

I know it is the opinion of very many well-known cultivators of this luscious fruit, that girdling, while it brings the grape to maturity somewhat earlier, yet does so at the expense of the flavor. I cannot coincide with this idea, as it must be admitted that it is through the medium of the leaf, abstracting oxygen from the air, and the retarded return of the sap, that the berries are perfected. I have vines of the *Hartford Prolific*, with a southern aspect, which ripen in the open air without either severe summer pruning, or girdling, while other vines, not more favorably located, but treated in the manner previously recommended, not only produce larger berries of the same grape, but ripen earlier and are of better flavor.

With the long and warm season of the south and of the Pacific slope of the United States, there is no question but that good grapes can be produced with little attention, and without the aids I have advocated; but such is not the case in Nova Scotia. There, with a southern exposure, and backed by walls or buildings, and protected in winter by a covering of earth or closely-packed spruce boughs, with girdling and summer pruning, we can do very well to a limited extent in grape culture; but the question is,—will it pay? I certainly would not advise the cultivation of the grape on a large scale; but a few vines of the earlier sorts can be grown for domestic purposes. But no one should undertake it unless in a favorable locality, with wall protection, and some knowledge of the nature and habits of the vine; otherwise, while he may grow a vigorous, large, healthy vine, he will in the fruit season gather but "sour grapes."

Mr. William Sutton, of Cornwallis, an Englishman by birth, has for years cultivated the grape with great success, adopting the renewal system and girdling, which I am convinced will alone ensure success with us.

As an experiment, I planted a vine of the *Black Hamburg*, having a northern and western protection (my office and dwelling), which has the full effect of the sun from early morning to the middle of the afternoon; and here, with the girdling and renewal system, I have produced large clusters of pretty well-ripened grapes; I do not succeed every year, however. I sent a cluster to Boston to the editor of *Tilton's Journal of Agriculture*, 1871, which was noticed by him in that magazine.

The most common kinds cultivated with us are the *Isabella*, *Concord*, *Hartford Prolific*, *Diana*, *Delaware*, *White Sweetwater*, *Royal*