

rather than juicy, sweet and luscious. Mr. Caywood sent us one bunch which had been out on September 1st, and had been expressed to Sacramento, thence to Detroit, New-York, and Marlborough, before coming here. The berry was slightly shrivelled, but not at all injured by carriage, and, though quite green in color, had yet become sweet and good. This bunch was slightly more shrivelled. It had been kept in a warm room, too, when it was again examined in committee on Oct. 9th, and was finally eaten up on Nov. 1st. This shows that if picked before ripe it yet becomes good. This is important for a late grape. The Duchess was well tested at our committee meetings. Of the 79 varieties which passed before these meetings, it and Allen's Hybrid, were the most delicate and refined in flavour; though it is only fair to say that Dempsey No. 25, Chasselas of Aylmer, and Chasselas of Mr. Robert Wood, were not ripe enough to judge. At our large social committee meeting, when 50 were present, the question was, whether Duchess or Allen's Hybrid bore the palm. Two thirds said Duchess. In the June number of the Journal it was stated that the Duchess ripened with the Delaware. Would that it did. Mr. Caywood however writes that it ripens with him with the Concord, from Sept. 1st to Sept. 15th. This limits its area of cultivation here. Yet where the Concord ripens fairly this should be tried and, it is well worthy of a warm corner.

LADY WASHINGTON, though expected from Mr. Jas. H. Ricketts the well known hybridist, was for some cause not sent to our Exhibition; yet it must be mentioned here, as it was of all grapes the one whose absence from our fruit committee meetings was the most regretted.

It is a cross between Concord and Allen's Hybrid, a good grower, and shows its Concord parentage in its thick leaf. The bunch is large, and the berry of fine quality. It ripens with the Concord, and we hope will be tried in such places as ripen that variety.

DEMPSEY No. 25.—This is a seedling of Mr. P. C. Dempsey, of Albury, Ontario, who is well known as a grape hybridist. It is, strange to say, from Hartford Prolific fertilized with Black Hamburg. Mr. Dempsey tells us that he raised 26 plants from this cross, and that two thirds of them are white. The seed that produced this grape may even have been out of the same berry that produced the Burnet. It is a largish, thin skinned, juicy grape, not quite ripe enough to test its quality. Mr. Dempsey thinks it is a little late for us; but thinks its quality well worthy of a corner in a cold vinery. A few very favorable places, like Aylmer and Clarenceville, might suit it. In fact at the latter place it is already in Mr. Patison's hands; and its fitness for such a locality will be known ere long.

SARANAO is a seedling by Mr. Bailey. It is a very delicious little grape. It has a poor little bunch, but is pulpless, luscious, and in flavor hard to surpass.

PALMER'S SEEDLINGS Nos. 1, 2 & 3.—These were brought by Mr. Bailey to the Exhibition of the Montreal Hort. Soc. They are chance seedlings (probably of the Rebecca) grown by Mr. Charles E. Palmer, of Plattsburg, N. Y. They were picked on 13th Sept., and before ripe. They were then crude and sour; yet since then, have become sweet and good, and quite eatable even up to this 16th day of November. No. 1 is largish in bunch and berry. Skin thick and green; juicy, free from pulp; sweet and good, and ripens, says Mr. Palmer, with Delaware. No. 3 smaller in bunch, nearly as large in berry, thinner in skin, yellowish, but little pulp: sweet, and probably rich, and ripens with the above. No. 2 is a little later in ripening, and therefore of less value where earliness is so important. It is a compact little bunch with small berry; now sweet and good, and showing signs of being a good

keeper. These are really grapes of good quality, and worthy of trial.

Of older varieties:

MARTHA was sent by Ellwanger and Barry, of Rochester, and by Mr. Bailey. We do not know of its having been grown in this province, except at Hull and Aylmer. It is a seedling of Concord, and shows the vigor of vine of its parent. It is of good fair quality, but at Aylmer, proved but a medium bearer. It ripens a little before Concord, and it is probable that we shall find varieties which for earliness and quality will surpass it.

REBECCA was exhibited from Rochester, Plattsburg and Montreal. In Montreal it has been long grown, but in a very limited way. It is a very good grape, but of slender habit of growth, and quite a light bearer. It ripens a little before Concord, and repays good care and culture.

CROTON is said to be a hybrid of Delaware and Golden Chasselas, and was sent by Mr. H. S. Lomas, Point St. Charles. It is Mr. Lomas's favorite grape, has ripened well for a series of years, and borne very heavy crops. It has been subject to mildew, which has been kept in check by sulphur. On higher land, it would be less likely to suffer from this cause. With Mr. John Stuart, of Rockburn, Huntingdon County, Croton has been a success, and he does not mention mildew on his upland. It is a grape of fine quality. It ripens early, and is worthy of trial in elevated gardens.

ALLEN'S HYBRID is a hybrid between some native and some European grape. Though a grape of the highest quality, yet its culture has been given up in U. S. on account of its tendency to mildew. We have however known this grape in Montreal for many years, bearing its light crop of delicious fruit without a single failure. Farther South, it is also found too tender to stand the winter; but where winter covering is necessary, this is but little against it. Our uplands seem unusually free from mildew; and this grape may still be recommended to careful cultivators in suitable situations.

European Varieties.

Fuller, in his carefully written work "The Grape Cultivist", says, that after over a century of unsuccessful attempts to grow the European grape in open air in this country, pomologists turned their attention to the improvement of the native species of vine. Hussman, too, in his work just published, "American Grape Growing", speaks of the European vine as generally unsuccessful East of the Rocky Mountains, and says farther, that the European species is of interest to our grape growers, chiefly on account of the hybrids which have been produced between it and our own native vines. Some well known grape growers go so far as to condemn hybridizing our native with the European vine; saying, that by so doing we only enfeeble it, and render it subject to disease.

The verdict of the American Horticultural press of the Atlantic and Middle States is, that the European vine is generally unsuccessful, only exceptionally is it a success. Of this exceptional success, we in the Province of Quebec have had our full fair share; and we have certain localities where the foreign vine has been such a success, and that for a long term of years, as to warrant their still being planted in like situations. They are not the grapes for beginners. Some, fortunately not all, are subject to mildew, even on good elevation, and need to have this kept in check by sulphur; all are more subject to thrip than the native vine, and should the dreaded Phylloxera, which has worked such wholesale destruction in the vineyards of France and California, visit our shores, then we must give up the European vine altogether, or else engraft it on native roots.