

were to form an opinion, by reasoning, from the judgment passed on the wine exhibited by the Canadian Vine Growers' Association, at Paris, last year, I would say that the grapes having produced such wine must range amongst good European grapes, at or about an equal distance from the best and the common grapes of France and Italy. This is perhaps the proper place to mention some advice given me by several of the persons consulted on our vine-growing prospects, which is to the effect that, having so far well succeeded, we ought to try the cultivation of the best stocks of France, as it has been done with so good results at the Cape Colony and in some parts of Australia; for, everything being otherwise equal, it is an axiom in vine culture, that "so much is the stock, so much is the wine." The selection, however, will have to be tested by the process of time, being for a given country and a given area of each country a matter of practical experience; because various plants, equally excellent, do not grow equally well in different localities. That it is of all-importance, that a superior plant should be selected, there is no question; but which, of several superior plants, is likely to succeed under given circumstances, is a question. We are reminded by oenologists that in the production of wine, as in almost everything else in this world, quantity is the opponent of quality; the best vines are, under similar circumstances, the least producing, although the most productive after all.

Question 6. Could you give, in few words, an idea of the best soil and general character of land suitable for a vineyard?—The best vineyards in France are planted on soils which would be quoted as extremely poor for any other cultivation; many of these vineyards are, in fact, located on lands exceptional for their aridity. Rocky, gravelly and sandy hills, almost entirely deprived of what is called productive earth, are characteristic of the soil of very many of the finest growths, whether such soil belongs to granitic, to limestone, or to other geological formation. However, all soils which are not imbued with water, and which are not subject to the protracted action of stagnant mists and vapors are said to be susceptible of being profitably cultivated for the vine. The middle convex open parts of hills, of moderate inclination, naturally drained, well exposed to the ventilation by the winds, with a soil plentifully supplied with small stones or gravel, offering a generally southern aspect, in the immediate vicinity of waters, are the most desirable spots for the vine culture.

..... denique apertos  
 Bacchus amat colles .....

Said Virgil, long ago, so say the modern authors, and so it is in fact, as plainly shewn by the location of the largest number, by far, of the most reputed vineyards of the world.

Question 7. Is the value of vineyard land greater for the same extent than that of any other land?—The value of vineyard land is much greater, for the same extent, than that of any other land. The comparative annual gross revenue of vineyard land, as compared with farm land of the best description, is said to be, in France, from three times to eight times greater, which proportion is still exceeded, by a great deal, in the case of vineyards of first and second-best growths of some favored vine regions. There is more labour for the vine than for farm culture, still the net revenue of vineyards is also larger than the net revenue of farm land, but of course not in the same proportion as the gross revenue. Naturally enough there are exceptions to this very general rule, and I entertain no doubt that many excellent farms are yielding a better revenue than many very inferior vineyards. Ordinary good-conditioned vineyard land, in full report, is worth from \$300 to \$1,000 an acre in France; several vineyards are worth \$2,000 an acre, and a few over \$4,000 an acre. When visiting the vineyards of the *Médoc* and the *Graves* near Bordeaux, and inquiring of the commercial value of the celebrated growths classed first and second in that wealthy region, I was positively amazed at the prices affixed to these properties, which are indeed very seldom sold, even at such extraordinary prices. But not to speak of such very exceptional value of vineyard land, I may quote as an example of the vine culture as a source of territorial wealth, the fact, that I have seen in the cellars of a rich peasant of the immediate neighborhood of Cognac, an accumulation of brandy casks, of different ages, valued at \$50,000 for the whole stock, which was the surplus product of several years, put aside from year to year, of the yield of a vineyard of about 150 acres. Dr. Guyot, a very great authority in the matter, affirms that the vine, cultivated after a good system, is always sure to yield from \$30 to \$60 of mean net revenue per acre of vineyard in France. The same author