

THE VINEYARD.

Rogers' Hybrid Grapes.

Some of the sorts known as Rogers' Hybrids have proved to be so hardy at Toronto and northward that we give our readers the experience of a correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* who seems to be surrounded with difficulties, similar to those with which many of our planters have to contend.

He says that three years ago last spring he planted one hundred each of Rogers' No. 4 (Wilden), No. 15. (Agawam), and No. 19 (Merrimack), that they all made strong, healthy vines, and fruited the past season, yielding nearly as abundantly as Concord at the same age. With the Salem (No. 22) he has not been as successful, for of two hundred planted four years ago last spring he has only some two dozen left. The lower roots died, and a feeble growth was maintained by the surface roots, so feeble that he dug the plants up and replaced with more vigorous sorts. He has had the same experience with his Delaware and Iona vines.

But he has had good success with even these sorts, (and here is a point worthy of being noted and experimented upon), by grafting them on the stock of other vines that do thrive well in his soil. The most of those thus grafted by him bore fruit the past season, and of better quality than any he had obtained from the vines growing on their own roots, and the leaves hung on until frost.

Perhaps here is a hint that may be turned to good account. The Clinton is a very hardy, strong growing grape-vine, and it may be that some of those varieties that seem to grow feebly in certain soils, might be found to thrive well and yield abundant fruit if grafted on the Clinton. The Delaware usually fails on strong clayey soil, but by first planting the Clinton and after it has become established grafting it with the Delaware, it might be that fine Delawares could be then grown. Will not some one who has not been able to grow the Delaware try the experiment and report results to THE CANADA FARMER.

Sulphur for Grapevines.

An inquiry in Australia as to the use of sulphur on grape-vines for curing the Oidium, brought out the following responses from correspondents, which will interest and instruct Canadian grape-growers.

"For the information of those interested in vine-growing, I would state that sulphuring is the best known remedy against the Oidium Tuckeri (vine disease). I use three parts wood ashes, two of sulphur, and one of lime, mixed together, and find that it answers remarkably well. This mixture is laid on with a sulphuring bellows, as follows: The first time is done row, after close pruning; the second time just before the buds burst; the third time when the blossoming is over, or nearly so; the fourth time when the fruit is about the size of a pea; the fifth time when the fruit is about half grown; the sixth and last time when the fruit is about ripening. Whenever a shower of rain has washed off the mixture, the sulphuring must be repeated.

This is my experience, and I am satisfied with the result.—C. F. GERLER."

"In response to the request for information concerning the best means to prevent the Oidium, or grapevine disease, I have to state that last year I used sulphur and ashes on part of the vineyard; on the other part, lime slaked with strong brine. Where I used the lime was on the part of the vineyard that was the worst affected with the Oidium. The difference is plain to any one. The canes are bright and clean, where, before using lime, the tops were rotten half way down. This year I shall use lime and brine over the whole of the vineyard. The mixture should be used as soon as the buds begin to open, and not sparingly.—W. S."

"I give you my experience as a practical gardener, and my management of vines.—When I have done with the pruning, I scrape all the old bark off with a scraper, and clear away the earth from the vines, not to disturb the surface roots. I then paint the vines all over with my own compound, viz., steep 1 lb. of tobacco in 3 quarts of hot water, to extract the juice, strain off the juice; cut down 3 lbs. of soap very small; put the tobacco juice and soap into a pot, and put it on a slow fire to melt the soap; when it is melted, add 3 lb. hellebore, and 2 lbs. sulphur. Stir the mixture well; then empty it into a small box. It will keep for any length of time. To use this mixture, dissolve about 3 lb. in water to the thickness of paint, and with a paint brush paint the vines all over. It will remain on the vines for twelve months, and is a perfect cure.—WILLIAM DAVIDSON."

What Pears shall I Grow.

An excellent address was recently delivered at the Western New York Fruit-growers' Association, by Mr. F. R. Elliott, of Ohio. The following extracts from it will be useful to many of our readers as showing the views of a man of great talent and experience among our neighbors on a highly important subject. Mr. Elliott said:

It is pretty well known that for over twenty years the Pear has been one of my hobbies in the fruit line, and during the past three months I have had hundreds of applications for an answer to the question, "what are the most profitable as well as good varieties of pears to plant, looking forward to only good ordinary care in cultivating?" At this present time there are probably over 1000 varieties of pears named and described. I have myself notes and observations of over eight hundred, either fruited by myself or examined specimens grown by my friends.

Ere we commence our list, let us say that the grower of trees for sale, and the dealer, are just as much interested in their character for vitality, vigorous growth and productiveness as is the permanent planter. They are immediately benefited in the value of this crop, when it is known, both to be a rapid healthy grower, and productive of valuable, saleable sized fruit. We shall not attempt against our own conviction of quality, to touch the richness of *Rosticer* as compared with the saleable value of *Windsor*, known commonly as *Summer Bell*; but, in our short condensed list of values, shall look, and we hope our readers will so understand us, to the growth of the tree being healthy and vigorous, productive of large, handsome, well formed fruit of good quality.

In our American list of native pears we have among our earliest ripening sorts, of large size and fine form, good quality, healthy tree, etc., one under name of "*Clapp's Favorite*." It has New England for its origin to favor it, but almost everywhere else that we read of its growth and product, it partakes of a tendency early to decay at the core, and so, like the fine gold of *Summer*, *Kirtland*, *Muskingum*, *Zoar Beauty*, etc., is, and will prove, only of value to the amateur. A market sort must have a permanency of ripening, otherwise it is too often either a loss to the producer by its decay in transportation, or to the dealer by its too rapid decay on his hands ere sold. These points in regard to pears therefore are leading items that must be studied when the profits of planting or growing and sales are regarded; and at the same time they are equally of value to the amateur, because if he have but one tree and its fruit be a long time and irregular in ripening, he is the gainer.

Wharton's Early

Is a pear of which the origin has never yet, to our knowledge, been learned; but it was freely distributed in sections of Ohio over thirty years since; but never having come into the hands of any pushing tree-grower, is yet little known, and possibly it deserves no more, but, from what we have seen of its fruit, its habit of growth, productiveness, early maturity, etc., we feel like calling the attention of pear-growers to it. We are not prepared to say that it is the pear desired for early ripening, but its size is equal to *Clapp's Favorite*, and so far as we have knowledge of it, it matures earlier, and does not readily decay.

Windsor.

An old variety, commonly known as *Summer Bell*, unquestionably has, and will continue to have for years to come, a profitable market value second to none—not even Bartlett—but it is a variety that no man ever desires for his own family use, because once he or his children have the least acquaintance with knowledge relative to the constituents of a good pear, it will not even be used for cooking in his own house, and his children will turn to any poor early apple in preference. We put this old worthless but money profitable pear in our record here, because it has numerous statements on record relative to its profit, i.e., "one tree having given over sixty dollars a year annual returns from sale of its fruit." "Ten trees have paid me more from the sale of its fruit than the best acre of apple orchard on my place." These, and many more items like unto them, are or could be quoted; not that they add one item to the point we now wish to advocate, but they are and may be made antagonistic to our desire, that however much of money profit there may be in grow-

ing it—there can be no honor in offering it for sale—beyond that of the counterfeiter who offers you \$100 of his product for \$10 of really good coin.

Brandywine.

This pear has a high reputation in its own native State of Pennsylvania, and will be found in a large number of lists recommended by fancy amateur growers in southern central latitudes, but when the actual character of it comes, and its profitable marketable sales are compared with Bartlett, there is no use in adding it to your list.

Bartlett.

Of this it does not become me more than to name it, and concede the fact that however it may be deficient in richness, delicacy, etc., its size, its musky aroma, etc., together with the good growth, healthiness, and early abundant prolificness of the trees, the fact that it may be picked green—packed in an air-tight railway car, and conveyed hundreds of miles, and turned out to buyers in the best possible eatable and showy condition, and command a fair price—is all that is needed. And yet we feel like saying to futuro pear-growers, the following few words, viz.: There is more money and more home enjoyment in a good pear for mouths of the home family—in growing later ripening and better qualities.

Ananas d'Ete.

This old variety is but little known, yet its fruit with us for twenty years was large, handsome, and in pomological sense, very good. This past season, it has been extra fine, and from the fact that the tree is a vigorous healthy grower, productive of fruit along with, or immediately following Bartlett, there seems no good reason why it should be neglected. It succeeds on Quince or pear stock.

Louise Bonne de Jersey.

As a grower on quince stocks, as an early bearer of fine and fair fruit, as a tree of easy training, as a pear of beauty, when even decently treated in its growth, as a variety that even on the quince, as a dwarf, seems to succeed on sandy, loamy, or clayey soils, we have perhaps no equal to this variety. It has been fully and fairly tried over a quarter of a century, and while our good and capable enthusiastic fruit-grower of Lyons, N. Y., Dr. Sylvester, sets its record at over \$600 per year of productive sales, and while we have almost everywhere good record of it, we feel a little disposed to say to planters, do not go too strongly into it; and simply because, that while it is productive, etc., it comes in just with our late fall peaches and best autumn apples, and therefore commands only as a rule (see Dr. Sylvester) a nominal price. It is, however, one of our standard list of varieties of pears to be grown as dwarfs.

Onondaga, or Swan's Orange.

This is another among the most vigorous healthy growers, and early productive, whether on quince or pear stock. In season, again, it comes opportunely just after the *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, and as a fill up with *Flemish Beauty*, etc. We cannot commend this variety too strongly, and yet in so saying don't take us as giving it preference over all others, we only want you who read our observations to know that it is one of the large sized pears, of really good quality, looks much like Bartlett, and will sell readily, because like Bartlett its unripe picked fruit will color and ripen up gradually in the dealer's or consumer's hands.

Whieldon.

Or, as first sent out under name of *McLellan*, is one of the moderately regular formed growing trees, a profuse and early bearer of a good fair above medium sized fruit, well formed, rich in color, and nearly first best in quality, coming in to maturity and market about the last of September, or as compared with Bartlett one month later. We have kept its fruit three weeks, roughly handled in a carpet travelling sack, and advise all pear-growers to look after it as a variety, and try from five to ten trees of it. As a dwarf or standard, toward the success of its culture we know nothing.

Mr Elliott went on to enumerate further among the Pears he recommended the following varieties:—*St. Crispin*, *Flemish Beauty*, *Loriel* do *Barney*, *Duchesse Pricocce*, *Depierre*, *Doyenne Boussock*, *The Lawrence*, *Howell*, *Beurre Clairgeau*, *Compte de Flandre*, *Beurre Diel*, *Beurre D'Anjou*, *Duchesse D'Angouleme*, *Beurre Bos*, *White Doyenne*, *Godeale*, *Maria Louise*, *D'Uccle*, *Marechal de la Cour*, *Josephine* do *Malmes*, *Winter Nelis*, *Vicar of Winkfield*, *Louise Vilmorin*, *Therese Appert*, *Saint Therese* and *Belle Epine Dumas*.