

most of them clean off, as the leaves on the rest of the vine were so large they made plenty of shade. I am a great advocate of large leaves and plenty of them, as they are the lungs of the vine; of course the tendrils have to be all pinched off. Let the main shoot run as far as convenient, as that is a great help for the fruit in the ensuing season. When the berries are the size of peas, or rather sooner, I commenced to thin the bunches, my mode of thinning being rather different from that of many gardeners. I never thinned the bunch but once; before doing that, if it wanted spreading, I tied it up so that I saw just how many berries to leave. I always thinned severely. When I went (many years ago) as gardener from Scotland to England, a few days after I landed there was a vine with branches extending both ways just ready for thinning. I set to work and had one side nearly thinned when the gentleman and lady came in. He looked about a while, and then said he did not think thinning the grapes would do for England. My reply was that what was good for Scotland might do for England, but I would let the other side stand as it was, and we would see who was right. When the family came back from a long tour the grapes were nearly ripe; they both were in the stove, when the gentleman asked me what could be the reason the grapes on one side were so large and the others like currants. The lady burst out laughing and reminded her husband of what I had said. I think I was the first to thin grapes in Canada. For several years at the exhibitions my grapes were so much larger than others that the gardeners could not understand it until they caught me thinning.

Whenever the season got hot I gave air at the top shortly after the sun shone on the houses, and scarcely ever had a scorched leaf. I do not approve of bottom air, and never gave any. When there was time I sprinkled the floors and flues two or three times a day. Often the late vinery got very little syringing, as there was no time; all the manure the vines had was the short dung from the beds in the house. I never gave them any guano. I generally had a tub of pigeon