

GRAPES,

IN ULSTER AND ORANGE COUNTIES IN THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

Mr. E. Williams writes to the *Rural New Yorker* an account of his visit to these famous grape regions, and gives his impressions of quite a number of varieties of grapes that he found growing and bearing. The following are some of the kinds he mentions :

Empire State, a white variety produced from Hartford and Clinton ; foliage good, vine productive ; cluster of good size, compact shoulders ; berries medium ; very promising ; quality good.

Lady Washington was found to be doing well—much better than we had expected from the culture it received. We had expected to see these grapes under the very highest condition of culture. Mr. Ricketts said this was the general impression of visitors, but here under reverse conditions they certainly gave evidence of more merit than we could expect under the circumstances. Next season the *Lady Washington* will fruit for the first time over a wide extent of territory and begin to make its reputation for the future. The Editor of the *Rural New Yorker* remarks that this has fruited at his experimental grounds, but disappoints him.

Newburgh Muscat, raised by Dr. Culbert, of Newburgh, a cross of Hartford and Iona ; white, of first quality ; one of the best of vines ; vigorous and apparently healthy. It was bearing its first fruit, and we could not, therefore, judge of its productiveness, but its quality so impressed all that the desire to have a vine for our own use was unanimous.

Belinda (Miner), white, sweet ; cracks badly. Of the *Lady* and *Martha* type.

Linden (Miner), black ; not as sweet as Concord, otherwise similar.

Brighton here was in absolute perfection. We failed to discover the least trace of mildew, and the proprietor says he has never seen it at all affected in this way on his grounds, which is the reason he has so confidently recommended it for years past, as it always does well with him.

Po'keepsie Red (Caywood), we here saw outside the originator's ground, and it is doing as well, if not better. It is said to be a cross of Delaware and Iona, much of the same character as the former—some say better. Although it originated some years ago, it is not yet disseminated.

Wyoming Red, a vigorous grower ; fruit larger than Delaware and darker in color ; very foxy and poor in quality ; ripens with Champion and keeps well.

Duchess was seen at home under the master's care at Mr. Caywood's, yielding a fair crop and splitting considerably. A portion of the clusters had been bagged and these were found to be splitting worse than those exposed. As to the best time to apply the bags, Mr. Caywood claimed that those clusters inclosed at or before blooming were the most perfect. He thought the most failures with the *Duchess* were due to continuous fertilizing. If the soil was thin he would manure it well at the start before setting the vines and afterward withhold fertilizers, otherwise an excessive growth of wood and little fruit would be the result. When once established a little fertilizer in the shape of bone or wood ashes was all that seemed to be needed.

Ulster Prolific, a red variety of his, presented quite a vigorous appearance ; fruit medium ; bunch small and rather foxy. The Editor of the *Rural* adds that specimens of this variety sent to him were among the very best he had ever tasted.