

## Samples of Fruits.

### GRAPES.

CLINTON.—Sir,—I send by to-day's mail a sample of grapes grown by myself in this district. They were bought for Clinton. Would you please tell me if they are true to name, and your opinion of their quality.

Yours truly,

PHILIP JAMES.

Glen Orchard, Muskoka, Aug. 25, 1887.

The bunch of grapes you send is correctly named, and is well coloured, considering the date of gathering. Though it colours in September it improves in quality if allowed to hang until frost. At best, however, it is very poor in quality when considered as a table grape, and its small size and tough pulp make it still less desirable. But as a wine grape it is highly valued because of its brisk vinous flavor, and its great productiveness. It is also very hardy and in this respect well suited to your section. Botanically speaking the Clinton is a hybrid between the Riparian or Riverside group of American grapes, and the Labruscan or wooly leaved group, such as Concord, Ives &c.

WYOMING RED AND LADY.—On the first of September, Mr. Ambrose Pettit, Grimsby, sent us in some beautiful samples of these grapes which he was just shipping. The bunches of the former are large and close, the berries much larger than the Delaware, and covered with a very evident bloom, but it is in quality inferior to the high standard of that variety, and it has a somewhat pulpy centre.

### PLUMS.

Berlin, 22nd August, 1887.

Dear Sir,—I have sent you to-day per express a small box containing samples of four varieties of plums

grown from seeds on my grounds, three of which I think will bear favorable comparison with any of foreign importation. All the trees are perfectly healthy, and have as yet not exhibited the least tendency to the black-knot plague. One of the varieties is about the size of a damson, thus showing the tendency to run back to original conditions. No. 3 has the same flavor of the McLaughlan but not the shape, and possibly may be a seedling of that variety. I have another equal in quality to the Bradshaw but larger; however it is not in fruit this season. My object in sending you these samples is merely to show you that we Canadians can originate as good fruit as foreigners can, and possessing degrees of acclimatization more to be relied on, and so ultimately we may depend upon our own energies. All we want is the diffusion of a little more knowledge on the subject which we will eventually acquire.

I am, yours truly,

SIMON ROY.

NOTE.—These seedlings of Mr. Roy's are certainly valuable as indicating the possibilities before us in Canada in the way of obtaining new and improved varieties of fruits by careful experiments in growing seedlings and in hybridizing with existing varieties. Two of these seedlings are purple, one is green and one yellow, and three of them appear to be worthy of cultivation.

Sir,—At the request of Mr. Wm. Cruse I send you a small box of plums, the product of a tree which sprang up spontaneously in the garden. Do you recognize the variety, or if not would you give it an appropriate name?

Yours, &c.,

THOS. GORDON.

Owen Sound, 3rd Sept., 1887.

These plums resemble the Imperial Gage in appearance but the stem is longer. If hardy and prolific the seedling may be worthy of general cultivation and should be submitted to the