

* Open Letters. *

The Mexican Strawberry.

SIR.—We are now cultivating about 300 kinds of strawberries, and out of a large collection we give the preference to the Mexican Strawberry, as the greatest yielder that we have ever tested; also, it is our largest berry, being considerably larger than the Marshall. In flavor, it is first class, but not to several other sorts. The plants attain a height of from 14 to 18 inches, with large, beautiful, dark green leaves; the blossom is large and perfect flowering. A strange peculiarity of this plant, is, that it yields heavier and better crops at three and four years of age, than it does at two years.

A single plant of the Mexican Strawberry will yield three boxes of fruit, when it is three years of age. In September and October here, we always get a big second crop from the Mexican Strawberry. The young plants when set out, always give a good picking the first season.

S. L. WATKINS, *Grizzly Flats, Cal.*

Irrigation—(See 860.)

SIR,—I think Mr. Pickett will find it profitable to send for an Irrigation Report which has been issued by the New Hampshire College, Agricultural Experimental Station, Durham, New Hampshire, U. S. A.

This Institution has devoted a considerable space to Irrigation, and if Mr. Pickett will send to the College for their latest and fullest report on the Irrigation subject, he will find it a great advantage, and it will contain all the information he should require for his purpose.

ANTON SIMMERS, *Toronto.*

That Big Tomato.

SIR,—I read with interest your article in August No. of the HORTICULTURIST headed "A Huge Tomato." I may say that for many years I have cultivated tomatoes successfully, and produced them in great perfection. In 1895 I had a number of specimens weighing from 1½ lbs. to 2 lbs. and one "huge" one which tipped the scales at 3 lbs. 3½ ounces. They were of the variety known as Mikado, improved by careful selection of seed from the largest, smoothest and earliest fruit. This year a hailstorm, about three weeks ago, utterly destroyed my garden. Thousands of panes of glass were broken in our town. We are taking steps to form a Horticultural Association for this place.

J. S. McCALLUM, M.D., *Smith's Falls.*

Native Red Plum.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a sample of the plum which Professor Craig reported on sometime since. It is a native, nothing seems to affect it—it is ironclad.

W. H. SNELLING, *Ottawa.*

[The plum is of good size, bright red, and very attractive. Too much bruised to test quality.]

Our Book Table.

CIRCULAR.—Grimm Manufacturing Co., Champion Fruit Evaporator and Dryer, for the evaporation of all kinds of fruits and vegetables.

Address, 84 Wellington Street, Montreal, Que.