

For the Deseret News.

STRAWBERRY, (*Fragaria*.)

Like grapes, strawberries are resolvent and laxative without debilitating. If eaten plentifully, they have been found a safe preventive against the gravel. The small stones contained in strawberries, as well as in grapes are apt to accumulate in the intestines of some individuals, and give rise to the most obstinate constipation. The best method of eating strawberries is with pure water, and sweetened with a little sugar; with milk or cream they are an agreeable but improper composition. A pleasant drink is made of strawberries, water and sugar, which is much used as a cooling and refreshing beverage to quench thirst. They agree well with young people of a sanguine and choleric complexion, and are not at all injurious unless taken in too great a quantity at a time. Gravelly land where sage brush grows is good strawberry land. The strawberry plant will grow on our adobe lands, and on lands where there is a total absence of gravel, but they will not yield a satisfactory crop of large high-flavored fruit. There is something in the soil of our lower city lots which is poison to the plant, making it grow yellow and sickly. Where the land is suitable the plant will be of a deep pea green, and polished as if varnished. I would not advise persons to buy plants for unsuitable land, as they will meet with disappointment, and lose the price of their plants and their labor. There should be a space devoted in each city lot for the growth of the strawberry alone; they will not flourish under trees. Where the land is not suitable I know of no better and more sure plan than to remove the earth twelve inches deep, the size of the bed you want, and then run a drain still below that to keep the top soil free from the poison of the under and adjacent soil which may be communicated to it from beneath and around. After this is done, then haul good suitable soil into the space from which you have removed the earth, plant your bed with good and proper plants, cultivate with care, and abundance of the choicest of fruit will reward your labors. Mr. Thomas Ellerbeck has been eminently successful in importing to this our mountain country, nearly, if not all, the celebrated varieties. For my own use I have confined myself to three varieties, namely, the Excellenta, the Wilson's Albany, and the Vicomtesse; these three kinds have proved themselves to be on our bench lands, abundant bearers, fine flavored and hardy.

Your beds should be prepared now and plants obtained as soon as ready. As a fertilizer for the strawberry, green unrotted manure should be avoided. The best plants, to secure an early and abundant crop, are the first that root from the parent plants. If you plant Wilson's Albany the first runners should be chosen from fine bearing parent plants; if any other are taken you may be disappointed by planting and cultivating barren plants. This kind is more subject to barren plants than the other kinds and require more attention and care in the choice of plants. You should be willing to pay as much again for the plants I describe than for plants taken promiscuously from an old neglected and matted bed. The poor success that many have met with in raising this much desired fruit has arisen from the careless and improper choice of plants. When your land is prepared make your drills three feet apart, and plant four inches apart in the drill, with a view to cutting out every other plant after the next years crop. In this way with proper culture you will secure a plentiful crop next year, for every plant will bear more or less of big fine early berries next season, than by killing every other plant you have a standard bed of healthy plants eight inches apart in the row. When the young plants are removed to the new bed they should, when taken from the earth, be thrown into a bucket of water; the roots should never allowed to dry. They should be planted out of the water immediately after watering the ground where they are to be set, and while the soil is yet muddy; they should be planted in mud. When you have introduced the roots of the young plant into the newly watered soil place immediately over them a flattish rock about the size of the palm of a man's hand; be careful not to cover the crown of the plant. This operation is essential to secure the sure rooting of every plant, to serve as a mulch to keep them from drying out, and as a protection against the water washing the roots bare and the plants out of their places. These little foot rocks also act as fertilizers collecting sediment from the water which the plant readily appro-

prises. Keep your bed well watered during the growing season, and your plants in a good growing condition. In the fall when they have done growing go through the bed with a sharp knife, cut, not pull, off the runners, and with the hoe clean out the rooted young plants you do not desire for spring planting, then give to each plant in the rows a double handful of good well rotted manure and the bed is prepared for winter. In the following spring the soil between the rows should not be meddled with until after the fruit has been gathered. The plants so planted and cared for will shoot out vigorously in leaves and strong bearing fruit stems. You are welcome to the above information, which if faithfully followed will be to you both valuable and profitable.

W.

Correspondence.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

SIR.—I noticed in the NEWS of July 1, an account of the expedition that started in pursuit of the Indians who stole the cattle and horses from Spanish Fork.

Mr. Albert Dimick, who was badly wounded at the time, died at 4 p.m. of Thursday, June 28th. He was a resident of Spanish Fork.

There were but 15 of us that first overtook the Indians, some 25 or 30 in number. We fought them about an hour and a half, before the Springfield boys came up. We were below the Indians and the stock. The young man Edman, who was killed, indiscreetly came about a mile in advance of the rest of the boys.

We recovered 33 head of cattle and horses—nearly all the Indians have taken. We also picked up some new hats, shirts and blankets on the battle ground, after the fight.

Respectfully yours,

WILLIAM CREER, Major Commanding.

Through the courtesy of Pres. Heber C. Kimball, we are enabled to present our readers with the following interesting letter:

30, Florence St., ISLINGTON, London, May 30, 1866.

DEAR PRESIDENT KIMBALL:—

We are now about through with this season's emigration, and I take pleasure in attempting to indite a few lines to you, thus hoping you will not forget us in this far off land of darkness, superstition and bigotry. Your son Brigham, with B. Young, Jun., and John W. Young have been with us a week or more, adding very much to our enjoyment during their stay.

You no doubt are aware that I am now located in London. We have a great many of our elders visiting us during this season, especially at emigrating time, previous to their leaving for home, so I have had the pleasure of meeting all the elders that are returning this season.

We have started off two companies of Saints from London, one on the ship Caroline, numbering 35; the other on the ship American Congress, with about 300. I never experienced a better spirit than was manifest among them on starting for their distant homes. They appeared very happy that their redemption was so near, and rejoiced greatly to realize that they were on their way to Zion. I think them to be first class Saints, that will do honor to the cause. There will be some 50 or 60 more to go on the ship Cornelia, Grinnell, to-morrow, which will complete our emigration from this port. The John Bright, with some 650 Saints, left Liverpool, April 30. The ship Arkwright will leave with about 350 more on the 30th inst., which will about complete our emigration for this year.

We estimate that there were about 1,200 Saints in London; 200 of these have emigrated. Among those that are left in London and vicinity there are many yet of sterling worth, and the work is steadily rolling on, and more or less embracing the truth; though, of course, in the midst of bitter opposition; yet we expect to soon fill up the vacancies left by those who have emigrated, and many more, before the year is through.

The publicity of our emigration causes the reflective to pause and investigate, and we are continually questioned upon our faith, and of course hear many curious comments; but the contrast between the purity of the patriarchal order and the known and hopelessly corrupt monogamic order of Christendom draws more than passing notice of the more intelligent part of the community, and there is a kind of foreshadowing in their minds that there is but one remedy, though it is hard for them to think anything good can come out of Nazareth. There are some who are irresistibly forced to acknowledge the truth of the bold propositions laid down by "Mormonism," but who have not the moral courage to advocate them in the face of this corrupt generation.

I think, were you here now, you would see a great change since you were here twenty-six years ago. With all the advance of mechanics and science that this generation have undoubtedly made, they are far behind in them all, compared to the intense concentration of villainy and perfection of tactics in every conceivable corruption and wickedness, as though their only study was to shorten human life and cut off all chance of life hereafter. They are surely preparing themselves for the burning.

I called on Mr. Adams, the American Minister, with B. Young, Jun., last October. He received us politely, and referred with pleasure to his visit to Nauvoo and the social time he enjoyed with Joseph at that time. Thinking it might be useful hereafter to keep his mind refreshed as to our existence, I called upon him again a few days ago and had a good, free conversation with him, and also with Mr. Moran, Secretary of Legation. I was received with frankness and cordiality, with none of the usual stiffness and formality so common in English society.

I was happy when I heard of the safe arrival of your sons David and Charles, and Heber John Richards. I know you must have felt glad to welcome them home. They did nobly while here, and left many a well-wisher behind, whose prayers ever ascend up in their behalf, and who will be happy when the time arrives that they can clasp hands with them in Zion. And I assure you that your son Brigham is one of the best of boys, and a true Saint and greatly beloved by the Saints throughout this district. Br. Thurber wishes to be remembered to you, and says he has labored in London with Brigham and can bear the highest testimonial of his goodness and perseverance in the gospel. We have enjoyed his company very much during this emigration; he has been very useful in aiding and counseling the Saints on the ship. He went with me on the last ship to Gravesend, and returned to his field on Saturday last.

I must here add that much of the well-being of the Saints of this mission, at the present time,

is owing to the straightforward course and good example set by the sons of the Presidency, especially the firm and manly course pursued by B. Young, Jun., since officiating as President of the mission, for the people feel happy when they do right; and you may be sure there are many hearts in this country to bless Brigham and Heber's boys, and may God bless both fathers and sons and wives and daughters is the continued prayer of your brother in the gospel.

N. H. FELT.

P. S. Please remember me to Presidents Young and Wells, Elders Cannon and George A. Smith and all the friends of Zion, including your family, sister Whitney and E. R. Snow. Br. Joshua Whitney went in the American Congress, as Counsellor to Br. John Nicholson. He was quite well and happy.

N. H. F.

THE JEWS IN JERUSALEM.—Sir Moses Montefiore has returned to England from his mission of charity to the Jews at Jerusalem. During his stay in the Holy Land he laid the foundation stone of some new almshouses to be built for occupation by the poor of his co-religionists.

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BEN. HOLLADAY, President. Salt Lake City, April 23d, 1866.

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