

Muscadine or Frontignan wine. In Canada these varieties are tender, subject to mildew, and otherwise unsuited for out of door cultivation, but with more or less artificial heat these fine foreign grapes may be successfully grown.

Fruit Evaporators.

18. Can you inform me of any person in Ontario who manufactures apple evaporators, such as could be sold to individual farmers for preparing their surplus apples for the market. I see by the *Rural New Yorker* that they are made in different parts of the States, and retail from three dollars up to ten. Any information you can give will oblige.—L. H. HAMILTON, Thornbury, Ont.

Victoria vs. Raby Castle Currant.

19. ARE the Raby Castle and the Victoria currant the same, if not, what is the difference? The Victoria is said to be the largest variety grown. How much later is it than the old Red Dutch; as I have it from Lovett, of New Jersey, and Green, of Rochester, it ripens at the same time as our old Red Dutch.—H. McCREE, Norwich.

We believe that these are but two names for one and the same currant; and Downing in his "Fruits and Fruit Trees of America" gives the preference to the name Victoria. At our meeting held last month in Hamilton, Mr. E. Morden claimed that there is a difference between the two, but we think his position unproven. We would suggest that samples of each be submitted to the fruit committee at our Summer Meeting.

The Victoria ripens about with the Red Dutch, but will hang on the bushes longer, and hence has the reputation of being the latest currant.

Pruning the Gooseberry.

20. How should a Downing gooseberry bush be pruned to ensure finest fruit and largest possible quantity of it?

How much fertilizer, and of what kind, should be applied to a bearing plantation to give the best results?—G. C. MILLER, Middleton, N. S.

The gooseberry should be pruned differently from the currant. The latter needs constant cutting back to encourage as much new wood as possible; the former should not be cut back, but it should be freely thinned. Indeed, without a thorough annual thinning out of the branches, it is impossible to produce fine gooseberries; and probably it is not too much to advise a cutting out of one-half of the head every fall, whether of old or new growth; but retaining the latter in preference to the former, as upon it the fruit is grown. In England the tree form is preferred, but with us the bush form is more popular, as it will live longer and produce more fruit under that method.

Regarding fertilizers for the gooseberry, much will depend upon the needs of the soil as to the kind, but with regard to quantity it can scarcely be made too rich. Barn manure is no doubt the most useful, containing almost every essential element. Potash, either simple, or as supplied in wood ashes, is never out of place in the fruit garden.

The Ailanthus.

21. PLEASE say in your next number if you think the Ailanthus will do well in this latitude?—W. W. R., Toronto.

This useful tree, which was introduced from China about one hundred years ago, is well adapted for street planting, for it grows rapidly, adapts itself to the dust and smoke of the city, and will thrive in the poorest soil. It grows well and is perfectly hardy at Grimsby, and would probably succeed in the latitude of Toronto.

It has one serious fault, viz., that the pollen dust, which is abundant at the blooming season, is very injurious to human beings, producing catarrh, or