

and it is now decided to examine the Canadian grape with the view of seeing what can be done with them by applying the accrued wisdom and experience of the French vintners to their manufacture into wine. The speedy prospect of Ottawa being a great railway centre ; her easy access to the head of tide-water by the Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa Occidental Railway or other easterly route, would point to this locality as a desirable point to direct the attention of the French delegates when they come to "spy out the land," which will probably be the case next spring. And it is trusted that the Governments of Ontario and Quebec, and the Dominion will all three unite in placing matters in a proper light before them, at the same time securing the most suitable guides to show them over the country, and advise them as to the best localities for future operations.

The French Commissioners were favorably impressed at the Philadelphia Exhibition in 1876, with the grapes there displayed by the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, although these specimens passed over several hundred miles of railway during exceedingly hot weather. The fruit would have been much more attractive had it been seen on the vines at the points where grown.

The writer is well acquainted with many of the grape growers around Ottawa, and he has yet to learn of a single instance of any of them who have failed in securing good paying crops where ordinary skill and intelligence have been exercised ; at the same time, ninety-nine out of every hundred engaged in the business are extending their plantations, and securing as far as possible any new or other varieties for trial which they do not possess, whilst others are rushing enthusiastically into the field to add their quota to this new yet fascinating Canadian enterprise.

Every year brings forth new and sometimes better varieties ; these are being produced by our Canadian and American hybridists, so that the grape list is being constantly extended and improved, both in quality and earliness of ripening. This leads one to the conclusion that the possibilities of grape culture on this continent, and more especially in this section, are practically unlimited ; and it is predicted that our vineyards before fifty years, perhaps twenty, will rival those of sunny Italy or La Belle France, and wherever either farm cottages or suburban residences are dotted over the land, the vine will be found as one of the necessary accompaniments of health and civilization.