

The Sweetest Grape.

A committee were appointed to test the saccharine properties of several varieties of grapes at the meeting of the Vine Valley Grape Growers' Association, held on 20th October, 1869.

The committee report that in every instance the sweetest grapes were from the vineyards having the highest altitude. They used Cöhele's must scale.

Of several samples of Isabella the highest stood at 85; the best Catawbas at 90; the best Concord at 85, Diana at 90, Iona at 97, and Delaware 107.

According to this experiment it will be seen that the Delaware contained the most saccharine, standing ten degrees higher on the scale than any of the other varieties.

Bugs.

Several of the reports to the Fruit Growers' Association complained very much of humbugs. One from Durham village, County of Grey, says "the largest bug we have had here was a supply of apple trees that did immense evil to the poor farmers in this locality, the trees being the off-scouring of some yankee nursery," (though represented to have been grown in Canada,) "and consequently put back the settlement for many years, and many were so much discouraged they have not tried again. Your society should try to get the Legislature to pass an Act to prevent such a thing occurring again. Many new settlements will be so victimized unless there is some punishment for such deeds. Years wasted by such roguery is bad for the poor."

Gladiolus for Small Gardens.

"D, of Deal," names the following six varieties as his choice for a small selection, viz:

Shakespeare, which is a beautiful white flower of fine form with large rose spots, possessing a good constitution and forming a 'model of a spike'

Adolphe Brougniart, which is not known to us.

Meyerbeer, with a spike not easily excelled, very showy, brilliant vermilion orange flamed scarlet, and spotted with amaranth.

Thomas Methven, which we have not seen.

Ulysses, fine rose color, unsurpassed in form.

Madame Furtado, a rosy white, flamed with deep carmine rose, a large flower.

Catalogues Received.

Vick's Illustrated Catalogue and Floral Guide, for 1870. James Vick, Rochester, N. Y. A beautiful catalogue of flower and vegetable seeds and summer flowering bulbs, containing over eighty pages of descriptions, profusely illustrated with engravings executed in the highest perfection; to which are added a very beautiful coloured frontispiece, and an excellent likeness of Mr. Vick.

Descriptive catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, shrubs, Grape Vines, Roses, Dahlias, Green-house Plants, &c., &c. St. Catharines Nurseries, D. W. Beadle, St. Catharines, Ont., 1870.

New Books.

The Fruits and Fruit Trees of America, by A. J. Downing. Second Revision and Correction, with large additions, by Charles Downing. New York, John Wiley and Son, 2 Clinton Hall, Astor Place. 1869.

It is very gratifying to every grower of fruit to have such a work as this at hand to aid him in determining the correctness of varieties as they come into bearing, or in making a selection from those that are most esteemed by a man who has had such long acquaintance with fruits and has had such opportunities of testing their qualities in a variety of soils and climates, and who withal has the honesty to state his opinions frankly. There is not another man in America so well qualified to give us such a work as this; and what a work it is, of over a thousand pages, filled with concise descriptions and outlines of fruits.

There are over eighteen hundred different varieties of apples described, and pears, plums, cherries, peaches, grapes, &c., &c., in proportion. In this edition the attempt to classify the fruits according to their season of ripening is wholly abandoned, very wisely as we think, and the alphabetical order substituted. The list of varieties is brought down to the present time, thus making it a complete guide in matters of pomology. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Charles Downing for the patient labour he has bestowed upon this herculean task, and the thorough manner in which he has done the work.

TRANSPLANTING.—The secret of success in transplanting trees, is in carefully covering the ground after the trees have been well planted, with a good, thick mulch.

MICE.—To keep the mice from gnawing your fruit trees, just wrap a piece of tarred paper around the trunk of the tree, extending upwards from the ground for about two feet.

Madame la Baronne de Rothschild is one of the finest roses grown, a most beautiful satin pink, and ought to be in every collection.—*Cottage Gardener*.

SEEDLING PLUM.—Mr. Alexander Glass, of Guelph, promised to send to the fall meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association, a Seedling Plum, very large, purple, good quality, ripe about middle of October.

THE BORER.—Mr. James Cowherd, of Newport, reports to the Fruit Growers' Association that the Borer attacks more or less such Apple trees as lean to the northeast. Can any of our readers give the reason why, or corroborate the statement?

JUCUNDA STRAWBERRY.—Mr. Knox, of Pittsburgh, Pen., after no little trial of different methods of cultivation, has decided that the best method for this variety is to set the rows two feet apart, the plants a foot apart in the row, and keep the runners carefully cut off. His fruit is very large and fine, ten or twelve berries making a pint.

THE RURAL NEWYORKER.—Our acknowledgements are due to the worthy editor and proprietor of the *Rural Newyorker* for a most handsome card of invitation to celebrate with him in his hospitable mansion the occasion of his fiftieth birth day, and of the twentieth anniversary of the *Rural Newyorker*.

For many years we have enjoyed the acquaintance of the Rural and its very able editor, and take much pleasure in putting on record at this time our high esteem for the man and high appreciation of the *Rural Newyorker*. We congratulate him on having attained to so distinguished an age and so distinguished a place among the rural journals of the day, and can but hope there are yet in store many years of usefulness and prosperity.

THE SMALL FRUIT RECORDER, for January, 1870, comes to us in new type, giving a third more reading matter than formerly, and running over with good, plain, practical advice on all matters relating to the cultivation, gathering and marketing of small fruits. Subscription, only 50 cents per annum. Published by A. M. Purdy, Palmyra, N. Y.

SOUND ADVICE TO THE GROWERS OF SMALL FRUIT.—Mr. P. C. Reynolds, of Rochester, who is, we believe, an extensive fruit dealer, in a letter to the *American Farmer*, advises all those who propose to go into the growing of small fruits, such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, currants, and grapes, to locate near some pleasant, growing village, on the line of a live railway; begin modestly, feel their way, raise the best fruit, and place their chief reliance on the home market. If the supply at any time is getting too great for the home market, then ship off the surplus, even if but little be realized from it.

NIGANOR STRAWBERRY.—We notice that the *Small Fruit Recorder* does not place a very high estimate upon this berry, saying that it is "small, and of only middling quality," and has nothing to commend it above the *Ida*, *New Jersey*, *Scarlet*, *Downer*, or *French*.

STRAWBERRY PROFITS.—A correspondent of the *Gardener's Monthly* sent strawberries from New Jersey to the Philadelphia market. He paid three cents a quart for picking them. His consignee sold them for four cents a quart. What were his profits? Will the author of "Five acres too much" please make out a balance sheet?

THE GOLDEN RUSSET APPLE.—The climate of Wisconsin is known to be very trying to apple trees, and it is worth while to note that Mr. John McLees, of Harmony, Vernon Co., Wisconsin, says the Golden Russet is there a good bearer, a strong, healthy tree, and stands the winter like a Burr Oak.

BEURRE D'ANJOU PEAR.—This variety is worthy of extensive trial in all parts of Ontario where any pear tree will thrive. The tree promises to be quite hardy, healthy and very productive. The fruit is large, handsome and of excellent flavour, ripening in December. We expect it will become a favourite sort.