

I am sure it would greatly gratify the fruit growers of Ontario to know that all of Mr. Dempsey's hybrids were in the market. I particularize Nos. 18 and 25. He is the Ricketts of our Province and deserves well of the country for the number of interesting hybridizations he has added to our fruit list. May he be long spared to be enriched and to enrich. We had hoped to announce to you this year that the hybrid grapes of Mr. W. H. Mills, my predecessor in this chair, had been put upon the market. This we are unable as yet to do; but when the announcement is made, I am sure we shall all rejoice. His seedlings are of great promise and value, and will show what advances hybridization is making among our fruit growers. Mr. Wm. Hoskin's grape, a hybrid with the same paternity as the Burnet, is being propagated, and will prove no unworthy rival to its compatriot. The hybrids of Mr. Wm. Saunders, of London, who has a legion of them, are fruiting, and some of them giving promise of marked excellence. One or two of his varieties are strikingly early. Some of them are foreign in their foliage, with a deep mauve colour in their stem, and many of them most vigorous in constitution and growth. Mr. Saunders moves slowly, constitutionally. His hybrid blackberries have dragged their long length and age behind. Were the members of our Association bold enough to give a recommendation to our enlightened and successful co-labourer we might say to him, Don't put too much stress on the old motto of "*Festina lente*." Amongst our neighbours over the way there is first the Pocklington, a remarkable grape of promise; and, secondly the Rochester and the Monroe, both raised and introduced by Ellwanger & Barry. The Pocklington is a white grape, and bears the favourable imprimatur of Mr. M. B. Bateham, of Painsville, Ohio, and the two latter by the Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry. We have seen the Rochester, and highly esteem it. The habits of the vine are similar to those of the Diana. It requires ample room and rather longpruning. It is ripe in the first week in September, and has never failed to ripen well in the worst season since it first bore. Mr. Rickett's Highland and Lady Washington have been already noticed by me. Mr. Hubbard's new white grape, the Prentiss, is making a *furor* in Ohio, and doubtless will soon find its way among ourselves.

PESTS OF THE VINEYARD.

It will not comfort many of you to know that the grape-rot, so prevalent in Cincinnati twenty or thirty years ago, is beginning to make its appearance in Canadian vineyards. Wet seasons are most certain to bring rot. Vines on wet and moist soils are most liable to the disease. A crop of clover, rye or oats, covering the surface of the ground during the hottest part of the summer has been found to lessen the evil. W. W. Scarborough, of Cincinnati, protects his vines profitably, both from mildew and rot, by covering them with Manilla bags, and sometimes he uses bags of muslin for the same purpose, and that successfully. We are persuaded that similarity of climatic changes with those in the States is the real cause of rot in Canadian vines. It would be well for Canadian vine growers to be on the alert and use every available means to prevent its spreading generally over the Province. Good cultivation and watching are perhaps the best preventives. A few years ago I witnessed the rot ravages at Cincinnati, and have a very salutary dread of its dire effects. In this connection I may mention that there is no diminution of the Phylloxera. Secretary Bateham, of the Ohio State Horticultural Society, estimates the loss of vines by the ravages of Phylloxera to be at the rate of 1,000 acres annually in that State. This seriously diminishes the profits of the cultivator. G. A. Campbell, of Delaware, Ohio, a well-known adept in fruit matters, declares that the ravages of this pest are rapidly on the increase. Mr. John McLean, of Owen Sound, to whom I have been much indebted for news about fruit growing, sends me Australian newspapers, whose contributors bitterly complain of the inroads of the Phylloxera on Southern vineyards. The misfortune is that no good and sufficient remedy has yet been discovered. We fear that the only remedy is to deprive the destructive pest of his modicum of food. Unsparingly root up defective vines and carry the war into Africa against the determined ravager. Mr. Bucke, Ottawa, writes that his "Salem have badly mildewed this season, though no other variety has been injured. The Champion has coloured nicely, and Miller's Burgundy is following close after it." We need only say that a good dose of sulphur will greatly modify, if not