

Of crab apples there were two varieties (Hyslop and Transcendent) and 8 entries. The fruits appeared to be held back. The flowers were much better, as there was a very good show for a new country like Muskoka. The vegetables were excellent in size and variety.

C. H.

SOUTH SIMCOE AND ESSA AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

I attended the South Simcoe and Essa Agricultural Show at Cookstown on the N. & N. W. Rys.; was received by the Directors of the Society and cordially invited to dinner, where a large number of happy faces met and enjoyed a hearty feast of the viands set before them. The Secretary, R. T. Banting, Esq., of Cookstown (who is also County Secretary), presented me with a badge of welcome, and afterwards pressed me into their service as judge on fruits with two other gentlemen from different parts of the county. The fruits were excellent specimens of the various kinds. *Apples*—4 entries Duchess of Oldenburg, which were fair samples; 6 entries St. Lawrence, good size and shape; 10 entries of Snows, very good; 4 entries Alexanders, excellent; 2 entries Colverts, fine specimens; 3 entries King of Tomkins with other fruits, Seek no Further and a very fine specimen of Cayuga Red Streak; 6 entries Greenings; 9 entries American Golden Russet; 5 entries of grapes—Hartford, Brighton and Concord—all very fair samples. The vegetables were remarkably good. This part of the country is making rapid strides in the way of improvement in all the various branches of gardening, horticulture and floriculture. The flowers that were shown were a great credit to all that part of the county. The Show on the whole was a great success. All they want is to become members of the Fruit Growers' Association.

C. H.

SOME RED GRAPES.

(For the Canadian Horticulturist)

BY T. C. ROBINSON, OWEN SOUND.

Jefferson.—This variety has been a disappointment in two respects—earliness and hardiness. Although the foliage apparently partakes largely of the enduring Concord type, yet it fails unaccountably in ripening its wood on young vines to a sufficient degree to withstand the severe winter. Most varieties grown here require no winter protection but our usually abundant snows; but the young Jefferson vines seem to need something more. I have had it on my place four years without getting a single cluster, but have seen it fruiting with a friend in town. The fruit is certainly very fine, but I fear it will always be later than Concord in ripening.

Vergennes.—I have not had this as long as the preceding variety and the vines are not large enough to fruit. On a friend's grounds I tasted a cluster that was very good, though not large. It does not appear to ripen much in advance of Concord, yet further experience is necessary to satisfy me on this point. The wood ripens well with me, and the foliage appears of the hardy insect-resisting, mildew-proof native type. On the whole I regard the Vergennes as well worthy of further attention.

The little *Delaware* still perseveres worthily among its red sisters. Wherever it does as well as it does in the Owen Sound district, it is essential to the completeness of any collection. Its quality is the sweetest and its clear waxy appearance the most beautiful of all out-door grapes in common cultivation, while its unusual compactness of cluster, and the tough yet thin skin of the berry, give it special value for market when it is once got into the basket. What a pity that both cluster and berry are not a little larger. Yet