

growing smaller every year instead of larger, while the favored few were unmolested and the bushes had grown to a very large size. I feel interested to know the name of this variety that defies the borer; the fruit could not be distinguished from that of the finest of the Red Dutch, but the habit of growth and the color of the bark of the mature wood, and also of the leaves when just opened out, could be noticed as not the same; the bark was smoother and somewhat darker, but the greatest difference was in the habit of growth. [Possibly the Victoria.—ED.] The Red Dutch and Cherry incline to send up shoots straight upwards like a poplar, but the other variety grows with crooks and elbows, frequently tending downwards, often touching the ground and there sending out roots, and thus several of my bushes had from three to six independent roots, which accounts in some measure for their large size. I would never again plant white currants for market, as there is no demand for them.

I realized two or three times as much from every bush of Houghton's Seedling gooseberry as I did from Downing, and double the crop from every row of Philadelphia raspberries as from Mammoth Cluster.

It is not to be expected that, in the latitude of Barrie, grapes can be grown profitably in competition with the more favored parts of the province; still I planted quite a few varieties and succeeded in ripening them oftener than I failed. My favorite variety was Delaware, which I found to be the hardiest, earliest and most productive of any I have tried; perhaps I should except Moore's Early, as being earlier, but it was too shy of bearing to be profitable. It may surprise a good many that I should class Delaware as being more productive than Concord, but it was so with me; I got more pounds of grapes on an average from every vine of that variety, than from Concord of the same age and planted at the same time, and they commanded a better price, and then, though they may not color earlier than the Concord, they ripen earlier—for they are ripe as soon as colored—which the Concord are not.

I found Rogers' Nos. 9 and 15 very good flavored and very fine berries, but more inclined to grow wood than grapes. Salem is very similar to No. 9 in flavor and a better bearer, but too late for Barrie.

The flavors of some varieties differ very much in different seasons; the Delaware was always good, but I have known Rogers' No. 15 to be watery, flavorless and undoubtedly inferior to Concord; and I have known a season when Clinton was my choice of all the varieties for eating, but this only happened once in ten years. I have noticed, also, that the variety that ripens earliest one year is not sure to do so the next, a circumstance which I find it difficult to account for.

I only grew two varieties of plums, viz., Washington and Lombard. I presume the Washingtons will be living and in good health, long after the Lombards planted at the same time are dead and gone, for they are not attacked with the black knot to anything like the same extent; but for all that, I think the Lombards will have repaid their first cost and returned a better interest on the investment both of money and labor, than the Washingtons will do if they live twice as long.