

came out looking as fresh and unchanged as at the hour they were picked from the vine, and they were not dug until January 1st. The berries of the clusters that I had buried last fall are now as plump and fine-flavored as ever, but for the reasons that heavy rains fell soon after they were buried last October, the extreme mildness of the season, and the fact that some of the precautions named above were not complied with. The stems of the clusters are not as green and fresh as they were in the case of those buried a year ago.

E. P. R., Cornwall, N. Y.

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me through the next number of your valuable paper if we can raise grapes in Canada, say as far north as the County of Wellington, that will make a true raisin. If so, what process is required? Is there any particular variety needed. A SUBSCRIBER.

[Grapes for preserving as raisins have not been grown in any part of Canada. California is the only place in America, as far as we know, in which raisin-curing is carried on. It is not with wine which it is made in Grimsby and other places in Canada of a very good quality.]

The Best Feed for a Colt.

SIR,—Please let me know what is the best feed for a colt and if ground oats is good or not.

P. F. V.

[Colts when taken from the pasture into the stable or shed should be supplied at least once a day with some hay and some bruised oats mixed with chaff or bran. Barley and oat straw if saved early and frequently varied with an allowance of pea straw, may constitute the bulk of their winter food. Good well saved early hay is still better. A few slices swedes, or mangolds or carrots regularly given with some chaff-cut straw, or hay, keep the bowles open and add to the general health. And they require some more nutritive food. For this end, supply to each foal daily three or four pounds of oats which are best given cracked or bruised with several handfuls of chaff, and divided into a morning and evening feed. An occasional branmash is also advisable; a pound of bruised oilcake daily given with the oats, tends to keep the skin in a healthy state. This is more necessary if roots are not given. A piece of rock salt in the manger is good for his digestion and health, and a plentiful supply of pure water is as necessary as good food.]

Honey Locust for Fences.

SIR,—Will the future Canadian plant and grow live fences? How to fence our farms will very soon be a "live" question. For hedge fences I know nothing more promising than the Honey Locust. In the county of Welland it is not only promising but is actually performing as a regularly established fence. One farmer who has a locust hedge exposed to the highway has so much faith in it that he has planted some miles of it.

As trees of considerable size are found in various places in Western Ontario, its hardiness seems pretty well established. Even the young plants, of which we have many thousand in this neighborhood, endure the winters easily.

Its growth is very rapid, and it seems to succeed on a variety of soils. The most extensive planter that we have in this vicinity has a pretty stiff clay soil. They grow more rapidly in sandy soil. A sufficient hedge can be established in a few years, if it receives a reasonable amount of care. Its thorns are terrible to look upon. Animals with an average intellect are satisfied with one mild attempt—even boys have a superstitious regard for this particular kind of fence. Its seeds, which are enclosed in very large, flat pods, do not require the packing in damp sand that is necessary with tree seeds generally. They may be kept either in the pods or when threshed more easily than peas, as the seeds are exceedingly hard. The threshing process is an amusing one to those who merely look on.

It is not advisable to plant the seeds where the fence is required. It is practically impossible to put the seeds at the proper distance, and to insure their growth in the case of each seed. If failures occur it will take more time to fill the gaps than to plant the entire row with new plants. Even if it were possible to establish plants regularly in the fence row from the seed, it would be unwise to do so. A better growth with one-tenth of the labor

could be had by selecting a small, rich plot elsewhere. The fence row can be otherwise employed to better advantage. A row or line of potatoes would be very suitable.

Further particulars will be given hereafter.

Drummondville, Ont.

E. M.

Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.

SIR,—The Winter Meeting will be held in the City Hall, City of Hamilton, on Wednesday, February 6th, 1878, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Report for 1877 is now being printed, and will be mailed to those who have paid their fee for 1878 as soon as it is ready. The celebrated Burnet Grape, a colored plate of which appeared in the Report for 1876, will be sent in the Spring to all members for 1878. Any who wish to secure two vines of the Burnet Grape can do so by sending nine names besides their own, and ten dollars.

D. W. BEADLE, Secretary.

St. Catharines, 7th January, 1878.

Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario.

The annual convention of this association will be held at Ingersoll on the 13th, 14th and 15th February, and the Committee hope to make it both beneficial and interesting to dairymen and farmers generally. Addresses will be delivered by several eminent gentlemen from the United States and Canada, and a large attendance is anticipated. Any parties wishing to attend and become members may obtain certificates by applying at once to the secretary, Mr. J. C. Hegler, Ingersoll, on presentation of which to the different stations on the Grand Trunk, Great Western, and Port Dover and Lake Huron railways, they will be entitled, owing to special arrangements made with these companies, to tickets at one fare and a third the double journey. It is desirable that parties wishing to attend should apply to the Secretary at once for certificates, so as to avoid confusion and delay.

J. C. HEGLER, Sec.

Odessa Wheat.

SIR,—Please let me know in your next issue how the Odessa Wheat yielded this year. Is it liable to rust—has the midge been hard on it—is it spring or winter wheat—I bought two bushels at \$3 per bushel—had I better grind or sow it—give me all the information you can about it—and oblige.

P. E. ISLAND.

[Questions regarding wheat, will be answered in the March number of the ADVOCATE.]

SIR,—Would you inform me through the ADVOCATE what is the proper time of the season to cut spruce and hardwood for durability.

J. S. Little Harbor, N. S.

The Use of Trees.

SIR,—There are many ways that they are useful, but I can tell you of some that did much harm to my own knowledge. When we were married I made a change; we at home always had plenty of trees and I feeling the place so naked and bare, put my mind together to see what could grow quickest, and minded of the long, tall English poplar's filled with bird's nests; they were nice and grand; so getting some slips near the roots, planted them. There was a large garden and well where the old house had stood. The well never went dry in the driest times. We filled our tubs in the morning, let them stand in the sun all day, ready to water the vegetables at evening. Our's was the best well all around there; plenty of water, while others had to draw miles to water their cattle. We also had a never-failing well in the yard for the common use. It was splendid water; a spring down through the gravel into the quicksand. But I just want to prove what trees will do. I planted the willows near the first well. They grew I should think six feet the first year. The roots went down to the water, through the stones, and as they are hard to kill, the well is long since dry. Now this is two year's back. Although no trees are near the other, it is dried also. I did all through want of knowledge upon roots of trees, and I know that balm of Gilead has the same nature.

When you write about hens laying eggs in winter, remember that the water should be given after feed in the morning, and always milk-warm. speak from experience, as I have made a good speck" in that line, and just feed as you say.

If you would like I could let you know just what we sold from one cow last year; what feed she got, and also how much we sold from the same, with two heifers of our own raising, up to the present time, as they still give a large milk-pailful yet once a day. I could give you a correct list if you thought to print it.

W. S.,

Riviere Raisin post office, Lancaster, Ont.

Preservation of Dried Fruit.

SIR,—We want light on the following subject:—Can you, or some of your numerous readers that have experience, advise us in what way to construct a box or two for the purpose of preserving from worms and moths apples and other fruit after drying it. We have more than one idea of our own on the subject of what would be proof against the moth, but have not had practical experience in the construction of so desirable a conservator. We fancy a box made of light boards, but do not think that pine would be the most desirable, and basswood has a strong odor or offensive smell—both the above might impart their flavor to the fruit that it would come in contact with. We are not sure that one or more thickness of paper pasted on the inside of the box would preserve the fruit from pollution by the wood intended to protect the fruit from moths. We think the box might be covered all over with tea chest lead, and that again inclosed with other boards to preserve the lead from damage. We want something that is reliable, otherwise it would be folly. Again, we have thought that paste to be used in the construction might repel the moth, if made strong by alum, with plenty of cayenne pepper stirred into it. Now, sir, the above are some of our ideas, can you not improve or advise some better method, and very much oblige a subscriber, and perhaps many more than ourselves that are readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. E. E. L.

[Will any of our readers who have experience in the preserving of fruit, reply to the enquiry of E. E. L. in our next issue?]

SIR,—In your last number I see the Puslinch club wants information about the Manitoba wheat. Your own account of it is about the same as I have to give myself. I sowed two acres of it with the drill on good land, my yield 40 bushels on the two acres. The crop was heavy on the ground, and I think that all the different kinds of wheat that ever grew in the States and Canada was in that two acres. I do not think that any more of it will be seen in the township of Wawanosh. Owing to the hue and cry that was raised against the red chaff wheat by millers and newspapers last year, I sowed most of my spring grain life wheat, and lost about \$100 by not sowing red chaff. I only sowed two acres of red chaff, the yield being as follows: red chaff, 35 bushels to the acre, Fife 20, Manitoba 20. The millers and wheat buyers intend for to do away with the red chaff. They are taking every plan for to put it away, as they are not giving nearly as much for red chaff as other kinds of spring grain. The red fern has been sown here, but does not yield much better than the fife. I bought one bushel of the Egyptian spring wheat, but I have very little confidence in it. We have had nothing for yield to the red chaff, yet I mix with fall before grinding, and have as good flour as any other kinds of wheat.

W. A.

Lucknow, Jan. 22nd, 1878.

SIR,—I would like some information about a farm. There is about thirty acres of a tamarac swamp; the remainder is hardwood and hemlock. Would it pay to drain such land? There is from one to two feet of black muck on the tamarac swamp; what would it be better adapted for if it was cleared? It is very level; there is one hundred and thirty rod of a ditch dug on the line five feet wide and three feet deep, and there is only seven inches of a fall. Well would open ditches be the best or under drains? The other is a ride clay very wet.

T. G. Burris, P. O.

[There is not the least use in attempting the cultivation of swamp land till the stagnant water is drawn off. This can be done by open drains which would be most suitable for your swamp for the present. Timothy seed light top-dressing of clay, sand or gravel would be of great service to swamp land. Timothy grass, tussac grass, and marsh bent oriorion would be a good mixture of grasses for such soil.]