

the raisin districts. The one great advantage of the business is that to produce a crop worth \$500,000, not more than 1,200 to 1,500 acres of land is required. In some favored localities, as at the Riverside, as high as \$700 to \$800 per acre has been realized. To produce the aggregate value of \$500,000 in wheat at \$1 per bushel, with the high average of 20 bushels per acre, 25,000 acres of first-class land must be planted and well cultivated. — *San Francisco Chronicle*.

ENGLISH SPARROWS.

At the Michigan horticultural meeting several fruit growers told us that the English sparrows were rapidly bringing grief to the farmers and fruit growers. It was the old story of destructiveness and fighting propensities. And now we notice in an exchange that at Mt. Vernon, Ill., a gentleman had twenty acres in wheat, from which he expected a fourth of a crop, the heads having every appearance of promising such a yield. He resolved to cut it for seed, and sent some persons to gather it. They returned soon after and said that there was not a grain of wheat in the field, the sparrows having eaten the entire crop. — *Prairie Farmer*.

THE HARDEST BLACK CAP RASPBERRY.

—The black raspberry known as the Seneca Black-cap, we have found, from years of experience, to be the hardest—able to withstand the most cold—of any of the named varieties we have seen in cultivation. Its fruit is of medium size and of excellent flavor, and the plant is very productive and adapted to a great range of soils. — *Prairie Farmer*.

LYONNAISE POTATOES.—One quart of cold boiled potatoes cut into dice, three tablespoonfuls of butter, one of chopped onion, one of chopped parsley, salt, pepper. Season the potatoes with the salt and pepper. Fry the onions in the butter, and when they turn yellow add the potatoes. Stir with a fork, being careful not to break them. When hot, add the parsley, and cook two minutes longer. Serve immediately on a hot dish.

THE PEACH BORER.—The perfect insect of the *Ageria Exitiosa* or peach borer, somewhat resembling the wasp, lays its eggs in June at the base of the tree, which in a few days hatch, and the grub enters the bark and lives on it till September or later, and then enters on its chrysalis state, preparatory to appearing again the next spring. If your trees are already infested, dig the pests out—make thorough work. If you are not quite sure that you have captured them all, pour boiling water around the roots. If in May of each year you make a mound of earth round each tree, and in October remove it, you will be no longer troubled with the insect. — *Rural New Yorker*.

WILDER.—Another grape that is gaining space in vineyards and in our markets is the Wilder (Rogers No. 4). Mr. McLean, a produce dealer of this city, is receiving considerable quantities of this, as well as of other varieties, from Mr. De Los Tenney, of North Parma, who finds it quite a profitable variety to grow. It is the largest black grape grown in the open air, and makes a fine show in market. It has a thick skin, a soft pulp, considerable aroma, but is a little deficient in sugar. Still the public taste would be very well satisfied with it, and we have no doubt that it will pay to grow it in most localities. Among its other merits it is a long keeper. — *Rural Home*.

RASPBERRY PROFITS.—Mr. Parry, who has long been a very successful grower of the raspberry, gave the New Jersey Horticultural Society a statement of some of the large profits obtained when the fruit sold at high prices. He said the best American varieties, with fair treatment, will yield as many bushels per acre as corn, and generally bring five times as much in market, and, when once planted, remain for several years. A neighbor of his sent to market a one-horse wagon load of red raspberries, and received \$220 for the lot. A lady living near him rented out her farm, reserving a portion for a raspberry and blackberry plantation, from which she sold one year 43,000 quarts of berries, worth, at 8 cents a quart, \$3,440, which was more than the tenant made from all the other crops on the farm. — *Country Gentleman*.