

from a stand-point where land is worth \$500 to \$1,000 per acre (and badly "run" at that), manure at two dollars per cord, and other things in proportion; but rather on land near any of our vilages, that can be bought for \$80 to \$150 per acre, manure from swamp muck, leaf mould, leached ashes, sods from the roadsides and from the vilages, to be had for almost the drawing. Still, we wish to be understood that strawberries can be grown on the first named ground at even *six cents per quart*, and *pay* better than the *best* crop of potatoes to be found about such cities. And if this is so, one can see at a glance how profitable they will prove on rich virgin soil, or, in fact, on any soil that will grow good corn or potatoes; such soil requiring but little, if any manure, providing the plants are thoroughly worked and well mulched. Some of the most successful cultivators claim that they can raise large and fine crops and vines on poor soil, if it is only kept *well* worked and mulched, thus showing that it need not necessarily follow that strawberries cannot be made profitable because land is poor.

We admit that if strawberries are grown on the "slipshod" plan, they will not really prove profitable. Cannot the same be said of any crop, especially if grown on very high priced land? We claim that we can get a far better crop of fruit from strawberry *plants* than from *pig-weeds, chick-weeds, and the like*, and the more the ground is occupied by the first, and the less by the last, the better the crop, and *vice versa*. We cannot "gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles."

One very important fact to be taken into consideration is that it costs no more to grow good and pure varieties than inferior and mixed up sorts; and second, that it costs no more (except in the original plants) to cultivate a row that has been thickly set with plants, than one where the plants were set too far apart—the consequence being that the first form *perfect* rows, with the ground fully occupied, with no vacancies, while the last are very imperfect and the ground not half occupied—the crop on the first being double to triple of the last.

We have found how true this latter fact is from bitter experience. We have had rows sixteen rods long that had been set thickly, plants ten to twelve inches apart in the row, and as these run they formed fine wide matted rows all through, with no vacancies, and yielded through the season three to four bushels of fruit, while other rows near