

are attacked by the red spider about every month, which destroys the leaves as well as keeps them from blooming; and one of them is all covered with a flat sort of a louse that sticks tight to the branches and under side of the leaves. I wash them off every two or three weeks, but they are as bad as ever by two or three weeks again. Strawberries do well up here.

I have the Wilson, Sharpless, New Dominion, and Early Canada. The Wilson is the most productive; the others are about alike in fruitage although differing in flavor.

Currants and gooseberries also do very well, but I fear I am trespassing on your time and patience.

Wishing for the *Canadian Horticulturist* an increased circulation during the coming year,

I am, Sir, respectfully yours,

MRS. JOHN GEORGE.

Port Elgin, January, 1885.

REPLY.—The probability is that the apple trees have been so well fed and cared for that they are growing too fast to bear fruit. Try what a little neglect will do for them—no pruning and no cultivation for a year, and see if they do not form blossom buds. Strong wood growth and fruit production do not go together.

2. Probably your grape vines have been pruned too severely. Leave more wood on the vines, more buds on the canes of last summer's growth. The Rogers varieties are usually rampant growers, and fruit better with moderate pruning. Try Early Victor and the Brighton.

3. You keep the atmosphere of your window too dry, hence the red spider. Put an open pan of water on the stove

and keep up a good supply of vapor. Put your lousy plant under a barrel filled with tobacco smoke, or wash it thoroughly twice a week with tobacco tea, until they disappear.

NIAGARA AND JESSICA GRAPES.

MR. EDITOR,—Will you have the kindness to inform the readers of the *Horticulturist* what description of soil is best adapted to the growth of the Niagara Grape, as well as that best suited to the Jessica; and also whether the Niagara ripens its fruit as early as the Jessica.

Can you name any sections of the Province of Ontario where the *Catalpa speciosa* has been sufficiently tested to prove it sufficiently hardy to endure our climate?

Respectfully yours,

JOHN KNOWLSON.

Lindsay, 17th Dec., 1884.

REPLY.—The writer has never grown a plant of the Niagara grape. The company controlling it would not allow nurserymen to have it except on conditions that made it of no value to them, hence we have not sufficient knowledge on the subject to frame a reply. Your neighbor, Mr. Thos. Beall, has a number of the vines; he can tell you that the vines flourish finely in his soil.

The Jessica flourishes best in a well-drained, rich, loamy soil, especially one that is of a limestone character. In point of quality it is far finer and purer than the Niagara, being wholly free from foxiness, which cannot be said of the Niagara, and ripens before it. The crop of Jessica can be marketed before the Niagara makes its appearance.