

## STRAWBERRIES AND GRAPES.

In your next number please tell what varieties of (1) strawberries and (2) grapes would prove most satisfactory for this part of Ontario. As I grow the fruit for home use only I care nothing about carrying properties.

S. WARREN.

Brooklyn, Jan., 1885.

REPLY.—1. For crop, Wilson and Crescent; for quality, Jersey Queen, Mrs. Garfield, and Triumph de Gand.

2. Worden, Early Victor, Moore's Early, Brighton, Jessica, Lady, Niagara, Delaware.

What soil would be the best in which to plant the hardy Catalpa?

W. SWITZER.

Anderson, Ont.

REPLY.—We have only had experience with it in sandy and gravelly loam. They do well in such soil.

I have been very anxious to find for some years back if the system of pruning and training grape vines practised by the Italians employed by the late Mr. Decourtney at Cooksville has succeeded ultimately. Perhaps you would put the question in your next issue under the head of "Question Drawer," and oblige an old subscriber.

Yours truly,

T. D. LLOYD.

P. S.—I should have said the system did very well here for a couple of years after the vines commenced to bear good crops. After that the infirmities of old age (as with myself) began to show.  
—T. D. L.

REPLY.—Will some one who knows please to reply?

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## HEDGES.

An excellent defensive hedge for the orchard and farm can be made of our native crab apple (*pyrus malus odorata*), capable of keeping out cattle, and particularly the ubiquitous boy, who wants to help you, by disposing of your choice pears, apples, &c.

It is certainly superior to the Buckthorn, Osage Orange, Honey Locust, and all the varieties of the Hawthorn (*crategus*) family. The European variety (*oxyantha*) is too tender, and very subject to the downy aphides, and our natives of this genus, although hardy and bear shearing or pruning well, are subject to suckering.

For ornamental hedges, there is plenty of material suitable to the taste of the planter, such as White Cedar (*arborvitæ*), Hemlock Spruce, Tartarian Honey-suckle, Japan Quince (*pyrus Japonica*), Privet (*Lygustrum vulgare*), Barberry (*Berberis*).

For evergreen hedging, or wind-breaks, nothing that has as yet been tried is equal to the Norway Spruce; of deciduous trees, the Beech (*Fagus feruginea*) might be used advantageously, as it retains its browned foliage during the winter. The European Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) is used for this purpose, and also for ornamental purposes. I have tried it, but find that the young shoots are apt to be frozen back during winter.

For ornamental hedges, there is plenty of material suitable for this purpose to meet the taste of the planter, such as our common Arborvitæ, Hemlock Spruce, Tartarian Honey-suckle, Japan Quince, Privet, &c. I have also seen, when residing in the Lowlands of Scotland, the old-fashioned, original Fuschia (*var. coccinea*), used for this purpose, but it was protected in winter