

extremely foxy, very solid, little juice, nearly all a gelatinous pulp—not desirable here.

Early Victor—The best in quality of the early, hardy blacks, ripens with Worden or a little earlier, small in bunch, medium in berry, productive, good grower, juicy, good flavor, free from fox, inclined to shrivel and lose flavor if left on long after ripening.

Hosford's Seedling—Good grower, hardy, pretty free of fox, early as Worden, good cluster, enormous berry (larger than Wilder), flavor better than Concord, its supposed parent.

Among the Early Reds, the

Brighton retains its general pre-eminence for exquisite beauty and fine flavor, large in cluster and berry, good grower and bearer, perfectly free from foxiness, tender and juicy, with little or no pulp; it is difficult to surpass; its only fault is a tendency to mildew in unfavorable seasons, and loss of quality when left to hang too long on the vine.

Amber Queen—Excellent in quality, but vine not very healthy and bearing qualities defective.

Jefferson—A good grower and fine bearer, hardy here; as juicy and free of pulps as *Brighton* and *Iona*; close large cluster, berry large, varying from pink to a prettily veined red, semi-transparent; thin skin and delicious pure flavor, not as high, vinous and spicy as *Iona*, but second only to it; late, however, in maturing; ripens between *Isabella* and *Catawba*, or perhaps as late as the latter; useless, therefore, in Canada outside of Essex, Kent and the Niagara district, unless in exceptional seasons like that of 1887. Inclined to overbear; needs close pruning. Throughout Lake Erie counties would probably ripen in favorable exposures, on south side of house or brick wall; worth taking a little trouble to get.

As to the Whites, which have been the rage of late:

Elvira is very hardy, vigorous and productive; large, compact, close, handsome cluster; late as *Catawba*; quality abominable; good for white wine, nothing more.

Empire State—Fine grower, hardy, good bearer, though not as productive as *Niagara*; cluster good, though not largest; berry large medium, very sweet, a little fox, not much pulp; but the cluster, at least when fully ripe, is extremely fragile and berries shell off on the slightest provocation.

Etta—Decided improvement on its mother, *Elvira*; large, productive, cluster not quite as large or close as *Elvira*, but berry larger, more juicy and really fine flavored, subacid; ripens little if any before *Catawba*.

Jessica—Good grower, hardy, healthy, early as Delaware; bunch medium, very loose, very small, free of fox, juicy, sweet, not high flavored.

Niagara—Great grower, hardy, heavy bearer of large, handsome bunches; berry large, juicy, little pulp, very foxy—the "Concord" of the whites.

Pocklington—Very hardy, fine grower; moderate bearer of smaller bunches than the *Niagara*; berry larger, yellower, better quality than its rival.

Prentiss—Succeeds in South Essex; hardy, fair grower; mildews some in unfavorable seasons, but good bearer of excellent clusters, quite free of fox, juicy, good flavor.

Naomi—Like former, mildews some; strong grower, sufficiently hardy here; small bearer of moderate cluster; berry medium, oval; in texture and flavor resembling the foreign grape, of course free of fox.

Duchess—Good grower; hardy here, although farther north the better of laying down; bears good crops of moderate sized, properly compact bunches, green tinged with a little golden tint and brown; berries medium, inclined to oval; adhering to peduncle as if glued; texture and flavor exceedingly like the white *Malaga* (Spanish) grape, but not quite so hard and more juicy; splendid shipper and keeper, and admirably pure and high flavored; ripens between *Concord* and *Isabella*; altogether the finest white grape for the private grower.

In conclusion I would add that among the blacks, *Early Victor*, *Wilder* and *Roger's 43* and *44*; in reds, *Delaware*, *Brighton*, *Agawam*, *Lindley*, *Iona*, *Jefferson* and *Catawba*; and among whites, *Prentiss*, *Etta*, and especially *Duchess*, are well worth the attention of amateurs in Southern Ontario. Should be glad to learn the experience and opinion of other growers as to these grapes.—AMPELOGRAPH.

—Kingsville.

Fruit Tested in Muskoka.

The Russian Apple received from the Association in 1885, has stood two winters well without losing an inch of wood; the *Vladimir Cherry* also, but I protected it the first year.

I had a very good crop of grapes this season, about one third ripe and picked when the frost of October 3rd and 4th compelled me to make the rest into wine. The first to ripen were the *Moore's Early*, *Jessica* (a delicious, sweet grape,) *Concord*, *Worden*, *Lindley* (the most hardy, vigorous grower and best bearer I have,) *Agawam* (later and more delicate); *Niagara*, *Lady*, *Martha* were not ripe enough to tell their flavor. I think I allowed too many bunches to grow on the *Niagara*.—F. W. COATE.

—Cape Elizabeth, Rosseau, October 15th, 1888.

Winnipeg.

SIR,—I feel grieved to see the quality of apples from Ontario coming here; they are mere culls, with usually a few good apples on the top of the barrel. The market is flooded with such and the general impression prevails that we have no better. Prices are down low and shippers are losing heavily. There is a prospect of prices being lower still, but no chance that I can see of improvement. If British prices are anything near the mark, it would be