

in quality, in which direction there is, in the writer's opinion, considerable room for improvement. Since the dissemination of the Champion, other varieties have appeared which are certainly better in quality, but whether they will be found to possess as hardy and vigorous a constitution, and consequently can be successfully grown as far to the north, can only be known after some years of trial. The Champion was perhaps the first to ripen this season, but the Moore's Early came so close upon its heels that it was hard to say which of them should be called the earliest. Moore's Early is as good in quality as the Concord, and might be readily mistaken for that variety, both in the flavor and appearance of its fruit. The vine is even more vigorous, and ripens its wood much earlier than the Concord, thereby giving good promise of being able to endure the climate of our northern counties. Both of these varieties ripened before the Hartford Prolific, and both possess much greater power of resisting the effects of severe cold. In fact the northern limit of the profitable culture of the Hartford Prolific is soon reached.

Within a very few years another grape has appeared, which ripens at the same time with the Hartford Prolific and just after Moore's Early and Champion; it is called the Niagara. This is a white grape, and gives promise of being one of the most valuable sorts we yet have. The quality of the fruit is superior to that of either the Champion, Moore's Early or Hartford Prolific. The color of the fruit is very attractive, having that beautiful semi-transparent appearance which is found in our light colored hot-house grapes. The bunches are large and usually well shouldered, berries large, and the vine exceedingly prolific. These four varieties constitute the early grapes of to-day; each has its own qualities and its own excellencies. The Champion is grown profitably as far north as Montreal, where the Hartford Prolific would surely fail to endure the winter. Moore's Early and Niagara are too new to admit of confident assertions of their ability to rival the Champion in their power to endure the climate of Quebec, or of our more northern sections, but they are both of them so far superior to it in excellence of flavor, size of bunch and beauty of appearance that they deserve to be planted and tried in every section of the Province. There is great reason to believe, judging from the appearance of the vines, that they will prove valuable in a great part of Canada.