

that I can get from 6 to 10 inches of depth to start on, without any hand labor of any account. I next hitch the team to the subsoil plough, connected with it by means of a long logging chain, and a long double tree, say  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 feet. Driving a horse on each side of the drain, I commence to loosen the subsoil, first hitching close to the plough, as usual, while the drain is shallow, and lengthening the chain as the drain deepens. I plough one, two or three rounds as the condition of the subsoil may require, until we have stirred up 6 or 8 inches of earth; then I commence shoveling out by means of long-handled, round-pointed shovels. When all the loose earth is thrown out, I proceed to plough again, and so on until about the required depth is gained. Care should then be taken to get an even grade, and this is best done by use of the pickaxe and draining hoe. A narrow shovel for the narrow part can best be made by taking one of the common shovels to the village blacksmith and having the sides turned up, so as only to leave a width of four inches on the bottom.

I believe this plan will institute a new era in underdraining; making the cost less by one-half than the old way of digging with spade and pick axe; and it is far more economical of capital than buying an expensive ditching machine, and all the expensive repairs, etc., attendant upon its use, with the various vexations of its use if in stony or wet land.

## Small Fruits.

### BEST MARKET VARIETIES.

BY K. MORDEN, NIAGARA FALLS SOUTH.

The new and wonderfully promising varieties which blossom each year while the snow yet remains will not be noticed here. He who has plenty of

money and an abiding faith in lotteries will, as usual, invest in them. Contrary to the general rule, the best varieties are the cheapest ones in most cases.

In strawberries, the Crescent now leads. Wilson is valuable of itself and as a fertilizer. Manchester has, I think, come to stay. Sharpless is very large and good, and sometimes productive.

In red raspberries, the Cuthbert displaces every other variety. The Turner and Philadelphia are hardier at the north.

In black caps, Souhegan early, Mammoth Cluster medium, and Gregg for late. The Gregg does wonders here, but fails in some localities.

With me the Taylor is the best blackberry.

In currants, the Raby Castle leads by several lengths. On soils of clay it is said the Cherry Currant is productive.

The Houghton Gooseberry succeeds famously on our soil, but the fruit does not compete with the larger kinds in the case of a glut. The Downing is productive and salable. Smith's Improved fails here.

The Concord is still the leading grape. Worden seems to be a distinct improvement in most respects. The Rogers and many other varieties of grapes are defective as regards growth, productiveness, liability to mildew, or in some other respect. Their merits and demerits cannot be discussed in a brief article.

### MR. AYLEWORTH'S BIG STRAWBERRY YIELD.

In reply to inquiry, Mr. Ayleworth writes:—Sir, The strawberry plot mentioned by me in your February No. consists of sandy loam, liberally treated in 1883 and 1884 with a compost of muck, well rotted horse manure, hen manure, and unleached hard wood ashes. It is underdrained on three sides. It was used for raising roots in 1884, and deeply ploughed in the fall