

cover in the spring, as they will bleed. Prune in the fall before laying down (advice to new beginners; older ones can do as they please).

I also see a good deal of talk about aphids, green and black, on cherries and plums. I may say, all we ever did was to give them plenty of lime water with a garden engine, and it was effectual. We went over the trees once or twice while the growth was young.

D. CAMPBELL, London West, Ont.

Grapes near Guelph. — Professor Pantou says in Bulletin VIII. that some ninety-six varieties have been tested on the grounds of the Agricultural College. The latitude is  $43^{\circ} 38'$ ; height above level of lake Ontario, 858 feet; soil, clay loam. As a result of five years' experience he draws the following, among other conclusions:—

(a) Grape vines in this locality must be well sheltered with warm exposure, and grown in a warm well-drained soil, or little fruit will be secured.

(b) The Concord, known as the grape for the million, scarcely ripens with us before well into October, and then irregularly.

(c) A grape which does not ripen earlier than the Concord is of little use here.

(d) Our earliest seems to be Moore's Early, Champion, Lady and Massasoit.

(e) For flavor, hardness and yield the following are to be commended: *Black*—Wilder, Worden, Moore, Concord, Barry. *Red*—Delaware, Brighton, Lindley, Agawam. *White*—Niagara, Lady, Martha.

#### OPEN LETTERS.

Appreciative. SIR:—A few years ago I knew really nothing of gardening; but I became a subscriber to your able little journal, and to it I am indebted for the little I know of small fruit rais-

ing in a small garden of a working man.

I drained my lot well, which is a heavy, stiff, blue clay. I supplied the land with a liberal supply of stable manure, also coal ashes to loosen up. I dissolved bones in two large barrels of wood ashes, spread the same among my currants and grapes; and on a hint received from your little journal, cut all the old wood out of my currants. The result is berries, the superior of which were not found in this county.

I would like to know the best and cheapest way to preserve grapes till Christmas.

D. NEILSON, St. Thomas.

[NOTE.—An excellent mode of keeping grapes in a nice, plump condition until Christmas, is to pack them between layers of cotton batten.—ED.]

Johnston's Sweet Raspberry. SIR:—In your remarks about Johnston's Sweet Raspberry, you say you are not acquainted with any one who has fruited it. For your information and others who, no doubt, when it is offered for sale, will be willing to test it, I may say that I have fruited it in a small way for two years. Both plants and fruits were all the introducer claims for it, with this addition; there are but few spines on the plants, which makes it easier for the pickers to get along among them.

JOHN LITTLE, Granton, Ont.

The Onion Maggot. SIR:—A friend showed me a copy of the *Canadian Horticulturist*, and I am so pleased with it that I wish to become a subscriber. I am particularly anxious to get some remedy for the maggot that destroys the onion.

A. B. FERRIER, Cheltenham.

[NOTE.—Experiment by soaking the seed in copperas, and by sowing salt, soda, ashes or coal-dust over the ground.]