

tubers were raised. There is no doubt of the general benefit of coal ashes in a garden, and their decided effect upon the tomato and potato family. They doubtless affect more or less favorably all plants, in the improved texture of the soil, which most of our old cultivated fields need. Add to this their well known manurial properties which science has pointed out, little though they be, and there is no reason why coal ashes should not be used on our land, to say nothing of what may seem an occult influence when they are put in union with the fertility of the soil, resulting thus, as appears to me, in an increased growth. I have faith in the discarded coal ashes, and I am using them to advantage.

STRAWBERRY NOTES.

(By Hon. M. P. Wilder, in *Green's Fruit Grower*.)

How has the James Vick done with you this season? It is a beautiful plant with noble trusses and a superabundance of bloom, but cannot carry out the crop to perfection without high cultivation and plenty of water. It throws up too many fruit stalks. It is a pity that the fruit is not larger. We have had frequent rains and a good season to test a large number of the new varieties, some of which I think well of. Primo is a fine, large, uniform, bright, prolific, and late variety; very good. The Prince of strawberries planted last fall made large stools—some with four or more trusses and produced much handsomer and high-flavored fruit. Mrs. Garfield and Jewell make good plants and are promising, but Iron Clad has not been clad with much fruit. Bouquet (a new variety from the Hudson River) is rich and high-flavored. Crescent and Duncan (the former fertilized by the latter) are my most useful early sorts. Duncan is healthy, productive and aromatic; excellent for home use. I still

hold on to many of the older sorts for a general crop, such as Charles Downing, Seth Boyden, Kentucky, Sharpless, Triomphe de Gand and Cumberland, nor would I omit the Hovey and Wilder, as grown by the originators, and as always shown at the annual strawberry exhibitions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Strange indeed that these varieties are not more grown, but a neighbor of mine has an acre of the Wilder and finds a ready market previously engaged at twenty-five cents per quart. Mr. Hovey has some new plantations of his strawberry of great vigor, and I think he will be heard from next year. The Early harvest blackberry is two weeks earlier than any other I have.

THE EULALIAS.

Eulalia Japonica variegata and *E. J. zebrina* are, in my opinion, two of the prettiest and most desirable ornamental grasses we have in cultivation, and both should be grown by all who possess the necessary facilities. They do best when grown in a rich, deep soil, and after they have become well established, so that it is well to avoid frequent removals. Propagation is effected by division of the plants early in the spring, just before they start into growth. I know that seeds of these *Eulalias* are often advertised; but as far as my experience has extended I have never been enabled to raise a plant of them with variegated foliage.

For the benefit of those who are not acquainted with the *Eulalias*, I would say that they are reed-like plants, attaining a height of from four to six feet. *E. J. variegata* has foliage that bears a striking resemblance to the old ribbon or striped grass of the garden; while the foliage of *E. J. zebrina* has the striping or marking across the leaf instead of longitudinally. On this account, it is a plant that will always