

Mr. MORDEN.—What about the Vergennes?

Mr. PETTIT.—I have not had much experience of that, but I think it would keep all winter; it is very tough in the skin. Senasqua I would not recommend. Roger's 19 is a good black grape. I think I have now mentioned most of those that are worthy of mention, and trust you will excuse my very poor way of introducing this matter; and any of you who would like to see, or taste or take any samples, do so.

The PRESIDENT.—Do you think there is any danger of overstocking the market? What market do you get now for the grape crop?

Mr. PETTIT.—Well, the markets of the world now have been pretty well overstocked. Montreal is our great outlet, and Toronto; and there is no question that they have had too many grapes this year rushed in; with a good peach and plum crop the market has been glutted.

The PRESIDENT.—Have you tried any other markets?

Mr. PETTIT.—There have been some shipped to the North-west; but express rates are so high that it injures the business in that way, and it will take too long to get them through by freight.

A MEMBER.—Did you ever ship any to Buffalo or New York?

Mr. PETTIT.—They are lower there than here. Chicago has been much lower than here.

A MEMBER.—Do you think grapes are below a paying profit?

Mr. PETTIT.—No, I don't think that grape-growing is overdone any more than any other line of farming. I think perhaps at present prices, this season's prices even, there is as much money in growing grapes as in any other line of farming.

A MEMBER.—Have you any idea how many grapes are out in Canada?

Mr. PETTIT.—I have not.

Rev. Mr. MURRAY.—Could Mr. Pettit suggest half a dozen varieties for good winter keeping?

Mr. PETTIT.—Diana, Isabella, Salem, Roger's 9, I think Vergennes, but then that is not generally cultivated; the 15 will keep equally well, although you are getting three red Rogers—not much of a variety. The Niagara, if carefully handled, will keep on through January. The great trouble in keeping the Niagara for market is in shipping it; if not carefully handled it is liable to tear loose. Then it discolors, and after it stands a little longer becomes mildewed, and that affects the grape next to it; but if they could be handled carefully and not knocked loose in this way, it will keep a long time.

Dr. BEADLE.—What are the keeping qualities of the Clinton?

Mr. PETTIT.—I never tried it. I think, though, it would keep well. I have seen them hanging on the branches nearly all winter.

PRESERVING GRAPES FOR WINTER.

Mr. MORDEN.—This last question suggests a very important one that it is not too late to discuss for the benefit of the grape interest this year,—How to preserve grapes for the winter. I think there are one or two gentlemen that could give this information. There are a great many grapes in the country, and fruit will be scarce in a few weeks. If these can be preserved for a few weeks it will be to our advantage. It is to be regretted that not much has appeared in print of late on the point.

The PRESIDENT.—We would like very much to hear from one that has had some experience on this point. Mr. Pettit, I think probably you can give us information on that point.

Mr. PETTIT.—I may just say that Mr. Cline and myself, and I think some other growers, last year, owing to the prices being dull late in the season, stored away quite a quantity of Niagaras—just put them away in the baskets. I put away ten ton.