

I am glad to find that the Directors have decided to distribute among the members a grape vine. My garden being of very limited dimensions, I have to make the most of it. I should therefore prefer a vine for 1882, and if allowed a choice, would like to try a plant of the Niagara grape, or failing that, one of the Prentiss. The CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST has been a source of profit and pleasure to me, and I sincerely hope the Directors will continue its publication. As regards the trees, &c., received from the Association, I have to report that Glass' Seedling Plum bore a sprinkling of nice, handsome fruit, after the style of the Orleans, but darker in color. My crop of fruit was very much lessened by the loss of nearly all the fruit buds, pecked out by the sparrows in the early part of the year. I hope to circumvent master impudence next season, by coating the buds with a composition distasteful to the birds, whilst beneficial to the tree. I cannot say much for the Diadem raspberry. It is very hardy and vigorous, but the fruit on my soil (stiff clay) is small and ill shaped; quite the reverse to the strawberry Arnold's Pride, No. 23. I can speak in the highest terms of this berry, which I find very productive, vigorous, of good flavor and perfectly hardy, many of the plants having been left uncovered during the last winter and came out in the spring uninjured. The Burnet grape produced a crop of between thirty and forty bunches of very nice fruit. I find the vine quite hardy, remaining uncovered during the winter. I nearly lost this vine when first received from the nurseries. For over a month it made no progress, and was evidently dying. Fancying something was wrong at the roots I dug it up and carefully washed the roots in warm soap-suds, then replanted, and daily sponged the stem, &c., until I had the pleasure of seeing my trouble rewarded by its breaking into bud from just beneath the soil. Since then it has made shoots twelve feet long, well set with fine prominent fruit buds. I had a similar trouble with the Ontario apple tree, which when received appeared dried up almost to a stick. I placed it in a barrel of rain water for a day, then after taking off two scions, (both of which I grafted and they grew,) I planted, and every evening washed the stem and branches with sun-warmed water. It grew and is now a promising tree, with several well-developed fruit spurs. So you see, Mr. Editor, that with a little care and trouble I had the satisfaction of saving both plants. Whereas, had I treated them as most of my neighbors do, by simply digging a hole and thrusting in the roots, and then leaving them to take care of themselves, I should very likely have lost both.—WM. J. MANSELL.

The strawberry plants were all killed off the first winter. The raspberries have done very well, the fruit being firm and pleasant, and the canes perfectly hardy, standing all winter without any protection. The Ontario apple promises to make a fine tree. I am cutting the head well back, keeping it low, as it is planted on a high piece of ground, and is exposed to every wind that blows. I leave the Burnet grape vine to the last, and will try to give it its just due. I consider it one of the best out-door grapes yet introduced. It is perfectly hardy, as it is left tied upon the trellis all winter without any protection. It is a strong, vigorous grower, giving as much labor to keep it pinched back as Rogers No. 15, which is planted