

the raising of bees, or would it not be to their interest to enter on a bee crusade? Give us your opinion on the matter, Mr. Editor. I agree with one of your correspondents, who states that the Provincial in giving prizes for fruit should make some discrimination between cold and warm climates, for it is not fair that fruit grown under unfavorable circumstances in a northern latitude should be required to compete on equal terms with that grown in a southern climate. The English sparrow destroys fruit buds when the ground is covered with snow and it has no other food, the opinion of Mr. S. Hunter, of Scotland, Ont., to the contrary notwithstanding.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### APPLE TREES ROOTING IN SUBSOIL,—BURNET GRAPE, &c.

I notice Mr. J. A. McKay's suggestion to put flat stones under apple trees when planting. This might prevent the roots getting into the clay for a few years, but it no doubt grows over the stones into the clay afterwards. My trees have not suffered yet from the clay soil, and I don't think it will do them any harm. The Burnet Grape has not fruited this year; I don't think it will succeed here. I planted in the same ground last year two Hartford Prolific, two Agawam, two Salem, two Beaconsfield, five Concord, nine Champion, all two year old vines, and I find this year the Agawam and one Beaconsfield dead; the other Beaconsfield has done well, and looks very like the Champion. The Salem and Concord have not fruited yet, but the Champion grew vigorously—one had twenty bunches on it, but I only allowed six to ripen, the weight of which were three ounces each. They were ripe 27th August, and seem to be best suited for this district for hardiness, fruitfulness and early ripening. The Saunders Raspberry was accidentally cut when a foot high, and is not likely to succeed. I have tried several kinds of raspberries, but cannot grow them either on sandy or clay soil; the new shoot always dies away. There are plenty of wild ones growing on the sides of banks and creeks, so I suppose they require shelter. I have about 1200 Houghton Seedling Gooseberries, four years old, planted on clay loam five feet apart, and am surprised to find a good deal of the fruit mildews, although I have seen it often stated that this variety never mildews.

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### REPORT ON PLANTS RECEIVED.

The Swayzie and Ontario apples have done well, as also have the Clapp's Favorite pear and the Diadem raspberry. Saunders done rather better, but I have seen no fruit yet on any apple, pear or raspberry. The Burnet grape vine is growing, and set a few bunches of fruit last year, but it all dropped off without ripening; if it does the same the coming season I will consider it unsuitable for this section.

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