

there is any risk of disturbance from wind."

The above gives Mr. Hewitt's "How to grow mammoth squash" nearly in his own words, and but slightly condensed.—CHARLES E. BROWN, in *Far-mouth Herald*.

BLACKBERRY NOTES.

Among the blackberries, the Snyder holds it own as the hardiest. It is very prolific, but the berries are not large. The Taylor is also quite hardy, though less so than the Snyder. The berries are larger. The Early Harvest seems to be the earliest of standard blackberries—but there is a doubt as to its hardiness. The berries are small and jet black; the drupes small and uniform. The Wilson Junior is a large berry of fair quality and productive. Whether it is hardier than its parent, the Wilson Senior, remains to be ascertained. The Wachusett is nearly free of thorns. The quality is good; size medium; but the plants are very productive. Stone's Hardy is with us entirely hardy; the berries of medium size. The canes are large and somewhat dwarf, but they do not bear fruit very abundantly.

The Western Triumph is spoken of in some catalogues as a new variety; but we have had it many years. It is very hardy, but unproductive at the Rural Grounds.

Crystal White is a white blackberry of good quality, but not hardy. The Minnewaska is not introduced. It is immensely prolific; the berries are about the size of the Kittatinny, but not so sweet. Its hardiness is yet to be determined.

The Lucretia Dewberry is as early as the Early Harvest. The berries are large and, when full ripe, of good quality. It runs over the ground or may be trained to a stake or trellis. It is quite hardy.—*Rural New Yorker*.

THE LARGEST GRAPE VINE.

Though the largest Grape vine in the world is claimed to be at Hampton Court, England (a *vinifera* variety), and another is claimed by Santa Barbara, Cal. (a Mission Grape vine), yet I believe the farm of Jesse Tarlton, seven miles from Lexington, Ky., has the best right to the honor of possessing the largest Grape vine, at least in size of body. I measured it at six feet from the ground and found it 66 inches in circumference. It is of the *cordifolia* (Frost or Winter Grape) species, and is probably 200 or more years old. It is supported by an Elm nearly three feet in diameter, which it entirely covers, and shows vigorous growth in many branches, though partly dead on one side near the ground, caused by exposure to the sun and trampling of stock.

A vine of the same species, reported in newspapers of Fla. a few years ago, having a circumference of 69 inches, has always been regarded by botanists as a "fish story," so Kentucky must now bear the palm till good authority from elsewhere shows a circumference of body over 66 inches, six feet or more from the ground.—T. V. MUNSON, in *Am. Garden*.

FREESIA.

The *Freesia refracta alba* is one of the most desirable of recently introduced bulbs, and is very certain to become a favorite among all classes. It was introduced here years ago by, I think, Mr. Hovey of Boston, but was soon lost, so that it may in a sense be called a recent introduction. The *Freesia* is a small bulb, easily grown, and bears white flowers of the most delicious fragrance. The flowers last a long time, even after being cut. It may be forced early in the hot-house, but will come into bloom in January and February in the ordinary green-house temperature.