

Torrey speaks of the fruit of the wild plant as having a strong disagreeable flavour, whilst when cultivated "it is as pleasant as any of the varieties of *Vitis vinifera*." In Hooker's Flon (published so long ago as 1833) it is remarked that "two sorts are much esteemed at New York, and known under the name of "Bland's-grape" and the "Isabella-grape."

V. cordifolia, (*V. vulpina*, of Hook.); Shores of Lake Ontario west from Kingston; several places on the banks of the St. Lawrence, as at Thousand Islands, Brockville, La Chine, etc. Extends south through the United States to Florida and west to Arkansas.

"*V. cordifolia* or *riparia*, grows on the evidence of collections made on my former journeys, as far north as the south end of Lake Winnipeg, on the 50th parallel. I did not observe it on my late voyage, in which, indeed, I had very little leisure to search for plants; and if it actually grows in so high a latitude, it does not produce edible fruit so as to attract the attention of the residents, who could give me no information respecting it. It is common in Wisconsin and Minnesota, with *V. edulis*."—Sir J. Richardson, Arctic Jour., II., p. 287.

V. riparia, Michx, Canada, Mr. Cleg-horn, Mrs. Percivall. Lake Huron, Dr. Todd, extending to the south end of Lake Winnipeg, in lat 50 degrees N., (Hook. H. B. A.)

Nicolet, P. Q., and Malden, Ont., Dr. P. W. MacLagan. Belleville, common, especially along streams, J. Macoun. L'Isle-aux-Coudres, Provancher. Some of the localities may belong to *V. cordifolia*. Extends through the United States south to Virginia and west to Arkansas.

Christiania, Norway,
5th July, 1853.

DEAR SIR,—My friend, Mr. J. Storm, professor of history at our university, wishes to know how far north on your coasts the wild species of *Vitis* (*Vitis vulpina*, *labrusca*, &c.) grow. I cannot make it out for him with the books at my disposal, so I am obliged to turn to you and trouble you with the matter. You would oblige me and my friend very much if you would be kind to let me know the northern limit of the species above mentioned in your coast districts. America was discovered some 1000 years ago by Norwegian sailors, who found wild grapes at the shores and named the country after them "Vineland," which means the country of wine.

With much respect, yours,

A. BLITT,

Professor of Botany at the University.

The Honorable Judge Ritchie informs me that when a boy he frequently gathered wild grapes between Annapolis Royal and Bear River, and that he has no doubt he could still find the place where the vines grow.

Professor Macdonald informs me that our esteemed President, Robert Morrow, Esq., before leaving for the south stated that he had seen a Wild Grape vine growing in a garden at Stellarton in Pictou County, and was told that it had been brought from the neighbouring woods. Some years later, at a distance of several miles further up the East River, he found the Grape growing wild.

MY DEAR PROFESSOR LAWSON,—In relation to your enquiry respecting Wild Grapes, I have a recollection of past days that may suggest to you a quarter in which that enquiry may be successfully prosecuted.

Many years ago I lent to the late Judge Halliburton (Sam Slick) an interesting book that I in vain have often endeavoured to recover. Reclamation of it is hopeless now! The author was a *Netherlander* of intelligence, who particularly mentioned an indigenous grape seen and noted by him, of which the locality was the neighbourhood of Annapolis.

Perhaps it might be worth your while to direct the proposed enquiry to some old inhabitant of the old French capital.

Yours ever truly,

L. M. WILKINS.

Windsor, 9th Dec., 1853.

My recollection of the book and the fact referred to is distinct, and you may regard it as reliable. The book was bound by me among those of the Thomas family, by some of whom it was brought from Marshfield, Mass.—the anti-Revolution seat of that family—about the close of the last century.

The discovery of the author would, therefore, antedate the beginning of this century.

L. M. W.

There is little doubt, I think, that a copy of the book in question is slumbering on the shelf of some Boston library. The author was not a mere traveller, but came to America on some mission for his Government.

I add a circumstance that may serve to identify:—The book—probably on authority of a red-man—indicated *phonetically* Niagara thus:—"Nee-a-gaw-raw."

L. M. W.

Windsor, Dec. 11th, 1853.

Bridgewater, 11th Dec. 1853.

DEAR SIR,—A young Norwegian Captain just left here for Spain, told me some of their professors were to visit

our land, as he put it, in search of marks made by their countrymen long since, and a few days after I noticed in the papers that you had been consulted on the matter. My object is to let you know that there is a large rock sitting on three legs of stone, at the height of about 18 inches, which I believe was put up by those old crissers. It sits on Indian Point near the County line, between this and Queen's County. I met it when a child and have taken great interest in it, have frequently visited it as it puzzled me, till of late years. Should you meet those people, if you think well of it, they may easily drive to it now, but not when I used to steer my boat to where it sits. Its plainly seen from entrance of the port. Locality, Indian Point, Port Midway Harbour, Queen's County.

Respectfully yours,

E. D. DAVISON, Snr.

See article on Oak Canes in *Scientific American*, Dec. 8th. I have a stone axe by which one could make quite a job a big work.

Just received a note from a friend informing me of his having three pieces of stone relics, and I have quite a number all from the Port Midway river, whilst nothing of the sort can I find about the Lullavo River, but have two iron axes found in old graves, one having been buried at Wentzell's Lake where bones and axes were wrapped in birch-bark.

There is an old burying ground and koche for dried salmon, &c., I expect.

E. D. D.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 8th, 1853.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your question about "Wild Grapes," a small sized wild grape grows in abundance on some of the islands in the St. John river, about seven miles above Fredericton, N. B. I have drank the wine made from them and it is very good.

Any more information I can give will only be to happy to do so, and remain

Sincerely,

ALEX. IRVINE KAUNEY,

International Hotel, City.

In a subsequent letter Mr. Karney observes that Mr. Michael Mitchell, Scotch Settlement, York Co., New Brunswick, is owner of the island where the grapes grow.

Liverpool N. S., Dec. 10th, 1853.

DEAR SIR,—There is a grape vine said to be a wild one growing on the farm of a Mr. Hail on the other side of Allen's Creek, close to the town of Annapolis.

I have seen it and was told it was a wild one, but it may be a degenerate vine planted by the French. Seeing your letter in the *Chronicle* of the 8th inst., I thought well to mention this one. I am