

Secy. Latham: There is a great deal of room wasted in a vineyard. My oldest vineyard is planted in rows six feet apart and the vines eight feet apart in the row. I never had any vineyard bear any more, and it continues to bear. The exhibit of Mr. Loudon, in the other room, is taken from that vineyard. The vines do not seem to be too near. The only difficulty is there is not earth enough to cover them. My latest experience is in planting them seven feet apart each way. A vine seven feet long is also easier to handle.

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#### FROM OUR NEIGHBORS.

C. G. Patten, a former Wisconsin nurseryman and fruit grower, now of Charles City, Iowa, writes under date of July 15th, '96: Blight is the worst here I have ever known it; bad enough last year in nursery and orchard, but worse in this region than last. Nearly all varieties have suffered more or less. My Greening is about as exempt from ravages as is the Duchess.

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Mr. P. V. Collins, of the Northwestern Agriculturist of Minneapolis, writes under date of August 6, '96: A. J. Philips, Editor and Manager of Wisconsin Horticulturist—Am much pleased with the cut of the cherry orchard of A. D. Barnes as it appeared in your July issue, and would like very much to secure it for use in our paper. Will give it a good position and publish description of same. The plate has been forwarded.

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From the report of the veteran horticulturist of Minnesota, Mr. J. S. Harris, "at their annual meeting, I find the following items relative to Wisconsin fruits:

"At the Wisconsin State Fair there was a remarkably fine collection of Oldenberg seedlings, seven varieties, produced by Joseph Zettel, of Sturgeon Bay, Wis. So fine and valuable a collection from that one variety has never before been produced by one man. The prospect for raising an abundance of the finest apples here in the cold north is growing brighter,

and seedlings of the Russians and crosses with our best and hardiest American varieties are destined in the near future to furnish us the best list of apples known to the world."

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The Loudon Raspberry.—A brief account of our visit to the original plantations of this now extensively advertised new fruit at Mr. Loudon's place, Janesville, Wis., was given on page 266 of the magazine for August under the head of "Notes from the Seedling Fruit Committee." We continue of the opinion that it will prove to be the best red raspberry ever up to this time originated, and it should as soon as possible be tested in every part of our state.

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The Columbian raspberry is also greatly praised by all who have had an opportunity to try it, but we have not seen enough of it to speak advisedly at this time.

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A horticultural writer in a Dakota paper objects to lath protectors because jack rabbits can reach three or more feet high and bite off limbs, but recommends trees headed only two feet high. What a feast for the jacks! He also says borers can harbor under the lath, says he thinks Dakota is not a good climate for the codling moth, as he has never seen a wormy apple in his orchard. I thought perhaps he was like the man who when he read that a certain bank had failed, ran home a mile to see if he had any bills on it, and on reaching his abode found he had no bills on that bank or any other. We in Wisconsin think protectors are all right, or Parsons & Loope would not use 4,000, and L. G. Kellogg & Co. would not ship a car load of lath for protectors and build a machine to make them. Moral—If a tree is worth planting it is worth protecting.

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People in southwestern Minnesota are complaining of fruit tree swindlers selling southern trees. They bled one German farmer to the tune of \$80.00, and to show that they are not respecters of persons they gave his American neighbor a similar dose. They gave others the same to the tune of \$10 to \$20 apiece. They contract to do the planting, but at that time they will be scarce. There is plenty of horticultural

reading and there is no excuse for farmers being swindled. Read and let those fellows alone and plant only home grown trees.

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Jacob Manning, of Reading, Mass., says he has not missed a meeting of the American Pomological Society since 1860—a record to be proud of, that no other man in America has. He has five sons, three of whom are instructors in landscape gardening. Thomas Meehan, one of the oldest members, is still living, and has four or five sons actively engaged in horticultural pursuits.

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#### FROM IOWA.

From Wauke, Iowa, report comes of a good crop of peaches. This season foreign plums did better than natives at Corning. Fruit prospects good. More Russian apples in experimental orchard at Ames than there was last year. Full crop strawberries, half crop apples, one-third crop cherries, blackberries and raspberries at Storm Lake. Red raspberries a failure; apple crop good. Wolf, De Soto, Forest Rose and Rolingstone plums full at Dubuque. One writer says the sparse setting of runners, short growth of canes, low vitality of bushes, impress the fact that small fruits can only be grown profitably when moisture is normal, but where ground is thoroughly subsoiled one or two seasons previous to planting and high culture given during drouth, partial crops that would pay could be secured. During drouth small fruits did fairly well in shaded locations near or among orchard trees. These facts suggest planting part of the crop among young orchard trees and a part in open ground. In orchard they enjoy some shade which they usually have in their native places. As a rule small fruits need a cool, moist location. Some seasons the north and some the south slopes do best, so if you have them plant on both. C. Steinman wants a Russian apple that will keep till May, hardy as Duchess, not subject to blight, showy as Ben Davis, that will bear good crops eight years from graft, and if he had said as good in quality

as Jonathan, he would have had near perfection. This is asking a great deal, and I hope he will find it. A. F. Collman, who is good horticultural authority, believes the coming apple will be produced by crossing the best American apples with the best European varieties.

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#### FROM MICHIGAN.

At mid-summer meeting Prof. Taft of agricultural college advocated the using of arsenic instead of paris green for spraying, with the condition that it must be properly applied. Mr. Graham thought all fruits were being planted to excess. Prof. Wheeler of the agricultural college said that nourishment for the tree should not be placed near the trunk which is sound. Prof. Taft said the North Star currant is the best and most promising variety, as the borer does not trouble it. E. C. Reed, secretary of society, said that the gooseberry crop pays poorly because the berries are forced on the market too early; thinks all fruits are liable to be marketed too early. Stephen Cook of Benton Harbor favored growing cherries, and urges the using of the Mahaleb stock, in which opinion he was backed by Prof. Taft and Mr. Hamilton. Warns people not to plant near woods or old fence rows. Near close of meeting they were favored by the presence of Prof. H. E. Van Deman, of Virginia, who said he had no fears of the markets being glutted with fine fruit. Urged using better packages and even wrapping the fruit as the California growers do, as it not only helps the appearance but retains the flavor of it. He urged thinning severely and cultivating thoroughly in defiance of droughts, and thereby produce the highest grade of fruit. Mr. Dunlap spoke favorably of cold storage, especially for apples, and cited instances when apples were bought at seventy cents a barrel and after being in storage for a few months sold for six dollars. Capt. Augustine is of the opinion that not half enough trees are being planted to keep pace with increase of population. At this meeting some favored mixed planting, but the majority favored small fruits and trees in lots by themselves.