ence Day dinner, christening it 'the feast of St. Margaret.' The following Monday the same row yielded four heaped baskets. I'm glad I don't know what the total yield was, for if I did and should tell it, people would say that I could leave Ananias and Sapphira in the shade. But it was simply immense, and I'll drop it there."—Crawford's Catalogue.

Of the Clyde J. H. Hale speaks thus: "It heaped its huge berries one upon the other in greatest profusion everywhere—great big, rollicking fellows, as perfect in form as the small end of a hen's egg—the most uniformly symmetrical lot of berries I have ever seen, with not one single or imperfect berry from beginning to end of season. Clear, light scarlet color; beauties in every way. Moderately firm and of fine quality."

The Wm. Belt and the Brandywine were disappointing in Wisconsin last season, but last summer with its erratic weather hardly furnished the conditions for a fair test.

*BEST VARIETIES AND IN WHAT PROPORTION SHOULD A SMALL FRUIT FARM BE PLANTED.*


Success being the object striven for, some latitude must be given to the persons discussing this wide question.

If the person who is to operate this fruit farm is an amateur he had better plant few acres to start with, because he has a business to learn as surely as a doctor or lawyer. With an increase of knowledge he can increase his acreage; but let a thorough experimental knowledge go first.

If he does not do this he is about as sure to fail as any man under like circumstances in business or professional life. The man who makes a success in life today, is the one who understands and personally looks after the details of his business or profession.

The amount of land should range from ten to forty
acres according to the amount of responsibility and work you wish to shoulder and how much help of your own and hired help you wish to employ.

Do not use more than one-half of all your fruit farm at any one time in fruit, as rotation of crops in small fruit is just as necessary as it is on a grain and stock farm. For rotation insures health to the stock and profit to the cultivator.

Large small-fruit farms do not pay any better than large grain farms, and in fact the past year the advantage was in favor of the large stock or grain farms, as their product was capable of being held till the market could use the product and on fruit farms large quantities went to waste.

This fruit farm must produce the living for the family of those that are operating it, in cereals and all necessaries for the table, such as the whole line of vegetables, grains, etc. (with a possible exception of wheat), as well as the feed for the horses, cows, poultry, etc. There should be such a remainder sold as to at least cancel all grocery bills. If the farm does not do this the owner is apt to be a living skeleton financially. Gentlemen, you can plainly see I am taking the conservative side of this question, with experience all over our State to back my statements.

WHAT VARIETIES TO USE.

This depends somewhat upon your soil. But suffice to say, use staple sorts of all kinds of small fruit and not follow after strange gods. But to all rules there are a very few exceptions. Use new sorts in a small way and do not bury all your business profits in experimenting. Care and soil figure more for success than varieties. This is nicely illustrated by some patents being not as good as the original without the patent improvements.

The varieties recommended by this society are a consensus of opinions of the leading fruit men of our State. I will mention a few of them:

**Strawberries:** Warfield and Crescent, and for the perfect blossom Wilson, Splendid, Enhance, etc. But what perfect blossom sort you should use depends largely upon your soil.
RASPBERRIES, REDS: Cuthbert, sandy soil; Loudon, good new sort; Marlboro, prairie soil.

" PURPLE: Columbian and Schaffer.

" BLACK: Ohio, Older, Kansas and Gregg.

CURRANTS: Victoria and White Grape.

GOOSEBERRIES: Downing.

BLACKBERRIES: Snyder, sandy and clay soils; Ancient Briton, prairie soils.

GRAPES: Concord, Worden, Brighton and Niagara.

The time has not come, and I hope it never will, when we use anything but natural manures in Wisconsin, aided by clover in our rotation.

The location should be near some town or village having railroad facilities and plenty of help in harvesting the fruit, with low soil, having good drainage and composed of at least \( \frac{1}{3} \) sand, \( \frac{1}{3} \) clay and \( \frac{1}{3} \) decomposed vegetable matter, largely humus. This composition constitutes as good a soil as can be found.

WHAT PROPORTIONS OF SMALL FRUIT?

No positive proportion can be stated; this depends upon the demands of your market and what competition you have to meet. The answer to this question we have to learn by a close touch with our business. It is not what kind of fruit I like, but what my customer wants, although the customer's taste is capable of being educated to a certain extent in the appreciation of new sorts. To illustrate, because I like the Norman horse it does not follow I should not raise a hackney or Clydesdale if the market calls for these breeds.

The small fruit farm should be so divided among the fruits of different season, that an equal bulk of product should be ready each day for market, with few weeks of rest, from the time strawberries ripen till grapes are gone. To approximately get at this matter I would say, on 16 acres of fruiting land there should be: 3 acres of strawberries, 2 of red raspberries, 2 of black raspberries, 1 of purple raspberries, 1\( \frac{1}{2} \) of currants, \( \frac{1}{2} \) of gooseberries, 4 of blackberries, 2 of grapes.

Much fruit goes to waste each year by improper picking
and by not putting it into neat packages and placing on the markets in the right manner. This is a part of the business to be learned by experience largely and does not fall under the scope of this paper.

Fruit consumption is largely on the increase in the west. At one time the city of Fort Atkinson or Jefferson would use only a few cases per day, now they use in the fruiting season several wagon loads per day. This in my opinion is the history of all other towns.

The small-fruit farm owner and operator should look to the home markets for sale of his crop, as they are now, and will be in the future, the largest consumers at a reasonable profit. Do not deceive yourselves too much by the thought that you are going to outstrip the multitude of local growers that are entering this branch of business, and you pay long transportation charges extra.

In conclusion I wish to say: It matters not so much what we do in life, but how we perform what we undertake. There is always room at the top, but below it is a perfect jam on the way to the road called success.

As a summary of all: A person must like his business; attend personally to its many details; choose staple sorts of all kinds of fruit; give good clean and regular cultivation to every kind; be always strictly honest in deal and try to acquire proficiency as a salesman; keep good proportions so as to be able to hold your customers' entire trade in fruit; use neat packages filled with clean fruit. Send out good fruit or none at all, and you are on the road we all like so well to travel, called Success.

The way to wealth is as plain as the way to market; it depends chiefly on two words—industry and frugality, that is, waste neither time nor money, but make the best use of both.—Franklin.

"Dah is too many folks," said Uncle Eben, "dat ain't willin' ter share nuffin' but dah sorrers."