

popular grape. Another seedling grape was shown by the Rev. Mr. MacLeod, of Chippewa. It was a chance seedling, raised by the late Albert Oxley, of Font Hill, but fruited by Mr. MacLeod. It was a white grape of very fine appearance, of good size, both in berry and bunch, and of good flavour and free from pulpiness, though hardly quite ripe. Judging from the appearance of the fruit, it belongs to the Chasselas grapes, and is probably a seedling of one of them. Some experiments in the raising of seedling grapes from European varieties, which have been made in the State of New York, lead to the hope that varieties have even now been obtained which endure our climate well, do not suffer from mildew, and yet retain the excellent qualities of this class of grapes.

There was but one plate of Canadian hybrid grapes not before exhibited, and this was shown by Mr. W. H. Mills, of Hamilton. We fear it ripens too late to be of general usefulness, though it is too soon to be positive on any point concerning it.

There were also a number of seedling crab apples shown by Mr. George Smith, of Brantford, some of them very handsome, which received the commendation of the judges.

MEETING.

The meeting of the Association was called to order by the Rev. R. Burnet, President; and after the reading of the minutes of last meeting, some discussion was had concerning the printing of the essays which are read from time to time before the Association. On motion of Mr. A. M. Ross, seconded by Mr. Mills, it was resolved that the Directors be requested to cause such of the essays that are presented to this Association, as they may deem best, to be published from time to time in the *Canadian Farmer*.

The President introduced to the meeting Mr. Van Wagener, the inventor of an instrument for dusting vines and plants with sulphur or hellebore, or other powder, and requested him to exhibit his instrument and explain its construction and use.

Mr. Van Wagener came forward, and exhibited to the meeting a very neat, convenient, and efficient instrument for dusting plants with any powdered substance. It is more convenient than the well known De La Vergne Bellows, distributing the powder much more perfectly and rapidly. The wind which effects this is created, not by the action of the bellows, but of a rotary fan, which keeps up a constant current of air, throwing the sulphur or other powder in a continuous stream, and not in interrupted jets. A committee was appointed to draw up a report expressing the views of the meeting with regard to this most useful instrument.

ESSAYS AND PRIZES.

The Secretary presented an Essay on Fruits and Fruit Culture, by Mr. W. Saunders, of London. It being lengthy, and the time of the meeting already largely taken up, it was ordered to be received with thanks to the writer, and referred to the Committee on Publication.

The Secretary further reported that the committee appointed to read the essays received in competition for prizes, had awarded the second prize to the one bearing the motto "I moisten the roots of all that grow;" and that on opening the envelope bearing this motto he found within the name of P. E. Bucke, Esq., of Ottawa.

Some discussion was had upon the subject of offering prizes by the Association for fruits already in general cultivation; and after eliciting the opinions of the members present, it was, on motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Holton, unanimously resolved that in future this Association shall restrict their Fruit Prize List to new and seedling fruits.

DISCUSSION.

The management of vineyards was proposed as a topic for discussion, and Mr. Farrell, of Cayuga inquired whether any person could give any information of the effect it would have upon an established vineyard if it were laid down in grass.

Mr. Laing, of St. Thomas, replied that he had recently been in Cleveland, Ohio, and had there seen a vineyard that was a complete lawn, with the exception of a narrow strip of about one foot in width on each side of the row of vines, and that it seemed to be in a very flourishing condition.

Mr. Shoff, of McGillvery, said he had seen a small vineyard in South Huron which was growing in sod, and seemed to be doing well.

Mr. Arnold, of Paris, said that his neighbour, Mr. Hamilton, had tried sod, and afterwards removed it. He thought that in a dry season the effect would be very injurious.

Mr. Dougall, of Windsor, thought thorough cultivation would be best. He had seen buckwheat sown among the vines, and both turned out bad.

Dr. Cross, of St. Catharines, described the vineyards of Cooksville, where alternate spaces between the rows of vines are laid down to grass.

The effect of ashes upon barn-yard manure.

Dr. Cross stated that the chemist knew that alkalies would not combine with each other; that the ammonia in manure, and potash in ashes, were both alkalies, and that when the potash came in contact with the manure the ammonia was set free, and went off into the atmosphere.

Mr. Shoff had used leached ashes, 160 to 200 bushels to the acre, with very beneficial results.

Mr. Arnold had thrown it broadcast upon grain, but without any perceptible benefit.

Mr. Halton had composted manure and leached ashes in alternate layers for a month, and then applied it to young trees ploughing it into the soil, with very beneficial results.

Mr. Bennett, of Brantford, had found an abundant supply to have a marked beneficial effect for several years.

Mr. Dougall had experimented with ashes, lime and plaster upon corn, and leaving ten rows without any, but saw no benefit whatever from the use.

Mr. McDougall, of Goderich, stated to the meeting that he burned some sulphur in his vineyard for the purpose of checking the mildew, and that it caused the leavers to fall off from all those vines which were planted in a border, while those vines which were growing in pots, though trained to the rafters of the same variety, retained their foliage perfectly, and did not show any signs of having suffered from the burning sulphur. He asked for an explanation of this singular phenomenon, but no one ventured to give any.