The Janesville Grape.

(Originated from seed. At the Wisconsin Fall Exhibition of 1868, the premium was awarded to the Janesville as the best, and worthy of cultivation, and christened by the President the "Janesville," from the city of its origin.)

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

DEAR SIR:—Having been appointed agent for the sale of the above grape in Canada, I have much pleasure, through the medium of your valuable paper, in calling the attention of all fruit growers, and more especially of every farmer in the Dominion of Canada, to the above grape; having originated north of us, I feel assured it will be fully appreciated by those giving it a trial. It has two recommendations which cannot be claimed by any other grape at present cultivated, and which will make it so acceptable to the most northerly part of the settled portions of Canada, viz.:—1st. Its earliness, ripening about the 15th of August, thus ensuring perfect safety from the early September frosts which so frequently (to our bitter experience) destroys the hitherto promising crop. 2nd. Its perfect hardiness, ensuring it against the most severe winters, without laying down or any protection, thus giving an assurance, with its earliness, of its adaptability to the extreme limit of grape culture. And, last, its a very good quality, and even in those favored parts of Western Canada, or the lake shore region, where some of the choicest vines can be raised (although they may be a little tender), this grape will be very much prized, ripening three or four weeks before other varieties, therefore not in any way coming into competition with them, and will be invaluable as an early market grape, and, as all fruit-growers know, will command a good price. This is not a grape just brought out, without having had a fair trial, but every year is adding to its merits, and it is destined to become the only reliable grape for Canada. I have enclosed you a few very high testimonials from many others in my possession, and would observe that after 20 years' experience in fruit growing, I feel great confidence in bringing forward this grape, and I shall plant it largely this spring.

A. G. DEADMAN,
Lambeth, P.O., Ont.

See advertisement in this paper.

FROM C. H. GREENMAN, WILTON, WISCONSIN.

1st. It is perfectly hardy, and has fruited for the past ten years without winter protection, exposed to the extreme temperature of 35° below zero during the winter of 1863-4, fruiting the same season, and has not been affected by the extreme temperature of 1864 and 1873.

2nd. It colors early in August, and is usually ripe by the 15th August, comparing favorably with the Concord in quality, and is better than the Hartford in every respect, and does not drop its fruit from the branch. It bears quite young, and matures the cane as fast as it grows.

FROM A. G. TATTLE'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE, 1874.

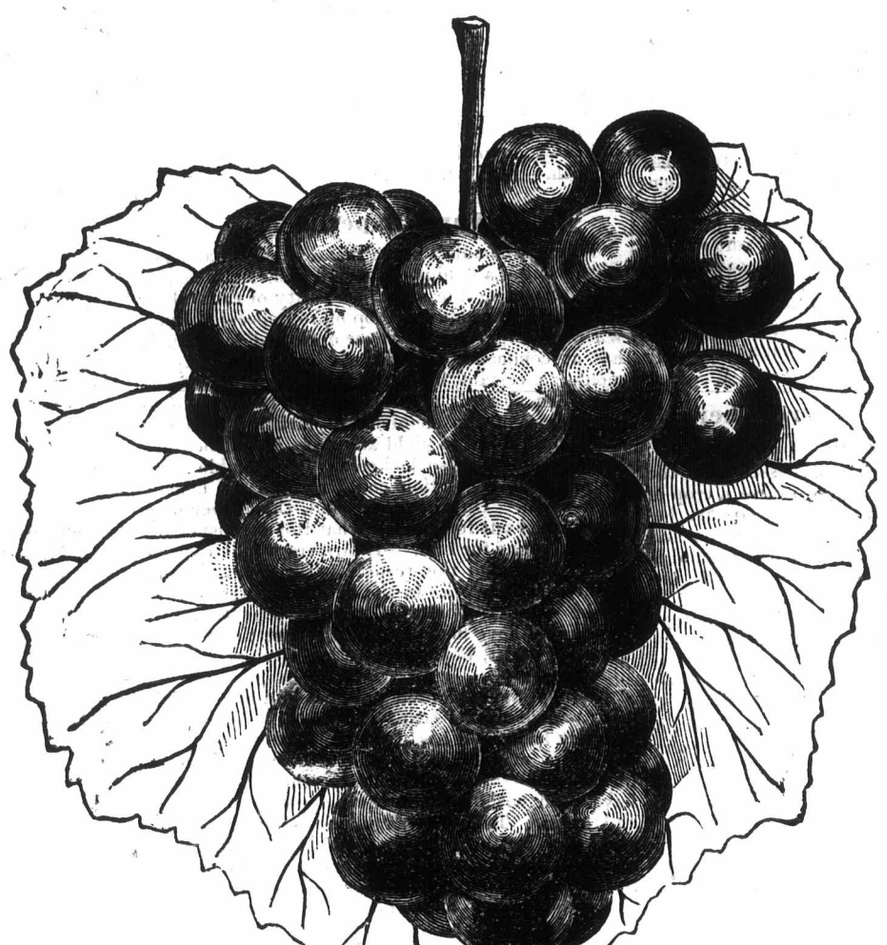
By far the best very early grape. Keeps well; hangs to the cluster; bunches medium and very compact; berries medium; quality as good as Concord.

FROM THE WESTERN FARMER, SEPT. 3, 1870.

The article on the Janesville grape in your paper of August 27, led me to look at my vines, where I found Janesville in good eating condition; Hartford coloring but not yet eatable, fully ten days later than the Janesville; Delaware very slightly coloring; Concords perfectly green. J.S. STICKNEY.

The especial merits of the Janesville grape are its earliness, hardiness and habit of maturing its short jointed wood as fast as made, adapting it to the most northern limit of grape culture.

J. C. PLUMB, Milton, Wis.



THE JANESVILLE GRAPE.

Cultivation and Profits of Root Crops.

M. O. B. Hadwin read a paper on Root Crops at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, from which we make the following extract:

Of the mangold wurzel, Mr. Hadwin said that the "Norbiton Giant," "Long Red," and "Yellow Globe," were prominent varieties, and the "Golden Tankard" a new and promising variety. The mangold produces more tons to the acre, and when fed to cows stimulated a larger flow of milk than any of the roots commonly grown as field crops. A sandy loam, that had been occupied by a hoed crop the previous year, was the best soil for the mangold. A liberal dressing of good manure was essential, which should be plowed under early in the spring, as the ground was then in good working condition, and then the ground should be cross-plowed with a swivel-plow, and harrowed to pulverize and level it; after which the roller should be used to break up all the lumps and make the field smooth for the seed-sower. The seed should be soaked thirty-six hours in warm water, and sowed with any seed-sower adapted for the purpose, in straight rows. When the plants were up, a hand cultivator should be used between the rows to stir the surface and check the growth of weeds. When they have obtained the fourth leaf, the horse hoe should be used in their cultivation, and its use may be continued at intervals for a few days until the leaf of the plant covers the ground, which is usually the case by the tenth of July, if the labor of tending the crop has been well kept up. The plants should be thinned when the sixth leaf appears, leaving them from eight to twelve inches apart in the rows, using the hand hoe at the same time to destroy the weeds between the plants. His practice was to strip the leaves from the plants in October, and feed them to his cows, as he had found that they stimulated the flow of milk when otherwise there would be a falling off. Mangolds were not liable to injury when stored in large quantity, and keep well until the following June, and even the year round. Some of the statements in regard to the yield of mangolds seem almost incredible. Seventy-five tons per acre was not an unusual crop in England, and in this country the crop of Hon. Albert Fearing, in 1872, was reported to have weighed 62 tons and 1,280 pounds to the acre. From forty to fifty tons were often grown with good care and moderate expense in cultivation. The carrot the speaker regarded as well adapted to constitute a portion of the food for milch cows, horses and swine. They added largely to the flavor and quality of milk, with a reasonable increase in quantity. This root adapted itself to all kinds of soil, but succeeded best in a deep loam, with a slight admixture of sand. A liberal dressing of good and well decomposed manure was required, which should be well plowed in as early as possible, and as soon as the weeds make their appearance the land should be cross-plowed, harrowed and rolled, when it would be ready for the seed. The seed should be soaked in warm water twenty-four hours before planting, and then sunned a short time, to dry off the surface moisture, so that the seed would not clog in the seed-sower. Two pounds to the acre was more than enough, if judiciously planted, as too thick sowing resulted in unnecessary and expensive thinning, or, if this was neglected, in a smaller growth of roots, expensive to harvest and handle. The time for planting was from early in May to the tenth of June. His practice was to plant in straight rows twenty-two inches apart, thinning the plants to three or four inches apart in the row. The horse-hoe should be used to a considerable extent, and the cultivation was similar to that of the mangold. English turnips could be sown between the rows by the 20th of July, without injury to the carrots, and add materially to the product of the land. The "Long Orange," the "Intermediate," and the "Short Horn" were the varieties recommended. The crop should remain in the ground as late as the latter part of October. After pulling they should be allowed to lie in the piles for a few hours, when they may be carted to the cellar. They required considerable ventilation until freezing weather came, when, fed to cows with an equal amount of mangolds, a large flow of milk of good quality would be obtained. If fed to horses once a day in the place of grain, carrots would be found most conducive to the health and strength of the animals. Among turnips the ruta-baga stood pre-eminent for the economical feeding of the animal. It was also valuable for domestic use, and for the market. It should be manured in drills, as well as by spreading the manure broadcast, and the method of cultivation was substantially the same as that of mangolds. The season for planting was from the 10th to the 15th of June, when all other crops were in. It did not require so much manure as mangold and would do well on a lighter soil. Harvesting could be delayed as long as the ground remained open, as the roots were not liable to injury by frost. They should be stored in a dry cellar, and have good ventilators. The crops sometimes reach as high as thirty-seven tons per acre, but an average yield was about twenty tons. Four tons was considered equal to one ton of hay, and it was a profitable crop to grow, as a clean and nutritious food for growing stock. The English turnip was next referred to as a root cheaply grown, but of comparatively little value. When fed freely to young stock, however, they stimulated the animal to rapid development. It was often grown as a second crop, following peas, early potatoes, strawberries, or any crop that could be renewed previous to August, and if any crop failed, the turnip afforded another and the last chance for the season. It should be fed early in the fall, as it was not a late keeper, and a poor root to store in bulk. A good soil was required to produce a large yield, and they should be gown in drills twenty inches apart, but often succeeded well when sown broadcast.