

# SOBER PARAGON

(Copyrighted 1908)

## The New Sweet Chestnut



FIVE-YEAR-OLD GRAFTED TREE

This tree had 500 burs; 300 were removed, leaving 200 to mature.

Introduced and Controlled by

**GLEN BROTHERS, Inc.** 

Established 1866

*Nurserymen,  
Landscape  
Engineers*

Kobe, Japan

Rochester, N. Y.

Boskoop, Holland

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**NATIONAL INQUIRY ABOUT  
SOBER PARAGON CHESTNUT**

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
ATTRACTED TO CHESTNUT  
CULTURE BY LEWISBURG  
MAN'S SUCCESS.**

Lewisburg, March 4.—That the national government is becoming intensely interested in the chestnut farm of C. K. Sober is evidenced by the fact that a letter has just been received from Haven Metcalf, pathologist in charge of the United States department of agriculture, bureau of plant industry, asking for Mr. Sober's price-list of scions, seedlings and grafted trees. This manifestation of the national government's interest in chestnut culture is a fine tribute to Mr. Sober's success as a raiser of the new famous Sober Paragon chestnut.

Mr. Sober will graft over 40,000 trees this spring, all of which are already sold to the firm of Glen Brothers, nurserymen, of Rochester, N. Y. In addition to the grafting, Mr. Sober will plant one hundred bushels of the Paragon nut this spring to supply the demand for trees.

**YOUNG WOMAN FRIGHTENED.**

**Annoyed by Stranger While Waiting on  
Street Car.**

A lady who was waiting for a s  
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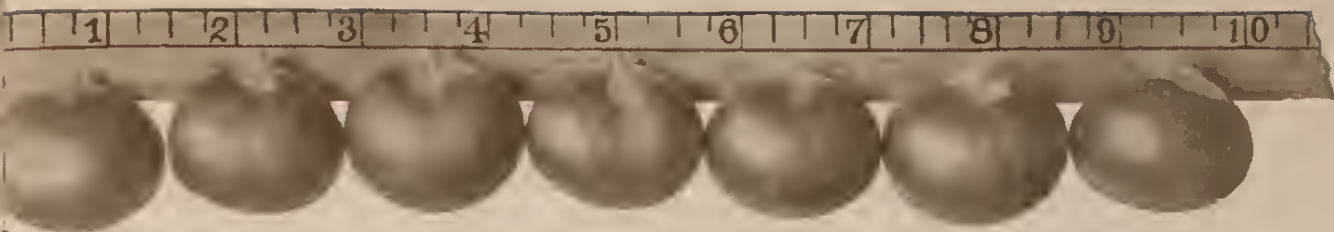
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The above Clipping from the *Williamsport Sun* of March 4, 1908.

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NEW YORK  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN



## ORIGIN OF THE SOBER PARAGON

**W**HEN a boy, Mr. Sober conceived the idea of improving our native chestnut by cultivation and artificial propagation, but this idea was not realized until a few years ago. From a nut, supposed to have been brought to this country from Europe, perhaps from France or Spain, Mr. Sober first obtained his scions for grafting. He at once recognized the value of the nut, and with his characteristic energy, began experiments, from which the Sober Paragon resulted and is thus introduced to the public. To-day, his orchard is one of the most interesting places in the country, and is a financial success without precedent in nut and fruit culture.

It having been so clearly demonstrated to be a distinct variety of such great merit, it was decided that it should bear his name. No more appropriate monument could possibly be erected in honor of any man than a chestnut tree, nor can his memory be perpetuated under more pleasant and agreeable surroundings than to have his name linked inseparable with such an excellent and valuable variety. The Sober Paragon Chestnut has, therefore, been copyrighted, and all genuine trees will bear the seal.

There were harvested and sold from this orchard in the Fall of 1907 over 2,000 bushels of nuts, at prices ranging from seven to twelve dollars per bushel.

In point of quality, the Sober Paragon Chestnut is equal to our native chestnut, which cannot be said of the Japan and some other large nuts now on the market and clamoring for public favor.

The young trees have always been scarce, as they can only be propagated by grafting. Consequently, they have been but little advertised, and comparatively few people know anything about them. Each succeeding year has confirmed our good opinion of the Sober Paragon Chestnut, and we offer it to the public with every confidence. It stands on its merits. We believe it will be a profitable thing to grow, as a fine chestnut will always meet with a ready sale at good prices. An orchard, once started, will bear the second year, and will increase in value each year for a century or longer. It has no "off year" and never fails to produce a crop. It is extremely prolific.

## VERY LARGE NUTS

The nuts are from three to four inches in circumference, and occasionally one is found that will cover a silver dollar, while an average nut will cover a silver half dollar. Thirty-two selected nuts, when first gathered, weighed a pound, and forty-eight average nuts filled a quart measure. The nut is a little darker in color than the native chestnut, and is covered with a delicate pubescence when first gathered. It ripens the last week in September or the first week in October. The burs are large and thick, only slightly flattened, the spines being long and stiff, and the nuts averaging from three to five in each bur.

Mr. Andrew Fuller says of the Sober Paragon Chestnut, in the *Nut Culturist*, 1896: "Burs of immense size, often five inches and more in lateral diameter; distinctly flattened on the top, or cushion shape; large size, slightly depressed at the top, and usually broader than long; shell very dark brown, slightly ridged, and covered with a fine but not very conspicuous pubescence; kernel sweet, fine grained and of superior flavor. **Tree hardy, exceedingly precocious and**

November 8, 1907.


My Dear Sir:

I have your letter of November 6. I also have the crate of chestnuts. I wish to thank you, both for myself and for my little folks, who I am sure will greatly enjoy the nuts. I will give some to Secretary Wilson.

Very truly yours,

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Personal



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productive when grafted on strong, healthy stock, a four-year-old tree being loaded. This is one of the best of its class."

E. A. Sterling, in the Seventh New York State Report of the Forest, Fish and Game Commission, 1903, says: "**Undoubtedly the best variety for general planting produced up to date is the Sober Paragon.** The tree is hardy within the range of the native chestnut, ripening moderately early; in Central Pennsylvania, about October 1st, and **comes into bearing very young, and is exceeding prolific.** In fact, the young trees are such heavy bearers that they should be held back for two or three seasons by reducing the number of the burs.

"A not serious reduction of its many good qualities is the tendency of the burs to remain closed and fall to the ground with the nuts still retained. They open readily, however, if spread in the sun; hence the only detriment is a slightly additional cost of harvesting. It saves, on the other hand, however, the loss and difficulty occasioned by picking the nuts from the grass and debris beneath the trees. **The Sober Paragon can be safely recommended above all others.**"

Prof. Nelson F. Davis, of the Department of Biology and Zoology, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa., in transmitting Bulletin No. 128, State of Pennsylvania, devoted entirely to the Sober Paragon, says:

"The object of this Bulletin, No. 128, devoted exclusively to the Sober Paragon Chestnut, is to give to farmers and fruit growers the benefit of the knowledge which Mr. Sober has gained during his eight years' experience in cultivating the Sober Paragon Chestnut. No attempt will be made to give the history of the introduction of the cultivated chestnut into America, or to discuss the merits of the several varieties, such as the Numbo, Ridgely, Alpha, Reliance, Hall, or Parry. The Sober Paragon is recommended above all others, having produced the best results."

## THE SOBER PARAGON A MONEY MAKER

"An acre of land will grow 35 bushels of wheat in a year if properly cultivated. A like area of chestnut trees will produce many times as many bushels of equally nutritious food yearly for an indefinite period, and require no outlay for cultivation, replanting or fertilization; more than this, the spring frosts, beating rains and summer droughts, which are a constant menace to a wheat crop, work no injury upon the chestnut tree or its fruit. Why, then, is wheat grown on millions of acres, while we fail to produce even enough chestnuts to supply the demand of one merchant and allow Southern Europe to exact large tribute from us annually for the bitter and astringent nuts we import for consumption? With the exception of the occasional Thanksgiving turkey, stuffed with chestnut dressing, chestnuts in their many appetizing cooked forms seldom appear on the bill of fare of the American people; yet housewives are constantly complaining of the lack of variety in foods obtainable. Why not try chestnuts? If given a fair trial, the chestnut cannot fail to commend itself for general table use, and when once generally introduced, new uses for it will be found, and its valuable place among our food products be assured."

LEWISBURG, PA. Oct. 16, 1907.

Mr. C. E. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Dear Sir:--The "Sober Paragon" Chestnuts which we obtained from your farm in Irish Valley have been thoroughly enjoyed by us all. It seems to me they are unusually fine this year. I made several tests as to their quality and sweetness, comparing them with our native chestnuts, and I found that when cut into small pieces, so that we could not tell them by their looks, it was quite impossible to distinguish the one from the other. I consider the "Sober Paragon" equal to the native chestnut in quality and sweetness, and it certainly has the advantage in size.

Very truly,

*Nelson F. Davis*

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## CHESTNUTS AS FOOD

In America, we eat the nut after meals as a dessert, and between meals. We do not look upon the nut as a food. Chestnuts differ from most other nuts in that they contain less fat, and more carbohydrates, being also fairly rich in protein. When taken into the animal body, protein forms tissue, fats are stored as fats, carbohydrates are changed into fat, and the mineral matter (ash) aids in digestion and in forming bone, teeth, etc.

But on this subject we can not do better than to refer to Farmers' Bulletins, No. 142, United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. W. O. Atwater includes the chestnut, in giving the Principles of Nutrition and Nutritive Value of Food, in Bulletins Nos. 114 and 122.

## PRODUCTIVENESS

A five-year-old tree has borne 500 burs, 300 of which were removed and 200 allowed to mature. It is truly astonishing that so many burs will appear on so young a tree. The trees begin to bear when two or three years old, but should not be allowed to overbear.

The grafted trees grow rapidly and frequently set fruit the first year, bearing heavy loads of burs the second year. It is advisable to pick off all fruits for the first two or three years in order that the energy of the tree may be devoted to the production of a vigorous growth of wood and a well-established root system before reproduction begins.

While it is not expected that the crop will be full every year, Mr. Sober's orchard has never as yet had an "off year." He believes there is not an acre of farm land so valuable for other crops that in the end it would not pay infinitely better to give it up to the cultivation of the Sober Paragon Chestnut.



### PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRANGE

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

OFFICE OF MASTER, W. F. HILL

PENNSYLVANIA GRANGE NEWS,  
OFFICIAL ORGAN

CHAMBERSBURG, PA. NOV. 8, 1907

C. E. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

I am to-day in receipt of a sack of very fine Sober Paragon chestnuts sent me with your compliments. It was very kind of you to remember me in this substantial manner and I assure you that our whole family appreciate it very much. The chestnuts are of nice size, perfect, and after boiling about a quart of them we can testify to their good flavor. Again thanking you and with kindest personal regards, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

WFH/MSH

*W. F. Hill*

Master State Grange.

Messrs. Glen Bros.,  
Rochester, N. Y.

February 20, 1908.

Gentlemen:--We have yours of recent date, and thank you very much for the samples of the Sober Paragon chestnut which you sent. This should certainly be a valuable acquisition among our nut trees, for the chestnuts are not only large, but they are as sweet and tender as the small American nuts.

The writer was very much pleased with the samples you sent. I may say just here, that I really like chestnuts which have been dried in the way these samples were better than I do when the nuts are fresh, and I appreciated all the more the samples you sent.

At what prices can you furnish a couple of these trees, and are the bloom self fertile, so that no other variety is needed to fertilize the blossoms?

Dict-JMI  
Sten-JN.

Yours truly,  
THE FRUIT GROWER.

*James M. Irvine*  
Editor.

## LOCATION AND SOIL

In point of hardiness, it is all that could be desired. There are trees growing in the cold and Northern climes of Canada, and they have not been injured by the cold. No particular soil is necessary to grow chestnuts, but it should not be wet and heavy. Soil that will grow peaches or cherries will grow chestnuts.

The chestnut orchard is possible in almost any locality, but should be located on well-drained gravelly soil for best results. It succeeds well on rocky hillsides with soil of sufficient looseness and depth, and with either a northern or eastern exposure. It will thrive on rather poor land, but is slow and uncertain on stiff, clayey soils, although excellent results are reported from the California Station on heavy clays. In general, it is considered more important to have a thoroughly drained soil than soil of a particular character.

## RAPID GROWTH

Mr. Sober speaks of the rapid growth as follows: "I measured one graft that grew in one year, 54 ft. 10 in. of wood; this included the main stem and all the lateral branches, and the next season it bore three quarts of nuts. This tree was 17 months old when the nuts were taken from it. This graft was set May 1, 1906, and nuts ripened October 1, 1907."

## PLANTING DIRECTIONS

Transplanting can be done either in fall or spring. If done in the fall, it should be after the growth has ripened or ceased. During the winter, the dirt will have a chance to settle around the roots, and by spring the loss of root fibre

### ORANGE JUDD COMPANY

PUBLISHERS

THE ORANGE JUDD FARMER      AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST      NEW ENGLAND HOMESTEAD  
439-441 LAFAYETTE STREET, NEW YORK

Messrs. Glen Bros.,  
Rochester, N. Y.

February 19, 1908.

Dear Sirs:--I have just tested the sample of the new Sober Paragon Chestnut sent by you. Of course in mid-February one can hardly expect to have chestnuts in prime shape, and these were as hard as a brick. I ground them up, however, and found them to be very sweet; as sweet as any native chestnuts I ate during boyhood at this time of year. I have no doubt that when fresh they are delicious. Three of the samples you sent me were a trifle over an inch in the widest diameter, the largest nearly 1½ inches. They closely resemble the native Americans which I have known since boyhood and they do not have any of that puckery quality characteristic of some of the European varieties I have eaten. I have no doubt from this very imperfect acquaintances with the nut that it is a valuable variety.

Very truly yours,  
*M. G. Kains*

Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D. C.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY

November 26, 1907.

My Dear Sir:

I wish to again write you to say that everybody voted your chestnuts exceedingly fine, and to thank you most heartily for sending them.

Very truly yours,

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Personal



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will be partly made up. In spring, work should be done as early as possible, at least before the new growth begins.

There are numerous methods of planting, but in all the most important thing is to take care of the roots. They are very sensitive to sun and wind and should never be exposed long enough to be dried out. When the trees are unpacked, they should be handled as carefully as possible so that very few roots be broken. Wrap the roots in wet burlap or cover them with moist moss, or place them in thin mud. The trees may then be carried safely to the place of planting. If this is not done at once, they should be "heeled in." In planting, do not cramp the roots in any way, and see that the growing ends are down and not up. Place fine soil among the roots and pack it thoroughly; if sod has been taken out, turn it upside down on the ground, close to the tree. Young plants are sensitive to being planted too deep and so should not be deeper than they were in the nursery. When large roots have been broken or bruised, they should be cut off smooth with a sharp knife. Planting can not be done too carefully.

## CULTIVATION

Trees in the permanent orchard should be set not less than 30 feet apart each way. They are usually pruned to an open spreading form, with three to five main branches, and cultivation given similar to that of a young apple orchard.

## GATHERING OR HARVESTING THE NUTS

As the Paragon nut is slow in falling, and as it is desirable usually to gather the crop early in order to get the highest prices for the nuts, it is frequently, in fact, generally necessary to pick the burs from the trees by hand. A long pole, with a fork at the end, is used for this purpose, and is very successful while the trees are small. When the nuts are to be gathered from large Paragon trees, it may pay to wait a few days, as the heavy burs will soon fall. The collected burs are placed in the shade on a tight floor where they may be opened and the nuts

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A. C. FANNING  
TOWANDA, PENNSYLVANIA  
PRESIDENT JUDGE 42ND JUD DIST

Mr. Coleman K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

November 20, 1907.

Dear Mr. Sober:--Am in receipt of the sack of chestnuts. They are very fine and have attracted no little attention. I assure you the gift is appreciated. I feel like finding a suitable place and planting a quantity of your trees. Wishing you continued success and prosperity, I am,

Cordially yours,





SOBER PARAGON CHESTNUTS — NATURAL SIZE

SUSQUEHANNA COAL COMPANY  
MORRIS WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT

PHILADELPHIA, November 16, 1907.

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

My Dear Mr. Sober:

Kindly accept thanks for crate of Paragon Chestnuts. Never  
tasted any so good; they are certainly fine, and we are all  
enjoying them.

Sincerely yours,

*Morris Williams.*

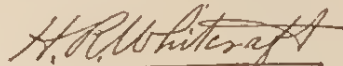


Nov. 9, 1907.

Mr. Coleman K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Dear Sir--Upon my return from a two weeks tour of Delaware, now half "dry", I found your bag of chestnuts on my desk. My wife and two boys think they are the finest nuts they ever ate and they join with me in thanking you for the gift. I hope to be able, some day, to see your wonderful farm.

Very sincerely,



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removed. They are then assorted and sold immediately. The prices range from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per bushel. Even at \$2.50 per bushel, they will pay better than wheat. The demand for them is so great that the two thousand bushels raised by Mr. Sober in the fall of 1907 were taken by one commission merchant and hundreds of others want them. The many letters in this leaflet from the most appreciative people in business circles, as well as those high in authority, will corroborate our statements.

## AN ORNAMENTAL TREE

Its beauty is unquestioned. Its rapid growth insures a smooth trunk. The foliage is a dark rich, waxy green, making it a stately tree for lawn or garden, along driveways and roadsides, and for parks.

## CHESTNUT CULTURE

Prejudice and lack of knowledge are among the factors which keep many from attempting the cultivation of the Chestnut, but with the advent of such a valuable and meritorious variety as the Sober Paragon, the American people will soon learn the value of chestnuts. Chestnut culture in the United States is in its infancy, but the demand for the larger nuts has stimulated their production, and we predict that the Sober Paragon, the only sweet large chestnut, will become the most widely planted tree of all and the most prized for the home. For orchard planting and for profit, its possibilities are unlimited. From Atlantic to Pacific, from North to South, its hardiness and adaptability to different climates insures entire satisfaction.

## ITS DEMAND

Our list of customers is already world-wide. Samples of nuts and a few specimen trees sent to the different countries of Europe are bringing us orders by every mail, many of them for public and private parks.

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N. B. CRITCHFIELD  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
HARRISBURG

November 3, 1907.

C. K. Sober, Esq.,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

My Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the package of "Sober Paragon Chestnuts" you sent me a few days ago, for which please accept my sincere thanks.

It has been my privilege to sample about all the varieties of chestnuts that are cultivated in a commercial way, and I have seen nothing that equals the "Sober Paragon." Its delicious flavor, added to its enormous size, makes it an extra fine nut for commercial purposes.

Again thanking you for the package, I am,

Very truly yours,



Glen Bros., Inc.,

Rochester, N. Y.

LOUISVILLE, KY. Feb. 20, 1908

Gentlemen:--We are in receipt of your favor of Feb. 17th and are also in receipt of the sample Sober Paragon chestnuts for which accept our thanks. This nut appears to us to have a special sweet and delicate flavor and we think it equal in every way to the small chestnut universally sold. Its size as well as richness should command for it a ready market, and we believe the Sober Paragon will prove a winner beyond question.

Dict. L.H.M.

Very truly yours,

HOME &amp; FARM.

HARVEST SCENE. (Reprinted from *Suburban Life*, April, 1908)**THE WILLIAMSPORT SUN**GOVERNMENT PLACE  
WILLIAMSPORT, PA.Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Nov. 8, 1907.

Dear Sir:--The Paragon Chestnuts from your North Valley grove are par excellence and they remind me, both in flavor and texture, of the chestnuts I gathered when a boy, though as roasters our very choicest nuts of those days could not compare with your Paragon. Their freedom from weevil was a delightful fact concerning them and we used a portion of the lot at a chestnut roast given at our home and the twenty-five or more persons present pronounced them the finest chestnuts they ever ate.

I will stand for the Sober Paragon every time.

Yours most cordially,

## THREE HUNDRED ACRES OF GRAFTED CHESTNUTS



Mr. William F. Gibbons visited the orchard in Paxinos, Pa., in the interest of "Suburban Life." His article appears in the April, 1908, issue, from which we quote.

**T**HE road led through a succession of rolling hills, where the thin, shaly soil was slipping down over the rocky out-crop. A stunted growth of scrub oaks and fireweed partly covered the ground. For the rest, there were charred stumps and stark, dead second-growth timber. On the bare,

scorched rocks were the whitened snail shells and the chitinous rings of centipedes which had perished when the flames destroyed the forest.

We were on our way to visit the farm of the man who has made a success of chestnut culture; but we were coming to his place by the back way across the mountain. "Is this the sort of land that is planted with a chestnut orchard?" I inquired.

The driver grew voluble. "This is the kind, and the more land of this kind a man's got, the poorer he is. \* \* \*"

The land looked bitterly poor, just the wild mountain land of the Atlantic slope; and there are square miles of it from the Carolinas to the St. Lawrence and beyond, for that matter—in both directions.

Out of four hundred acres of such land, of little value when he started to reclaim it twelve years ago, Mr. Sober now has three hundred acres of chestnut groves beginning to bear, with the rest of the tract coming on, and all growing yearly into greater value. The farm house is in the Irish Valley, seven miles from Shamokin, Pa.

Some of the first trees to be grafted, which made very rapid growth, became top-heavy with the weight of leaves and burs, after a few years, and broke down at the point where the graft had been inserted. To prevent this, the method known as "cleft" grafting was discarded, and he now uses the "whip" or "tongue" altogether. By this means a more perfect union between the stock and the scion is secured.

Harvest time at Chestnut Grove Farm comes about the 1st of October, the Paragon nut being a little slower to ripen than the native nut. When the burs have turned to a golden brown, they are shaken or knocked from the trees, loaded into great box wagons and hauled to the threshing floor. Here the burs are spread out in layers not over eighteen inches deep, where they soon crack open.

While the ordinary wild chestnut of commerce is a small and insignificant affair, the Sober Paragon nut averages far larger than any European variety grown in this country. Nuts as large as a fifty cent piece are common, and some that would cover a silver dollar can be found.

He has had orders for his nuts at prices ranging from five to twelve dollars per bushel, and now has standing orders for all he can raise at the former figure. Of last year's crop, two car-loads were bagged and sent to the State of Washington. Already this man has demonstrated that the most productive truck patch or wheat field on his own fine farm in the valley is a poor investment by the side of his chestnut groves.



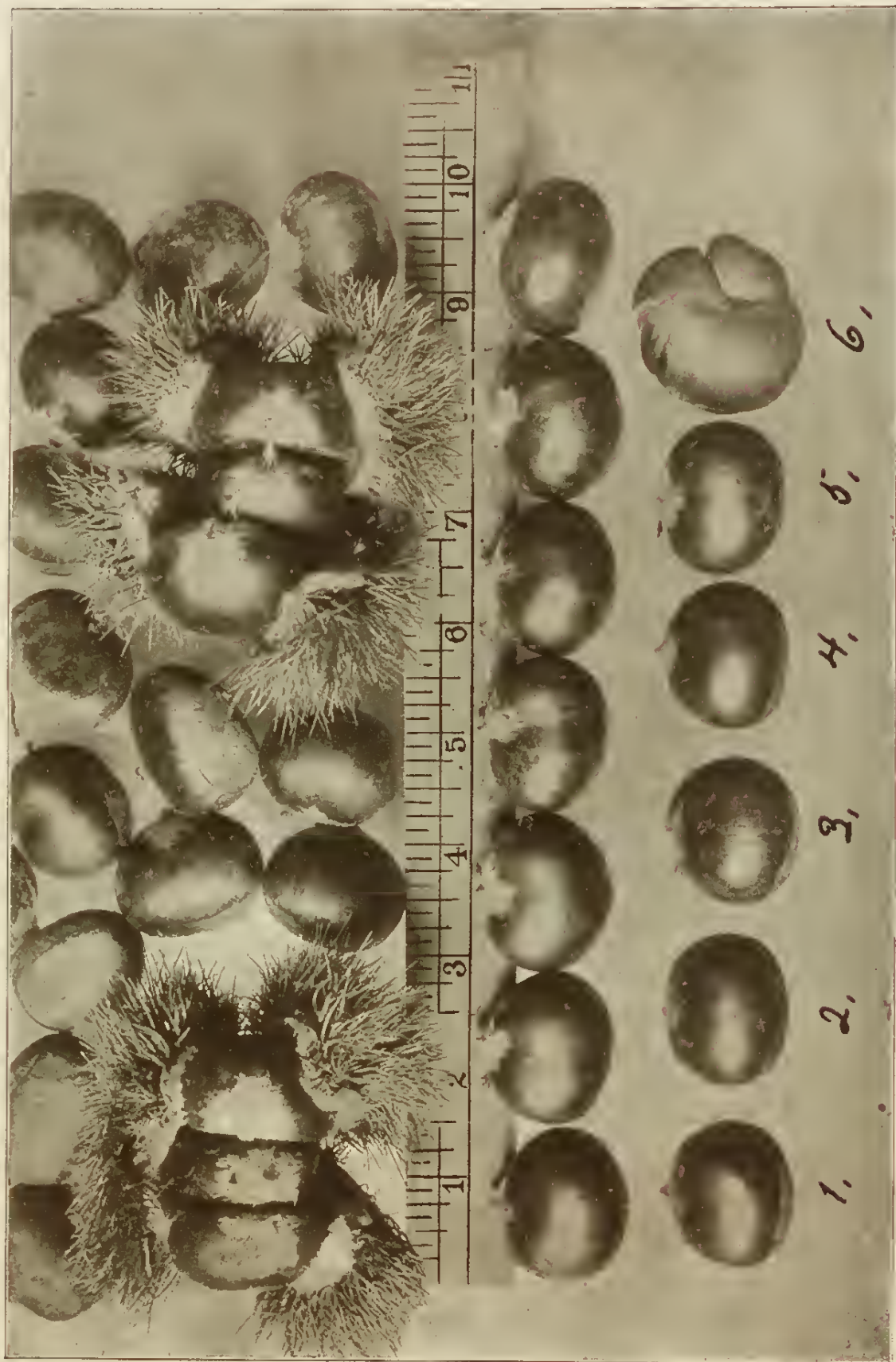
**We cordially invite you to visit the orchards  
at Paxinos, Pa., near Shamokin.**

*Glen Brothers*



Prof. N. F. Davis, Zoologist, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa., says:

"It is one of the most remarkable discoveries of this decade. I have observed the habits and characteristics of this variety very closely, and endorse it without reservation as being immensely productive, bearing one year from graft with nuts of fine quality, sweet and delicious."



Nuts 1 to 5 are covering 50-cent pieces. Nut No. 6 is covering a silver dollar. Seven nuts measure 10 inches

J. H. GAIL  
PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANT  
94 W. MARKET ST. & 153 MICHIGAN ST.

SUFFALO, N. Y. 2/8/08.

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

Dear Sir:--Referring to your valued favor of the 7th would say that we undertook the handling of your Sober Paragon Chestnuts with considerable reluctance, fearing that owing to their unusually large size they would be classed with foreign or Italian chestnuts. It is a pleasure to state that our fears in this particular were without foundation.

The trade took the Sober Paragon Chestnuts at prices ranging from 14¢-16¢ per lb., while the foreign chestnuts were selling at from 5¢-7¢ per lb. Our trade developed on the Sober Paragon Chestnut to such an extent that we were unable to secure enough to supply the demand. I hope another year that you will be able to supply us in much larger quantities than you have in the past.

With kindest regards and best wishes for your success, I remain,

Very truly yours,

ADJ/MJS

J. H. Gail

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### Questions Asked by Mr. Geo. H. Barrett, Saskatchewan, Can.

Do you think there is any chance of success with the Sober Paragon Chestnut in a climate that admits of fruits of kind described in letter, which also at times registers 60 degrees below zero? *Ans.* Will do well where cherries and apples will grow.

Will the trees do well on light, sandy soil? *Ans.* Yes.

How far apart should trees be planted? *Ans.* 30 feet.

Do they require Northern or Eastern or Southern exposure, or is it immaterial? *Ans.* Either, but do best here in Northern.

How long before the trees bear? *Ans.* Two to three years after planting.

When is the best time to plant? *Ans.* Either Fall or Spring.

Do they require any special condition or attention? If so, what? *Ans.* Same as any other orchard.

What are your prices for Scions in lots of 20, 50, and 100? *Ans.* Cannot supply Scions because we require all that can be safely taken from bearing trees for our own grafting.

Can you insure safe delivery at Prince Albert, Sask., Canada? *Ans.* Yes.

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REDFIELD & CO.  
GROWERS AND SHIPPERS OF THE  
FAMOUS "GAP-WAY" ORANGES AND GRAPE FRUIT

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
Lewisburg, Pa.

AUBURNDALE, FLA., Feb. 22, 1908.

Dear Sir:--Yours of the 7th has just reached me at my Florida home and in answer to your inquiry about your "Paragon" Chestnut am pleased to say that beyond all doubt it is THE BEST Chestnut on the market at the present time and is THE BEST money maker in its line. The writer has handled chestnuts of all kinds and from all over this and foreign countries (where they grow) for over thirty years on the Philadelphia markets, making a specialty of them during their season and I have taken particular notice that all of our best buyers prefer and take your "Paragon" Chestnut above all others and will not take the Italian or French chestnuts at any price as long as we have any of yours for sale, and I hope that the time will soon come when we can get enough to supply our rapidly increasing demand for the Sober Paragon Chestnut.

I thank you for your kind invitation to visit your groves and have promised myself this treat during the next summer or fall.

Believe me, very truly,

E. B. Redfield

**C. H. RINGGOLD**  
 COMMISSION MERCHANT  
 BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, GAME, POULTRY, &C.  
 310 SOUTH FRONT STREET

Mr. C. K. Sober,  
 Lewisburg, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 10, 1908.

Dear Sir:--Replying to your favor of the 7th inst., I wish to say that the chestnuts I have handled for you, grown from the "Sober Paragon Chestnut Tree" exceed anything in the line of chestnuts I have ever handled. I make a specialty of handling chestnuts during their full season, and I can truly say that no domestic or foreign chestnuts are to be compared with them. They are not too small, neither are they too large, and their superior quality, together with their being just the right size, commends them to the best class of buyers, and gives them precedence over all others, as best sellers at best prices.

Very truly yours,

*C. H. Ringgold*

## OUR FORTY-THREE YEARS' EXPERIENCE

We established our business in 1866, and point with pride to our record of new fruits introduced by us during the past forty years.

We were the first to introduce the large Montmorency cherry, and still have one of the four original trees in our garden. We introduced the Dikeman cherry, another magnificent variety and the only sweet cherry that will stand transportation.

We brought out the Columbian raspberry; also the Munger raspberry was of our origin and is to-day the only black raspberry worth planting.

The Niagara peach we originated, and it has never, since first planted, shown any traits of that bane of all peach-growers, the yellows. The Elberta peach was brought here by our late Mr. John G. Glen, from Georgia, and for years we controlled this variety. If we had never introduced anything but the Elberta, we would still feel that we were benefactors to all fruit-growers of America.

Comet Currants we discovered in England, brought home, and now lead all other currants on the market.

We were the first to offer the celebrated Victoria Gooseberry in this country, and have been the headquarters of this variety during the past three years.

We discovered the popular Crimson Rambler rose in England in the summer of 1893, brought it to this country, and have propagated and sold more than a quarter of a million.

We are now disseminating the Sober Paragon chestnut. It surpasses all chestnuts in point of merit. We were quick to see this and after the most careful investigation and experiments, secured the exclusive control and right to sell for the United States and all foreign countries. We endorse and recommend the Sober Paragon Chestnut without reservation.

Following is a copy of our agreement with the originator, Col. C. K. Sober:

C. K. SOBER  
 GAME COMMISSIONER

State Game Commission



LEWISBURG, PA.

January 17, 1908.

To Whom It May Concern:-

This is to certify that Glen Bros., Nurssrymen, of Rochester, N. Y., U. S. A., by agreement duly executed this 17th day of January, 1908, become the exclusivs sales agents and distributors, for the United States and all Foreign Countries, of the only sweet Sober Paragon Chestnut as propagated and grown by me.

The trade-mark accompanying each tree is a seal containing the words "SOBER PARAGON".

*C. K. Sober*



THE NATIONAL BANK OF ROCHESTER

STORVE NATHAN, President  
 WALTER B. DE WY, Vice President  
 ALBION W. HUNT, Cashier  
 EDWARD B. H. NEW, Treasurer  
 FREDERICK A. TAYLOR, Asst. Cashier  
 WILLIAM S. CARROLL, Asst. Cashier

ROCHESTER, N.Y. Sept. 15, 1906.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The firm of Glen Brothers, Nurserymen of this City, is one of the oldest in the country, having been established in 1866. The firm, we believe, to be perfectly reliable, with ample financial responsibility and personal attention to every branch of their business. We are confident that both their customers and their salesmen will be fairly and honorably dealt with.

Respectfully,

*Wm. S. Nathan*  
 President.

OUR GUARANTEE

Our seedlings are raised from true Sober Paragon nuts. The seedlings are allowed to reach the age of three years, before grafting, to insure a strong, vigorous constitution. They are then grafted from bearing trees. **A cheap tree could be marketed one or two years sooner, which would reduce the cost of production, but it would lack strength and robustness and would be dear at any price.** We spare no money or pains to give full value, and purchasers should remember that the **Sober Paragon is a distinct variety and cannot be procured elsewhere.**

WARNING

This is our Trade Mark and purchasers should refuse trees not bearing this seal as they are not genuine.



Copyrighted 1908

**T**O every Sober Paragon Chestnut Tree, when shipped, is attached a metal seal upon which is impressed the words "SOBER PARAGON," as illustrated herewith.

PRICES For Fall, 1909, and Spring, 1910

Standard Grafted Trees, 3 to 5 feet.

Single Trees	- - - - -	\$ 2 50
12 Trees	- - - - -	18 00
100 Trees	- - - - -	135 00

Packed free and delivered at depot.

Special quotations on larger quantities.

GLENN BROTHERS

Glenwood Nurseries

ROCHESTER, N.Y.

Exclusive Sales Agents and Distributors for the U. S. and Foreign Countries

PHILADELPHIA, November 5, 1907.

Hon. C. K. Sober.

Dear Sir: The box of big chestnuts arrived here safely last Saturday. They are excellent nuts and very much appreciated by my family and myself. I delivered the two sacks to Mr. Smith and Mr. Watts and they want me to thank you in their behalf as well as my own. We are all obliged to you and feel greatly interested in the continued success of your chestnut propagation.

With great regard, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*S. C. Will*



A TYPICAL BUR OF SOBER PARAGON CHESTNUTS - NATURAL SIZE.

JOHN B. CANCELMO  
WHOLESALE DEALER IN  
FANCY FRUITS  
202 DOCK STREET

Mr. C. K. Sober,

Lewisburg, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. Nov. 12, 1907.

Dear Sir:--Your letter of the 11th instant at hand and contents noted. I will be very glad to inspect your grove next September and trust we may be able to handle a large quantity of your nuts. We have bought on this market several crates of your nuts and resold them at a very nice profit, but we would prefer to receive them direct from the grower as then we could demand a better price, especially if we had the selling for Philadelphia. We have a number of customers throughout the United States who handle fancy chestnuts and we would like to handle your entire output.

Thanking you for your prompt response, we are,

Very truly yours,

*John B. Cancelmo*