

Grapes for Export.

SIR,—I was sorry to hear that the shipment of grapes to Glasgow had proved so unremunerative; this shows us that we must aim for grapes of higher quality and free from foxiness, if we would please the English taste. I hope that object will some day be obtained. We are preparing here to go into extensive tests and experiments in that direction. I have already obtained some good grapes of this character, and by taking these as a starting point and growing seedlings on an extensive scale, I have no doubt but that we shall soon have some good things in this line worth disseminating.

WM. SAUNDERS.

EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

The English Sparrow.

SIR,—In previous numbers of our magazine I have seen discussions (pro and con) on the English sparrow; for my part I think we would be better off without them. I have a Salem grape against the house, and one day when the grapes were ripe, there was quite a flock of the sparrows on the vine eating the grapes at a great rate; I have often seen them picking the wheat out of the ear when nearly ripe in the field; also on the stooks after cut. Where they are numerous they destroy a great deal. A few weeks ago I saw a beef bone on the street and there the little fellows were picking away at the flesh.

I think, if you would give us the price of the different kinds of apples in the English markets in the fall numbers of the HORTICULTURIST, it would be an improvement; the growers would then have some idea of their worth. We are at the mercy of the buyers or middle men; they don't pay anything like what the fruit is worth, in this section at least. From seventy-five cents to \$1.25 per barrel for the best winter fruit scarce pays for careful handling. I would like to see an improvement in the prices paid here.

WALTER HICK.

GODERICH, ONT.

NOTE.—We hope to be of service to our fellow fruit growers in this respect,

by giving quotations for fruit in both home and foreign markets.

Folding Sawing Machine.

MR. THOS. MAGUIRE, of Molesworth, Ont., writes, that unless this machine is different from the one manufactured five or six years ago, he cannot recommend it very highly. He thinks that two men with a common saw would do fully double the amount of work in a given time than one man could do with the machine, and with just as little backache.

Moore's Arctic.

SIR,—I saw a question asked by some person about Moore's Arctic Plum. It fruited with me last year for the first time, three years after planting. I believe it will be a good bearer. The Curculio did not interfere with the fruit, but the tree is not proof against black-knot, as represented. What was furnished to me for Russian Mulberry, will sprout up each season and be killed again in the winter, I would pronounce them a failure here, (about 43° 50' N. Latitude), northern part county of Perth, Ont.

THOS. MAGUIRE.

MOLESWORTH.

Kind Words.

SIR,—Your paper, the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, has so much improved in matter and appearance that I cannot but compliment you on it. If you continue it will fill a place long sought after in this Dominion. A few pages devoted to other branches of horticulture must be very acceptable and instructive to the amateur class of its readers. We do not like to live on fruit alone. Give them a mixture of flowers and other subjects and you will have the hearty approval of a large class of your readers. Horticulture being my particular branch I will most willingly assist you at any time, should you think you require it.

N. ROBERTSON,

Supt. Gov't Grounds

OTTAWA, Feb. 15th, 1888.

REVIEW.

Reports.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE MAINE STATE POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY for the year 1886. Edited by Samuel L. Boardman, Secretary. 186 pages.

This volume has a frontispiece of the Hon. R. H. Gardiner, the late president of the society. Some idea of the subject matter of the book may be gained from the following selection from the list of subjects: Influence of Flowers in the Home, Defects in Orchard Management, Twenty Years Experience and What I have learned, Value of a Knowledge of the Natural Sciences by the Farmer, etc.

REPORT OF THE MYCOLOGIST, F. L. Scribner,

for year 1886. Dept. of Agric., Washington, D.C.

We highly commend this work to the study of any one of a scientific turn of mind, or who wishes to experiment in the destruction of such fungi and bacteria as are such formidable obstacles to success in fruit culture. This volume treats of The Mildew of the Grape, The Black Rot, The Potato Rot, The Pear Blight, etc., and is illustrated with eight plates showing their forms of growth, and three maps showing extent of their distribution.

BULLETIN No. 1. EXPERIMENT STATION OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, St. Anthony