

give it well drained rich clay loam, and keep it from over-bearing, and clusters four or five inches long, with berries over half an inch thick will delight the grower in regions where the foliage is free from mildew—as it is here. But the principal drawback of the Delaware appears to me to be its slow growth. It is hard to get a good sized vine without thinning the crop to only about half of what a Concord or Niagara might readily ripen with impunity.

*Agawam* (better known as Roger's No. 15).—Will some one please say why this sort should not be kicked out of at least all northern grape regions? *But it is a very large grape?* Yes: a little larger than any other that we grow. *And it's a great bearer?* It is. *And it has a rich flavour?* Decidedly so. *And it ripens rather early?* It does indeed, usually in advance of Concord with us.

But what is the use of size in a grape when the only portion fit to swallow is a circumference of juice which surrounds a large tough pulp too sour to give to the pigs!

Such are the reflections that come to a man after going systematically through a pound of well-colored Agawams with the result of just about a quarter as much substance fit to swallow as could have been got from a pound of Delawares, and that quarter only about half as delicious as an equal bulk of the Delaware.

The Agawam is one of the very few varieties that I have heard of mildewing in this part of the country. It mildews with me. Where it is free from this it may be good to sell; but I prefer to grow varieties that I would not be afraid to talk to my customers about afterwards. I see that Toronto market-reports gave two quotations for Roger's Grapes: one "*Rogers Sour*" being considerably less than the other. Can it be that No. 15

crawls into the cellar that way in southern districts, as well as with us!

*Salem* (Roger's No. 22).—Was praised as among the best of the Rogers' hybrids some years ago. It does not seem to rank as high as some of the others now. The foliage like the Agawam, while *large* enough, does not seem to me to have as much native blood in it as we find in Lindley and Massasoit, which may account for more mildew in Salem also, and the irregular or late ripening of the fruit when there is a full crop. It seems to be a good grower and bearer, and the fruit is fine; but we want something more reliable.

*Massasoit* (Roger's No. 3).—Is more reliable with us, and I judge everywhere. It ripens soon after Champion here, and probably will rank as the earliest red grape in common cultivation in Canada. The berry is large, so is the crop; the vine is hardy and an excellent grower, and the foliage unusually good for a hybrid, though not as disease-resisting as Concord and other pure natives. The cluster is not large, and the berry is rather too dark a red, and not just good enough in quality to suit a connoisseur. Still many people would buy it readily for Lindley, and consider it better than Concord. It is certainly much better than any Concord we can raise here, and can be depended upon as one of the surest and most profitable.

*Lindley* (Roger's No. 9).—I consider this the best red grape for all purposes, of all that I have any certain knowledge of. The vine is a fine grower; it bears well; the foliage, for a hybrid, is just next-door to the Concord family, and will probably escape disease and insects when everything else fails except the Concord-Hartford tribe; the cluster is large, though often loose; the berries rather large, of a rich brick-red color, with bloom; and the quality