

Yet, if any situation will bring them to maturity in this climate, it may be done here.

Mr. Hannon explains his method of culture in the following letter, which has been kindly translated and forwarded to me by Capt. Campbell :—

“These vines are also planted in rows, three (3) feet apart (*i. e.*, the rows three feet from each other, and the vines three feet from each other also). This allows the plough to be readily passed between the rows in autumn ; the autumn being chosen for this work for two reasons, first, stirring up the earth, and, secondly, covering the vines for the winter, an indispensable precaution, which ought never to be omitted if the vines are to be preserved, and, besides, this manner of protection is so easy that it should not be neglected. After cutting the vines to about two (2) feet (to protect them from being trampled upon by the horse in ploughing), I pass the plough once on each side of the rows, which throws up the earth, thus covering the vine and shielding it from the winter frosts ; in this manner they are also protected from the late spring frosts, provided they are not uncovered too soon. Last winter none of mine suffered in the least. These vines I intend propping up with pole-sticks between three and four feet high, as is generally done in the middle and north of France. This method is in very general use, principally in cold countries, for this reason : The vine stock must be kept as near the ground as possible, for the higher it is the slower will it be in coming to maturity ; this is done by plucking up all the suckers growing from the root when the stump is vigorous and not too high, otherwise these must be preserved by dressing them as a new plant or growth, and the following year sacrifice the old stump.

“*First Prunings.*—The great fault of those starting such plantations, is the wishing to ‘run before they can crawl,’ or, in other words, going too fast. In the face of rapid productions like those of the vine, and of the long vine branches which shoot out, one is tempted to set the kinds one has chosen at once, and if only in the second year we may see grapes on the vine stock, we