

obtained by selecting the best from among a number of seedlings, while still others have been produced by careful crossing either of native varieties with foreign or by crossing the most promising of the cultivated varieties with each other. This latter method is a most interesting one, where the likeness of both parents can often be traced in either the vine or fruit of the progeny. From a series of experiments of this sort I have had some striking results of which the following are examples:—

No. 1. Clinton female, crossed with Buckland's Sweetwater male. The female is black, with a medium-sized compact bunch and round berry; the male yellowish white, with a large loose bunch and large oval berry. The hybrid has greenish white fruit, oval in form and sub-acid, a loose bunch with berries above medium size. The influence of the male is shown in this example in the colour, form and size of the fruit, in the character of the cluster, and to some extent in the quality of the fruit, it ripens about with the Clinton.

The resemblance to the female is most marked in the form and character of the foliage and in the habit of the vine.

No. 2. Clinton female with Muscat Hamburg male, female as described in No. 1; male, bunch large and loose, berries oval, black and of excellent quality, sweet with a rich Muscat flavor. The hybrid has a long loose bunch, oval black berry with a sprightly sub-acid flavor, but is late in ripening, too late to succeed well in our climate unless in very favorable seasons.

No. 3. The female in this case was a small black seedling grape not far removed in size and quality from the wild grape, with a small compact bunch of small black berries with large seeds; the male a deep purple grape, berries medium size, inclining to oval, with a juicy rich flesh. The resulting cross has a long and rather loose bunch of small round purple berries of good quality. In both these latter instances also, the influence of the male is well marked in the character of the fruit, while the vines resemble that of the female.

Amid the multitude of varieties now offered, the question is often asked by those who desire to plant, which are the best? This is not easy to answer, since location, soil and climate have all to be considered. Yet, in general, grape vines are more tolerant of unfavorable conditions than most fruits; they will succeed in almost every variety of soil, excepting one that is wet; and will thrive and fruit under any sort of care or want of care, from the most severe methods of pruning to a condition of almost utter neglect. With reasonable care most of the varieties will bear regular crops, provided they escape injury from the frosts in early spring and have a sufficient amount of heat during the season to ripen their fruit.

The following list embraces the principal varieties in cultivation, all of which are worthy of trial:

*Black Grapes.*—Barry (Rogers 43). Burnet, Canada, Champion, Clinton, Concord, Creveling, Early Victor, Essex, Hartford Prolific, Herbert (Rogers 44), Israella, Merrimac (Rogers 19), Moore's Early, Telegraph, Wilder (Rogers 4), and Worden.

*Red Grapes.*—Agawam (Rogers 15). Brighton, Delaware, Gaertner (Rogers 14). Lindley (Rogers 9). Massasoit (Rogers 3). and Vergennes.

*White Grapes.*—Duchess, Jessica, Lady, Martha, Niagara, Pocklington, Prentiss and Rebecca.

In addition to these there are some promising new varieties which have not been sufficiently tested in our Province to permit of a decided opinion being expressed regarding their merits. I refer to Centennial, Rochester, Woodruff Red, Empire State, Francis B. Hayes, and others. Some of these may possibly rank among the highest in our lists when we get to know them better. For the benefit of those who can only cultivate a few varieties, I would specially refer to the following ten, with any and all of which almost every lover of grapes will be pleased. They are all hardy and prolific, and most of them early.

*Worden.*—This is a comparatively new variety, a black grape with large bunch and berry, in quality much like Concord, but ripens about a week earlier. With me the vine is healthier and more productive than Concord, and I think the fruit is a little better in quality.