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MRS. J. M. SMITH.

The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. III.

APRIL, 1898.

NO. 2.

IN MEMORIAM.

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Mrs. J. M. Smith, the widely known and much beloved widow of the late J. M. Smith, died of pneumonia at her home in Green Bay, on Friday, March 11, 1898, aged 77 years.

Mrs. Smith was born in Bethany, Penn., January 31, 1821. She was engaged in study and teaching, until March 14, 1844, when she became the wife of J. M. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith came to Wisconsin in 1853, and immediately afterward they made their home in Green Bay. To the people of that city, and of the State as well, it was a lasting benefit to have the example and teachings of this excellent family during the forty years that the husband and wife were co-workers in every cause that would promote the welfare of their fellow men.

Mrs. Smith had traveled extensively with her husband in many of the Western States and also in the South. She was with him in New Orleans at the meeting of the American Horticultural Society in 1883, and again in that city during the Exposition; and later in Jackson, Miss., where she met many of the prominent Horticulturists of this and other States, who appreciated her worth and were benefited by her instructions.

She was a ready and forcible writer and read many pa-

pers on horticultural and domestic topics at conventions and farmers' meetings.

Since the death of her husband four years ago, she has spent the last years of her life—as she wrote in a late article—“in comforting sorrowing ones and striving to lessen the trials and burdens of others.” This she did most effectually, as those nearest her home can well attest.

It was a joy for her to minister to the sick and the afflicted; it was her delight to give pleasure to her friends. She would deny herself many luxuries, if thereby she could contribute for the comfort of the needy. The poor and the afflicted of her city have lost a friend who will not soon be replaced.

The many friends of Mrs. Smith in Brown and in Outagamie Counties will long remember the happy manner in which she and her husband entertained hundreds of friends at the strawberry festivals under the pines in their home at Green Bay. And the waifs of the street will remember being called to the table when the feast was over, to eat of the delicious berries from the Smith garden.

The children of her neighborhood will not soon forget the Christmas gatherings at her home where they were most delightfully entertained.

In all the walks of life Mrs. Smith was seeking for an opportunity to do some kind act or say some loving word that would add to the happiness of everyone she met.

It is blessed to be remembered by the good which one has done. To the friends of this esteemed woman, while life remains, there will come tender memories of her good deeds.

She leaves seven sons and one daughter. Three other children died in infancy. The sons are prominent business men of the firms of Smith Brothers and J. M. Smith's Sons, at Green Bay. The daughter is the wife of Rev. F. N. Dexter of New London, Wis.

MRS. D. HUNTLEY,
Appleton, Wis.

AMARYLLIS JOHNSONII

This Amaryllis is a favorite house-plant with all who know it, not only on account of its handsome foliage and gorgeous flowers, but because of its easy cultivation and its surety to always bloom freely and profusely.

It is also invaluable as a winter bloomer, if large flowering bulbs are potted in the fall, and properly cared for. Too large pots should not be used at first, as it blooms best when pot-bound. Like nearly all members of the Amaryllis family it requires a season of rest from September until February, giving just enough water to keep the roots from drying.

At the beginning of the growing season the top soil should be removed down to the roots, and replaced with fresh soil containing a liberal quantity of well-decayed manure.

From the time growth begins it should be watered freely until the blooming period is past. When bulbs increase so as to become crowded they should be changed to larger pots containing fresh soil.

I have four large bulbs in one pot that are just beginning to throw up their flower stalks. Last year during the month of February, the four bulbs produced eight strong flower stalks, each bearing four large crimson flowers,—thirty-two lilies from one ten-inch pot.

The Amaryllis Johnsonii is surpassed by very few of the new and costly varieties, although one of the earliest hybrids.

MRS. H. H. POTTER.

Baraboo, Wis.

**FAME.**

Fame is a bee.

It has a song—

It has a sting—

Ah, too, it has a wing.

EMILY DICKINSON.

THREE STATELY BLOOMING PLANTS.

By B. S. Hoxie.

I shall name them Canna, Dahlia and Chrysanthemum, and either would be a fit subject for an article in our Magazine, but spring time is here and I want all my friends who do not yet grow these plants to make a beginning.

I know that some call the dahlia an old-fashioned straggling plant, and so it is as some grow it, but with good sorts, and better treatment it is again coming to the front. The clumps of roots should be dug just before the ground freezes in the fall and dried for a few days so that the earth will nearly all come off, then place them in the cellar where they will be free from frost, and neither dry enough to shrivel, nor damp enough to mould. In early spring I select a warm, sheltered place, set the clumps as close together as possible and cover with earth and let them remain until the sprouts begin to start, then with a sharp stout knife divide the roots so that only one sprout shall be planted in a hill, which must be set at least six inches below the surface of the ground; and if more than one stalk comes up break off all except one or two of the strongest.

As the plants begin to grow they should be tied to a good strong stake, because if in good rich soil as they must be, and well cared for, you will find, when from four to six feet tall and covered with bloom, they will be very top-heavy. Last summer I had the most perfect flowers I ever saw; a regular ball, some varieties, and four inches in diameter. Requisites, good soil, good cultivation and *plenty of water.*

CANNAS, at least the dwarf kind, are of more recent date in our gardens, but new varieties are being brought out every year, and they bid fair to rival the Gladioli in shadings of bloom. Even the foliage has something grand and imposing as a garden or lawn plant; besides they are constant bloomers from July until killed down by frost. They

are equally fine for winter, provided one has the room in a sunny window.

The clumps should be dug any time before the ground freezes and may be kept in boxes with all the dirt adhering in any cool dry cellar. The tubers are fleshy and should not dry out entirely, so an occasional watering will do no harm. If you have no greenhouse, the clumps may be treated in early spring as I have described for Dahlias, and can be placed later where they are intended to remain for the season. If you choose, these may be divided into single eyes or crowns, as you would a pie plant, or the large clumps may be allowed to grow, and you can take off the suckers or outside plants as you want to give to friends or increase your own plantation.

As this is an all summer bloomer constantly throwing up new flower stalks, the earlier you can get them started in the spring the sooner you will be favored with their beauty and grandeur. The new varieties are all called dwarfs, but some of these even, will grow from three to five feet high, so are fine for a center piece in beds of annuals or may be planted as a back ground like a hedge row. The Canna is in every sense a strong, majestic plant, robust and dignified, therefore scorns to be ranked with cut flowers or placed on the table with them; that would be too plebeian for such majesty.

And now as I come to the queen of flowers, the Chrysanthemum, I hardly know what to say where so many have written so much; but when one sees blooms from six to twelve inches in diameter, with innumerable forms and varieties of color, with such exquisite blending and shadings, they can only exclaim and wonder. It is only those who have the skill and time of the professional that can, or care to have, such monster flowers. A dozen or twenty, fine blooms on a single bushy plant is much more satisfactory to the hundreds who grow Chrysanthemums, than a dozen single

plants with only one flower each. However much one may read as to how to grow and care for this most wonderful of all the autumn plants, he will find after five or six years growing that it needs *some* experience to get best success. Some will say never try to raise flowers from an old plant, but always from slips pinched off from the young shoots in early spring, while others again will say, take the young shoots with some roots adhering from the old plant. I have practiced both methods with good success, but prefer the young shoot with some root. I keep my old plants through the winter as nearly dormant as I can, with only enough water to keep them alive, but do not hesitate to pinch off the shoots at any time when they seem to be making too much growth, and get them out in the spring as soon as the ground is dry enough to work. In setting out, take the best and strongest shoots and grow to single stem. Pinch back as the plant needs it to your own taste, as to form, but never later than the twentieth of July or first of August. If you care to grow them in pots July or August is a good time to transplant. It may be less trouble to let them remain in the ground until the buds begin to start in October, but there will be such a mass of roots that it needs a larger pot than you care to handle. Fine, bushy plants as I have said are more desirable than a single bloom. All varieties that I have ever grown have a tendency to set more buds than you want, so watch the plant every day as you water, and pinch the weakest buds so that the flowers will be evenly distributed on the branches.

You will find by this time that your plant is getting top heavy and must be tied to a stake, because the branches are very tender and liable to split down on the slightest provocation. The soil of course has been rich, but now you can give some artificial fertilizer once a week, and whether your plants are in pots or in the ground they require an abundance of water. If the drainage is all right you can hardly give them too much water, so if your supply is from well or cistern pump, and you carry it in a watering pot,

you will not want a great many plants. It is no use to think of growing either of the three plants I have described in this article without an abundance of water easily applied. I remember some years ago I had more than twenty hills of fine varieties of Dahlias and not a single bloom by reason of the drouth, and absence from home prevented artificial watering.

One of the worst pests of the Chrysanthemum in the fall is the aphis or plant louse, and one of the best remedies is tobacco leaves and stems kept at all times in the fall of the year on top of the pots, with an occasional watering of tobacco water; but should the lice make their appearance, then give them a thorough smoking with tobacco. If your plants are in their own greenhouse, then fumigate the whole house. A few may be smoked by putting the tobacco on coals of fire and inverting a barrel over the plant.

Six and eight inch pots are large enough, and if the soil is of the right texture you can hardly pack it too close in setting the plant. As most of the varieties will stand quite a low temperature, they must not at first in the fall be brought into a warm room, and though the plants want a strong light they will take any window you may choose to give them.

Evansville, Wis.

Marshall P. Wilder tells a new and very characteristic story of Mark Twain. While the humorist was ill in London, a few months ago, a report of his death was circulated. It spread to America, and reached Charles Dudley Warner, in Hartford, Conn. Mr. Warner immediately cabled to London to find out whether it was really so. The cablegram in some way came directly into the humorist's hands, and he forthwith cabled the following reply: "Reports of my death greatly exaggerated."

—Exchange.

LYMAN'S PROLIFIC CRAB.

From The Minnesota Horticulturist by special courtesy.

This valuable seedling originated at Excelsior, Minn., on the farm of Henry M. Lyman. A very small cut of the tree is shown, but it is, indeed, a large tree and so loaded with fruit that its branches trail on the ground, the crop that season amounting to twenty bushels.

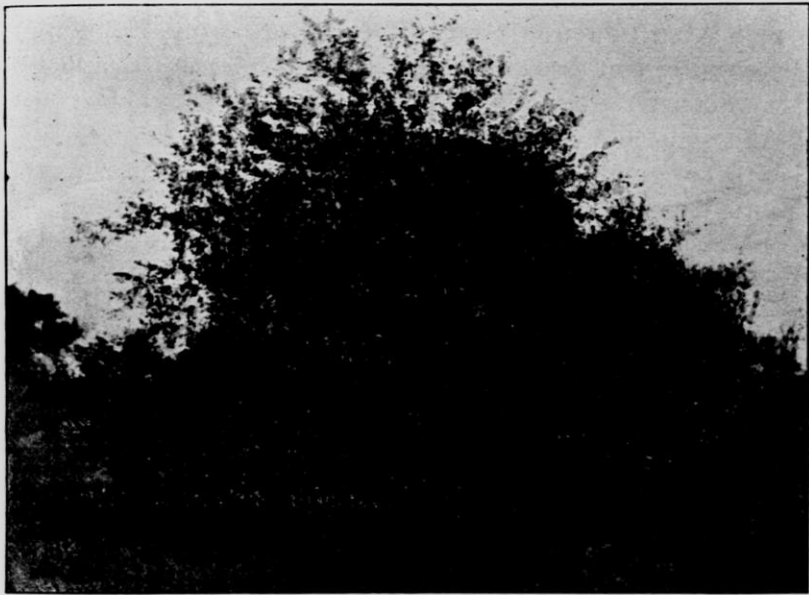


A Rising Horticulturist.

Another of the products of this farm appears on this page, of which Mr. Lyman is justly proud, being his oldest grandson, of whom he expects to make a "bred in the bone" horticulturist.

Mr. Lyman all too modestly describes his seedling tree, which, by the way, is only one of a large number of seedlings bearing on his place.

The seed is from the Haas crossed with Siberian crab. It was planted in 1868. The tree now measures thirty-four feet across, while the body is forty-two inches around. It is an annual bearer and free from blight. In size of fruit, it is like the Whitney. It bears very young, often in the



Lyman's Prolific Crab.

nursery row at three years of age from the graft, and produces enormous crops ranging from ten to twenty-five bushels annually. The fruit is well colored and very firm, bearing handling far better than the Transcendent, these qualities making it a valuable market apple.



Freddy—Billy, what is the bitterest disappointment you ever met with? Billy—Olives.—Free Press.

CURRANT CULTURE.

Choose the richest bit of heavy loam you have and manure it at the rate of fifty double wagon loads to the acre, giving preference to cow manure. If you feel you cannot manure so heavily, decrease the area to be planted until you can get that proportion on. It seems almost impossible to give them too much manure. The most successful currant grower we ever knew covered his soil with this amount of hog manure annually. He made money.

After thorough preparation of the soil, mark out your rows five feet apart each way and dig holes eighteen inches in diameter. See that only moist soil comes in contact with the roots and firm well with hands or feet. Potatoes or other vegetables may be grown between and in the rows the first two years. Clean and frequent cultivation is absolutely necessary in order to get satisfactory crops. Because the currant so well stands neglect it is often left to shift for itself. This is wrong. If you must neglect the currant, do so after July 1st, as by that time it has nearly completed its growth.

Pruning may begin at planting by shortening last year's growth nearly one-half. Thereafter the annual pruning should be done before the buds start in spring. Take off about half of the previous year's growth, having an eye toward symmetry of bush and crowding of branches. Do not cut below the base of last year's growth unless you wish to cut out a branch that has a borer in it. The blossom buds cluster about the two and three years' growth and are easily distinguished. To cut them off, as we have seen done, destroys the crop.

The currant worm attacks the lower leaves of the bushes very early in spring. One pound of powdered hellebore in a barrel of water sprayed over the leaves will keep them down. The cost is slight and it is very little trouble. On a few bushes they can be hand picked. In the absence of hellebore, dry soot may be used to advantage. The only other enemy is the currant borer—the larvæ of a blue moth

which deposits eggs on the canes in June. The only remedy is to cut out the affected part and burn.

Cuttings for propagation may be made as soon as the growth has ceased in August and planted immediately. They should be five or six inches in length and set so that but a single bud is exposed. A cool, moist location is desirable. Most nurserymen make their cuttings in October or November, and pack them in sand and place them in cellar. By planting time in spring they will have formed numerous roots.

—E. D. Putney, in Green's Fruit Grower.

DISCUSSION ON CURRANTS AT THE WISCONSIN HORTICULTURAL CONVENTION, FEBRUARY, 1898.

Mr. J. S. Stickney:—I have given my report in the Wisconsin Horticulturist. Mr. Hatch once described me as a man who easily saw good in everything, so what I say to you may seem visionary. I did not market all my currants. I have a couple of hundred bushels on the bushes waiting to be marketed! I marketed all that would pay for handling, simply for the sake of distributing the pay-money among my pickers, all poor women and children.

I have about eight acres of currants, and propose to take care of them the coming year about twice as well as I ever did before, whether I get a dollar out of it or not. To every business in all lines come years of prosperity; perhaps not next year, but within three years, you will see good, prosperous, hopeful prices for your small fruits. There will be some faint-hearted people who will drop out. I think we all see indications of the return of prosperity after the hard times and short money supply. It will not be in a minute; it may take eight or ten years. But keep on in small fruits at moderate prices, do what you do a little better, and I think you will all feel right in the course of three or four years.

Mr. Kellogg:—Please tell us of the Fay currant.

Mr. Stickney:—I planted some eight acres of the Fay, and gave them high culture, but they would drop their leaves and fade. I have only one acre now. What I sold brought nice prices. I had perhaps fifty or sixty cases to sell. I am going to grub them all out except about ten square rods. I shall prune them until I have not a crowded bush, and think I shall be able to show you a few crates of good fruit.

Mr. K.:—When do you prune?

Mr. S.:—When I can.

Mr. K.:—When is the proper time?

Mr. S.:—Would rather do it in fall than in spring, but I never do, as I have no time. March or the first part of April is a good time,—in spring before the leaves start. The best time would be in October, immediately after the leaves fall.

Mr. Ferris:—Have you found anything among the new varieties superior to the old?

Mr. S.:—No sir. I do not think anything will pay as well as the Holland and Prince Albert. I do not like the Victoria. I had an acre and threw it out. It is not as strong as it ought to be. Fruit is not extra in size. Prince Albert is best; next, for dollars, is Holland. I can not get money out of black currants, and do not grow white ones for market.

Mr. Barnes:—I have customers that pay me 10 cts. for black and white currants.

Mr. Stickney:—I received for trial a new variety, the Wilder. Its fruit is very nearly as large as the Fay. Please test this variety. I got my plants from Mr. Wilder of New York.

Mr. Dartt:—Have you tried North Star?

Mr. S.:—I have fruited it for two years. It is a strong grower, very hardy and nice in every way, and very productive, but not what I expected in size. It is not any better than the Red Dutch.

SHALLOW CULTIVATION FOR THE CURRANT AND GOOSE-BERRY.

Fruit growers have noticed that while currants have blossomed freely it is seldom that the stems are filled out to the ends. The clusters are often little more than half filled out; berries at the end falling off, greatly interfering with the yield and the appearance of the fruit. The question has arisen, what is the cause of the dropping off of the currant at the end of the clusters? Late spring frosts have been assigned as the cause. It may be true that frosts sometimes do cause the berries to drop off, but from my experience I judge that deep cultivation with plow or cultivator is the more frequent cause.

I have before me a report of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association in which a practical fruit grower gives his method of currant culture. He assigns deep cultivation among his currants as the cause of the fruit dropping from the end of the stems. His currants are planted 5x5 feet apart each way. His method is to plow directly in the center between the rows, throwing the dirt to each side towards the plants. Then with a hoe he favors shallow cultivation, working the soil back to the center gradually so as to give ample cultivation.

Undoubtedly the ideal cultivation of gooseberries and currants is by mulching but this is expensive and impossible where large plantations are grown.

This season I have not allowed a plow or cultivator to enter my plantation of gooseberries and currants. The currants thus undisturbed were of large size, and the clusters were filled out to the extreme end without exception. There has been no dropping off whatever, but this is the first season for many years when I can remember that the currants have not dropped off from the ends of the clusters. The gooseberries with this absence of cultivation have borne the heaviest crop that I have ever seen upon gooseberry bushes, and there has been no mildew. Weeds are growing freely be-

tween the gooseberry bushes, and somewhat among the currants. After the fruit is gathered we shall run through with the cultivator and clear out the worst of the weeds.

There are several of my correspondents in various parts of the country who have stated that they succeeded best with their gooseberries when they gave them no cultivation in the spring before fruiting. While I hesitate to recommend slovenly culture, or no cultivation, I earnestly suggest that currants and gooseberries receive very shallow cultivation during the month before the fruit is gathered.

—Editorial in Green's Fruit Grower.

PRUNING BLACK CURRANTS.

In this operation it must always be borne in mind that the black currant fruits best on wood of the previous summer; it is therefore best to encourage a free growth by cutting out the old wood after it has borne two or three seasons, and training young branches up in its place. In pruning young plants raised from cuttings they should be cut back until five or six good strong shoots are obtained to form a tree. These should then be left full length, and any small shoots cut back to one bud. After this all shoots that cross others may be cut out yearly, and the weakest shoots cut close so as to obtain a nice even-shaped tree, with an open center like a teacup. All branches that droop down lower than eighteen inches from the ground should be cut off, as fruit that gets splashed with dirt is of no use in the market. All old wood that is becoming weak should be cut out, and if a plantation begins to fail from old age it may be cut down to the ground and given a heavy dressing of manure. One year's crop will thus be quite lost and part of another, but the fruit will be much larger afterwards on the young shoots which spring up abundantly from the old roots. After pruning is over the ground between black currants should always be forked over, putting manure on first if the ground is poor.—Journal of Horticulture.

As a preventive for mildew on currants and gooseberries, spray thoroughly with Bordeaux mixture before the bushes are in leaf, and again soon after the foliage appears.

“The currant worm appears soon after the leaves start, near the ground in a cluster, and is easily held in check by two or three times dusting the bushes on the lower center foliage with hellebore when the dew is on.”



DISCUSSION OF BERRIES AND APPLES AT OUR WINTER MEETING.

The small-fruit talk at the meeting of our State Society in February was chiefly about frosts and failure. Comparatively little was said regarding methods and varieties.

One valuable paper which showed much careful thought was printed in the February Horticulturist—“Best Varieties and in What Proportion Should a Small Fruit Farm be Planted,” by F. C. Edwards of Fort Atkinson. Mr. Herbst of Sparta had prepared a paper on the same subject, but asked to have it omitted on account of lack of time. We are disappointed in not having Mr. Herbst’s paper for this number of our magazine.

In the discussions, Mr. Wilcox of La Crosse said: One man in our town did not cover his strawberries last year. He had about one and one-half acres, and he had berries one week in advance of anybody else. He picked and shipped them and got a good fair price. We have one plantation up there of ten acres, every alternate row Warfield and Beder Wood.

Mr. Wedge:—What is the fault of the Lovett strawberry? It seems to be nearly a faultless berry with me.

Mr. Geo. J. Kellogg:—I have nothing to say against the Lovett, I have everything to say for it. The Lovett is not quite early enough to pollenize the Warfield, but comes nearer than any other variety I can name. Other three

perfect-flowering are Beder Wood, Splendid and Enhance. They are all somewhat subject to rust. I think the Lovett is one of the best varieties.

Mr. Herbst:—The Lovett did nicely at the Thayer Farms. It is a very good yielder, good size, good quality.

Dr. Loope of Eureka gave a report of small-fruits in that section of the State. He shipped several cases of good strawberries and got ten cents per case net; then he quit shipping. He said that blackberries were going out in that section; only a very small acreage there now. There was an increased acreage of red and black raspberries.

The discussion of varieties of apples and plums was earnest and prolonged, and you will be interested to read it in full in your Annual Report.

Mr. Hatch read a report of the Trial Acre at the Hill Crest Fruit Farm in Ithica and F. A. Harden read a paper on "The Benefits derived by the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society from the Weyauwega Trial Acre for the last five years." Mr. Harden commended the plan of establishing trial acres in different parts of the State. One fact proved is that Whitney No. 20 is not a good stock on which to top-work other varieties; it is too slow-growing.

Mr. Kellogg:—Does the Windsor Chief [or Windsor] blight any?

Mr. Hatch:—No. The Transparent blights a little. The Tetofski brought me \$3.25 per bbl. net,—the first apples they had in Milwaukee last summer.

Mr. Dartt:—How does the Transparent compare with the Tetofski?

Mr. Hatch:—It is a better apple. The Tetofski does not furnish limbs enough. If the Yellow Transparent blights some, it can afford to over and above the Tetofski.

The Yellow Transparent does not ripen evenly on the tree. It would need two pickings.

A voice:—What about water-core?

Mr. Hatch:—There is a question I was talking with Prof. Goff about. It is a question of vitality, vigor and condition. The tree that is out of balance for want of water, of vigor or health will produce water-cored apples. If water is supplied evenly this difficulty is remedied. We can do much by good management.

Sec'y Philips:—There is a great diversity of opinion on one apple. I want your opinion on the Patten's Greening. You have it bearing there.

Mr. Hatch:—I really do not like it. It is an apple of poor quality. It is coarse. It is an ill-looking apple. The tree has a straggling, sprawling growth. The apples tumble off a good deal. I market it about the same time as Duchess. I cannot say anything in favor of it. I get no comfort out of it.

Mr. Ferris of Iowa:—Patten's Greening has the advantage of great hardiness, which is important in some parts of your State. I want to speak of the Yellow Transparent and emphasize what Mr. Hatch has said of it as a market apple. I am surprised that an enterprising man around here does not plant ten acres of Yellow Transparent. I know of no early apple that is its superior for market growing where it has good air and drainage.

Mr. Tarrant of Rock County:—I like the Patten's Greening very much. It is a good, large apple. I have fruited it for three years and have had apples every year. Mr. Tarrant also endorsed what had been said regarding the Yellow Transparent.



“Seventy-five years ago Thomas L. Walker, of Tennessee, planted four walnut trees, and before he died those trees had grown to a diameter of three feet, and worth \$400 each. A Tennessee paper remarks that if Mr. Walker had gone through Tennessee planting walnuts as men ninety years ago went through the northern states planting apple seeds, Tennessee would now be the richest state in the Union.”

MR. THOMAS TANNER'S TROUBLE.

In the March number of this magazine Mr. Tanner offered to send his friends a few Bangor blackberry plants for trial. But alas! he did not "calculate" that the Horticulturist had so many readers, and that he had so many friends. Read his appealing letter.

OMRO, March 26, 1898.

MRS. EDITOR:—

Will you please to state in the April number of the Wisconsin Horticulturist that I have *no more Bangor blackberry plants to spare this year*. I have been deluged with orders for plants. I did not think that I had so many friends when I wrote that article for the Wisconsin Horticulturist. I think your paper must be a good advertising medium. If there are any charges for the ad. please let me know what they are and I will remit!

Yours truly,

THOS. TANNER.

✽

SPRING PROBLEMS.

By E. P. Powell, Clinton, N. Y.

A correspondent asks over again the same old questions that come every year, What strawberries shall I plant and when shall I plant them? I should by all odds prefer to set them in April, or as soon after as the ground can be made ready. I would then mulch every plant with sawdust or coal ashes, or both; a little wood ashes helps.

For kinds, I shall do nearly all my planting this spring from Bismarck and Wm. Belt for main crop. For very early I shall set the old Michel and the new Ivanhoe; for very late I shall take Michigan and Margaret. All these varieties are well proven and reliable. Bismarck and Wm. Belt are noble varieties in every way. Margaret does not, with me, grow plants well; I shall therefore keep it in stools. Clyde is a grand plant-maker and every way a good berry, but not so large in fruit as some of the others. It is a grand and reliable berry, however. If you insist on planting one vari-

ety, I think you might well settle upon Bismarck. Brandywine is a magnificent berry, but with me has not borne heavy crops. Bubach remains a grand old variety; nor shall I as yet let go of Cumberland.

A problem has been crowded on us more and more of late years, whether to raise the largest possible crop of fruit, or the best possible crop. The rational answer is that we should sacrifice quantity to quality, and this we must do in order to hold the market. In small or large fruit-growing alike, we have come to such competition that we cannot retain our customers with second-class fruit. There has been a great deal of education going on of late, and many of the old whims and prejudices are working out of the market. Red apples are still in favor; but it is possible to sell with equal advantage a prime quality of yellow or green apples. In small fruits the demand is still for large size, but there is a closer examination of quality. Crescent and Wilson no longer sell with those who know Brandywine, Sharpless and Marshall. It is also possible to sell quite readily white currants, which ten years ago were a positive drug in the market. The problem demands that there shall be attention first to size and color, second to quality, and the demand for quality must be met at all events.

—The Independent.

A BLACKBERRY TEST.

A brother horticulturist across the Lake has been testing some of the new varieties of blackberries. This is the character he gives them in *The Michigan Fruit Grower*:

NEW LOGAN.

On one year old plants the fruit is as large as a good size blackberry. Same shape, of a reddish-purple in color, extra fine in quality, fair grower and may prove profitable.

ELDORADO.

Strong, and very stalky grower; exceedingly hardy and

productive; very large, sweet and fine flavored berries, medium in ripening. This excels all other blackberries in every particular point, as the best and finest all-round blackberry yet fruited by myself. It may lack firmness for shipping to distant markets, but consider it valuable.

OHMER

Is a very strong and tall grower; hardy, but not productive so far on two year plants; fruit is medium to large, sour, poor in quality and ripens late; not promising.

MAXWELL'S EARLY.

Poor grower and not productive enough; fruit small to medium in size; ripens early; no good.

WESTERN TRIUMPH.

Strong grower; cane hardy; immensely productive; of medium size fruit; sweet, and rather firm for market; ripens mid-season. With the writer, one of the best old sorts to plant.

ERIE AND MINNEWASKI

Are almost identical, and are too well known to need very much of a description. Both are very strong growers, but not hardy. Fruit is of the largest size and sour, with hard core; not productive on young plants.

EARLY KING

Is very valuable for extra early; berry large and sweet; not very productive.

BENTON GEBHART.

PLUMS FOR THE NORTHWEST.

Are you planning to plant a plum tree or two, or a plum orchard? Then we advise you to write to the Agricultural Experiment Station at Madison, Wis., for Prof. Goff's Bulletin on the Culture of Native Plums in the Northwest. This bulletin, prepared with laborious painstaking, is the result of years of experiment and research. It treats of varieties and their characteristics as tested in different locali-

ties; of methods of culture; of insect enemies and ways of fighting them; in short it tells "all about" plums.

Perhaps it was the recent publishing of this important bulletin which gave the Plum so prominent a place in our winter meeting. The interest was increased by the presence of O. M. Lord of Minnesota, who has seventy-five varieties of Native Plums in his orchard at Minnesota City. Mr. Lord speaks of his plums with a tender cadence, as parents speak of their children. Following are extracts from the paper which he read.

THE PLUM AS A FRUIT FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTH-WEST.

By O. M. Lord.

In the discussion of this subject we shall assume that the European Plum is out of the question. More than thirty years ago, D. B. Wier, a prominent plum grower of Northern Illinois, said, "Our only hope for the successful culture of plums west of Lake Michigan is toward the native plum," and since then the experience of our most prominent and successful growers has confirmed this opinion. Theodore Williams, who exhibited 150 varieties, including Japanese and European, at the late Nebraska State Fair, says "our best natives are superior in every respect to any others for this latitude."

If I were asked to name the best variety for any locality but my own I could not do so; but I may say that I have planted and shall continue to plant more Rollingsone than any other one variety. If the people of Wisconsin should ask for my opinion I would refer them to Prof. Goff, as I know that he, like myself, has room for all of them, at least for trial, which is the only way to determine the varieties best adapted to any particular locality. There are however a few varieties better adapted to general cultivation than

many others. The De Soto, a Wisconsin plum, may be named as one of the best, all things considered. This includes thrifty growth, early and abundant bearing, size, quality and appearance of fruit; also adaptability to soil, altitude, climatic conditions, isolated or among others, neglect or care. No one has yet been found to have made a mistake in planting good trees and properly caring for the De Soto. Now, if this be true, is there room for other kinds? Yes. Why? Because we have earlier and later ones, thus prolonging the season. We have several varieties, which, owing to habits of blossoming or for climatic reasons, sometimes bear abundantly when the De Soto is unfruitful under the same conditions; and this is true of all varieties. So that to be assured of fruit several kinds are very desirable.

The discussion of this paper brought out the statements that the Rockford was too small for a good market plum, and the Forest Garden too soft. Mr. Lord gave as the "best variety for business," De Soto; next Rollingstone and Cheney. These three kinds need no outside pollenization although as a general rule the native plums do better when planted in clumps. Of the above three mentioned Cheney is earliest, but is the worst to bear plum pockets. One advantage in raising Cheney is that the curculio will attack it and let other kinds alone that are planted near it.

Destroy aphid on plum trees by kerosene emulsion applied as soon as you discover the first sign of them,—the quicker the better, as they multiply with astonishing rapidity.

Mr. Lord "wouldn't give a cent for a car-load of Russian plums;" has had ten different varieties.

The De Soto will grow on high, dry ground, where many kinds will not thrive.

The "Compass plum" was mentioned in the discussion, but was considered more a cherry than a plum. This is a hybrid produced by the cross-fertilization of a plum and the sand cherry.

TESTS MADE BY OMRO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society has over sixty members, and holds monthly meetings at the residences of its members. It has three "trial stations." That is, three men known to be careful cultivators, have been selected to test new varieties purchased by the society. The three "testers" are C. B. Cope, Thos. Tanner, Jos. D. Treleven.

Mr. Cope says: Of Currants, Ruby Castle and Black Victoria are good; Crandall Tree is "no good." Of Raspberries, Church is good, Kansas winter kills, Palmer extra good, Progress medium good, Muskingum good and productive. Parker Earle strawberry good on rich ground.

Mr. Tanner reports: Soil a black loam with red clay sub-soil. Buffalo berry has made a fine growth and is hardy; June berry made small growth, seems to be hardy. Wineberry and Mayberry failures, not hardy in this climate. Bangor blackberry worthy of cultivation. [Mr. Tanner's experience with this was given in the March number of 'The Wisconsin Horticulturist.] Bismarck apple all right as a novelty, being a dwarf; Strawberry Raspberry will do as a novelty, but not for general planting; Everbearing Raspberry and Tree Blackberry failures; Crandall Tree Currant, fruit too small for general planting, good as a novelty. Of trees and shrubs for the lawn I have some new kinds that have not been set long enough to test. The Sweet Pea Shrub I think is all right; Althea and Tulip Tree are very pretty if they prove to be hardy.

Mr. Treleven reports: The new blackberries Agawam, Erie and Minnewaski I find as hardy as Ancient Briton, but all require winter protection. Of black raspberries, Kansas winter kills; Older does not make a good growth; Progress, Palmer and Hilborn are very productive and hardy; Wineberry and Lucretia Dewberry winter kill. Of new red raspberries, Columbia does well, so does Gaults; Logan winter killed; Strawberry Raspberry made big growth and stood the winter, but did not fruit well. North Star currant has not fruited yet, neither have Black Champion and Black

Victoria; Crandall makes large growth, but I do not think it will be a success, as the fruit ripens so slowly and unevenly. Red Jacket gooseberry very small; Golden Prolific very good. Timbrell, Beverly and Bissell strawberries not as good as many others; H. W. Beecher, Marshall and Buchach are all right. Lombard plums failed with me.

REPORT OF THE GRAND CHUTE SOCIETY.

By Mrs. J. B. Carey, Delegate.

The Grand Chute Society is a real live society. It is not like Mr. Kellogg's society; it is neither dead nor dying.

Our society is composed of representatives from twenty-three families, mostly women. That accounts for its being alive and wide awake.

Some time ago our president appointed a committee of men whose business it should be to go out and look over the farmer's farm where we were holding our meetings, and come in and make a report before the meeting closed. We wished them to report how they found the farm, garden, barns and stock. They would go out and smoke and tell yarns and forget what they were sent out for; consequently that part of the program would be lost. I made a motion that our president appoint a committee of ladies. The motion prevailed and they were appointed. I can assure you it had a good effect. The farmers went to work, cleaned up their barn yards, painted their barns, as far as possible; weeded their gardens and put their farms in order, and there were good reports brought in at every meeting.

I think it quite necessary for the farmer's wife to be thoroughly posted about the farm work, to know all about the stock, how many there are of each kind, and which is the most profitable to keep. For she does not know how soon the lines may fall into her own hands, and she will want to be able to so guide affairs that the only loss she will sustain will be the loss of her better half. We held

our annual meeting the first Thursday in January and elected our officers: President, Mr. Bushnell; Secretary, Mrs. Lester Finkel; Treasurer, Mr. Buck; delegate to State Convention, Mrs. Carey.

Mr. Fred A. Harden, who has charge of the trial acre at Weyauwega, is a progressive orchardist. He has about eleven hundred apple trees, two acres of strawberries and three acres of raspberries. This spring he intends to plant five hundred more apple trees and another acre of strawberries.

A CORRECTION.

A. D. Barnes of Waupaca writes:—"I note in the February Horticulturist that you say J. M. Smith's Sons of Green Bay took second premium on best display of seed potatoes at our February meeting. This is a mistake. The Waupaca Seed Potato Company took this premium. Please correct the mistake."

Mr. Barnes further writes: The prospect for a large crop of apples was never better here at this time of the year than it now is. Your humble servant expects 3000 trees to bear the coming season. I shall have five acres of strawberries and two of currants and raspberries. Have a fine stock of small fruits and many trees for spring sales, and the finest stock of strawberry plants I ever grew. Sales are fairly good, with a bright prospect if we get plenty of rain in April. We have closed a contract to plant 1317 apple trees and 320 cherry trees for a neighbor. Have another contract to plant 300 apple and 100 cherry trees, and a contract to plant 400 ornamental trees at the Veterans' Home. With small orders by the hundred and other large contracts in sight, we hope and expect to be very busy.

INSPECTION OF NURSERY STOCK IN CALIFORNIA.

THE BARLOW BILL.—The Orange Judd Farmer says: "California prefers State inspection. Considerable opposition is developing among California fruit growers to the bill introduced into the house of representatives by Hon. C. A. Barlow. The bill provides for the inspection of plants and nursery stock at the points of shipment in foreign countries and the United States. When stock has been so inspected it shall be accompanied by a certificate of inspection of a form to be prescribed by the secretary of agriculture, and shall then be free of all inspection, quarantine or restrictions in interstate commerce. It is claimed that the bill will practically throw down the safeguards with which California has surrounded herself and leave her wholly at the mercy of foreign inspectors who have no interest in the matter except to assist their own countrymen to dispose of their stock. It matters not how unreliable or incompetent a foreign inspector may be, under this law a certificate in proper form issued by him could not be questioned and no State would have the right to bar any pests from coming into its territory.

PRESENT METHOD.—As it is now, all plants and nursery stock coming into California are carefully inspected by competent State officers who are amenable to the people for their actions and who have more interest in keeping foreign pests out of their country than any person, even though both honest and competent, not a resident of the State would have. California has given the present system a fair trial and is satisfied with it. Parties interested claim that the fairest and surest method would be to establish a system of inspection at each port of entry to look out for foreign pests and then leave each State to protect its own interests."

MAY SHUT OUT AMERICAN APPLES.

Berlin, March 29.—In the lower house of the diet today, a demand was made for the complete exclusion of American apples. It was pointed out that this restriction was necessary to exclude the San Jose scale. Baron von Hammerstein drew forth cheers by saying that if the government found more stringent regulations were necessary, they would be adopted.

AMERICAN NURSERY STOCK SHUT OUT.

Ottawa, Ont., March 19.—The bill prohibiting the entry into Canada of nursery stock from the United States was signed today by the governor-general. It goes into effect tomorrow.

SAN JOSE SCALE IN NEW JERSEY.

This is the subject of Bulletin No. 125 of the New Jersey Experiment Station. We quote one or two statements: "At the outset it may be well to say that all hope of exterminating this insect in New Jersey must be abandoned." "It is well established in the line of towns along the Delaware river from Burlington to Camden, in gardens as well as orchards; hedges and small fruit as well as the trees being infested."

Prof. Steadman of the Missouri University estimates that it would cost a million dollars to rid Missouri of this scale.

Massachusetts has already spent \$200,000 in trying to get rid of the gypsy moth, and hasn't got rid of it yet.

In view of facts like the foregoing doesn't it behoove Wisconsin either to demand national protective measures, similar to the Barlow Bill, or else, like California and some other States, have a protective law of her own?

OFFICERS OF WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
FOR 1898.

President, L. G. Kellogg.....	Ripon
Vice President, Franklin Johnson.....	Baraboo
Secretary, A. J. Philips.....	West Salem
Treasurer, R. J. Coe.....	Fort Atkinson
Corresponding Secretary, Walter J. Moyle.....	Madison

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The President, Secretary, and Treasurer, ex-officio. Additional members, Prof. E. S. Goff, Madison; Franklin Johnson, Baraboo; Geo. J. Kellogg, Janesville; J. S. Stickney, Wauwatosa; H. B. Loomis, Sheboygan Falls; O. W. Babcock, Omro; Will Hanchett, Sparta; L. H. Read, Grand Rapids; Ed. Single, Wausau; P. H. Carnes, Ellsworth.

NOMENCLATURE.

J. C. Plumb, Milton; A. A. Parsons, Eureka; A. J. Edwards, Fort Atkinson.

LEGISLATION.

R. J. Coe, Fort Atkinson; Prof. Goff, Madison; Dr. T. E. Loope, Eureka.

FINANCE.

Franklin Johnson, F. C. Edwards, W. J. Moyle.

REVISION OF FRUIT LIST.

Geo. J. Kellogg, Will Hanchett, John L. Herbst.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mrs. Vie H. Campbell, Evansville; D. C. Converse, Fort Atkinson; A. L. Hatch, Sturgeon Bay.

SUPERINTENDENT OF EXHIBITS:—Franklin Johnson.

FIELD TRIALS:—A. L. Hatch.

BADGES:—Mrs. Vie H. Campbell.

COMMITTEE ON TRIAL ORCHARD.

Ex-officio, President and Secretary; Prof. E. S. Goff, Madison; Ed. Single, Wausau; Henry Tarrant, Janesville.

Henry Tarrant, the newly elected member of the Trial Orchard Committee, is engaged in farming and orcharding. He has seventeen acres of orchards, mostly apple. He fruited eighty-two varieties of apples and fifteen varieties of crab-apples the past year, and exhibited seventy-nine plates of apples and twelve of crabs at the State Fair last Fall. He has about one hundred and fifty varieties planted, but not all have come into bearing yet. He makes a specialty of testing varieties for Southern Wisconsin. For three years past he has been experimenting with top-grafting, or more properly whip-grafting, the smaller limbs on top of trees.

NOTICE FROM SECRETARY PHILIPS.

To the Members of State Horticultural Society and Others:

On and after April 22 I expect to be at the Wausau trial orchard for a week. If any one has any new tree fruits they would like to have tested in that northern location, if they will send me by express not to exceed two of any new variety not now being tested, I will gladly furnish space for same and plant, care for and report on them, while I have charge of the plantation. Any suggestions regarding new varieties I will be glad to receive. Address Wausau, care Ed. Single. The Milwaukee apple, the Surprise, Comfort and some other new plums I expect to put in the trial list this Spring; also the Valdimir cherry. This is your trial orchard so be free to suggest and furnish new valuable trees to be tested.

A. J. PHILIPS.

The Miller Raspberry is described in the Peter Henderson Catalogue as "just what we all have been wanting so long,"—a berry as large as the Cuthbert, beautiful and brilliant in color, and "in sweet, luscious flavor and hardiness fully equal to the Turner." Who in Wisconsin is testing it? Does it stand our climate like the Turner?

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

The members of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society will feel personally bereaved when they read of the death of Mrs. J. M. Smith, whom they loved, as well as revered. How glad we are that she came to the meeting in Omro last June, and we had one more opportunity to hear her words of counsel. We deeply sympathize with her sons and daughter in the loss of their devoted mother.

The ground here in Baraboo has frozen hard every night this first week in April. Not even a "Badger" flower (earliest of the anemones) has yet appeared; although we saw a few puny crocuses shivering on a lawn in Baraboo city April 2.

So far Mr. Geo. J. Kellogg is the "banner man" in getting new subscribers to the Horticulturist.

We request, as a personal favor, that all of our readers who order plants or seeds, or even a catalogue, from any of our advertisers, will mention that they saw the advertisement in the Wisconsin Horticulturist.

Secretary Philips writes: "Never saw my orchard looking in better shape. Fruit buds in abundance."

If you have no Asparagus bed we hope you will set out a little one this spring, for home use. But don't do as we once did.—set it in the orchard. That bed was not a success. Asparagus likes the full sunshine.

The Taylor blackberry is complained of as being so late in ripening its fruit that it is apt to be caught by the autumn frosts.

Young Wisconsin fruit-growers, do not waste your money on the Japanese Wineberry and Mayberry. They don't stand our climate, and wouldn't be worth anything if they did. They are like the Indian Mr. Tuttle tells about, who carried from house to house the following certificate of good character: "This poor Indian is sick and cannot work. Wouldn't work if he could."

As to the buffalo berry, you would not like the fruit if you should make it grow. We have tasted it,—little, skinny, bony berries, as sour as a barberry and as bitter and “puckery” as the chokiest kind of a choke cherry.

“Northern Fruits,” a sprightly little monthly by Clarence Wedge of Albert Lea, Minn., has just come to our desk. It is a small fruit, but of excellent quality.

We must not become so absorbed in the Cuban question as to forget that it is time to spray. Prof. Goff, on page 170 of his book “Principles of Plant Culture,” names the apple scab, the gooseberry mildew, the grape mildew and the potato blight, among diseases preventable by Bordeaux Mixture, and adds: “The treatment is *preventive rather than curative*. The first application should be made before the disease appears.” He gives minute directions for making this mixture and also gives a test by means of which one may avoid an excess of lime. On the next page is a formula for making Ammoniacal Solution of Copper Carbonate, which is sometimes used instead of the Bordeaux.

The apple trees and grapevines and currant and gooseberry bushes should be sprayed with one of these mixtures *before the foliage appears*, and then again soon after the leaves open. Spraying with insecticides for plant-lice and codling-moths should not be done until after the blossoms fall.

When using white hellebore powder dry, for the currant worm, Prof. Goff suggests that if it be mixed with once or twice its bulk of flour it will adhere to the foliage better.

By the way, we would no more think of trying to run a farm without that book, “Principles of Plant Culture,” than we would think of keeping house without a good cook-book.

A good many new names have been added to our subscription list, but we want to double our present list before the first of May. We can do this if each reader will send in one new name.

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IMPERIAL Japan Morning Glory seed. We have this seed ESPECIALLY grown for us in Japan, and selected from the most superb PRIZE blossoms. We offer packets of superb mixture of single, semidouble, most brilliant shades and coloring. Small packet 10 cts. Large packet 25 cts. Send for our DESCRIPTIVE Catalogue containing novelties in plants and flowers, finely illustrated. Address

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Send us a list of your wants and get our prices. They will be found right.

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