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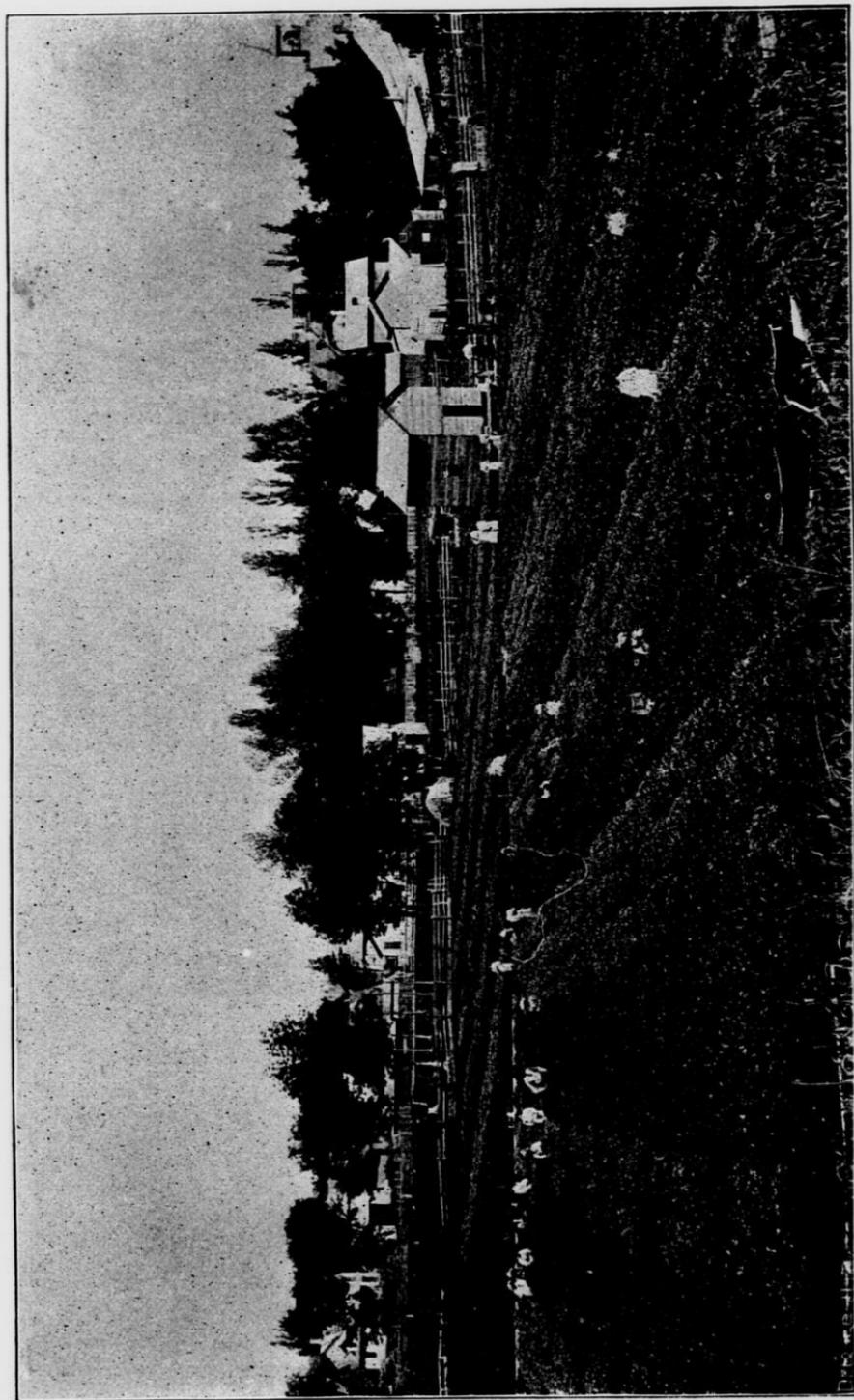
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The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. III.

JUNE, 1898.

NO. 4.

STRAWBERRY GROWING IN THE VALLEY OF THE WISCONSIN.

The illustration on the opposite page was made especially for this number of the Wisconsin Horticulturist. It shows a field of strawberries grown at Grand Rapids, Wis., by Nelson Pipin, on a piece of reclaimed swamp land. Five years ago this land was a mass of brush, logs and stumps. Now it is a beautiful field, drained by open ditches in which flows the purest of spring water. The soil is a deep black muck composed very largely of rotten wood.

From about two acres they picked and sold over 8,000 quarts of berries last summer, notwithstanding the fact that on the mornings of May thirty-first and June first there were severe frosts which damaged the crop from one-third to one-half.

These berries were all sold in the local markets of Wood County and averaged about sixty-five cents net per sixteen-quart case, after deducting cost of boxes and picking, making an income of over \$325.00 from the two acres. Where can you find two acres that beat that last year?

The varieties grown were Lovett, Warfield, Wilson and Crescent, with a very few Parker Earle, Eureka and Splendid. The Lovett was the most productive of all, with Warfield second. Wilson and Crescent will be discarded because of their small size and unproductiveness. Splendid seems a promising variety, being of the best quality and quite productive.

This property consists of four acres in all. The owner

having gone to Alaska for fields of greater promise, the little place is now offered for sale. For small fruit growing or celery culture it is one of the finest pieces of property in the State.

In a season when almost every strawberry grower in the country was complaining of low prices, these figures show that it pays to develop the local markets.

L. H. READ.

Grand Rapids, Wis.

THE CLEMATIS AT MADISON.

Prof. E. S. Goff, University of Wisconsin.

Before relating my little experience with the clematis, I must take time to batter down a sentiment that I heard expressed the other day by a friend who said he does not like the Jackman Clematis because "everybody has it." If what this man said were true, I would advise him to become a coal miner so that he would not be obliged to look at the things that other people can enjoy as well as he. If every house in Madison had a Jackman Clematis climbing over its piazza, Madison would be so much the more beautiful to me during the blooming season of this most attractive flower, and if every tree in the University campus were glorified during the commencement season with its magnificent purple vestments, I am sure that our graduate students would go forth with more of inspiration than they now do.

We have a vine of the Jackman Clematis on our side porch that is in bloom, more or less, from early June until October and I am only sorry that it cannot blossom the rest of the year and that the season of its richest glory is only three weeks long. We had another one, equally beautiful, but it stood too near the northeast corner of the porch where the icy winter winds sweep around with unusual rigor, and

in the spring of 1896 it failed to open its leaf buds. Of course we protect the plants during the winter, but the soil about this plant was evidently too deeply frozen. I am trying to grow another one in the same place and I shall profit by my costly lesson and give the roots extra covering in the future.

The Jackman Clematis and others of its class are subject to a blight, while the plants are young, that often destroys them. The plants appear to be growing well when suddenly the leaves turn black and the stems are found to be dead. I have seen scores of plants destroyed by this disease in the nursery and have lost two by it at my own house. I have never known a plant to recover when once attacked.

A few feet from the porch where the Jackman Clematis above alluded to is growing we have a vigorous plant of the upright virgin's bower, *Clematis recta*, which makes a brilliant display with its flowers in June. This is an herbaceous species, of which the stems do not climb. They grow upright to the height of three or four feet and are clothed the greater part of their length with their thickly-set, small, white flowers which, from their great number, are decidedly attractive. The stems should be trained upon a low trellis to keep from lopping over. This species appears to be hardy, though I am not sure of this, as I have always protected the roots until the past mild winter.

On another porch we have a plant of the native virgin's bower, *Clematis Virginiana*. Unfortunately our plant of this species is of the staminate sort and hence does not bear the seeds with their attractive plumose appendages that make the pistillate form of this plant so beautiful in autumn. This is the only species of clematis with which I am acquainted that has dioecious flowers. But even the staminate form is well worth growing. Its small white flowers are not without beauty and the perfect hardiness and vigor of growth that the plant manifests make it desirable for shading the side of a porch, or for covering some unattractive object.

FRUIT-LOVING BIRDS.

By John Burroughs.

I believe I have but one kind of fruit upon my place that the birds do not trouble—that is the currant. I have never known a bird to eat a currant, though one of these days I expect some bird will discover that currants, taken with the white mulberry, of which I usually have an abundant crop, are very good. The two go well together, as one is very sweet and the other very sour. But all other fruits the birds take their share of, and often very much more than their share. I have caught a humming-bird in the act of probing my finest peaches, and the robins and orioles often peck and bruise many of them. The oriole cuts and slashes the early pears, the Astrakhan apple, and the Sweet Bough. And as for grapes, there is no end to the number of grapes the oriole will destroy when it fairly gets a taste of them and enters upon its career of wine-bibbing. It becomes a regular debauchee of the vineyard and spends the whole day in its favorite dissipation. One season, out of a crop of about four tons of Concord grapes, three or four orioles in less than a week destroyed over two tons. They worked the vineyard from one end to the other, on the upper wire and on the lower, taking the bunches in regular order, and in some cases puncturing every grape on a cluster. They take but a drop, probably less than a drop, of juice from each berry, but the stab which they give with that stiletto of a beak, ends the life of the fruit; it soon withers and rots or dries up. When I discovered what was going on I took my gun and remonstrated with some emphasis. It was impossible to take the birds in the very act as the leaves would hide them; but when one flew from the vines and was killed and the grape juice ran from its mouth, I wanted no better proof. The robin tears and mutilates the grape; but the oriole makes a clean puncture. The bird is very shy and stealthy when working the vineyard, and you must be equally so to catch him at it. Grape growers in my vicinity have

felt compelled for several seasons to wage a merciless war upon the oriole, to save their early grapes. Passing through my vineyard one day I was startled by the harsh, chiding note of an oriole in a vine near me. On approaching the spot the bird fluttered out and, still scolding, made its way through the fence. It was an oriole I had winged the day previous. Being unable to fly it had climbed into the vines and was taking its revenge by destroying all the grapes it could reach.

But the cherries—here is where the struggle to get your share of the fruit is the most exasperating. The cherry is beloved by many birds; it comes early; it is conspicuous, and it is easily destroyed. The cedar bird is on hand in flocks a week before it has turned, waiting for it; and the robins, cat-birds and orioles are equally eager for the first taste of it. I have resorted to several devices to save my cherries, or a part of them—I would be quite content with half—and only last year did I succeed. Rags and flags and old hats and coats are among the devices that early lost their efficacy with me. A friend recommended a strap of sleigh bells, and a boy with a string to jingle it; not having the sleigh bells I tried the dinner bell, not to call *to* the feast this time, but to call *from* the feast. The bell was suspended in the tree, and a string attached to its handle run to the kitchen window. It worked very well while we were all fresh and the birds were fresh too. Its sudden, sharp stroke was a great surprise to them, and they would hurry away as if they had been shot at. But after a while the bell-string got neglected, the robins grew bolder, the cherries grew sweeter, and we played a losing game. In the early morning especially did the birds get the best of us; they had cherries for their breakfast, but we had to go without. Then the clatter of the bell at all hours of the day was not pleasant. The neighbors thought our bees were perpetually swarming.

The next season I put a stuffed owl up in one of the trees. But this trick did not save the cherries. It created

a great scandal among the birds all about, and I think they came for miles to see and to abuse that staring owl. The fruit suffered more than ever. The spice of danger made them relish, while our ears were perpetually bruised by the hubbub the scandalized birds kept up. I finally took the owl down and let the cherries go.

The past season I covered the trees with an old shad net which a fisherman gave me, and we had cherries to sell. The birds were circumvented for once, and my morning nap was not disturbed by anxiety for my oxhearts. These shad nets are made of fine thread, are about sixteen feet wide and any length you please. How to get it upon the tree was a problem. With long slender poles three of us lifted up the end and carried it in the air about twenty-five feet high, then approached the tree and dropped it as far over the top as we could, cutting off the net at the ground. Then another piece was spread upon the tree, and so on till it was covered by two thicknesses of the net. The tree looked as if enveloped in a great spider's web. We awaited results with much interest. Soon a robin came, and finding something had happened to the tree, he hardly knew what, he glanced off into another tree where he alighted much puzzled. Then some cedar birds came and were going to dive straight into it, when they were suddenly brought up by this threatening-looking web barring the way. They hovered about it, trying to alight upon this limb and then upon that, and not succeeding, took up their positions in the surrounding trees, and stretched up their necks to see what was the matter. But before the day was spent, both cedar birds, robins and cat-birds had found their way into the tree at points that were imperfectly covered. Not till the third attempt did we succeed in stopping every entrance. And then the cat-bird would come in at the bottom, and if left alone would go out at the bottom with her cherry; but if we made a rush for her she would often lose her presence of mind and get entangled in the net. Indeed, the cat-bird proved to be the most cunning thief we had to deal with.

When the net was brought together and tied around the trunk of the tree under the branches, she would still occasionally effect an entrance at some imperfectly guarded point. She evidently studied the problem; she matched her wit against our wit. I think there was one bird that learned that, by closing her wings at the right moment, she could go through an open mesh of the net and not get entangled. I saw her go out and in the tree many times, and she appeared to dart through the net with wings tightly shut. But many were the cat-birds that got hung, and many the robins and many the cedar birds. Indeed, though we saved our cherries, it was at the expense of a good deal of quiet and peace of mind. "Run J," or "run C, there is a robin in the net," or "a cedar bird in the net," and this many times during the day. And they always got so hopelessly entangled that a large hole had to be cut in the net to get them free. The robins would scream and struggle and fight as you reached to help them, and it required a good, hard farmer's hand to stand their beaks. One day a purple finch got caught, and as I was liberating him he nipped my hand with that short, heavy beak of his so sharply that I was near dropping him. The purple finch is not much of a cherry eater, and I was sorry this one came to grief.

The cedar birds, or wax wings were the most frequently caught, and of all the birds we had to deal with these showed the least wit. I have always looked upon this bird as inferior to our other birds in mental development. It has less character, less versatility. It has no song, and is limited to one single call note. It is pre-eminently a wild bird in the sense that it seems untouched by the influence of man. It has a small brain. If the birds emerged from the fishes or reptiles, then this species was among the last to emerge. What a wild, frightened look it can put on. Approach it while it is upon its nest and it will stretch up its neck and depress its plumage till its flattened head suggests that of a snake or other reptile. I took one from the net one day, and after sitting with it for some minutes in my closed hand, gradually opened my hand till it sat free

in my palm. It kept its eye upon me with outstretched neck and frightened look, but made no effort to escape. I expected the slightest movement on my part would break the spell and away it would go; but it did not. I lowered my hand to my knee, then shifted my position in my chair. Still the bird kept its place. The tableau finally grew tiresome. I made another move; but the bird moved not. Five or six minutes elapsed, and I had about made up my mind to toss it into the air, when some bird darted past, and awoke the wax wing from its dream. Away it went like a flash, and was probably back in the net again before night. It would not have taken any other of our birds more than a few seconds to have discovered that it was free.

The price of cherries with me is either the shot-gun or the net. Of the two I prefer the net. In the vineyard I have as yet discovered no remedy but the gun.—The Independent.

A NEW STRAWBERRY.

ED. WISCONSIN HORTICULTURIST:—

We have a new strawberry here on the Lake Shore called the "Oberst Jessie," which is worthy of the attention of the Horticulturist.

It is larger than the old Jessie, firmer and about four times as prolific. I have fruited it the three past seasons, and this season have several acres and grow no other kind. Bubach, Gandy, Crescent, Parker Earle, Warfield and other fashionable kinds all went down under the furrow last year.

Although prices were low last year, I made a handsome profit on several hundred cases of the Oberst Jessie. They were large and solid enough to pour out on the table, sort and pack; were taken from the boat in Chicago and put on the I. C. R. R. and were not affected by the glut on South Water street.

I enclose leaf and blossom. The leaf is rust-proof and

the blossom perfect. I believe this to be the best market berry on the continent. Twelve berries to a full quart is not uncommon where people select from a day's picking.

Yours truly,

Racine, Wis.

B. R. BONES.



ABOUT THE LIND CENTER APPLE.

ED. WISCONSIN HORTICULTURIST:—

Never saw such a prospect for fruit in my life. Blossoms are very large, profuse and strong. No signs of frost as yet, and an abundance of moisture in the ground to insure a full set. I have nearly 2000 apple trees, 200 cherry trees and 25 plum trees in full bloom, and three acres of strawberries setting finely.

Thousands of trees and many acres of small fruits have been planted in this section this spring.

Regarding the Lind Center apple trees that Secretary Philips inquired about in the last issue of the Horticulturist, I will say that the tree originated at Lind Center in Waupaca County, from seeds planted by one Calvin Parker or A. M. Mickelson. The original tree is some twelve or fifteen years old, and a very beautiful, symmetrical tree. It seems to be perfectly hardy and not susceptible to blight, and fruits every year. The fruit is so exactly like the Longfield (with the exception that it is all of three times as large) that many people call the apples extra large Longfields. The flavor and texture of the fruit is exactly like the Longfield, and it will keep about the same length of time, and resembles it so much that I have changed the name of this variety from Lind Center to Lindfield, which locates the variety and describes the fruit. I am delighted with its behavior so far, and it is a remarkable grower. Two-year-old nursery trees of this kind will average in size with ordinary three-year-olds, and some of them fruit in four years from the root graft and all of them in five or six years, and

bear every year. They do not overload, hence their size.

I believe this to be one of Wisconsin's grandest productions of seedling apple-trees. I will be glad to distribute a few cions this fall to painstaking planters, free of charge to those who will grow them on trial. Will have trees to sell at a fair price.

A. D. BARNES.

Waupaca, May 21, 1898.

THINNING APPLES.

The following is from a report of the Massachusetts Hatch Experiment Station:

A tree each of Gravenstein and Tetofsky apples was thinned on July 1st, and a similar tree of each variety left unthinned as a check. In case of the Gravenstein the yield on the thinned and unthinned trees, respectively, was first quality fruit, 9 bushels and 2½ bushels; second quality fruit, 1 bushel and 2½ bushels; windfalls, 9½ bushels and 10½ bushels. In case of the Tetofsky the thinned tree gave 1 bushel of windfalls, and the unthinned tree 3 bushels; of second quality fruit the yield was one-half bushel from each tree; and of first quality the thinned tree yielded 2 bushels and the unthinned none at all. It is thought that the results would have been more pronounced if the thinning had been done two weeks earlier. The large percentage of windfalls in case of the Tetofsky was believed to be largely due to the fact that the apples have very short stems and are borne in clusters of from three to eight fruits each, so that as they grow they become very much crowded. With trees having this characteristic, therefore, the thinning is especially valuable.

Visitor—How does the land lie out this way? Native—It ain't the land that lies; it's the land agents.—Phila. Record.

STRAWBERRY POINTERS FROM J. H. HALE.

It is better not to know very much than to know a lot of things that are not so; and the longer I grow strawberries the more I am convinced that the strawberry is a berry that we know very little about. It's a fickle thing, and keeps one guessing all the time what it is going to do next. To lay down absolute rules of strawberry culture and expect like results to follow in every case will surely lead to disappointment. Strawberries of one variety or another will grow and fruit on about every acre of tillable land in America, but the fellow who attempts to grow Parker Earle, Gandy or Bismarck on sandy plain land will get about as much profit and comfort out of it as he would to go into the Klondike gold regions with a linen suit and a jack o'lantern; while planting Tennessee, Haverland or Clyde, on stiff, hard clay would only be one more attempt at the North Pole. Don't plant any variety of strawberry just because it looks well, or because some one says it's profitable, unless you know it belongs to a type of strawberries that thrives on your soil.

It is a good plan to test all promising varieties, but let the main plantings be of home-tried and tested ones, always remembering, however, that under present average conditions of propagation and culture, most varieties deteriorate very rapidly, and the fresh blood of new varieties is what fills a majority of the baskets and brings most profit. Ninety per cent of the best family and market strawberries of today were unknown ten years ago, and 50 per cent are new within five years.

Healthy boys and strawberry plants get their appetites out of the same mill, and are big feeders; give them all they can hold. For the strawberry, well decomposed stable manure, supplemented by potash, is a good feed, if liberally dished out; or from 15 to 20 pounds per square rod of a high grade fruit and vine fertilizer, or a like amount of a mixture five parts bone, two parts muriate of potash and one part nitrate of soda.

You may plant strawberries any month in the year

when the ground is not frozen, but least trouble, less expense and surest and most profitable results come from early spring planting. The matted-row system is best for the farmer. The hill system, 20,000 plants per acre, gives greatest yield of finest berries. Yes, it costs more.

Cut off blossoms as fast as they appear the first season of planting; to leave the blossoms and let them fruit weakens the plant and seriously curtails next season's crop. Cultivate thoroughly and often to make strong plants with heavy fruit crowns, for next season's harvest. The better part of the June strawberry must be stored up in the plant earlier than the October preceding its maturity. The red rust, often so destructive to the foliage of many varieties as to reduce the crop 50 to 90 per cent, can be checked by spraying with Bordeaux mixture once or twice in September or October, and again two or three times in early spring before fruitage. Give the first spring application as soon as growth begins.

A whisk broom will answer as a sprayer in the small family plot, while in the field the spray pump is best.

Mulching of some sort is desirable over the beds after the ground is frozen in the fall, and except by removing that directly over the crowns of the plant in early spring, it is best to let it remain on the ground up to and during fruitage, for it serves the double purpose of keeping ground moist and free from weeds and the fruit clean.—Our Horticultural Visitor.

CULTIVATION.

“Stirring the soil properly is the keynote to success in fruit growing. Few farmers plow their lands properly, care should be exercised, and the entire strip of soil turned over. To do this you cannot plow too wide a furrow. Cultivation of the crop should begin early in a thorough manner, and continue through the season. Stir the soil fre-

quently, and with fine-toothed implements, cultivators with the smaller teeth and the new weeders are the best tools to use. The idea should be to stir every particle of soil, thus covering the surface with a fine dust mulch which is of benefit alike in drought and in wet seasons."

J. H. HALE.

"J. C. Eddy, a large strawberry grower, says he begins the use of a weeder, of the Breed pattern, as soon as the plants are set and keeps it going through the season. At the last cultivation when the runners become troublesome, a cultivator is used, going in the same direction through the rows at each cultivation. The new weeders have reduced the cost of cultivation of the strawberry nearly one-half."

DOOR COUNTY FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association was organized last year. The members of the Association own about 40 acres of strawberries, and expect to ship the fruit of from 10 to 20 additional acres owned by outsiders. The Association has its headquarters at Sturgeon Bay. A. W. Lawrence is President, and A. L. Hatch of Sturgeon Bay, the Business Manager.

Following is their

CONSTITUTION.

Sec. 1. This organization shall be known as the Fruit Growers' Association, of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., and its object shall be to advance the interest of fruit growers in Door and Kewaunee counties.

Sec. 2. Any person of good moral character engaged in growing one-half acre or more of fruit for market shall be eligible to membership. Any application for membership may be accepted by a two-thirds vote of a quorum present at any meeting. All members not stockholders shall pay an annual fee of 50 cents.

Sec. 3. The capital stock of this organization shall

consist of fifteen shares of five dollars each, one dollar of which shall be paid at the time of organizing and election of officers. No person shall hold more than one share of stock. The expenses and liabilities shall be pro rated among all shipments by all shippers. No stock shall be transferred except by permission of a majority of all stockholders.

Sec. 4. The officers shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and a board of seven directors, of whom the president and secretary shall constitute two members. The officers shall each perform the duties usual to such offices. Stockholders only shall be eligible to office.

Sec. 5. The meetings of this organization shall be at 7:30 o'clock p. m. on call of the president, all members being duly notified. The first meeting of each calendar year shall be the regular annual meeting.

Sec. 6. The officers of this association shall be elected by ballot at the regular annual meeting and shall hold their offices one year or until their successors are elected.

Sec. 7. Vacancies that may occur by resignation, removal or other cause, may be filled by election at the next regular meeting.

Sec. 8. Not less than two-thirds of the stockholders may elect officers and transact business, and a majority vote shall be required. Five members shall constitute a quorum of the board of directors.

Sec. 9. The board of directors shall hold a regular annual meeting not less than three days before the annual meeting of this organization and such other meetings as may be necessary. At the annual meeting they shall make a full settlement of all business affairs of this association. The vice-president shall act instead of any director with whom the board makes settlement. They shall have charge of the business of the association and employ a competent person to act as business manager and fix his compensation. All bills shall be presented to and audited by the board of directors.

Sec. 10. The secretary, treasurer and business mana-

gers shall each make full and complete reports of all transactions of their offices at the regular annual meeting of the directors and the board shall make from them a report to the association at its regular annual meeting setting forth fully the condition of the business affairs of this organization.

Sec. 11. Any member may be expelled from the association at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of a quorum, but no member shall be expelled without first having had a full hearing on the matter complained of.

Sec 12. This constitution may be amended or changed by a two-thirds vote of all the stockholders constituting a quorum present at any regular meeting.



THE FASHIONABLE VEGETABLE.

At present celery is rising to the top of the wave of popularity. There is good reason for the change. It is a fine appetizer raw, it is a delicious vegetable when boiled, steamed, fried or baked. It makes an admirable soup and a superior salad. When old it has medicinal virtues, being an active nervine. The seeds dried and pulverized make celery salt, and this, mixed with powdered pepsin, makes an invaluable remedy for many kinds of dyspepsia. The root, which most Americans foolishly throw away, when washed and boiled is a very wholesome and palatable dish. The pale green, yellowish tips are fine ornaments for garnishing meats and salads, and to cap the climax, the chemist now extracts from the plant several new medicines of great efficacy.—Exchange.



He was a farmer's boy and very little. His father was pulling off his stockings one evening, preparatory to going to bed, when his mother asked, "Freddy, what is father doing?" Freddy had witnessed the treatment of ripened corn and replied: "He's husken' his feet.—Worcester Chronicle.

SWEET ODORS AND OZONE.

Our chemical and medical friends long since decided that the human system was liable to be injured by bad smells. It is only natural that a converse statement should now be made, to the effect that "sweet odors" are actually beneficial, as well as agreeable to the olfactory nerves. At least a learned Italian claims to have satisfied himself that cherry, laurel, cloves, geranium, lavender, mint, juniper, lemon, lemon verbena, fennel, sage and bergamot exercise a healthy influence upon humanity by converting the oxygen into ozone, and thus increasing its oxidizing influence. In the perfumes just mentioned there is a large quantity of ozone. Among those which he also favors as of aid in this manner, but in a lesser degree, are anise, nutmeg and thyme. Among flowers that are medicinally qualified are the hyacinth, mignonette, lily of the valley—all of which have ozone in inclosed vessels.—Good Housekeeping.

✽

"Hurrah, hurrah for Dewey, boys,
And all the Yankee tars, sir,
Who sailed into Manila's bay
Beneath the stripes and stars, sir.

What did Yankee Dewey do?
Yankee Dewey dandy!
Yankee Dewey downed the Dons,
And did it mighty handy."

✽

"When I grow up," said little Jack to his father, "I'm going to be just like you, Papa." "That's sweet of you to say," said his father. "Well, I mean it," said Jack. "What a snap you do have with Mamma around to wait on you."—Harper's Bazar.

A PAGE FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

"Examinations are the fashion just now. Not to be behind the times, let us have an "examination" this month—an examination in Geography and History! Who can locate all the places named in this bit of "war poetry?" Who was "Old Hickory Jackson?" In what war did he win fame? Cause of the war? duration? results?

"Old Hickory" was renowned for bad spelling as well as good fighting. It is said that he used to write the letters O. K. for "All Correct," on papers brought for him to sign.

IN OLD HICKORY'S STATE.

'Way down at Chickamauga, in good old Tennessee,
The regulars and volunteers will soon assembled be;
They'll camp upon historic ground—and won't it just be
great

To see 'em start to Cuba from Old Hickory Jackson's state?
Attention, Americans! Line up all proud and straight,
For you'll soon be sent to Cuba from Old Hickory Jackson's state!

The Dons themselves may recollect Old Hickory Jackson's name,
For he licked 'em down in Florida and covered 'em with shame.

So maybe they will understand why now we jubilate
At the thought of starting for 'em from Old Hickory Jackson's state.

Attention, Americans! You won't have long to wait,
Ere you march away to Cuba from Old Hickory Jackson's state.

Don't you hear the bugles calling? They're sounding clear and strong

As down to Chickamauga our new army sweeps along;
It's a glorious procession, for no man would be late
When the cry's "On to Havana!" from Old Hickory Jackson's state.

Attention, Americans! And strike a winning gait
When you march away to Cuba from Old Hickory Jackson's state.

—St. Louis Republic.

HIRING LABOR.

Employ less labor. We very much dislike to give such advice. But unless you can pay hired help with the same average number of bushels and pounds of farm products that you did before the depression, then do not hire it. Produce what you can by the labor of yourself and family and let the rest go. If one chief cause of present low prices is over-production, as asserted, this will help check it.—Ohio Farmer.

It must be noted that the suggestion is not that the amount of labor be curtailed unconditionally, but at present prices. It is an ungracious thing to say to laboring men that they get too much for their labor, and one need not say this; the statement is that the wage bill takes a larger portion of crops produced than the farmer is able to give.

Having three tenant houses on my farm, it has been my practice to employ married men as hands. In such cases one feels some responsibility, and where this is true it may be met by supplying the men with more land in order that their families may be sure of a sufficiency to eat, even if the amount of labor is reduced or wages are made lower. The farm laborer should not be compelled to get his living out of a grocery store. His table may be abundantly supplied from a small area of land, and he can afford to pay a fair rental for this land. The employer is not hurt, and the family is so insured against actual want that the employer is not conscience-stricken when he puts his scale of wages on a business rather than a charitable basis, and determines that he will either pay only what he can afford to pay or else plan for less labor.

Then he should be brave enough to pay his most intelligent, capable and interested hand all he earns, and pay the indifferent only what they earn. The best hands are often driven from the farms because employers suppose that they dare not make a difference in wages of men working

side by side. Justice often demands that a difference be made.—Farmer's Home.

How is it that growers do not combine to reduce the harvesting expenses? Thirty-six cents per twenty-four quart case is the average price paid, and is more than the picker's share at prevailing prices for four seasons past.—Our Horticultural Visitor.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

TO THE WISCONSIN HORTICULTURIST:—

There are probably 80 acres of berries near here to fruit this season. Strawberries promise a fine crop now, from one-half to two-thirds have bloomed.

All fruit trees show a great crop of bloom. Apples still in bloom as they have been more or less for two weeks at least. This long drawn out blooming time is characteristic of this climate and enables trees to throw vigor into the fruit forming that probably goes far to insure crops. Mr. Zettel says he always gets fruit if he has bloom upon his trees.

In our own orchard we have good showing of bloom on trees four and five years planted, and especially so on plums, pears and cherries. Our Burbank plums are a sight to see, the little plums now forming all over the trees, while Willard and Abundance show nearly half as large as peas. Early Richmond, Wragg, Montmorency and all sour cherries are cropped from deck to hold, while our sweet cherries of several kinds have fine crops of fruit on them,—of course very small yet but abundant in numbers.

We enlarged our planting this spring about as follows: American Plums, 400 trees; Cherries, 700 trees; Raspberries, 4 acres; Strawberries, 5 acres. We now have about 12 acres of Strawberries, one-half to fruit this season.

Yours cordially,

Sturgeon Bay, June 2.

A. L. HATCH.

TO THE WISCONSIN HORTICULTURIST:—

There is a good prospect for fruit of all kinds here. We have had some light frosts but not hard enough to injure anything except Cherries, which I think the frost has injured some. I wish to ask my brother horticulturists if they have their crates and boxes, etc., all ready for the berries. It will be but a short time now till strawberries will be ripe and then the raspberries and then it will be all hurry. Get everything in readiness that you can beforehand. I find rainy days a good time to do it. The prospect is for not very high prices for berries, and we must organize and work together instead of cutting each other on the prices. Give good measure and put in nothing but sound fruit; have nice, clean boxes and be gentlemanly with everybody, whether you make a sale to him or not.

Our local society intends to hold a Chrysanthemum show this fall. Everybody come and we will make it a success.

I have already commenced to book orders for the Bangor Blackberries for another year. I shall endeavor to have some at Appleton so people can see just what they are.

Adieu, for fear of the waste basket.

THOS. TANNER.

Omro, June 7, 1898.

THE NURSERY AND FRUIT FARM OF F. C. EDWARDS.

As the result of a special request made at our winter meeting, we are enabled to give our readers a little account of what Mr. Edwards is doing.

On the south side of the city of Fort Atkinson he has about twenty acres entirely devoted to the production of trees and plants of nearly every sort raised in this latitude, besides fourteen acres more in preparation for sundry objects. Mr. Edwards follows quite closely the line of thought given in his paper last winter, namely, that nur-

sery men and fruit men should do "general farming" to the extent of raising enough potatoes, vegetables and grain to supply their own table and feed their stock, and have a surplus to sell.

Two miles east of Janesville he owns and operates a forty-acre farm. On this are four acres of Cuthbert raspberries, one-eighth acre black raspberries, four acres of strawberries, one acre of blackberries, one acre of asparagus, and some grapes, currants and gooseberries, making a total of about twelve acres in small fruits. Eight to ten acres are devoted to potatoes and vegetables of all sorts. The surplus products of these acres are all sold in the city of Janesville. This farm is a red, sandy loam, beautifully situated in sight of the city. The balance of it is used for corn, clover, pasture, &c.

Mr. Edwards calculates to give one-third of his attention to growing small fruits of all kinds, one-third to growing ornamental trees, shrubs, roses, climbing vines, &c., and the other third to growing fruit trees and shade trees.

At Fort Atkinson he has, for fruit production, about an acre and a half of Schafer's Colossal, three-fourths acre of Columbian, one-fourth acre of Loudon. Of Older, Kansas, Ohio, Gregg, Hilborn and Palmer, about three acres; Cuthbert two acres; Marlboro one-eighth acre; Turner one-eighth acre; currants, Victoria, Red Dutch, white grape, cherry, Fay's prolific, Prince Albert, long-bunch Holland, &c., two and one-half acres; gooseberries one-half acre, mostly Downing; grapes, one-eighth acre of leading sorts; strawberries—Warfield, Wilson, Crescent, Haverland, Jessie, Bubach and about twenty-five other sorts—six acres. The balance of this twenty acres is devoted to the culture of two or three hundred varieties of plant and tree life.

Mr. Edwards has also embarked in the bee business on a small scale.

APPLES IN ABUNDANCE.

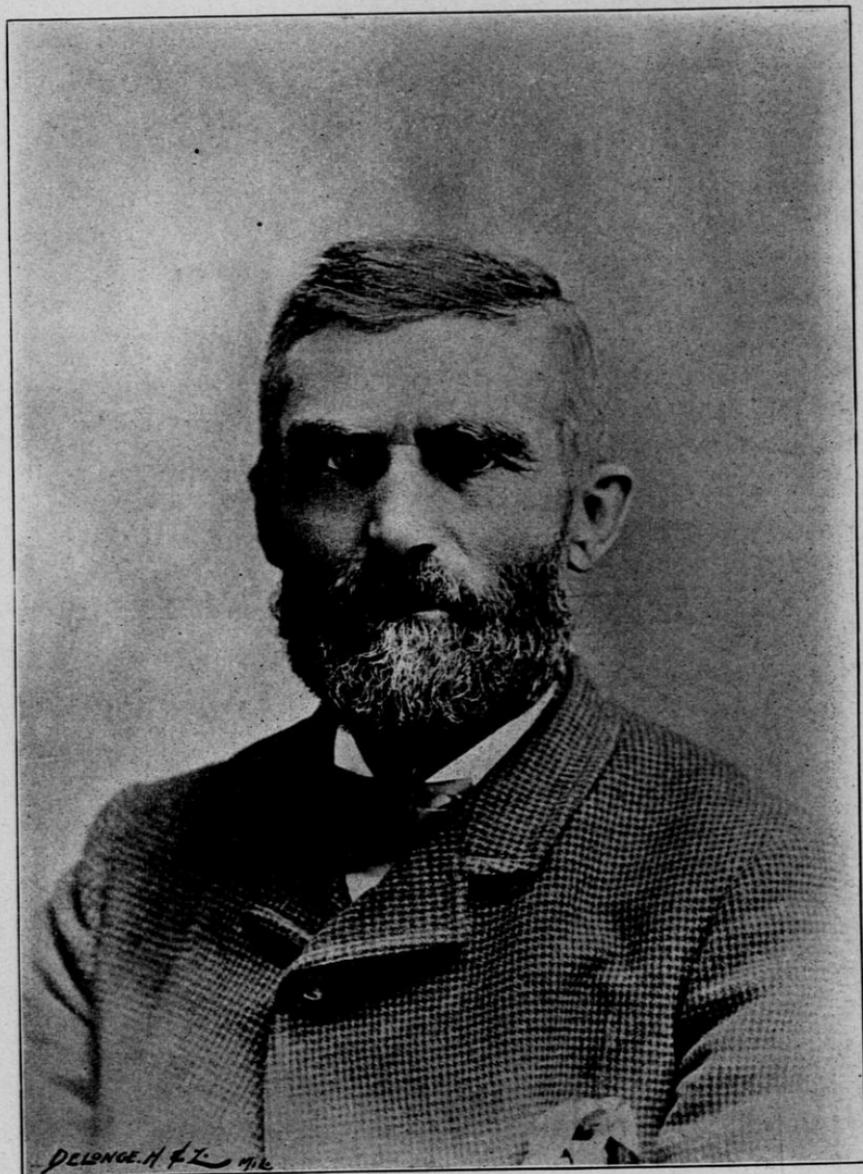
Hon. Chas. Hirschinger, who for more than a quarter of a century has been running a successful nursery southwest of Baraboo, was in the city yesterday, and being asked the question as to the prospects for a good apple crop, remarked that during all his experience here the prospects for a big crop were never better. Not only is the prospect for apples good but for cherries and small fruits as well. Mr. Hirschinger has an orchard of 28 acres, besides his nursery and smaller fruits, all of which are in first-class shape. Two years ago he had 6,000 bushels of as fine apples as ever grew in Wisconsin, and it is probably the remembrance of this big harvest that causes him to desire to sell his nursery and orchard and retire from the business, providing he can dispose of it within thirty days, for after that time it is necessary to commence getting ready to take care of the fruit. Mr. Hirschinger has built up a very successful business in the fruit and nursery line and this would be an excellent chance for some young man to step in and continue a prosperous business.—Baraboo Republic, May 18.



HOW LATE MAY WE CUT ASPARAGUS?

You ought to have stopped cutting it the first of June. If you failed to do that, *stop now*. The roots of the asparagus, like other roots, require a strong and healthy growth of foliage to give them vigor. Continue to cultivate at frequent intervals as long as the horse and cultivator can pass between the rows without breaking the stalks. The practice of mowing off the tops during the summer is injurious. The tops should be allowed to remain until killed by frost, no matter how rampant their growth.

Before the seeds ripen go through the bed with a pruning hook or knife and cut out the seed-bearing stalks, as it weakens the plant to be allowed to ripen seed.



JOHN L. FISK, Omro, Wis.

IN MEMORIAM.



Another pioneer of horticulture, Mr. J. L. Fisk of Omro, has been laid away to rest.

Those who have never been entertained at his lovely home will hardly realize the life work of that painstaking and persevering man. It would take an abler pen than mine to describe the beauty of his grounds and the care exercised in laying them out,—the fine evergreens, the luxuriant shrubbery and the beautiful flowers, including nine varieties of seedling paeonies which he himself originated. Hours could be spent by a lover of flowers in examining and admiring his beautiful specimens.

Then a visit inside of his home was worth miles of travel. The ingenuity of his sons, and the pains they took when traveling in the South and West to collect and send to their father rare specimens of nature's work, is manifest upon the walls and in every nook and corner of the dwelling. The rooms are really miniature Historical Rooms.

When visiting there my thought has been, "Oh, would that this beautiful spot were located where all our members and ten thousand others could see it often! It would inspire many a man to do more to beautify his own home and surroundings." Once after visiting Mr. Fisk's place I traveled half a day in a county in eastern Wisconsin, and counted in passing, twenty-seven farm houses where the aggregate growth of trees, plants and flowers around them was not half as much as surrounded Mr. Fisk's home.

I write this, feeling that his work in horticulture deserves more than a passing notice.

A. J. PHILIPS,

Secretary Wis. State Horticultural Society.

John L. Fisk was born in Dryden, N. Y., Jan. 3, 1832, and died at his home in Omro, May 11, 1898.

He was of English descent; his grandfather was a de-

scendant of Symond Fiske, Lord of the Manor of Stadborough, Suffolk county, England, from the time of Henry IV. He was the sixth child of a family of ten children. His father's family came to Wisconsin in 1838, and settled in Watertown. In 1847 they moved to Waukau, and in 1848 moved onto the farm where Mr. Fisk has lived ever since, near the village of Omro. He was married Jan. 19, 1855, to Miss Adaline D. Houston of Oshkosh, and had four children, two of whom are living, Fred and Elmer.

Mr. Fisk has been an honored member of the State Horticultural Society since its organization, and was looked up to throughout the State as an authority on matters pertaining to horticulture and floriculture. ED.

A VISIT TO THE FRUIT FARM OF A. G. TUTTLE, BARABOO.

"Drive down and take a look at my berry fields," was the cordial invitation given to "ye editor" by Baraboo's most extensive strawberry grower. So we waited for the "perfect days" of June to come and then drove down. Mr. Tuttle's grounds are "beautiful for situation," commanding a view of the valley, the city that lies within it, and the bluffs beyond. Turning from this charming outlook we were attracted by a great field of blackberries white with bloom. Have you seen the white Japan rose, *rosa rugosa alba*? Imagine a field of these, row after row, acre upon acre, and you will form some idea of the beauty of that blackberry field.

Mr. Tuttle did not lay down his blackberries last autumn, but pruned them at his leisure during the winter. They now stand erect and self-supporting without need of wire or trellis. Yet Mr. Tuttle does not advise us to leave the bushes standing; he considers it "risky." He himself lost an acre, situated on low ground, by winter killing, but he has six and a half acres left. His variety is the Badger,

sometimes called "the Tuttle Ancient Briton."

Of strawberries he has fifteen acres literally covered with great clusters of fruit to be picked this season.

"Neighbor Tuttle, you are swamped!" exclaimed one visitor, amazed at the magnificent show of berries. It is indeed a great undertaking, the picking and marketing of fifteen acres of strawberries. Mr. Tuttle thinks that a hundred pickers can manage the berries. *We* think that the man who can manage the hundred pickers is worthy to be made a Major General or a Rear Admiral.

On the farm are also about three acres of currants and half an acre of gooseberries. Several years ago Mr. Tuttle's son wrote to a man in Illinois and asked him to send them "the best gooseberry he knew of." The man sent a kind which he called "The Champion." Mr. Tuttle says it far excels the Downing in productiveness. Last year fourteen quarts were picked from one bush.

Of the apples, we have only space to say that there are thirty acres of orchard, every tree loaded with fruit.

Baraboo, Wis., June 9, 1898.



WATERING PLANTS.

One reason why plants fade so soon in ordinary living rooms is because due attention is not paid to them. The mere supplying them with water is not enough; the leaves should be kept perfectly clean, for plants breathe by their leaves, and if their surfaces are clogged with dust, respiration is hindered, or may be altogether prevented. Plants perspire by their leaves, too, and dirt, of course, impedes this perspiration, and as they also feed in the same manner, it is evident that there can be no thriving and growth without real cleanliness. Cast the eyes upon the foliage of plants kept in the ordinary sitting room, then draw a white handkerchief over the leaves and it will be seen that they are far from being as clean as their nature requires.

OUR EXHIBIT AT OMAHA.

A Communication from the President of our State Society.

EDITOR HORTICULTURIST:

Please tell the readers of the Horticulturist that the Omaha Commission elected by the Executive Board of the State Society have contracted for three hundred square feet of space at the Omaha Trans-Mississippi Exposition, at a cost of one hundred and fifty dollars, for the purpose of making an exhibit of Wisconsin Fruits at Omaha during September and October of 1898. This is in accordance with a resolution passed at the winter meeting appropriating \$500 for this purpose. The details are to be completed at the summer meeting at Appleton.

It was necessary to take this action in order to secure space, as all contracts for space must be definitely settled on or before June 1.

At the present writing a fine apple crop is almost insured in Wisconsin and with a united, well directed effort on the part of the members of our State Society I feel confident we can make an exhibit that will not only be a credit to our State and our Society but compare favorably with exhibits of other States in competition.

L. G. KELLOGG.

Ripon, Wis.



Nine million dollars has been expended by the government on the 83 national cemeteries, in which are buried 330,700 soldiers. The largest of the cemeteries in point of population is that at Vicksburg, where 16,639 heroes sleep. Arlington Heights, overlooking Washington, contains the greatest number of identified dead, there being 16,565 interments—12,216 known and 4349 unknown.

**WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY—SUMMER
MEETING OF 1898.**

To be held at Appleton, June 23 and 24.

As the society and its friends in Appleton propose to meet and entertain the visitors attending the meeting, please drop a card to the secretary, Mrs. G. L. Finkle, stating the time you expect to arrive.

PROGRAM.**Thursday, June 23.**

At 10 A. M., Meeting will be called to order by the President, L. G. Kellogg of Ripon.

Address of welcome by Mayor Erb, responded to by the Secretary, A. J. Philips of West Salem.

Details of Exhibit at Omaha will be discussed, opened by A. L. Hatch of Sturgeon Bay.

Discussion of Legislation against San Jose Scale at the next session of our Legislature, opened by Ex Vice President, Wm. Toole of Baraboo.

At 2:30 P. M., What Horticulture has done for Southern Wisconsin, Geo. J. Kellogg of Janesville.

At 3:00 P. M., Benefits to be Derived from a Good, Working Local Society, Mrs. J. D. Treleven, secretary of the Omro Society.

At 3:30 P. M., The Progress and Mission of the Wisconsin Horticulturist, Mrs. Franklin Johnson, Editor, of Baraboo, Wis.

Thursday Evening, June 23.

As previously announced this session will be in charge of the Grand Chute Society, and those who stay away will miss a treat, as an interesting program will be presented.

Friday Morning, June 24.

At 9:00, Call to order by the President.

1st. "A Paper on Evergreens for Ornamental Purposes," W. D. Boynton of Shiocton.

2d. "The Spray Pump in Horticulture," by Prof. E. S. Goff of Madison.

3d. "The Wisconsin Trial Orchard to Date," A. J. Philips of West Salem.

Friday Afternoon, June 24.

"How to grow a Paying Orchard in Northern Wisconsin," A. D. Barnes of Waupaca.

"Questions on the Cultivation of Pansies and other Flowers" to be answered by Wm. Toole of Baraboo, and others.

"The Most Important Points in Wisconsin Small Fruit Culture," R. J. Coe of Fort Atkinson, Prof. Goff and L. G. Kellogg.

"Horticulture as it Should be in a Farmer's Garden," Geo. C. Hill of Rosendale.

Friday Evening, June 24.

A reception by the local society.

PREMIUM LIST.

Plants and Flowers.

Best collection house plants, not less than ten varieties, 1st, \$3; 2d, \$2. Best collection of native ferns and wild plants, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best show of wild flowers, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best show of moss roses, 1st, \$1; 2d, 50c. Best collection of roses in variety, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best bouquet of roses, 1st, \$1.50; 2d, \$1; 3d, 50c; 4th, 25c. Best bouquet of white roses, 1st, \$1.50; 2d, \$1; 3d, 50c; 4th, 25c. Best hanging basket with plants in variety, 1st, \$1; 2d, 50c. Best collection of foliage plants, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best show of pansies, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best floral design, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best show of cut flowers in variety, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1. Best collection of fuchsias, 1st, \$1; 2d, 50c. Best bouquet of wild flowers to be gathered and placed on the president's table by a boy or girl under 15, 1st, \$1; 2d, 50c.

Strawberries.

Best display of strawberries, not less than ten varieties, 1st, \$3; 2d, \$2; 3d, \$1. Best new seedling strawberry, provided it has never been previously exhibited for premium by the originator, 1st, \$2; 2d, \$1.

	1st	2d
Best quart of strawberries for general cultivation	\$1 00	50
" Pistillate for market	1 00	50
" Perfect bloomer for market	1 00	50
Best three varieties for the farmer	1 00	50
Best quart Warfield	1 00	50
" Jessie	1 00	50
" Haverland	1 00	50
" Bubach	1 00	50

	1st	2d
Best quart Enhance	1 00	50
“ Crescent	1 00	50
“ Wood	1 00	50
“ Earle	1 00	50
“ Eureka	1 00	50
“ Greenville	1 00	50
“ Wilson	1 00	50
“ Gandy	1 00	50
“ Sparta	1 00	50
“ Timbrell	1 00	50
“ Wm. Belt	1 00	50
“ Marshall	1 00	50
“ Brandywine	1 00	50
Best five other new and promising kinds	1 00	50
“ that make best show on stems	1 00	50
Best show currants, on bush	1 00	50
“ Raspberries, on cane	1 00	50
“ Gooseberries, on bush	1 00	50

Vegetables.

Best exhibit of garden vegetables	3 00	2 00
Best peck of peas	1 00	50
Best half dozen heads of lettuce	1 00	50
“ “ bunches of radishes	1 00	50
“ “ “ “ onions	1 00	50
“ “ “ “ beets	1 00	50
“ “ “ “ asparagus	1 00	50
Best six stalks pie plant	1 00	50

Wm. Toole, of Baraboo, offers the following special premiums: For best show of cut flowers not grown by exhibitor, flower seeds, value of \$1; best show of native ferns and other wild plants, flower seeds, value \$1.

The Society offers a special premium of \$2 and an honorary membership of one year, to the pupil of any public or graded school, who writes the best report of the meeting, the decision to be made by Prof. E. S. Goff.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

It is our sorrowful duty to chronicle the recent passing away of two more prominent horticulturists of our State.

E. J. Scofield of Hanover, died of pneumonia May 6, 1898, just in the prime of his life and usefulness. He was a leading nurseryman and fruit grower, and was a nephew of Gov. Scofield. We hope to speak more fully of his life work in a future number of our magazine.

John Rhodes died early in June at his home in Union Grove, Racine Co. Mr. Rhodes has been a frequent contributor to the Horticulturist during the last two years. Our last communication from him was written in April from the Pulmonary Sanitarium in Milwaukee; he said; "I have for a number of months been fighting the arch enemy of mankind; came here as a last resort, in a very weak condition. It is very doubtful if I shall ever again be able to take up the pen in the interests of horticulture and agriculture." He was an able and interesting writer and we shall sorely miss him.

The seventeen-year locusts emerged from the ground on time, the first of June, and are very numerous in the vicinity of Baraboo and other localities in Sauk county and adjoining counties. Their headquarters appear to be in *our orchard* and the din of their ceaseless *charivari* is ear-splitting.

William Rounds, a leading berry grower of this vicinity, had his entire new setting of strawberry plants destroyed by an insect about the size of a flea and of similar agility. The vines were sprayed several times with Paris Green, but this did not check the marauders. Mr. Rounds has the finest and best-kept field of black raspberries that we have ever seen.

We would like to ascertain in what localities the seventeen-year locusts have appeared this year. Will our readers living in sections where the locusts are please inform us by a postal card addressed to the Wisconsin Horticulturist, Baraboo, Wis.

A LETTER FROM PROF. HENRY.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION,
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, April 12, 1898.

DEAR MADAM:

I have received this day and read with great interest the April number of the Wisconsin Horticulturist. It seems to me that you have issued an unusually excellent number and the magazine has much real merit. I congratulate you most heartily upon giving us so excellent a magazine and hope your efforts are being appreciated and that your good work may continue. Believe me,

Yours very respectfully,

W. A. HENRY, Dean and Director.

From L. G. Kellogg, President of State Horticultural Society: "I was very much pleased with the contents and make-up of the May number."

SPECIAL OFFER!

We offer the Wisconsin Horticulturist for six months, beginning with the July number, for twenty-five cents. Tell your friends and neighbors!

QUESTION DEPARTMENT.

Will some of the orchardists of the state tell us in the columns of the Horticulturist the names and general characteristics of some of the best varieties of sweet apples for Wisconsin?

A. A. CANNON & SON,
Hillside Nursery, Marcellon, Wis.

Will all who wish to question Mr. Bones regarding his new strawberry, please do so through the columns of the Wisconsin Horticulturist?

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Note—Frontispiece of May issue of this Journal illustrates
our "NEW PROCESS" plates.

