

intelligent part of the community—those who were not in the habit, perhaps, of seeing such warnings, although well able to pay for the medium through which they were conveyed, as well as those who could not be expected to profit by them. We have endeavored to impress upon all the propriety of having samples of the artificial manures which they purchase analysed, from whatsoever source such might be derived; and we have told farming societies that it was a part of their duty to protect their members, and the districts which formed the scene of their operations, by having recourse to the aid afforded by the professional chemist. The case of the *Crown v. Creaghs*—forming only one out of the many which will be brought forward—shows that our warnings were not uncalled for, and we trust will be a lesson inculcating caution for the future. As yet the case has only reached its preliminary stage—an important stage, no doubt, but still not the most important; and considering the interests which are at stake, and the injury which has undoubtedly been committed on the public at large, we trust we will not be considered as interfering with the course of justice if we express a hope that, should the parties be ultimately convicted, they will be as severely punished as the law of the land will allow.

Correspondence.

Wine Culture in Canada.

EDITORS OF THE AGRICULTURIST.—With great pleasure I notice in your last issue some communications on the subject of wine growing in Canada. The subject is not altogether new to his locality. Three years ago four or five barrels of wine were grown from a single vine in one season in the Township of Grimsby. The grape is a native, and the wine very much resembles port, so much so, that persons tasting it for the first time frequently speak of the similarity. It is perfectly hardy and stands our coldest winters without in the least destroying its vitality. I obtained a vine six years ago last spring, it now covers some forty feet square of ellis and I think has at least twelve hundred clusters of grapes. The clusters are about the size of the Clintons. The wine sells in this locality for one dollar and three quarters per gallon, and probably would bring more if we asked it, at all events it is worth four times as much as the miserable stuff generally sold by merchants under the name of wine. We intend to show our wine at the Provincial Fair this fall, and hope the judges will publish their opinion of the same. We have in this part of Canada a number of the new native grapes, a good representation of which will no doubt find their way to the Provincial Fair this fall; and I advise all who feel an interest in this important branch of our agriculture to keep their eyes wide open, as they will be likely to see many things in this department that will surprise them. We have open air grapes that will vie in size

and flavor with the far famed black Hamburgh, and I think there is not the least reason to doubt but that we can grow wine in any quantity and of excellent quality. I have grapes that will measure to-day over two inches in circumference to the single berry, and number over fifty berries to the cluster. I fear that I am trespassing too much on your time and patience, but if you think these few thoughts likely to benefit your readers you are at liberty to publish them. If these remarks meet your approbation, I may give you some more of my notes on horticultural matters.

JOHN C. KILBORN.

Beamsville, C.W., July 23, 1860.

[We are much obliged to our correspondent for his interesting communication, and hope that others who are in possession of similar facts will let us have them.—ED.]

Things Seen, Heard and Thought of.

EDITORS OF THE AGRICULTURIST,—I will record several things—first, what I have *heard*; secondly, what I have *seen*, and thirdly what I have *thought*. As to what I have heard. Mr. James Scrogie, of the Township of Binbrook, has made some 900 yards of underground drain, 250 yards of this passed through a low wet portion of his farm, where he had lost in part several crops of grain on account of the superfluity of surface water. He has reaped two crops since he made the drain; the first of these crops consisted of *corn* and *potatoes* and gave a splendid yield. He took the *first prizes* both on corn and potatoes at the agricultural show of the four townships, viz: Barton, Glanford, Saltfleet and Binbrook. Last harvest he reaped from the same land a crop of barley which yielded 57 bushels to the acre. So much for underground drainage. Farmer Kemp, whose farm adjoins mine, informs me that he last year gathered 150 bushels of barley from two acres of land.

As to what I have *seen*. I have generally observed among all kinds of grain that few are pure. A mixture of kinds seems by some means to take place. I sowed a year ago last fall what is called the blue-stem wheat, and last harvest I found that there were five varieties. Among these was a wheat, with a stout straw of a rather yellow tinge, a fine medium sized head, thickly set with grain with white chaff, and yielding more abundantly than any of the other varieties in the field. I gathered a handful of it, and planted it in the garden, and had the midge let it alone it bid fair to have given an extra yield. May we not often discover new varieties of a superior kind by thus going through the field and making a selection of the earliest and finest varieties?

A word as to what I have *thought*. We have our agricultural shows, at which exhibitions of taste and skill and success in all the arts and