

and patiently forward with their work, simply requesting their critics to call around when the fruit was ripe and see for themselves the possibilities of growing grapes with profit in Canada. Summer has come round and brought with it the entire justification of all and more than the proprietors of the Beaconsfield vineyard have claimed for it, and that is an entire success. The prevailing idea is that a long and very favorable season is necessary for the successful ripening of grapes in the open air in Canada, and so it is with most varieties, but the Beaconsfield seems to have been designed by nature, either under a very lucky star or with a special idea to the circumstances of our vigorous climate. As will be remembered, the spring was unusually backward this season, and everything was late in getting a start; then when a start was made we were visited with a succession of late frosts which made havoc with the fruit crop of the island, the standing crop being cut down 75 per cent. by the frost of the 5th of June. The little vineyard at Beaconsfield, however, escaped entirely unhurt, and is bearing what is said to be an unusually heavy crop for three-year old vines. A STAR reporter visited the vineyard a few days ago and found the vines literally loaded with fruit, many of them bearing over one hundred bunches, one selected at random actually counting one hundred and thirty-five bunches, many of which even now, a month before the height of the season, would weigh over a pound. The proprietors estimate that they would get twenty-five tons of grapes this season would seem already to be fully realized. The unqualified success of the vineyard has spread its fame far and wide, and parties from all parts of the country are constantly being shown the wonders of grape-growing. Even the good-humored critic is there, and frankly admits he "wouldn't have believed it except he had seen it." The grapes are expected to be fully ripe between the 20th and 25th of August, should warm weather ensue, which is fully two weeks earlier than the imported fruit reaches our market. The original vineyard consists of less than four acres, about twenty acres more were set out with young plants the past spring, and as much more will be added the coming autumn and spring, while in addition the nursery contains some eighty-five thousand young plants for the coming fall and spring planting. One excellent feature about this new enterprise is that the French-Canadian farmers have become much interested in the grape culture, and are going more or less extensively into it. Many gentlemen have accepted the proprietors of Beaconsfield's experience as proof positive of the success of the enterprise, and are setting out extensive vineyards in various parts of the Province. Indeed, strange as it may seem, our hard clay soil and cool season seem to be especially suited for grape growing, for from late reports from Rochester and Ontario fruit-growing sections, Beaconsfield is far ahead, and bound to ripen in advance of all.