, and all at once the warm sun would come out, and the cabbage would hang down like an old bag, and upon pulling them up have found from ten to twenty-five maggots at the root. In sections



where this maggot exists, we advise putting a good handful of the dust right around each plant, then keeping the dirt well hoed up to the cabbage. We have used from 1,000 to 2,000 pounds per acre, and have never failed to get good cabbage. It may seem expensive, but the loss of an acre of early cabbage means hundreds of dollars. Before we knew the use of tobacco dust, we planted out one season a large piece of early Wakefield cabbage; paid \$6 per thousand for the plants; did not go near them for two or three days—supposed they were all right—and when we did go, found the little black flea had completely eaten them up. Upon inquiry we found that a friend of ours had purchased some tobacco dust at \$25 per ton. He said that if we used that it would keep off these little rascals. We reset, and watched very carefully every day, and when the dew was on we always tried to get on our dust, and it stayed on better. But, dew or no dew, when these little chaps get on, put on a little dust—a small handful will do a number of plants. When small, we advise for this purpose to use about one-fourth air-slaked lime, thoroughly mixed with the tobacco. We have used this tobacco during very dry spells—when cabbage sometimes get covered with white lice—with excellent results. Our tobacco is almost as fine as snuff and dry. It is better to have some on hand, ready when these little fellows come. So, don't put off your orders too late, as in the spring there is a demand for much more than we can furnish, and orders have to wait until we can get some from the factory.

In packages of 100 pounds, \$1; or in 1,00 or 2,000-pound lots, \$18 per ton. Tobacco stems, put up in 100 pound bales, \$1; or in ton lots, \$15. A number of our customers have clubbed together and bought in 1,000 and 2,000-pound lots, which is best. Always say how you want it—by express or freight; otherwise we send by freight from Richmond, Va.; and also say by what road, if you know. Your agent will advise you which is the most direct line from Richmond. Remember to make all post-office orders payable at Richmond. Our freight and express offices are Richmond, Va.

### TOBACCO AS AN INSECTICIDE.

For one purpose, at least, tobacco is useful—that is to kill or drive away noxious insects from plants. Mr. Joseph Meehan, of Pennsylvania, the well-known writer on horticultural topics, tells the virtues of the weed, as follows, in the *Prairie Farmer*.

"Tobacco is a great insect destroyer, and can be used where the poisons above named are objected to. It has been in common use by florists for years past, being applied in dust form and as a liquid and smoke. It is detested by insects of all kinds in any shape whatever, and the knowledge of this has led to its use by vegetable growers to destroy insects in the garden. It is not practicable to use the smoking method out-of-doors, as is done in greenhouses, so either the liquid or the dust process must be adopted. To use it in a liquid form it is the custom to procure tobacco stems from some cigar manufacturer, placing a handful, or two of them, into a bucket of water and leaving them to soak for a day or two until the water is well discolored. The liquid is then ready for being sprinkled over the vegetables or bushes with a common hand syringe. It is astonishing how quickly all soft-bodied insects show their dislike of this treatment. The cabbage worm succumbs at once, as does the currant and gooseberry worm. This treatment is more quickly applied than the dusting, yet by many the latter seems to be preferred, as it is thought the dust adheres to the body of the insect better."

For currant and gooseberry worms this is better than Paris green, put dust on when the dew is on. The past season in planting our new strawberries, we experimented with one piece where there were white grubs. After marking out the rows we scattered right in the row at the rate of 500 pounds per acre, and we lost no plants by the grubs or cut worms, and the plants made a most beautiful growth.

### SWEET POTATO SEED.

We have a nice lot of Seed Potatoes. Prices on application.

### TOMATO PLANTS.

We raise hundreds of thousands of plants. Acme, Stone, and Livingston's Beauty. Ready April 15th to July 1st. 100 by express, 40 cents; 1,000 lots, \$2.50.

### Top Dressing of Strawberries after Fruiting and Killing of Insects, White Grubs, &c.

We have a special Tobacco Dust made on purpose for the above. It is guaranteed to contain from 9 to 10 per cent. potash, besides ammonia and phosphoric acid. It has the best effect on Strawberries of anything we have ever tried. As an experiment we will send each of our customers bags containing 150 pounds for \$1.50. This should be sown right on the plants as soon as through fruiting, at the rate of 2,000 pounds per acre. It is worth much more than we ask for it, but we want our friends to try it with the understanding they report to us not later than November 1st the effects they then find. It can be used in the spring with even better advantage. Scatter it along the rows and mix with the soil where you plant your Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Cabbage, &c.

### LIMA BEANS (BUSH).

No vegetable is more relished than Lima Beans, but so many neglect their culture, owing to the trouble of having to use poles, but the last few years the Bush Limas have nearly superseded this. Our Bush Limas are not so large as many, but much more productive; fully two to three weeks earlier, and continue in bearing until killed by the frost. The dry beans make an excellent dish in winter as well as when green. One pound by mail, postage paid, for 20 cents, which is sufficient for any ordinary family planted in hills 3 by 2, 4 or 5 beans in each hill.

### THE NEW HARDY JAPANESE HYDRANGEA.

One of the Finest Hardy Shrubs in Cultivation.

This is a grand plant; exceedingly showy and attractive; lasting in bloom for months; perfectly hardy in the coldest parts of the United States; needs no protection; can be planted as soon as the frost is out of the ground. We have a hedge about 800 feet long on the side of our driveway, planted about two feet apart, and it certainly draws the attention of all who see it. We sold more of these plants last year than all other years combined. These are large plants cut back. By mail 40c. each, three for \$1. We will send by express 25 large plants for \$5, or 50 for only \$8. They love plenty of water. Soapsuds on washdays is most excellent.

## Our Rose Collection, No. 1, for \$1.00.

**One Yellow Rambler**—climbing.

**One Crimson Rambler**—climbing.

**Marion Dinglee**.—Deep, brilliant crimson, one of the darkest, if not the very darkest, richest-colored Tea Rose in existence. Be sure and try it.

**Dinsmore**.—It is a vigorous, healthy Rose, of dwarf, branching habit, and is simply loaded with flowers all summer long, being even more profuse than most of the tender "ever-blooming" Roses. The flowers are large, perfectly double, and of a dazzling scarlet-crimson color, and have the rich, spicy fragrance peculiar to the best Hybrid Roses.

**Rainbow**.—A beautiful pink Rose, streaked with crimson. One of the leading cut flower Roses in San Francisco.

**Marechal Neil**.—A beautiful deep sulphur yellow, very full, large, and exceedingly fragrant. It is the finest yellow Rose in existence. We have thousands of this magnificent Rose in splendid health and fine condition for shipping South.

**Sunset**.—The color is a remarkable shade of rich, golden amber, elegantly tinged and shaded with dark, ruddy copper, intensely beautiful, and resembling in color a splendid "after-glow."

**Madame Lambard**.—Color a beautiful shade of rosy bronze, changing to salmon and fawn, shaded with carmine, buds and reverse of petals a deep rosy crimson.

**Perle des Jardins**.—Canary or golden-yellow, flowers large and beautifully formed. Handsome in every stage of development.

**La France**.—No variety can surpass it in delicate coloring—silvery rose shades, with pink. It has a satin sheen over all its petals. It is universally regarded as the most useful of Roses, for it is hardy beyond question. It blooms continuously.

**Rutbeckia, or Golden Glow**.—A hardy, perennial plant, growing from 6 to 8 feet high, branching freely and bearing by the hundreds, on long graceful stems, exquisite double blossoms of the brightest golden yellow, and as large as cactus Dahlias. Blossoms here in July, and lasts for two months. It is admired by every one. The plant must be seen to be appreciated. Hardy everywhere. Strong plants that will bloom this year, 20 cents each; 4 for 50 cents; 12 for \$1.00; 3 for \$2.00; 100 for \$6.00.

### DAHLIAS.

One of the most beautiful flowers in cultivation. Should be in every home that has a garden. We have a large stock of yellow, with an occasional white one. Mixed in, 10 cents each root; \$1.00 per 12, by express. If sent by mail, 10 cents additional root.

### VARIEGATED DAHLIAS.

To those who want something beautiful and grand and specially admired by every one, this is the finest we have ever seen. Different colors on the same stalk. A great bloomer, and long stems. 25 cents each, by mail; \$2.00 per 12, by express.

### A FEW USEFUL BOOKS.

**Jenkins' Art of Propagation**.—A very useful book. 31 pages. 31 cents.

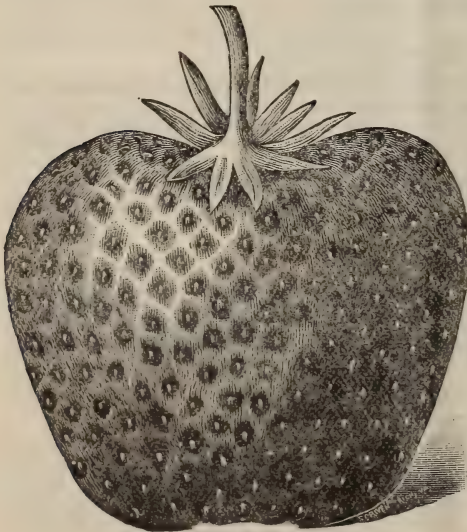
**Grape Culture** by J. H. Tryon.—How to prune and train the Grape. 25 cents.

**Pruning and Training the Grapevine**, by E. Williams. 10 cents.

**How to Grow the Egyptian, or Winter Onion**, by M. T. Thompson. 5 cents.

Will send the above four books or pamphlets to one address for 50 cents.

Richmond being a very historical city, a great many would, no doubt, like to know something of it. For 10 cents we will send a book of the county, which contains a small map of the battlefields, St. John's Church, where Patrick Henry made his great speech, "Give me liberty or give me death," etc., etc.



Edith.

## Virginia Farms.

A great many write me about small Farms, what they are worth near Richmond. The only way to find out what land is worth around Richmond, is to come and see them. I often have farms from five to hundreds of acres for sale, and if you will come here I will have some one show you all around the city. In that way you can select just what will suit you, but I have not time to write long letters, for I cannot explain all you wish to know, so write, and come and see, and I will try and please you.

My postoffice is five miles from Richmond postoffice.

Address

C. H. THOMPSON, RIO VISTA, VA





## PRIZE WINNERS OF 1898.

Six Largest TRIUMPHS in 1897  
Weighed 420 Lbs.

Six Largest TRIUMPHS in 1898  
Weighed 550 Lbs.

J. L. MILLER, Wellridge, S. C., pulled from one Triumph melon vine in 1898, 4 melons weighing 75, 74, 66, and 58 lbs., total from one vine, 273 lbs.

W. R. MANNING, Lake Park, Ga., pulled from one Triumph melon vine in 1898, three melons weighing 95½, 75, and 70 lbs.; total from one vine, 240½ lbs.

### \$200 in CASH PRIZES!

I offer \$200.00 in Cash Prizes for ten largest Triumph Watermelons, grown in 1899, from Seed bought of me or my agents, as follows:

First prize for largest Triumph grown in 1899.....\$75 00  
Second prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899.... 35 00  
Third prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899..... 25 00  
Fourth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899..... 20 00  
Fifth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899..... 15 00

Sixth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899.....\$10 00  
Seventh prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899... 7 50  
Eighth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899... 5 00  
Ninth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899..... 5 00  
Tenth prize for next largest Triumph grown in 1899..... 2 50

## GIANT BEGGARWEED.

THE GREATEST FORAGE PLANT AND LAND RESTORER IN THE UNITED STATES!

I have hundreds of testimonials as to the great merits of this wonderful plant. I give two here which will be sufficient:

WHAT THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE OF FLORIDA SAYS OF THIS VALUABLE PLANT.

Beggarweed has been to Florida what clover has been to Tennessee and Kentucky, and pease to Georgia and Alabama; but it is superior to either, in that it will thrive on much poorer land, never requires reseeding, and certainly is more fattening to stock than any forage plant known. Besides, it improves and enriches the land on which it grows each year, and this without the expense of turning it under with the plow. I certainly, without hesitation, can advise every

farmer in the South to give this valuable forage plant a trial.  
L. M. WOMBELL, Com'r of Agri. of Fla.

WHAT U. S. SENATOR PASCO HAS TO SAY OF IT.

Beggarweed has certainly been a blessing to the farmers of Florida. It has enriched their lands, and furnished at the same time the best forage known in the South for all kind of stock. Hogs, cattle, mules and horses alike thrive and fatten on it, and it has never been known to produce hoven or bloat in cattle, as clover, pease, and alfalfa are so apt to do.  
S. PASCO.

.....WRITE FOR CATALOGUE GIVING FULL PARTICULARS TO.....

**W. M. GIRARDEAU, Monticello, Fla.**



**HILL'S  
RHEUMATISM AND GOUT CURE.**

Greatest of all Remedies.

**ONE BOTTLE WILL CURE YOU.**

**HILL MEDICINE CO.**

36 E. 19TH STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

SEND FOR CIRCULAR.

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Established (30 Years) 1868.

**BATTERSON & CO.,**

**General · Commission · Merchants,**

167 and 169 Scott St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Agents for Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association. Thirty Years' Experience.

**RESPONSIBLE, RELIABLE, and PROMPT.**

*To Fruit and Produce Shippers:*

Desiring our share of your consignments, and not having time to spare to leave our business here, we take this method of respectfully soliciting your favors.

Although, perhaps, unnecessary to say much with regard to the Responsibility, Reliability, and Promptness of our house, the same being already so well established, we would remind you of these additional facts—viz: Our long and active experience certainly is a great advantage to our consignors. We know our trade thoroughly, we know the demand and supply the sources and outlets of our markets so well that we have no fears, but by the constant and personal attention to every shipment, small or large, we can and do secure the best possible results obtainable in Buffalo.

Refer to the Third National Bank, Buffalo, N. Y., or Berlin Heights Bank, Berlin Heights, Ohio.

---

We have been shipping to this firm for years, and have always found them the promptest house we ever shipped to — THOMPSON'S SONS.

---

**OUR HORTICULTURAL VISITOR!**

Yes, we have seen it, and are so well pleased with it we  
have its visits come regular.

Any Fruit Grower can secure a Sample Copy  
by sending their name on a postal card to

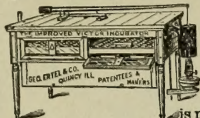
**OUR VISITOR**

..... **Box T. S., KINMUNDY, ILLINOIS.** .....



# Does 20 Hens' Work

The ordinary size Victor Incubator hatches as many chickens as 20 hens could hatch, and does it when hens can't be induced to set. A Victor Incubator is the greatest profit bringer that the poultryman or farmer can employ. It represents the highest step in artificial hatching. Being scientifically perfect in its operation—positively regulates itself—



## The Improved VICTOR Incubator

is moderately priced. It is most economical to buy and to operate, most profitable in the results it attains. A written guarantee goes with every Victor Incubator that it will do everything claimed for it—or money refunded. Catalog 6c., circular free.  
**GEO. ERTEL CO., Quincy, Ill., U. S. A. Established 1867.**

**GRAY HAIR DARKENED!** OZARK MOUNTAIN HERBS will restore Gray Hair to its Natural Color, Beauty and Softness. Prevents the hair from falling out. Cures and Prevents Dandruff. Will not Stain the Skin, is not Sticky or Dirty. Contains no Sulphur, Sugar Lead, Litharge, Nitrate Silver, or any Mineral Poisons. Is Purely Vegetable. Package makes One Quart.  
 PRICE, 25 CENTS, BY MAIL.  
**LUI. DUBY DRUG CO., Rolla, Mo.**

Examinations Free. **PATENTS** Write for Circular.  
 S. H. EVANS, 1010 F Street, WASHINGTON, D. C.

## DON'T You want a Big Crop of WHEAT?

THE ODORLESS PHOSPHATE is the strongest & cheapest fertilizer ever used  
**JACOB REESE, 400 Chestnut St., Philad'a, Pa.**

**GUNS** and SPORTING GOODS.  
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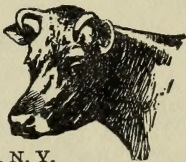
for Spring, 1899, are valuable and reasonable in price. Send for descriptive circular. Among them are the new Winter Pear, the Henry, Superb Apricot, Cobden Queen Strawberry, Egyptian Raspberry. There are others also

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We would be pleased if the parties receiving this Catalogue would send us the names of a few of their friends who are interested in Small Fruits, and we will send them one also.

Many will receive this Catalogue without ordering it. Some friend, doubtless, was interested in your welfare, and sent us your name, that you might know where to purchase good plants cheap.

Be sure and plant our **BIC SIX.**





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HARDY CLIMBER. SHOULD BE IN EVERY HOME.

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Our Rose Collections Nos. 1 and 2 should be planted by everyone. Don't compare this collection of Roses to a lot of cheap trash not worth planting. For \$1 we will send by mail one each of the following varieties for out-door planting:

- 1 Yellow Rambler (climbing).
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#### SWEET PEAS.

Of all the flowers in the garden, we could not get along without our Sweet Peas. They can be planted here in Virginia in December. They should be planted 4 to 6 inches deep, and the seeds about 1 to 2 inches apart. We do not cover them at once to their full depth, but as they come up, gradually work the dirt to them, and as they get higher pull more dirt up to them, and when they get large enough mulch them with straw or any old rubbish to keep the ground moist in case of dry weather. Give them a plenty of water about twice each week. A good way we find to plant them is in double rows, say about one foot apart, leaving a walk between each double row of about two feet. The collection we offer has all colors, and is the finest collection that is grown, and is bound to please everyone.

Small package, 10 cents; large package, 25 cents; half pound, 50 cents; one pound, 90 cents; postage paid.

Plant as soon in the spring as the season will allow you to work the garden; frost does not injure them.

#### TUBEROSES.

**New Excelsior Double Pearl.**—This strain is superior to the ordinary Pearl Tuberose. It is perfectly double, and nearly twice the size of the ordinary tuberose, but of equally delicious fragrance.

Flowering bulbs, 4 cents each, 6 for fifteen cents, 12 for 25 cents, 25 for 45 cents.

The climate of Virginia and North Carolina seems to be more suitable for growing these bulbs than any other section of the United States, and each year the demand for bulbs grown here is growing for shipment all over the world. We have a large stock of the small bulbets, which we can send by mail, 50 for 25 cents; 100 for 40 cents. We will send 100 of the flowering bulbs for \$1, by express. For larger quantities write us; will do the best we can.

#### OUR CANNA BED FREE.

No doubt all our friends have seen and admired a bed of Cannas, and wished they had one. Years ago one Canna was considered a fine luxury, but now we frequently see from a dozen to hundreds in one bed, of different colors. Last year we raised for our own trade over half an acre of different colors, and nothing on our farm attracted the attention of visitors as our Canna bed. From the time they commenced to bloom until frost came they looked like a field of plumes of so many different shades and colors.

We will send by mail, postpaid, at the proper season, 6 bulbs for 15 cents, 12 for 25 cents, 25 for 45 cents, 50 for 80 cents, 100 by express for \$1.

TO EVERY ORDER OF OUR BIG 6 COLLECTION, No. 2, OF STRAWBERRIES, we will send FREE 25 of these bulbs, or, if by express, 50, so any lady need never to go without a bed of Cannas.