

No. 6 represents the first prize Oxford ram, over two years old. This animal is the property of H. Arkell, of Arkell P. O. We heard the remark, when passing the sheep pens, that the Oxfords were the finest sheep on the ground. For size, handsome form, compactness, and length of wool, they really appear to be just what the observer said. Mr. Arkell's father was a great admirer of the Cotswold, and on his farm we have seen what we believe to be the largest number of Cotswolds in one flock on any one farm that we have visited on this continent. His son is still an admirer and breeder of the Cotswolds, but has now added the Oxford Downs to his flock.

A South Australian shepherd does not find the Canada thistle an unmixed evil since it furnishes more and better food for sheep during a protracted

Garden and Orchard.

The James Vick Strawberry.

Of which we give an illustration, is a new variety of strawberry brought out during the past summer. The color is bright scarlet, turning to crimson; surface glazed. The berries average large, and for quantity, quality and beauty the berry is reported to be all that is desirable. It scarcely seems possible that so many berries could grow upon one plant, but the engraving shows only a part of what one average plant produced. The berries grow so thickly together that a bee could hardly crawl between them. The fruit stems are long and stout, but are unable to sustain the great burden imposed on them, often 12 to 18 berries being on one fruit stem. It has been pronounced by eminent pom-

FORCING THE LILY OF THE VALLEY.—Mrs. H. C., Washington, D. C.: The lily of the valley is very easily forced for winter blooming. To do this clumps of flowering roots may be taken now from the bed in the garden and potted or planted in boxes in rich vegetable soil. The plants are put in a cold cellar for two weeks for a new growth of roots to be made, and then moved into a temperature of 55° or 60°, and well watered until they bloom. Fine bloom may be procured by setting the pots on boxes on a shelf over the kitchen range, where they will have bottom heat, and giving them plenty of water. When the flowers appear the plants may be brought to the window to color.

WINTER CARE OF BULBS.—C. R., Dover, Del.: The bulbs of gladiolus and tuberose should be taken up at once and removed to the cellar for preservation. The bulbs of gladiolus are new, the old decayed one being seen attached to it. Around the bulb are a number of offsets or bulblets which may be used for propagating new plants. These



THE JAMES VICK STRAWBERRY.

drouth "than any other plant that grows." Lambs especially take the flower-buds in preference to the best of grass.

Our poster and premium list for 1883 are now ready, and will be sent, with the ADVOCATE's compliments, to all who may wish to engage in the laudable and profitable pastime of securing new subscribers for the leading agricultural journal of the Dominion. Balance of 1882 free to new subscribers. Commence your canvass at once, and secure the name of every good farmer in your neighborhood.

Referring to the leading features of the degenerated agricultural fairs of the period—including horse-racing, circus performances, "montebanks" and gambling booths—*The Western Farmer* remarks that the managers should "advertise them for what they are before inviting the honest industry and morality of the country to sustain them."

logists to be one of the most promising strawberries ever introduced.

Vick's Magazine says: Its merits as a prolific and profitable strawberry are now pretty well established.

THE POINTS OF MERIT

are briefly:

- (1) Fine quality, unusual vigor, and perfect blooms.
- (2) Color, form, and firmness of berry, which approach the ideal. No white tips; no coxcombs.
- (3) Ability to stand on vines a week after ripening without becoming soft, or rotting, or losing quality or much lustre. Instead of softening it shrinks a trifle and becomes firmer than when first ripe.
- (4) Uniformly large size and productiveness unequalled by any other variety. Two hundred and eight berries were counted on one average plant, and from one row, about 100 feet long, nearly two bushels of berries were gathered.

may be removed from the bulb and preserved. The new bulb will flower again next season, but the bulblets will require three years' growth before arriving at flowering age. They are not sown until the second spring, when they may be planted thickly in a bed, and will induce small, slender plants. Tuberose bulbs which have flowered will not flower again, but the offsets may be planted the next season and succeeding year until the third, when they will bloom. It is thus necessary to procure flowering bulbs for three years before one can grow them; after that they come in in succession each year by continuing to plant the offsets for new plants.

The article on the *disadvantages of planting deep*, in which it is shown that seed should not be covered in any sort of soil with more than five times its diameter of soil, and that seed buried two feet deep is as safe from germinating as if sealed up in a fruit jar, is well illustrated by the cuts and relation of experiments given in a pamphlet entitled "A Revolution in Wheat Culture," sent to applicants by Professor John Hamilton, the able manager of farm operations and business at the State College, Centre Co., Penn.