

## SWINDLING BY SUBSTITUTING VARIETIES.



JACOB MOORE, of Attica, formerly of Brighton, N. Y., the well-known originator of the Brighton grape, some time ago gave his views on the methods which have been adopted to secure the dissemination of the "products of nature." In view of the experimental work now being undertaken in Ontario, it seems wise to quote his paper in full:

"It has occurred to me to recount some of the notorious swindles in horticulture caused by the lack of exclusive rights to new productions. After the Isabella grape had been generally disseminated, it was named Payne's Early, and sold as a new variety earlier than Isabella. Being 'a product of nature,' there being no law against so doing, why should not the grower put money in his pocket by such means? Eureka was another name given to it at Attica, N. Y. That the Isabella has been frequently introduced under new names is shown by the fact that horticultural authorities mention as many as sixteen synonyms. Catawba has also been re-named many times for the purpose of introducing it as a new variety. After the advent of the Concord, the Maine grape and Chapman's Seedling were heralded in the State of Maine as seedlings earlier and better. Thousands of vines were sold at high prices by this means, but in the course of a few years they were generally recognized as old Concord. Being 'a product of nature' and the dissemination thereof free, there being no law to prevent re-naming it, why should not the propagators put money in their pockets in that way? When the Worden grape was introduced, certain well-known horticulturists proclaimed it to be Concord. Doubtless previous deceptions had put them on the alert for frauds. They were mistaken this time, however, as the Worden, although of the same color and a seedling of the Concord, proved to be a distinct variety, earlier and larger. The announcement, however, that it was identical had the effect to lessen the demand for the vines and thus injured the originator, who is reported to have received no compensation for it. When it was proved to be distinct and valuable much of the demand for it was supplied, as at first by substituting Concord, labeled Worden. Being 'a product of nature,' and the dissemination thereof free, the nurserymen had a right to publish the name and description in their catalogues, whether they had a stock of the plants or not. As a consequence, agents and dealers took orders for them. The nurserymen had plenty of the Concord, and as the two varieties are much alike, 'what harm to substitute that, labeled Worden?' This was accordingly done by unscrupulous nurserymen and dealers to an extent that only the judgment day will reveal. The same game was played with the Brighton on an equally extensive scale. This