

was the most promising. He described the color as bright scarlet turning to crimson, surface glazed, seeds on surface, season medium, quality good. All the party expressed themselves highly pleased with the display of fruit, and ate it with a good relish. The plant is vigorous, with large glossy dark green foliage, the blossoms hermaphrodite (or perfect), the fruit handsome, large, luscious, firm, and in great abundance.

The party returned to Rochester, and were invited to visit a small plantation there of the *James Vick* fruiting under hill culture, the rows lying between bearing grape vines, not the most desirable position as the grape roots must have occupied the entire soil. Here a sight met their eyes that they could not have anticipated, and such a display as probably was never before made by any strawberry. The stools were large and vigorous, and around each was a pyramid of ripe berries piled one on another like a walled fort, and so thick together that a bug could hardly have crawled into the enclosure made by the fruit without climbing the barricade. Berries on every plant were "uniformly of good size," as was remarked by Secretary P. C. Reynolds. The fruit stems were long and stout, but could not sustain the great burden imposed upon them (often 12 to 18 ripe berries on one fruit stem), thus the fruit rested one berry on another in a circle about the plant.

The news soon spread among the lovers of fruit of the city, and early next morning our leading pomologists came to inspect the newest wonder. After these came the younger enthusiasts, the foremen, and others who desired to see for themselves if half were true that had been told them.

Mr. Charlton said that as soon as the Norfolk (Va.), and other large strawberry planters learned of the value of

the *James Vick* for market, and shipment, the demand would be something wonderful.

The following is from the Geo. A. Stone nursery, Rochester, N.Y.:—"Dear Sir: I saw the *James Vick* today at Rochester. It would certainly seem to possess all desirable qualities. It is very prolific, firm of texture, and of fine flavor."

Geo. S. Wales, the Bannockburn nurseryman, said he had seen nothing equal to the *James Vick*.

Secretary P. C. Reynolds, of Rochester, N.Y., considers the quality of *James Vick* very good, and well suited to his taste, which is exceedingly critical. With possibly one exception he has not seen anything to equal it in productiveness. He considers it more productive, larger and of better quality than the Manchester.

We sent fruit of the *James Vick* to Mr. J. T. Lovett, over 300 miles distant, and he reports that it came in fine condition. As a shipping variety it is particularly desirable.

THE POINTS OF MERIT

of the *James Vick* are briefly:

(1) Fine quality, unusual vigor, and hermaphrodite (or perfect) blossoms.

(2) Color, form and firmness of berry, which approach the ideal. No white tips, no coxcombs.

(3) Ability to stand on the 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 eighty berries were counted on one average plant, and from one row about 100 feet long nearly two bushels of berries were gathered.—*Green's Fruit Grower*.