

**Ida's  
Notebook**  
by  
**Ida Risser**



The leisure of winter is about over, and we must think of outside work again. Our strawberry

bed has become quite weedy. So, we worked diligently and cleaned it for spring. It may

need to be replaced as it was planted eight years ago.

My husband has purchased some blueberry bushes and is trying to dig holes for them. They like an acid soil and so will need special care. We thought that we had a Bartlett pear tree, but last fall's harvest proved otherwise. Thus, he has bought another tree.

The forsythia and pussy willow, that I planted when we moved here, are in full bloom. I always like to put some in the house. This year my small, red tulips might not bloom around

the mailbox as I see only leaves.

I've been looking at the names of vegetables in the Landis Valley Museum's "Heirloom Seed Project." They certainly sound German - Huberschmidt ground cherry, Riesentraube tomato, and Winnigstadt cabbage. The project has many herbs and ornamentals for sale too.

At the museum they have planted a replica of a settler's garden. It is a four-square raised garden with dirt paths. Here

they raise some of the heirloom seeds that can be purchased in the spring.

As a youth my grandfather, John Shreiner, took me to visit Henry and George Landis whose collection started the museum. At that time they lived in the two-story frame house on the grounds. They were bachelors and had many cats living with them. They surely never realized how their collection of antiques would be used.

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