

convert and its advocate. In 1879 I put on 2,000, paper bags—in many places, on the same spur, alternating with the netting and bags. The results were most satisfactory. The grapes ripened evenly with the best of coloring, fully as early as when not inclosed, and with a flavor equal to any grown without the bags. More than this, the bunches came out of the bags with a splendid bloom and as perfect every way as it is possible for a grape to be. The paper bagging prolonged the season for nearly a month. They are very cheap, and are more easily put on than the netting, and the grapes cannot be touched by the birds. The bag is slipped over the bunch when the grapes are about one-third grown, folded together around the stem, and a pin stuck through the folds. This is all the fastening necessary. Care must be taken, however, to make a small slit in the bottom of the bag, for, unless this is done, when a heavy rain falls, half a pint of water will get into the bag, and, standing around the grapes, will injure them, or by its weight tear the bag off. Merely pierce the bottom with the blade of a knife. Grape growers are greatly indebted to Mr. Bateman for this simple but wonderful protection to the fruit. In this part of Kentucky, between curculio and birds, there is little left to the grape grower. These bags are absolute protection from both. I also found grapes so inclosed in the netting and bags less liable to mildew. Those in paper bags were more favored in this respect than those in the netting. Those who have not tried either of these plans can not imagine the difference in the perfection of fruit secured with their use. Large bunches can be taken out of the bag without a single imperfect berry, and with a bloom upon them that is simply magnificent. Fifty cents' worth of paper bags will be sufficient for an experiment. Putting them on will require only a very short time, and, once tried, they will never be neglected.

CARBOLIC ACID FOR INSECTS.

The time has almost come again when "the little busy bugs" will open up their summer campaign, and dispute with the "lords of creation" for the "fruits of the earth." Allow me thus early to call attention to an article, the merits of which everybody knows, but which many dare not use—I refer to carbolic acid. Prepared as indicated, it cannot, I think, hurt the most delicate house plant, and it is sure to kill insect life.

My plan of preparing is as follows:—I obtain crude carbolic acid; I use it in this form because it is stronger and better for the purpose, and costs but very little (about 25 cents per gallon, I think). I pour a quantity of this dark crude acid into a quantity of good strong domestic soft soap; stir well together, and allow to stand for a few hours. I then test the compound by mixing a little of it in soft water. If too much acid has been added, oily particles of carbolic acid will be observed floating on the surface. This shows that more acid has been put in than the soap will incorporate or "cut," and more soap should be added to balance the excess of acid. No more definite rule can be given, as so much depends on the strength of the soap. Two or three teaspoonsful of the acid to a quart of soap may be first tried. I prefer to make as strong with acid as the soap will perfectly cut. A very little practice will enable any one to compound it correctly. The