

Mr. MacCallum has found the several sorts of our ants to be quite prolific. He grew the Champagne, Cherry, and Red and White Dutch.

The President called the attention of Mr. Saunders, who is the Entomologist of the Association, to the existence of a small insect found feeding on the black aphid, and in this way rendering a valuable service. He thought it might be the same as the insect known in Scotland as the "Grave Digger."

Mr. Saunders stated it was not the "Grave Digger," but was the larva of one of the Lady-birds, and very much resembling the "Grave Digger." He exhibited several of them, which he had with him in a small box. They were about three-sixteenths of an inch in length, dark purplish colour, with yellow dots. He also stated that there was a gauze-winged fly, which was doing its share in the destruction of these aphids, with which it was desirable all fruit growers should be familiar and recognize it as a friend. Its expanded wings measured about three-quarters of an inch; it had bright fiery eyes, and, when handled, emitted a disagreeable smell.

GOOSEBERRIES.

The next question discussed relating to gooseberries—which are the best six varieties?

Mr. Hyslop had been successful in growing the gooseberry. The Houghton succeeded the best; but he had also raised fine fruit of the Whitesmith, Ironmonger, &c. He had succeeded in preventing the mildew by mulching.

Mr. Brooking had been troubled some with the mildew on a clay loam soil. The Whitesmith always mildewed, and so did the Warrington. He had raised a couple of seedlings, the one dark green, the other a dark variety. The caterpillar did not feed on the foliage of the dark green one. Had found the Houghton's Seedling to be one of the best for market.

Mr. John Freed remarked that the Whitesmith does not mildew on the Hamilton clay. Has planted Downing's Seedling, a good light green variety.

Mr. Morse grows for his own use the Houghton's Seedling. This is free from mildew, but Downing's Seedling mildews.

Mr. Osborne had been much pleased with Warrington, Jolly Angles, and Hardy's Red. He trims close, plants six apart, on a light gravel soil. There is a berry in Mr. Kerr's garden at Beamsville, which never mildews; it has a tuft upon it.

Mr. Saunders said that all the foreign sorts mildewed badly about London. The Downing mildews and bears poorly when the plants become old. Houghton does not mildew.

Mr. Woolverton named only the Houghton.

Mr. W. H. Mills is of opinion that by growing the gooseberry well up from the ground, and by mulching with cut grass and giving the mulch an occasional sprinkling with water, in which a little salt has been dissolved, the mildew may be prevented. The Houghton is a good variety, being much inclined to over-bear.

Mr. Arnold remarked that if confined to the one variety he should choose the Downing's Seedling. Mr. Downing raised two seedlings; only one of these has he thought worthy of a place in his great work on the Fruits and Fruit Trees of America. This is the one there described under the name of

Downing, and is a light green fruit. The other, known as his number two, is a red one, and that one he (Mr. Arnold) would choose as the second. Mr. Hart, of Paris, has some promising seedlings.

Mr. Cranfield raises gooseberries; his do not mildew.

Mr. Rowe, of Paris, said he came to the meeting on purpose to speak a friendly word for gooseberries. He has cultivated them very successfully for seven or eight years. Has grown Ploughboy, Roaring Lion, and Conquering Hero, and kept them from the mildew. He applied water, salt and ashes, and this prevented them from the mildew. He used unleached ashes, sprinkling them on the bushes. His soil is kept in a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Rykert has been informed that abundant mulching with grass would prevent the mildew. He had tried several of the English varieties, but was obliged to fall back on Houghton.

Mr. Barnes has tried the plan of letting the plants take care of themselves, and they always mildewed.

Mr. Lister has failed with the best gooseberries.

Rev. Mr. Bell thinks something besides mulching is needed, and that is a more uniform temperature. Has found good gooseberries at Guclph, on the Speed, raised little above its level.

Mr. Lovry inquired what was the cause of mildew.

Mr. Mills said he thought it was a parasitic plant, which grew upon weak or sickly gooseberry trees, but could not thrive upon those that are in perfect health.

Mr. Arnold thought that mildew was a parasitic plant.

The President thought we were trying to grow the gooseberry in an unfavourable climate, and hence our great want of success.

Mr. Saunders stated that sulphur is a remedy for the mildew.

Mr. McCallum thought that our sudden and extreme change of temperature brought about those conditions which were favourable to the growth of these parasitic fungi.

Professor Buckland thought that the climatic conditions of the west and south of England, Cheshire and Lancashire, and parts of Scotland, and most of Ireland, were favourable to the growth of the gooseberry. Wherever the vine flourished the gooseberry failed. He spoke of the recent examinations into the subject of the mildew by the Rev. Mr. Buckley, of England, who ascertained that the spores of these fungi exists in the atmosphere, and when found a suitable place for development with favourable conditions, there they grew, and produced the appearance we term mildew. Our climate does not favour the growth of the gooseberries, and Canadian cultivators of this fruit will always find themselves beset with difficulties arising from the varying condition of the atmosphere, and especially its very variable and extreme hygrometric conditions.

CHERRIES.

The best ten varieties of cherries to give a succession.

Mr. Freed said that the earliest useful cherry was the Mayduke, then came the Governor Wood, Bello d'Orleans, knight's Early Black, Black Tartarian, American Heart, Bigarreau of Yellow Spanish, Na-