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Mess.

B. F. Messick

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SPRING 1910

CATALOGUE

OF CHOICE

Strawberry Plants



PARSONS BEAUTY

BUY OUR PLANTS If You Want To Grow Fine Berries



Grown and For Sale by

B. F. MESSICK & SON

Allen, Maryland

6237

Introductory.

The time for planting strawberry plants will soon be on and now is the time to be making your selections of the different varieties you are favorably impressed with, so that your trial bed may be filled out and decide under your own cultivation and soil, as to what will be best for you to set another Spring. The trial bed under your own supervision is the only satisfactory method upon which you may know, at all times, just what you are doing and in the end proves to be the most satisfactory.

This is also the time to be getting your list of your standard varieties together and placing your orders so that you may be sure of getting them and get them at such time as you most desire them, as it is often the case that some decided change in the weather makes a decided change with you and if your order is in the hands of nurseryman, it is very easy to wire your desired change and thus save you a possible disappointment.

During our nursery career we have always tried to do our best for our customers and to obtain the best possible results, is for man to consider man and do that which will be of benefit to the other party, when it is of no disadvantage to you and if you will let us have your order as soon as possible, it may mean the avoiding of a disappointment, as we have orders now booked for shipment, caused by delaying the time of ordering until the last minute.

Unless something unusual transpires to damage our stock, we will have as fine a lot of plants to fill your orders with as can be grown and if you have never used any of our stock, then send us your order and we will let you be judge.

We have nearing two million plants of the varieties herein described and hope to have your assistance in getting them generally distributed so that when your neighbor wants to know where to get good strong, nice plants, you can recommend the stock of B. F. MESSICK & SON unreservedly.

Anticipating your future favors, we are,

Yours truly,

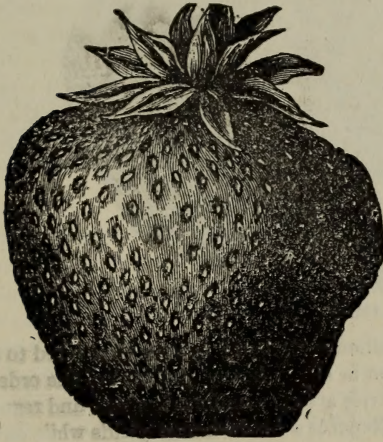
B. F. MESSICK & SON.



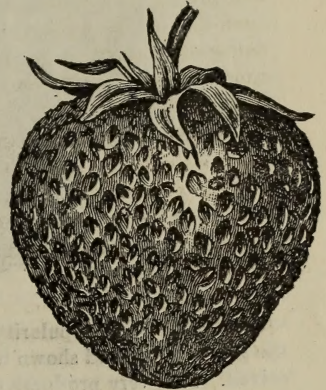
Description of Varieties.

AROMA.—Some reports on this variety differ from our experience as some recommend its use to those who do not thin beds but our experience has been with it for several years that it grows too thick for its kind and would do better if thinned out. Our beds last spring were nearly three feet wide and plants set in proportion to the width but the berries have shown up nicely.

When beds are in proper condition berries are large and firm, good shape and color.



BUBACH.



CHESAPEAKE.

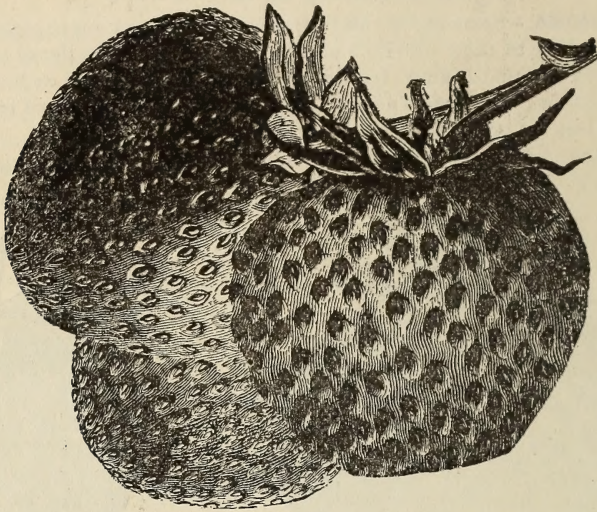
BUBACH, (P.)—An old variety which has stood the tests and one that grows on good soil cannot help but take pride in as the plants are healthy growers but limited in its plant-making qualities which gives it the advantage of not crowding and can always be depended on.

It is not as easily and economically grown as a number of other varieties but results are always gratifying. The demand has always been very heavy and every season orders for Bubach have to be returned so if possible order early to be sure of getting what you want.

CHESAPEAKE. The impression of this variety, of those who possibly know it better than we do, is that it is here to stay, that its shipping and picking qualities also its productiveness and length of season for ripening is greatly favored and will give it favor by a heavy percentage of the berry growers. We have not fruited it but have seen it fruited and our experience from observation is, that it is a shy runner and producer but matures all berries to a creditable size and evenness that is commendable and from this fact may produce as many quarts as the average berry. The foliage is a very dark green and free from rust and the combination of quality and firmness is unusual.

BRANDYWINE.—About six years ago the demand for this variety was very heavy but the last two years the sales have greatly decreased while in our fruiting we yet feel favorable to it and grow them every year as its type is certainly a demanding one. It is a fair plant maker, bluff foliage, fruit large, double capped, good flavor and color.

BISMARCK.—Resembles the Bubach very much in habit and growth, very productive and gives pleasing results. Very much desired as a pollenizer.



CLIMAX.

CLIMAX.—The popularity of this medium early berry is best illustrated to us by the growing demand shown by its position in a very heavy per cent of the orders received. It is very productive and its berries are very uniform in shape and regular in size, good shipping qualities and color. Reports show immense yields while ours has not been anything to boast of but circumstances have been very much against it. Last year after being wet so long the dry weather came just in a time they most needed rain but we can heartily recommend it to all who desire a medium early variety.

CLYDE.—Our crop this year was something immense with large berries and held up unusually well during fruiting season. Berries as large as Bubach and did well, generally being of a good color and ship well,

CRESCENT, (P.)—An old variety that needs no description. Grows in any soil. Some have discarded it but our demand from year to year justifies us in retaining it on our list.

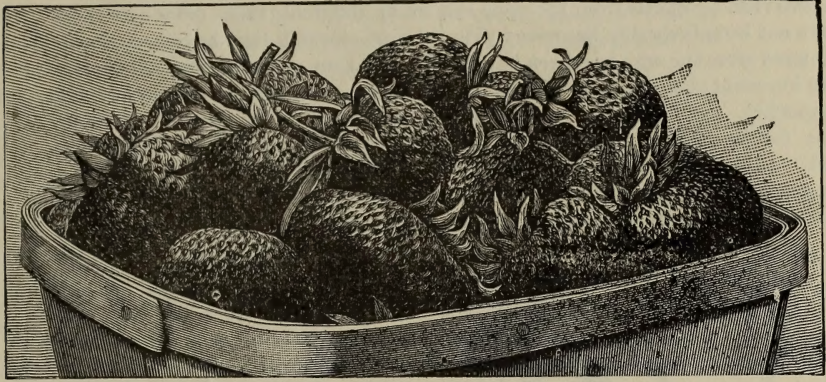
CORSICAN.—Resembles the New York in every particular so far as we can see and in noticing our description of the New York you will have our ideas of the Corsican.

COMMONWEALTH.—A good grower, strong and productive. Becoming quite popular on account of its lateness, good size and quality.

Mr. Monroe, of Massachusetts, the originator, gives a very glowing account stating the first prize awarded in competition at given dates.

CARDINAL, (P.)—Having fruited the cardinal this past season we recognize in it wonderful and demanding merits. Its growing qualities are a pleasure, making tall rank vines and fruit of a bright red color held up by stems of a remarkable size. Those who have them increase your order and those who have not tried them include them in your order.

EARLY HATHAWAY.—So far as we can see there is not the slightest difference in this variety and the Texas. See our description of the Texas and you will have the two in one.



EXCELSIOR.

EXCELSIOR.—The desire of growers of berries is to get a plant that is early and prolific. To them we recommend this variety; it being a faultless grower and makes a profusion of runners that root readily. When earliness is desired we think the Excelsior the kind. It often puts forth blossoms so early that the late frosts and cool weather make the berries imperfect and destroy some of the blossoms and with us the size gets small after a few pickings but being so early a few pickings brings in larger net receipts than other varieties that have the advantage of harvesting the entire crop. Ripens a day or two ahead of the Michaels Early.

FAIRFIELD.—Being a little later in ripening than the Excelsior gives it an advantage of coming at a time when the crop is more certain of a natural maturity of good sized berries running larger than Excelsiors. To those who have planted Excelsior without satisfaction we think you will do well in substituting Fairfield as many of our acquainted growers have done with satisfaction.

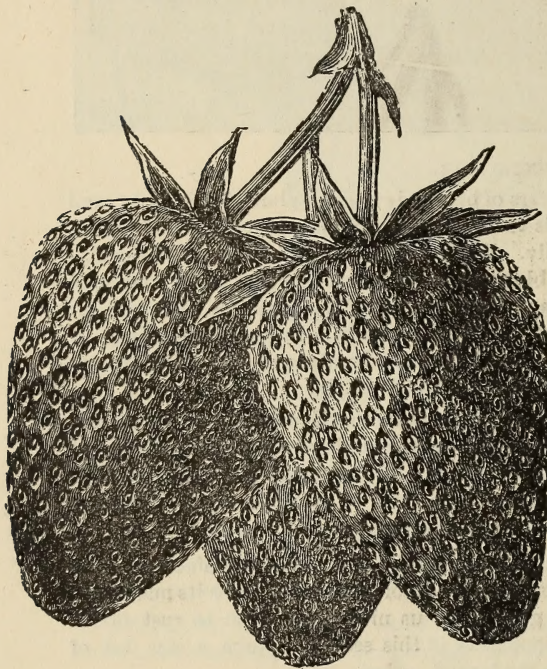
GLEN MARY.—In this climate and soil the results are not as satisfactory as in other sections as the yearly output speaks for its favor and reports show its marvelous productiveness and size. The vines grow with us nicely but seem to rust about fruiting time which has impeded its popularity in this section. Have a nice lot of plants and we are prepared to furnish the largest orders.

GANDY.—Is very extensively grown here and has proven to be quite a money maker. Until a year or so ago was the favorite of the West but the Aroma seems to be taking its place. The estimate for harvesting has been five thousand quarts per acre but think this has been reduced somewhat. The crop is harvested in about eight days and seems to always revive a demoralized market by its nice size and shipping qualities.

KANSAS. (P.)—A very vigorous grower and perfectly healthy and may be planted with confidence when soil is adapted as it requires a rich moist soil to do its best. Its fruit is a brilliant crimson through and through and has received praise from every horticulturist in the country who has fruited it. The fruit makes a very handsome showing being a fine size, medium to large.

MARSHALL.—The plant is very large and makes but few runners. It is a singular grower but greatly admired for its berries of great size and most excellent qualities. Blossoms are dot numerous but all develop into large, dark, glossy red and beautiful berries.

KLONDYKE.—Reports from the same sources at different times differ and some who have not been favorably impressed with it before ripening time have been decidedly changed after the crop had been harvested. At time of blossoming it seems to make an immense number which seems to gradually disappear, some perfect and some imperfect, and leave the stem looking deserted but as the time of harvesting comes on, berries come and yields as high as six thousand quarts per acre have been reported. It is growing in favor in this section. Plants are a very vigorous grower making a great many runners and the berries are very firm, good color, smooth, round and even shape and only a little rust. Ripen a little earlier than Lady Thompson.



HAVERLAND.

HAVERLAND. (P).—So far the Haverland has increased its popularity notwithstanding its age and the localities in which it is planted is possibly more numerous than any other variety on the list. It comes with the earliest midseason kinds and always brings a heavy crop of nice large berries, regular in outline, somewhat long in shape, good color and a good shipper.

LADY THOMPSON.—A very notable variety the world over and has succeeded quite well for the past several years. Wet seasons are somewhat against it but considering the seldom wet seasons it can be fruited at an advantage. It is early, large, productive and a good shipper. Grows well in all soils but better adapted to rich loamy or sandy soils.

MICHAELS EARLY.—Among the extra early kind, medium in size; a great producer of plants and berries, berries scarlet in color, and eaten from the vine there are none better. An old variety that needs but little description.

NICK OHMER.—Has proven to be profitable with some who have given special care to its culture, bearing a reputation for its size, color and firmness. The stem of the fruit grows very stout and holds the berry well up from the ground. Thus doing away with the necessity of mulching. The packages present a very attractive appearance, being in size large to very large, of a beautiful carmine color. It is a little later than the Bubach.

NEW YORK.—A fancy berry for fancy trade. Produces a large crop of very large, bright red berries that are about as firm as Bubach. Plants of an immense size and only runners enough to make beds of a desired thickness to fruit well. Time of ripening mid-season.

PARSONS.—Our friendly feelings for this variety are yet the same, as it has so far proven entirely satisfactory with us. The plant is a large, strong grower, resembling the Bubach in some respects, having a large broad leaf with strong roots. Being a strong, perfect bloomer, it is a desirable variety to plant with pistillate sorts.

RED BIRD.—A very prosperous plant maker and recommended by the originator as being as early as the Excelsior and more productive and holds its size better, not so dark in color but very tart.

SAMPLE. (P)—This variety is of such a nature that all growers should include it in their selections as our Sample's the past season were fine and full. Had them planted in a little springy place and the yield large. The quality is fine and quite firm and makes a good showing in the crates, as the berries color all over at once. It has generally given satisfaction.

SHARPLESS.—A great favorite with many, especially for the garden. An old and well known variety and needs but little description.

STEVENS LATE CHAMPION.—More productive than the Gandy, lasting for a longer period. Berries are very large, a little rough in shape, good, live color and a good shipper. Its favor seems to be rapidly growing.

SPLENDID.—A vigorous plant maker and for best results must be kept thinned down the row. A strong staminate variety and a good pollenizer.

SEN. DUNLAP.—A variety that has come to be in surprising demand. Its only drawback with us is its tendency to make too many runners that set very thick. It seems to grow well in different soils, handles well and arrives in good condition, wonderfully productive and generally brings every berry to maturity and seems to hold its own under rough and tumble treatment.

SUPERIOR.—An extra variety for the man who manures heavily as its plant vigor is insufficient to bring to maturity the immense load of fruit it sets unless it should be growing in a strong moist soil. Productive berries, fair and good color.

TEXAS.—A strong healthy grower, not affected with rust or other diseases. Makes plants freely, thrifty and well rooted; crimson color and firm enough to ship well, in fact a very desirable early variety.

THREE W'S.—A promising variety covering a long season, from medium early to late and its productiveness of uniformly large and fine quality berries is making its future very promising.

TENN. PROLIFIC.—Produces abundantly and probably excels in number of quarts; is one of the old standards that you are thoroughly acquainted with, a very good variety to plant with pistillate varieties; a most excellent grower of a perfectly healthy foliage: berries large, firm, good flavor but rough in outline, many of the first being coxcombed, an excellent variety for careless culture.

UNCLE JIM.—From the noted growth, size of berries made from our picking the past season we are caused to believe that this variety has a promising future. It grows somewhat on the New York order, making strong, vigorous plants that are about thick enough to produce well. Berries are very large, fairly firm, somewhat rough and irregular in shape. Ripens about the time of Haverland.

VIRGINIA.—A good, strong, clean grower. Berries good medium size, a beautiful glossy color, round and even shape with a nice green cap. Ripens about the time of Texas.

WARFIELD.—A very popular variety in some places, while with us it has never done much, but on account of our heavy demand we grow a nice lot of plants.

WM. BELT.—A good seller in fancy market and seems to be improving each season: shows but little rust of large size, a little flattened or coxcombed but very attractive when picked. Did very well this season; it colors perfectly.

PRICE LIST.

	By Mail Postpaid			By Freight or Express Receiver to pay Charges			
	12	25	100	25	100	500	1000
Aroma.....	\$0 20	\$0 45	\$0 75	\$0 20	\$0 45	\$1 25	\$2 50
Bubach (P).....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Brandywine.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Bismark.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Ulimax.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Corsican.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Clyde.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Crescent (P).....	20	45	75	20	42	1 00	2 00
Chesapeake.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Commonwealth.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Cardinal (P).....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Excelsior.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 00	2 00
Early Hathway.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Fairfield.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Gandy.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Glen Mary.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Haverland (P).....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Klondyke.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Kansas (P).....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Lady Thompson.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Michaels Early.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 00	2 00
Marshall.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Nick Ohmer.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
New York.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Parsons Beauty.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Red Bird.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Sample (P).....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Sharpless.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Stevens L. Champion.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Sen. Dunlap.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Splendid.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	3 00
Superior.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Texas.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Three W's.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Tenn Prolific.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Uncle Jim.....	25	50	80	25	50	1 50	3 00
Virginia.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Warfield (P).....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50
Wm. Belt.....	20	45	75	20	45	1 25	2 50

What And How We Sell.

Strawberry Plants true to name and at considerate prices Our plants are well cleaned, carefully labeled and neatly tied in bunches of twenty five each. We have been accustomed to tying fifty to the bunch but find twenty fives' to be more satisfactory handling and packing, especially late in the season

We make no charges for boxing, etc. Price herein covers all cost delivered to express or freight office.

While we take every precaution to have our stock strictly true to name, should any happen to be otherwise, it is agreed, that we are not to be held responsible for more than the amount paid for said stock.

WE IN NO CASE SUBSTITUTE UNLESS SO DIRECTED. Certificate of inspection with every shipment.

We have before stated for the benefit of buyers, that the rate can always be obtained from your Adams Express Agent to through points and as a basis we have found a single thousand to weigh about 25 pounds, three thousand and up 20 pounds per thousand and in orders of 5000 and up we pack in slatted crates, holding about five thousand; of course different varieties vary but this is a fair basis.

REMITTANCES.—Should be made by money orders on Allen, Md, by Ex, on Eden, Md.

REFERENCES.—Bank of Somerset, Princess Anne, Md., Ex. Co., Eden, Md., Post Master, Allen, Md., and our customers, U. S., Canada and Australia.

PACKING.—We personally see to the packing of all of our plants because we recognize this to be of vital importance for the future good of both of us. Good plants and good customers are often ruined by being poorly packed especially when destined for long shipment.

ORDER EARLY.—When conditions will permit have plants shipped early and in all cases as early as possible. Plants weigh less and live better.

LOST ORDERS.—Every order is acknowledged by card and should you not hear from us in a few days write us as you may rest assured that order or acknowledgment has gone astray.

RECOGNIZED ORDERS.—We will greatly appreciate if all customers will notify us on receipt of their order as oft times an order may be delayed and we know nothing at all about it, while if we are notified we will soon learn the time required for transit and be enabled to give you a closer consideration and hunt your shipment.

ORDERS.—Write your name and address plainly. Always give shipping directions whether by freight or express and name of freight or express office.

When writing always give your name, post office and state so as to insure a speedy reply.

When ordering do not request large amounts to be sent by mail only at mail rates.

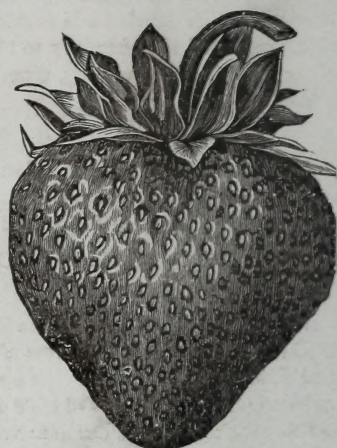
AT RISK OF PURCHASER.—All plants are packed with equal interest as to their safe arrival but plants shipped by freight are at purchasers risk as the transportation companies are too likely to delay and cause the plants to damage which of course we have no way of overcoming.

GUARANTEE.—We guarantee all plants shipped by express and properly attended to on arrival.

OUR TERMS.—Cash in advance. Cash must accompany order.



SENATOR DUNLAP.



GANDY.

Number of Plants Required to Set An Acre of Ground at a Given Distance,

21-in. rows, set 12 in. apart in row, 21,780	42-in. rows, set 18 in apart in row. 8,297
30- " " 12 " " 17,424	48- " " 18 " " 7,260
36- " " 12 " " 14,520	24- " " 24 " " 10,890
42- " " 12 " " 2,446	30- " " 24 " " 8,712
48- " " 12 " " 10,890	36- " " 24 " " 7,260
24- " " 15 " " 17,424	42- " " 24 " " 6,223
30- " " 15 " " 13,939	48- " " 24 " " 5,445
36- " " 15 " " 11,616	24- " " 30 " " 8,712
42- " " 15 " " 9,953	30- " " 30 " " 6,969
48- " " 15 " " 8,712	36- " " 30 " " 5,308
24- " " 18 " " 14,520	42- " " 30 " " 4,976
30- " " 18 " " 11,616	48- " " 30 " " 4,356
36- " " 18 " " 9,680	

Certificate of Nursery Inspection, No. 17.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:—This is to certify that on the 21st day of August, 1909, we examined the Nursery Stock of B. F. Messick & Son, growing in their nurseries at Allen, County of Wicomico, State of Maryland, in accordance with the laws of Maryland, 1898, Chapter 289, Section 58, and that said nurseries and premises are apparently free, so far as can be determined by inspection, from the San Jose Scale, Peach Yellows, Pear Blight and other dangerously injurious insect pests and plant diseases. This certificate is invalid after August 1st, 1910, and does not include nursery stock not grown within this State, unless such stock is previously covered by certificate and accepted by the State Entomologist and State Pathologist.

THOMAS B. SYMONS,
State Entomologist.

J. B. S. NORTON,
State Pathologist.

College Park, Md.,
Aug 30th, 1909.