

GATHERING THE FRUIT.

In picking for market, the fruit should not be gathered while wet, as the moisture is injurious to its keeping qualities. Pick when the fruit is as dry as possible, and do not let it become too ripe. Always leave the shucks and a little piece of stalk on each berry. This will help them to retain their shape and ship better than if they are removed. Let the quality and size of the fruit be uniform throughout the box. Do not top off with a few large berries, and have all the small nobbled mess in the bottom. It is a dishonest way of doing business and a practice which will bring distrust and failure upon the follower of such methods. Let quality be your trade mark.

VARIETIES.

There are many different kinds, but there will be no disappointment if any of the following kinds are selected: Sharpless, Captain Jack, Wilson and Crescent. The three first named varieties are perfect or bisexual. On the Crescent the blossoms are devoid of stamens and so-called pistillate or imperfect, and in order to produce fruit it is necessary to plant every other row with a staminate or perfect variety to pollinize the imperfect flowers. Some growers claim it is not necessary to plant more than a row every eight or nine feet for the purpose of fertilizing the pistillate varieties, but everything is to be lost by too few staminates; I think it is safer to be on the right side. There are numerous other kinds that are well adapted for this province, I know, but I have not yet had the opportunity of testing them on their merits. In conclusion, Mr. President, I wish to warn those would-be purchasers who have been and who are so often beguiled by the enticing plates of enormous strawberries which the salesman from some remote part of Ontario or the States shows them. My advice is to take no stock in such pictures, and do not listen to the promises painted in such roseate hues. Buy your plants from some reliable man who is in the business in Manitoba, who has acclimatized stock, and if you wish for some newer kinds get them from some reputable