

buildings and white-washed board fences. Add to this the fact that in that vicinity the Spring is at least a week earlier than on this Island, and localities east and north of us, and it will be seen that the conditions are largely different from those under which our "out-door culture" is pursued. Mr. Smith's success has been most marked, as every one who has had the pleasure of seeing his fruit, either in his vineyard or on exhibition, will readily admit.

Mr. Smith also quotes Mr. Bailey, of Plattsburg, N. Y., as being very successful in cultivating the varieties alluded to. I have visited Mr. Bailey's vineyard, and while it must be admitted that it is in no way sheltered from the winds, the fact must be taken into account that Plattsburg is further south than even Philipsburg. The Spring opens there at least ten days earlier, while the Fall is ten days later than with us. The varieties recommended by Mr. Smith are, I am aware, grown amongst us—in limited quantities—but the vines are usually set in some specially favored sunny spot about the premises—or, perhaps, near the hot-bed frames, where the glass, though no doubt inadvertently, is made available to force the fruit forward.

I am quite of Mr. Smith's opinion that grapes can be grown in open air in this locality, to as great extent and perfection, as in any locality within a limited distance to the south or west of us, but not in as great variety. The specimens shown here last September amply testified this, and could the fruit have been permitted to remain ten days or so longer on the vines, the exhibit would have been as fine, for its extent, as any I have ever seen.

Nearly all grapes color at least two weeks before they ripen, and with us are generally picked before they are ripe, to save them from the frost. For this reason they are deficient in the bloom on the fruit, which is the sign of its thorough ripeness. The last two seasons have been exceptional ones in this Province, and most varieties ripened in advance of the advent of frost.

In 1871 I planted at Decker Park, near Montreal, 120