

NOTES ON SMALL FRUIT CULTURE.

CURRANTS.

CHERRY.—Is the largest and most showy of all red currants, but with me it has been a failure. The bushes grow very heavy soft wood, with soft pithy heart. The currant borer eats all the centre out, causing the wood to die. Shoots that escape the borer bear well.

WHITE GRAPE.—With me has always been a success for the last twenty-five years, giving me an average crop even in frosty seasons when other kinds has been a failure. The bushes grow somewhat dwarf and are covered with a very heavy coat of leaves, and the limbs droop over each other so that they protect the fruit from late spring frosts almost entirely. Fruit and bunches large. Excellent for table use, not so acid as the red varieties. Will hang on the bushes till October.

FAY'S PROLIFIC.—Is a fine free grower, bearing large, showy fruit of good quality, but on my soil seldom produces an average crop.

RABY CASTLE (OR VICTORIA).—Is a very rapid strong grower and a very heavy bearer of long bunches of medium size fruit of good quality. Some of my bushes are eight feet across and yield from thirty to forty quarts each. It is decidedly the most profitable of the red sorts. Hangs on the bushes till late in the season without spoiling.

BLACK CURRANTS of all kinds are a failure on my soil. The bushes grow well, but never produce a paying crop. I believe the cause of failure to be too dry a sub-soil, my land being

at the depth of from two to three feet underland with dry, loose gravel.

STRAWBERRIES.

BUBACH.—I received from our F. G. A. some years ago, but I did not make a success of it. It bore well when I could get good young plants; some seasons I failed to get good young plants almost entirely.

MARSHALL.—Is a large, fine showy berry. Quality very good. Gives here only a moderate crop. Makes plenty of strong young plants every season. I find it somewhat tender in winter.

BRANDY WINE—Fruit large and handsome. Quality good and a fair bearer. It sets plants well and winters well. It ripens late.

PARKER EARLE.—Is a late variety, medium size, excellent flavor and very firm. Not productive enough with me to be profitable.

JAMES VICK.—Has been the best and most profitable berry on my soil that I have yet tried. The plants are very strong and vigorous. It sets plenty of young plants that winter well. Blossoms late, so that it is seldom hurt by spring frosts. Fruit large. If plants are given plenty of room it sets such a quantity of fruit that unless plants are well thinned the fruit will be small. The fruit stems are strong and hold the fruit well up from the ground. Berries are firm, quality very good and will keep longer on the vine than most sorts.

St. Mary's, Ont.

S. H. MITCHELL.

THE BEN DAVIS IN N. S. AND P. E. I.

WHILE Rev. Father Burke, of Prince Edward Island, and Mr. S. C. Parker, Secretary of the F. G. A. of Nova Scotia, agree perfectly as to the thrifty character of the Ben Davis in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island as elsewhere, there would appear

to be some grounds for Senator Ferguson's remarks commented on by those two gentlemen. The Hon. Senator had been attending exhibitions and possibly conventions in Nova Scotia, where no doubt several speakers held the views he took up. The esteemed Secretary of the