

specimen, though in a few orchards which I mentioned last year where trees were procured from the States, there has been a number of cases, and it is only by strict watching and the immediate removal of affected trees that they have been able to keep it in check: and some, I understand, who did not know the danger in time, and where the disease had spread considerably before they tried to check it, are about to give it up in despair. Here it seems to me comes the necessity for that law which, through the ignorance of our legislators upon the subject, was defeated in our Legislative Assembly. I sincerely hope that something may be done for us at the next meeting of our Local Parliament, not only to stop the spread of the disease, but to put an end to the importation of diseased trees and the immense amount of diseased fruit coming into our markets. Toronto, and many other of our markets, are now stocked with it, and people are not enough posted yet to distinguish it from really good fruit. It is so highly coloured that it is very attractive to the eye and will readily sell to the exclusion of better fruit. People are unacquainted with it, and the consequence is that it is ruining the market for our own fruits. I hope you will ventilate this matter, and if I can serve you in any way I shall be at your command."

The misfortune under which we, as an association, labour in this and kindred matters, so ably put by Mr. Smith, is that we do not get them put into execution. A prominent fruit grower and able member of our Fruit Growers' Association resisted with all his might, and that successfully, the introduction into Mr. Creighton's admirable bill on black knot in plums any clause indicating the necessity to put a stop to the importation of diseased peach trees. In our view, and, we trust, in the view of all enlightened fruit growers, all diseased trees should be legally prevented from entering our Province. It is a pity such a view did not guide the usually enlightened legislation of Ontario. So in regard to the important matter of securing the fruit statistics of the Dominion. The views of fruit-growers have been brought to the notice of the readers of our Annual Reports, but that is all. No means have been taken, that I am aware of, to press the procuring of answers on fruit statistics upon the Dominion Government. Oh! for a watchful executive committee of our members. Time flies; we are getting old and useless, and nothing is done. Forgive the ebullience. The little progress on fruit-growing is enough to give a man the "yellows," *i. e.*, the jaundice.

THE GADDING VINE.

Grapes have done well this season. They just escaped the frost on the 16th and 17th of June. The flowers were ready to burst. Fortunately the season was late, and little damage was done throughout Ontario. Here and there they were caught by the cold snap. B. Gott, of Arkona, writes that grapes are most abundant. Indeed the crop generally is very heavy, affording great encouragement to the grower. There is a larger acreage planted in Ontario this year than ever before. We were delighted to hear of the success attending the planting of vines in Toronto and neighbourhood. Mr. John Hoskin, of the Dale, has a considerable vineyard, and is a most successful cultivator of this noble and ancient fruit, and no novice in wine making. Mr. P. C. Dempsey, Albury P.O., Prince Edward county, says:—

"Grapes are not so large in bunch this year as in former years. I think the vines have not fully recovered from the effects of the frost in May, 1878, when they had grown from 12 to 15 inches, and were completely frozen off. I have several vines that have not one bunch, but all are making plenty of wood. My hybrids, No. 4, small black grape resembling the Burnet, is in form and flavour and ripening at the same time as No. 5, which is large, black, ripens with Isabella; No. 15, also black, medium in size of bunch and berry; No. 18, white, you have frequently seen; No. 19, or Burnet, requires no remarks from me; No. 20, white, resembles the exotic, the best of all my seedlings—a good grape; No. 25, you have frequently seen. If it was three weeks earlier I would not ask a better grape; No. 24, too late for our climate, black and large; No. 60, a cross between Delaware and Allan's Hybrid, is a white grape or rather light amber in colour, bunch about like Delaware, the berry a little larger, early and good, but has the fault of dropping the berry from the bunch as soon as ripe. These are all the varieties of my hybrids that have fruited and that are of any promise. I have many more of recent production and growth that have not fruited. All are crosses with hardy varieties."

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