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SHIPPER'S PRIDE.

A plum of large size, handsome appearance; Tree hardy, healthy and productive.

THE
Canadian Horticulturist.

VOL. IX.]

APRIL, 1886.

[No. 4.

THE SHIPPER'S PRIDE.

We call the attention of our readers to this new plum, because from what we can learn concerning its claims to the attention of fruit growers, it seems to be remarkably suited to the needs of those who are growing plums for market. We are informed by Mr. H. S. Anderson, of Union Springs, N.Y., a gentleman in whose statements we place the utmost confidence, that it combines beauty of appearance, large size, good flavor, sufficient firmness to bear transportation well, and long-keeping qualities, with great productiveness. These are all important points in a fruit for the market, but especially size and beauty, for these have much weight with the purchasing public.

This plum, we are told, originated near the shores of Lake Ontario in the north-western part of the State of New York, and the tree is sufficiently hardy to endure, without the slightest injury, the severest cold of that region. We must confess that this is not a very definite statement as to the place of its origin, seeing that the lake is more than a hundred miles in length between the Niagara River and Sacket's Harbor; it may, however, be sufficient to

give our readers an idea of the climate in which it originated and the degree of cold which it has there endured.

The original tree is said never to have failed to yield a good crop since it began to bear, while in some seasons the crop has been so heavy that it became necessary to prop up the branches to prevent them from breaking down beneath the load of fruit.

The plums are described as being of large size, it being by no means uncommon to gather specimens measuring two inches in diameter each way, they being very nearly round. In color they are of a very handsome dark purple, as will be seen by reference to the colored plate, for which we are indebted to the politeness of Mr. Anderson. The flesh adheres partially to the stone, is firm in texture, yet juicy, sweet and of good flavor. The fruit keeps well, is an unusually good shipper, whence the name, and is in season from the first to the middle of September.

The *Rural New Yorker* says of it that it is "a large, dark purple, oval plum, fine, juicy and sweet." The *Gardner's Monthly* says, "a large, round, dark purple plum, of excellent

quality." Messrs. Offenheiser & Son, Commission Merchants of New York city, say "that Shipper's Pride plums sold at one dollar per peck basket when we could not sell ordinary plums at over fifty cents for same size baskets. In our opinion they will compare very favorably with other varieties of same size, and are better keepers." The late Charles Downing, whose opinion of a fruit is held in high estimation, said of it: "They are large showy plums and will no doubt sell well in the market. Promises to be valuable for market and canning." S. D. Willard, a very successful and extensive grower of plums for market says, "I regard the Shipper's Pride as one of the most promising plums ripening at its season. It is good, and so attractive that it would seem it should have a decided value as a market variety."

We can only add that the tree is a strong, upright grower, and seems to be possessed of a vigorous and healthy constitution.

TO OUR READERS.

If you have not already notified the editor which of the articles offered to you this spring you desire to have sent you, please do so now, without further delay. You have the privilege of selecting whichever one you prefer of the following articles:—1. Three plants of the Ontario Strawberry; 2. A yearling tree of the Russian Yellow Transparent Apple; 3. A plant of the Lucretia Dewberry; 4. A yearling vine of the Early Victor Grape; 5. Two plants of the Marlboro' Raspberry; 6. Three papers of flower seeds, viz., *Gypsophila paniculata*, *Aquilegia cærulea*, and

Delphinium, mixed colors. And if you have not sent in your dollar for this year's subscription, please do not fail to do so at the same time.

QUESTION DRAWER.

NIAGARA GRAPE.

When is the Niagara Grape Vine to be cheaper. J. D.

REPLY.—You can obtain a two year old vine of the Niagara grape, with the seal of the Company attached to it as a guarantee of its genuineness, by sending to this office the names of five new subscribers to the *Canadian Horticulturist* together with their five dollars. The only cost to you will be the postage and registration of the letter, five cents. Is not that cheap enough?

REPORTING PLANTS RECEIVED.

Am I correct in saying that all subscribers are invited to tell how the different plants sent out by the Association have succeeded? Suppose all, suppose one half gave their experience, you could not insert one twentieth part and many would be offended. But suppose you had room for it all, what good would Mr. Barry and Mr. Thomas have written ten valuable works, would they allow you to give us monthly a chapter on the understanding you would advise to prize the book? Excuse the liberty taken. R. L.

Maitland.

REPLY.—You are correct. The object the association has in view in sending out these plants is to obtain reports of success or failure in the different localities in which they are tried, making the garden or orchard of every member an experimental station.

reports received will serve the purpose of a guide to others who may reside in that section or in similar conditions of climate, soil, etc. Messrs Barry and Thomas do not tell us whether the Early Victor Grape, for instance, will succeed at Maitland, or if it succeeds in growing, whether it is a desirable variety to grow there as compared with other varieties. They do not tell us whether the Yellow Transparent Apple will be valuable in the county of Stormont or endure without injury the winters in Renfrew. As yet there has not been any plethora of these reports; in truth members have not been careful to comply with the conditions upon which these plants have been distributed. When they become too numerous for publication in the *Canadian Horticulturist* they will find an appropriate place in the Annual Report, so that no one need be offended. If experimental stations scattered here and there through a country are beneficial, why not increase their number in the manner attempted by the Fruit Growers' Association?

TREES FOR FENCE POSTS.

DEAR SIR,—I should be much obliged if you would recommend a fast growing tree suitable for planting along a wire fence, so as they could be used as posts when grown.

Yours truly,
S. G. RUSSELL.

Thornbury, Feb., 1886.

REPLY.—There is nothing better than one of the maples. There are two that will answer well for this purpose, the Silver Maple and the Ash-leaved Maple.

Both of these are rapid growing trees, and if the shade from the tops is not wanted the branches can be cut back and the tops kept within any desired limits. The poplars are fast growing trees, but they are objectionable on account of their propensity to throw up suckers from the root. Neither of the above mentioned maples throw up suckers. The Silver Maple must not be confounded with the Silver Poplar. They are very different trees.

JAPAN QUINCE.

Mr. Editor,—Will you please answer through the *Horticulturist* whether the Japan Quince is sufficiently hardy to give good satisfaction for hedges as far north as Walkerton and oblige

A SUBSCRIBER.

[Will some of our readers residing at or near Walkerton please to tell "a subscriber" through the medium of this magazine whether the Japan Quince, an ornamental shrub yielding bright crimson flowers very early in the spring, is perfectly hardy in that section.—ED. CAN. HORT.]

GRAPES FOR GEORGIAN BAY.

Would you kindly name some of the best varieties of Grapes which you think would be adapted to this section of country. Within half a mile of the Georgian Bay, opposite Collingwood.

H. C.

REPLY.—Early Victor, Jessica, Lady, Brighton, Massasoit, Moore's Early.

PLUM TREES.

DEAR SIR,—I have a small piece of land adjoining my barnyard where the fowls will allow nothing to grow. It is

about large enough for to plant six plum trees. Is it suitable for them, and what kind would you recommend. The land is a high dry clay.

HENRY DEACON.

Belgrave, Feb., 15th., 1886.

REPLY.—Plum trees will grow in almost any well drained soil, thriving best in a strong clay. Whether they will grow in the piece of land adjoining your barnyard will depend upon whether it is continually soaked with drainage from the yard, certainly the scratching of the fowls will not prevent the trees from growing. The Yellow Egg, Lombard and Bradshaw are well known and reliable varieties.

FLAT STONES FOR MULCHING

Please give your opinion of the use of small flat stones placed over the roots of newly planted trees, instead of litter etc. as a mulching process. I have had good success in the use of stones.

And oblige,

Toronto.

J. S.

[Will those of our readers who have tried mulching with flat stones please to send us the results of their experience for publication. Never having tried them, we have no opinion to express.—
ED. CAN. HORT.]

HUBBARTON PIPPIN.

MR. EDITOR.—Do you know an apple the Hubbarton Pippin, a large red striped apple, deep smooth cavity at the blossom end, nearly as large as the King, and twice or thrice as productive: hardy, and a very strong grower. I think of working this apple largely if I can get scions on to my Snow apple trees. It is generally shipped as the Hubbardston Nonsuch, but is quite dis-

tinct, far better grower and hardier, bringing a better price. I had very good success this year shipping to London. Russets cleared \$2.42 all round, R. Pippins \$3.26 per barrel.

J. P. WILLIAMS.

Bloomfield P. E. Co.

REPLY.—We think, from your description, that you refer to the Blenheim Orange, Blenheim Pippin, Blooming Orange. See Downing's first appendix page three. Without seeing the fruit it is impossible to speak positively.

What is the best thing to put with a hard clay soil for flowers?

Toronto.

ARTHUR HEWITT.

REPLY.—The very best thing is rotted turf taken from an old pasture field of sandy soil. The turf should be stacked over summer and allowed to come well rotted. Manure from the cow-stable, composted with straw, or cornstalks, so as to incorporate with it considerable vegetable fibre, will be found very valuable for clay soils.

Thorough drainage is essential to success, without this there is nothing that will make soil friable.

IS THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST DETERIORATING?

"Some years ago I thought there was no paper of its size so valuable as the *Canadian Horticulturist*. Then the Editor and a few men of experience furnished the articles. Now all this seems to be changed."

R. L.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—We are gratified always to receive the kindly criticism of our readers, and publish the above extract from our friend's letter in the hope that others will be thereby en-

couraged to express their opinions. We had flattered ourselves that the change had been for the better; that by obtaining the experience of different cultivators in different localities and using different methods, we were making the magazine more valuable to our readers. Perhaps we are mistaken, but we thought that as it is not given to any one person to know everything, nor even to three or four, so we were increasing the amount of knowledge imparted, by an increase in the number of those who contributed of their personal experience to its pages.

BARK LICE, ETC.

To THE EDITOR.—(1) I have lately tried several different remedies recommended to kill bark lice in apple trees. The appearance of the lice remains the same. How can I tell if they are dead or alive? (2) The trunks of some of my pear trees are considerably cracked, what had I better do to them? (3) What, if any, injury does "ringing" do to a fruit tree? (4) In propagating the grape vine will it do to take the cuttings off the old vine in the *spring* and planting them at once.

Toronto.

R.

REPLY.—(1) Usually the scale becomes of a light grey color, almost white, when dead. If you will lift a few of the scales with the point of your knife, you will be able to ascertain whether there is any living substance beneath. If alive at this time of the year there will be a mass of eggs under each scale, which will hatch about the first of June.

(2) Wash the pear trees with some alkaline solution, such as soft soap di-

luted with washing soda dissolved in water to the consistence of a thick paint.

(3) It will usually cause that part of the tree or branch beyond the place where the bark is removed to die prematurely. (4) Yes it will do. But the cuttings are more sure to grow, and to make more vigorous growth if they are taken off immediately after the leaves fall in autumn.

PRUNING SHADE TREES.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly inform me through your valuable journal the suitable or *best* time to prune shade trees, more particularly maples and much oblige,

Yours respectfully,
JNO. MULLIGAN.

Port Hope.

REPLY.—If maples are pruned at all severely in the spring the sap will flow from the wounds, hence we prefer to prune them in the fall, or else after the leaves are about half grown.

DEAR SIR,—I purpose raising onions cabbages, tomatoes, &c., manuring with ashes. (1) Will salt answer put on the land with the ashes? Is there any chemical objection to using the two at or near the same time of application? (2) Is there any chemical objection to using salt and superphosphate?

JNO. P. W.

Horning's Mills.

We sent the above inquiry to the professor of agricultural chemistry in Cornell University, and received the following

REPLY:

(1) In some cases salt would be an advantage used with wood ashes. When salt is applied with ashes, it causes the potash to penetrate deeply into the soil, and for deep rooted crops it would be desirable, but ob-

jectionable for surface rooting crops. There is no chemical objection to using them together. The salt gathers moisture, and in this way facilitates the downward action of the potash.

(2) No objection. The salt will act with superphosphate similarly as with salt, and is only objectionable when the crop roots near the surface.

Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

REPORTS ON PLANTS RECEIVED.

When I wrote before I forgot to tell you about my Dahlia which I received last spring. I broke it into two sets and planted them late, yet I had a most beautiful display of fine flowers as any one would wish to see. I would not take three times the price of the *Horticulturist* for my flowers alone.

My flowering shrub I got the spring before last is doing well, but it has not blossomed yet. My grape I got in 1883 is not doing very well yet, but I think it is my own fault, as I planted it alongside of a very strong vine, and I think it is shaded too much.

A. C. McDONALD.

Dunlop, Huron Co.

As you desire reports on premiums received, and as you are aware of the high opinion I have of the journal and the efforts made by your society, I beg to enclose you the following report: The Burnet grape has grown well with me, but unfortunately most of the bunches have small seedless grapes with a few proper ones in the bunch. However I have concluded to give it a chance in hope of its yet succeeding. Moore's Early and Worden have exceeded my anticipations, and have fruited for this last two years, and I am inclined to think are about the best varieties for our northern climate though I adopt the principle of laying them down and littering

as I don't think any grape vine uncovered would stand the rigour of our northern climate. The Ontario apple is just where it ought to be up here and is a decided acquisition to the limited list of apple trees that will stand our winters. As to pears the Clapp is the only one that has yet given me any satisfaction. The *Hydrangea paniculata* will not, I fear, prove a success. The one I got from you I planted where it is entirely sheltered by a cedar hedge on the north; but it won't flower. As I put in three others I find it is not the fault of the plant, so must ascribe it to the climate.

Barrie, Simcoe Co.

J. R. C.

WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY.

PRUNING AND TRAINING THE GRAPE.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly publish a simple system of pruning and training the grape. Give us something *practicable* that can be understood by amateurs. The trouble with all you professionals is that you always begin your instructions by assuming that the amateur knows a great deal. Hundreds of people try to grow a few grapes for home use, who know nothing and care less about the art of propagation. Begin your instructions with the one and two year old vines as they are received from the nursery in the spring, and you will much oblige many of your readers besides.

Yours very truly,

GEO. SUTHERLAND.

Meaford, Ont.

We are much gratified that any of our readers should thus specify the information they desire to receive. It will ever be a source of pleasure to us to endeavor, as far as in us lies, to supply the information. Now to the mat-

ter in hand. We will suppose that the vines received from the nurseryman have been properly planted in suitable soil, and are ready to start into growth. The first thing that will require attention as the buds begin to start will be to make selection of that one which promises to make a vigorous growth, giving the preference, if there be several, to the one nearest the ground. Rub off all the rest and allow only this one to grow. A small stake, say a strip of lath, should be thrust into the ground at each vine, and the growing cane carefully tied to it as it advances. This will be the



FIG. 1.—Vine at the close of the first season.

pruning and training for the first summer. At the close of this season the grape vine will have the appearance shewn in Fig. 1.

After the leaves have fallen in the autumn untie the cane from its support, lay it upon the ground and cover it lightly with earth. Or you may cut it back to two good, plump buds, and cover the stump with a little mound of earth.

SECOND SEASON.

In the spring, if the cane was not cut back in the previous autumn, it should be cut back, leaving only two good buds near the ground. From these buds train up two shoots, tying them to the stake as they grow, pre-

cisely as during the first summer, only that you have two canes now instead of one, rubbing off all other buds that may start into growth.

During this season you will make preparations for putting up your trellis; a post at each end of the row of grape vines, posts between at least two feet in the ground and five feet above, and set from sixteen to eighteen feet apart. Three wires will be sufficient, the lowest at eighteen inches from the ground, the others eighteen inches apart, thus bringing the upper wire about four and a half feet from the ground. Number

twelve annealed galvanized wire will be found to be strong enough. The end posts should be well braced on the side towards the vines so that they will not be pulled over by the wires. The wires should be fastened tight at each post by staples driven tightly over them into the wood. Instead of wires you can use strips of wood if more convenient. Mr. Fuller, of your place, recommends a slanting trellis instead of an upright, as



FIG. 2.—Vine at the end of the second season.

more suitable in your climate; and his plan is very

highly approved by some others who have tried his method. You would do well to call upon Mr. Fuller and see his trellis. Mr. Alfred Wagar, of Napanee, Lennox County, makes his trellis eighteen inches from the ground at the vines, sloping back to about three feet from the ground at the top. Mr. Fuller does not find it necessary to cover his vines in winter which are trained on the slanting trellis. We have never tried any other than the upright trellis.

At the end of the second season your vine will have the appearance indicated by Fig. 2.

In the fall you will again untie your vines, and laying them on the ground cover them with a little earth.

THIRD SEASON.

In the spring of the third season, your trellis being ready, uncover your canes, shorten them in to about three feet in length, and stretch them in opposite directions upon your lowest wire or bar, in the manner shewn in Fig. 3.



FIG. 3.—Vine in the spring of the third year with arms extended.

When the buds start allow only those on the upper side, at a distance of about eight inches apart, to grow, rubbing off all others. You may find that the buds nearest to the stock do not push vigorously. This can be overcome by fastening the points of the arms to the ground

for a while, until the buds near the stock have got well started. You will tie these growing canes to your trellis as they progress, and when they have grown to the length of about five feet you will pinch off the end, which gardeners call "stopping." These canes



FIG. 4.—Vine in the autumn of third year.

will bear fruit this year, and in the autumn your vines will look something like the one shewn at Fig. 4.

In the autumn of this year, after the leaves have fallen, you may cut back to one bud all the canes of this season's

growth, except the one at the extremity of the arm; cut back this one to about three feet in length, and having untied your canes bend them down and cover with earth, if you have used the upright trellis. If you have adopted the slanting trellis of Mr. Fuller, of Meaford, you can, he says, safely allow them to remain.

FOURTH SEASON.

In the spring stretch out horizontally the two canes at the extremities of the horizontal arms for a continuation of that part of the vine, and allow the buds on the upper side to grow in the same manner as you did in the third summer. Also train the shoot from the one bud that you left at the base of the upright canes, just as you did the canes during the previous summer, which, last fall, you cut back to the one eye. You will now have six or eight canes on each arm of your vine, all bearing fruit. In the fall of this year you may cut all these canes back to one eye, or if you prefer the plan which many cultivators adopt, you can cut back to one eye each alternate cane, and cut the other canes to about three feet in length. If you choose this method you will not allow any fruit to remain on the canes which grow from the single eye, but grow the fruit on the lateral branches which will start from the canes left three feet long. Then when the fruit is harvested and the leaves have fallen you will cut back the canes that have borne fruit to one bud from the horizontal arm, and prune the canes that you trained up without fruit to a length of three feet to bear fruit next year, thus alternating.

SUMMER PRUNING.

The only pruning admissible in summer is that which is done with the thumb and finger, which consists in stopping the lateral branches by pinching off the end of the lateral shoot when it has developed three or four leaves

beyond the last bunch of fruit. Sometimes we pinch back the main cane when it has reached the top of the trellis in order to develop the parts below more fully. Never strip off the leaves to admit the sunlight upon the fruit, but rather seek to preserve the leaves in full vigor so that they may shade and perfect the grapes. Without a good supply of healthy foliage the fruit will not ripen.

OVER BEARING.

In our great desire for an abundance of fruit we are very apt to allow our vines to carry too many clusters. It is impossible to give definite instructions on this point, as the quantity of fruit that a vine will bring to maturity depends upon the vigor of the vine. Our fruit growers are not in danger of taking off too many clusters. But it is a fact that when the fruit is well thinned out the grapes will ripen earlier, be of finer size and of higher flavor. It is no uncommon thing to see a grape vine so loaded that it can not bring any of its fruit to maturity, while the grower condemns the variety as too late for his climate, when the fault is purely his own.

We trust these hints may prove helpful to our subscribers, and if any points have not been made sufficiently plain, we will esteem it as a favor, if our amateur friends will direct their inquiries to the points upon which they desire further information.

COVERING GRAPE VINES.

I cover my grape vines in the fall with earth, and they turn out fresh in the spring and start right off to grow. I do not think that straw is good to cover vines in winter as it is liable to prove a harbour for mice.

JAMES DOUGAL.

Barrie, Simcoe Co.,

LIQUID FOR PRESERVING FRUIT.

It is difficult for me to give you a formula for liquid for preserving fruits. I have experimented with some 13 or 14 different preparations, some are better for one sort of fruit and some better for others. A strong solution of sulphurous acid I have found very useful for light colored fruits which are yellow when ripe.

Salicylic acid in the proportion of about a drachm to the quart of fluid, the fluid consisting of four parts of water with one of alcohol, I have found to be very good for dark colored grapes. The red colors of apples and pears I have found to be best preserved as far as my experience has gone, by using a mixture of three parts of glycerine with five parts of water and dissolving in it Boroglyceride in the proportion of two per cent. I have used several other fluids, among which some may prove better than this, but they have not been tested long enough to admit of my reaching any definite conclusion.

The subject is a very complex one, and needs much experimenting yet before entirely satisfactory conclusions can be reached, and whether any treatment will ensure the permanent retention of the pinks and reds in fruits with the difficulty of long continued exposure to the bleaching influences of light to contend with, is still surrounded with much doubt.

WM. SAUNDERS.

London, Ontario.

THE MARTHA GRAPE.

My Martha grape vines planted in the spring of 1883, bore last fall, 1885, for the first time. Fruit not large, but very sweet, and a good keeper having eaten the last of them, this month, Feb, 1886.

Yours truly,
JOS. WOON.

A PRETTY NATIVE SHRUB.

In speaking of our native ornamental trees, I have never noticed any account of a tree that grows on the margins of streams, and produces clusters of black berries, or rather fruit, quite sweet, with a flat seed in them. I don't know the name of it, but I dare say you can give me the information. About two years ago I got two of them growing in a swamp on the Nottawasaga River. I planted them on the top of the hill in my place; and to-day I look on them as two of the handsomest trees or shrubs I have in the spring. They are covered with large clusters of white flowers, a peculiar shade of green leaves and thick foliage, about seven feet high.

I look upon this shrub as one well worthy a conspicuous place in any of our ornamental grounds. Unfortunately I have never found out any one who can name it for me.

Barrie, Simcoe Co. J. R. COTTER.

Can any of our readers give the name?

NO OFFENCE.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to say that I believe all the readers of our *Horticulturist* heartily appreciate the efforts put forth by yourself and other contributing members, in disseminating invaluable information in regard to the cultivation of fruits, flowers, etc., but I do not think it was ever intended that writers, in their contributions, should make the columns of our magazine a medium for advertising something which they are interested in selling.

An article giving accurate descriptions, modes of cultivation etc., we all admire, but it takes away more than half of the admiration and interest if it winds up with a "puff" for some thing in which the writer is interested in making sales. I submit this, believing

it to be the sentiment of the majority of our readers, and not from any ill-feeling toward any individual.

J. H. WISMER.

Pt. Elgin, Feb. 8th, 1886.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Our friend is quite right, and we trust correspondents will accept the criticism.

SOME INTERESTING LAWN TREES.

DEAR SIR,—In sending my sixteenth yearly subscription, I think I ought to write a few words on what I have seen and experienced in fruit and horticulture. I see by the report of the Winter Meeting that the third subject was shade trees, &c. Had I been there, I should have advocated four shade trees that I have taken much interest in:—The Tulip tree, Catalpa, Widben Pear, and Monkey's Puzzle. The Maple is the standard shade tree of America, but we want a variety. We should not like to cultivate only one flower because we thought it the best and prettiest. In visiting England a few years ago I saw long rows of our Maples planted in Kew Park, near London. When I first came to Canada, over forty years ago, I saw several Tulip trees in blossom. In visiting St. Louis, in the latter end of June, several years ago, I saw a number of beautiful shade trees in blossom. On inquiry, I was told that they were Catalpa trees, but too tender for Canada. I hope the variety that has been sent out to the members will prove hardy. It will be a fine sight to see them in full blossom. The Widben Pear is a tree that grows wild in Buckinghamshire, in England. It has some appearance of the Mountain Ash, and I should think it was a species of it. It has bunches of berries like the Mountain Ash, but they are sweet and good enough to make preserves of. The leaves are a good deal like a beech leaf, only white underneath. It ap-

pears to be perfectly hardy. I have seen two trees of them in Toronto; one in the Horticultural Gardens, which came through last winter without the least injury. I do not know its botanical name. The Monkey's Puzzle, so called from its sharp points all over the tree, has scales on both trunk and branches, like pine apples, so that a monkey would require boots on to run about it. In appearance, it is greatly like the Austrian Pine. It is not iron clad; it suffers sometimes in England in severe frosts; it will grow in the western part of Canada, and as far north as Toronto. As a lawn tree, I thought it was the finest in England. It requires great pains in planting, and not to be exposed too much.

EGLINTON.

CHANGE OF NAME NEEDED.

When one is ordering trees or shrubs from a nursery it is important that he should be able to make himself clearly understood; therefore, it is essentially necessary that there be but one common name for each species, because more leads to misunderstanding and disappointment. For instance, I received an order for six Syringas of sorts. I kept ruminating in my mind for a time as to what I had better send, but knowing the gentleman from whom the order came to be somewhat scientific, I finally decided that he must be using the technical name for "Lilacs." So I sent him six Lilacs, two of a sort, with both technical and common names attached. They were quickly returned with a note stating that he did not want "Lilacs," but "Syringas," commonly known as such; so then I knew he wanted Philadelphus, or Mock Orange. With many, Syringa is still the common name for Philadelphus; while the proper generic name for Lilac is Syringa. Hence, in order to avoid confusion, would it not be better to

have the matter settled once for all, and either let the *Philadelphus* be known by the common name of Mock Orange, or have the generic name of the Lilac changed to something else?

Some nurserymen advertize the *Syringa* or Mock Orange, some the Mock Orange (*Syringa*), others the *Philadelphus* (Mock Orange), or *Philadelphus* (*Syringa*), and *Syringa* (*Philadelphus*); while we rarely find the name Lilac accompanied with its generic name, *Syringa*; yet if you send to some of the best American nurseries for *Syringas* you will certainly receive Lilacs.

CORRESPONDENT.

GOOSEBERRIES AND CURRANTS.

I notice discussions upon the above fruits in the Annual Report. I would like to give some of my experience. My soil is called a sand, but is largely made up of pulverized shale. We get immense crops of Houghton gooseberries, but rarely get beyond 5 or 6 cents per basket for them. Last summer, for the first time, they were scarcely saleable. As the anti-Scott wine and beer advocates claim that the low price of grapes was caused by the Scott Act, we suppose that the Scott Act also ruined the gooseberry trade. In times of great glut we find that housewives demand larger fruit, which involves less labor. The quality of the Houghton is better than that of the larger varieties. Downing does well with me, and sells more readily. Smith's Improved mildews, and loses its leaves by a species of blight, probably of fungoid origin. It started with the Smith's in one patch, with me, about 3 years since. From them it has apparently struck the Downings and Houghtons, though with diminished power.

When the fruit is about half grown, the leaves which seem quite contented, one day will be found green and fresh, and upon the ground the next day.

They have struck, never again to return to their old work.

Black currants, with us, are not profitable. The same may be said of cherry and white grape currants. The old Red Dutch is reliable, but for eleven years past I have largely grown the Raby Castle, which beats it in every way. Its greatest merit is its power to hold its black currant style of foliage through the heat of summer. This enables it to ripen its immense crop of fruit perfectly, and to hold it securely until the berry season is nearly past, when it sells readily for good prices.

The plant is a very strong, rapid grower, and takes the tree form quite readily. The fruit is good, but not much larger than the Red Dutch. The bunches, when weather is favorable, are very long.

As yet, I do not know what the newer larger kinds can do.

The tree form has great advantages in the cultivation and picking. As the "tree" is short lived, we must plant as often as once in every seven years. This is a good plan, even where trees are not indulged in.

E. MORDEN.

Niagara Falls South, Ont.

BIGNONIA RADICANS.

MR. EDITOR,—One of your correspondents, Mr. Mackenzie, of Dundas, writes that the *Bignonia radicans* does not flower, and is cut down every winter. This should not occur at Dundas. But if your correspondent will lay the vines down in the fall, and cover them with a light mulch, the result will, in all probability, be different. A lady friend of mine pursues this plan, and under her judicious treatment the *Bignonia* flowers abundantly, even although occasionally the thermometer goes down to twenty-five degrees below zero.

I may add that in this quarter grape

vines of all kinds require similar treatment, save and except the Clinton, which is able to endure extreme cold.

Durham, Grey Co. Yours, C.

ACCLIMATING PLANTS.

Can tender plants be made hardier by any manner of treatment? This question is suggested by a remark I saw lately in some report (no matter where) that a certain plant was yet too tender for Ontario but it could be made hardy. We know that animals and even human beings can become inured to foreign climates, so that they will be no more affected by climatic influences than the aborigines, even if the transition be from a warm to a colder climate, but in no case do we find that the off-spring of the foreigners can endure intense cold with less protection than that of the natives, who are quite as liable to be frozen to death as they were centuries ago. I have heard a great deal about the acclimatization of fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, yet I am not aware of a single instance in which any plant has become hardier, any more than the potato or tomato, which are just as tender now as when first introduced.

I have been trying to acclimate many half-hardy shrubs for the last thirty-two years, and sometimes a succession of moderate winters encouraged me to believe that I had met with partial success, but the hard snap of frost would come and kill all down to the snow line, leaving me just where I began. I find the fact to be, that a few degrees difference in the intensity of the frost decides the matter now with all half-hardy plants, just as certainly as it did when I first commenced to experiment.

I know that the condition of the young wood has something to do with the enduringness of some shrubs as well as trees. Under certain circumstances it ripens early and is hardened

up before the winter sets in, consequently it will stand severer frost than the young wood that has been growing luxuriantly in rich moist land until late in the fall. This is particularly noticeable in peach trees, which under the same circumstances do not endure harder frost than they did thirty years ago. The same may be said of all the tender pears, and of some kinds of apples. Indeed I do not know of any tree, shrub or plant being made hardier, however gradual the exposure to the frost may have been.

A long experience has convinced me that trying to make tender plants hardy is only a waste of time and means, so I have adopted the practice of protection.

In making this statement I do not court controversy, yet I think this is a subject well worthy of discussion by the members of the Fruit Growers' Association. I have no other motive in view than that of trying to promote the interests of the science.

I presume with you, located as you are between the great lakes which have such a powerful influence on the climate, all the Deutzias and many of the half-hardy spiræas come through ordinary severe winters with comparatively little injury. Here however at the foot of Lake Ontario it is different. Deutzias if left standing in exposed places invariably get killed down to the snow line, and as it is the last year's wood that produces the best flowering stems, we would get but a poor show of flowers under such circumstances. So now I lift the plants in the autumn and heel them in with their tops laid on the ground, so as to be conveniently covered with tree leaves and evergreen branches, which sufficiently protects them until there comes a fall of snow, which is the best protection of all. By this means I am enabled to lift my flowering shrubs in spring, in quite as good condition as they were laid down in the fall, and am certain of a gorgeous display of

flowers, even from the very points of the young shoots; and be it observed this is a convenient method of propagating such shrubs because they are then easily divided. I have found this by far the most satisfactory mode here of growing Deutzias, Altheas, Almonds, half-hardy spiraeas, Treepeonias, Weigelas and Hydrangeas; and I have no doubt that under this treatment, the *Viburnum plicatum* will give entire satisfaction. Some will doubtless object to this method as being laborious. I would say in reply, I have found it to be by far the most economical method of protection. Where plants have grown too large for handling, I replace them by smaller ones, and I with confidence recommend this practice to whom it may concern.

D. NICOL.

Cataraqui, near Kingston.

GRAPE VINE GROWING IN ALGOMA.

My experience in grape vine growing here has been varied; good expectations and sad disappointments. I have been trying them here for eight years. Varieties, Concord 6 plants, Creveling 4 plants, Delaware 2 plants. At first the Creveling made the best show, growing freely and making great show for fruit, but not setting well, still ripening some very good bunches of fine berries; but after fruiting two years the leaves began to get black spots on them, then the berries; the spots increased in size till the berries stopped growing and shrivelled without ripening. Next year it was so bad as to stop the wood growth, and what was made never matured.

Last spring when the buds were near bursting, I made a paint of sulphur, clay, fresh cow-droppings and soft soap, and brushed the canes all over with it. I have seen something such used in Scotland for vines under glass. The grapes all but ripened, though it was the shortest, coldest summer I have

seen here. My Concords have never quite ripened well, and appear the tenderest of the lot. Two years ago my vines were looking extra well in May and starting a fine growth, but we had a very hard frost on the 29th May which scorched them completely. I allowed them to stand ten days to see what they would do, but only a very few buds offered to start; so I rubbed off all the buds and forced them to start again from the root, when all of them did well, except the two strongest Concords, which were killed right out. With me the Delaware has been the healthiest, hardest, freest fruiting of the lot, ripening every season so as to be good to eat. I have just got the following sorts for trial, which I am planting in a very much better situation, completely sheltered from the north and west and a good slope to the south-east, namely: Lady, Moore's Early, Cottage, Champion, Worden, Janesville, Martha, Perkins, Rogers' Nos. 3, 4, 9, 15, and Brighton. My first planting lies to the west, and is exposed to the killing north-west winds, which are very severe.

PLUMS.

I planted about sixteen sorts of plums. After doing well for three years they all were winter-killed but two Imperial Gages and one Duane's Purple. Several of them started above the working, but all have again been completely killed, except one Lombard (I had three at first). The Lombard and Duane's Purple flowered last year, and one of the Imperial Gages had some fruit. The curculio is abundant here on the wild plums, which are plentiful; the black knot is also very plentiful on the wild cherries. This winter has so far been mild; last winter we often had the mercury frozen; usually we have from three to five feet of snow.

DANIEL DUNN.

St. Joseph Island, Algoma.

STRAWBERRY NOTES.

MR. EDITOR,—My few notes on the strawberry at this time are for those like myself who love this, the best (to my mind) of all the small fruits, and to those who are engaged in its cultivation as a source of revenue I would offer a few remarks.

The cultivation of this valuable fruit is yearly increasing and with the varieties best suited to the locality and market the grower lives in, even if by bringing only a moderate price he may reap a fair recompense for his toil. A well-kept strawberry bed is an ornament to any garden, and a profitable one, and the labor required to keep it in order is a pleasant pastime.

Any ordinary soil will grow strawberries, only have it *free from weeds* and as rich as you can afford to make it, especially the surface. Last spring, in raising plants for setting, I found the roots running across the alleys sixteen inches apart; no mulching, no heaving, no root-breaking, owing to the fact that the roots found what they needed for plant-growth and fruit near the surface. This bed was fertilized with ashes from hardwood. Bone dust and ashes are the best fertilizers for the strawberry.

Some people advise planting the strawberry in July, August, and September. I regard spring as the better time; the objections to fall setting apply more to market than garden culture. It is often said that in setting plants in August we may secure half a crop the next season. In our experience we have never succeeded in this. The berries produced the following year from fall-set plants have always been few in number, and have generally averaged small in size. The plants rarely become sufficiently rooted before winter to yield any amount of fruit the next season.

By setting the plants in spring we

give them a whole year to prepare for a crop. The soil will be in the best condition, and the weeds are easily kept under control. We cultivate the plants one season and receive a bountiful crop of fruit to repay the cost, whereas if set in the fall we must cultivate a year and a half before we receive a full crop.

The growing demand for small fruits has more than kept pace with the production, and large crops are now marketed at satisfactory prices, where a few years since a few quarts amply supplied the want. I would say to all engaged in growing small fruit, either for home use or market, whatever variety does best in your section hold on to it till you find a better. At the same time the quality of the strawberry depends mainly on the cultivation, on a rich soil, clean culture, and in not letting a weed appear.

In closing I will mention a few varieties that do pretty well in all sections of the country, viz.: Early—Crescent, Old Ironclad, May King, and Parry. The two last named are pretty new and well worthy of trial. Medium—Cumberland, Triumph, Ontario, Daniel Boon, Jewel, Manchester. Late—Mount Vernon, Vineland, Cornelia, Kentucky. These varieties, with a few more I might mention, are the cream of the strawberry family.

Granton.

JOHN LITTLE.

BARK-LOUSE REMEDY.

Mr. D. Young in his Bark-louse Remedy did not say how many bags we put into a tree. Is it one to a tree, or one to each branch?

A. C. McDONALD.

Dunlop, Huron Co.

[Will Mr. Young have the kindness to reply to the above inquiry?—ED. CAN. HORT.]

FRUIT GROWING IN ONTARIO COUNTY.

This is the sixth year I have subscribed for the *Horticulturist*. It is of inestimable value to me. I commenced farming seven years ago under great disadvantages, not having much experience in farming as well as horticulture. With the help of the *Horticulturist* I have succeeded pretty well. My farm was in such a poor state of cultivation that I was compelled to plant fruit trees of the small varieties in very unsuitable places for their cultivation. I set about one hundred and forty apple trees, twenty pear trees, and about the same number of plums. The apple trees are all bearing more or less, except the Spys. The pears have borne since the third year from setting. The Flemish Beauty is the most prolific of all, but it shows some signs of blight, probably caused by its vigorous growth and heavy bearing, requiring more nourishment. One year ago last summer I gave them a heavy dressing of wood ashes and copperas. Last year they were quite recovered and bore fruit. Plums last year bore a heavy crop. I cannot speak too highly of the Weaver. This variety I grafted on wild plum stock, and in the fourth year from grafting I picked half a bushel from one tree, and a delicious plum they are. My grapes bore a good crop last year, third year from setting. Concord and Worden are the best. I must speak a good word for the Clinton. I believe there is none more profitable for wine. There were two old vines on the farm, neglected and woven through other. I trimmed them to the bare stock, trellised them eight or ten feet high; they have borne a heavy crop every year since, ripening as early as Concord, and ripening every year. The Brighton and Moore's Early that I received from the Society have not fruited on account of being moved. The

Brighton is a vigorous grower. The other articles I received from the Society all grew. My other varieties of grapes are too young to say much about. Another year will enable me to speak more fully of their merits. I cultivate several varieties of red raspberries. Highland Hardy and Cuthbert I like best, the first named on account of its earliness and firmness, which makes it profitable as a shipper, while it ripens as early as the wild varieties. Cuthbert is about ten days later, firm, sweet, and of good flavor, and continues in bearing until the blackberries are ripe, of which I cultivate the Snyder and Taylor. I esteem them very highly; they are hardy and heavy croppers. Of strawberries the Crescent Seedling pleases me best, being early and long continued in bearing. It stands the winter better than the Wilson, and continues longer in bearing. The Black Caps I do not take much stock in. The Mammoth Cluster suits me best. They do not pay in field culture. Planted close to a fence, with a little attention, they pay the best of any plan I have adopted. As I have my small fruits arranged, we have a succession from the 10th of June until the end of August. We use them as liberally as we do potatoes. I have sold in the past as many as would pay for cultivation. I see no reason why every farmer cannot cultivate enough for home use, and not have wives and family hunting wild berries, spending more time than it would take to cultivate all they require and have a very superior article besides. The prevailing excuse is, "I do not know how to cultivate them;" but that difficulty is easily overcome. One dollar sent to D. W. Beadle, St. Catharines, will get the *Horticulturist* for one year and a copy of the Fruit Growers' Report. In them you will find all instructions for the cultivation of fruit, and many more useful hints.

The investment is only the price of one small turkey: try it, and you will never regret the venture.

J. B. BURK.

Brougham P. O., Ontario Co.

PARIS GREEN FOR CABBAGE WORM.

DEAR SIR,—In my remarks in regard to using Paris Green on Cabbage at the Fruit Grower's Association, in Stratford, I neglected to state very clearly my plan of mixing and applying.

Lest any bad results might occur through any misunderstanding, I beg leave to state more clearly my experience on the subject. I put about two tablespoonfuls of Paris Green to about one-half bushel of Land Plaster, mixing thoroughly. This quantity, if kept dry, will be enough for 500 cabbage during the growing season, dusting on a small quantity in the evening as soon in the season as the worms begin to appear, and continuing every week or ten days till the cabbage have grown full size. I would not put any on cauliflowers after they begin to head up, or on cabbage that are bursted or open in the head. In this way I have kept my cabbage free of worms, and raised very heavy crops. I might state also that after I had cut all the good heads out in the fall, leaving the useless ones and all the outside leaves, with the intention of plowing them down, some of my cattle got in and eat all they could devour of them, and none of them seemed to suffer in the least from it. This was about four weeks after I had stopped using the Paris Green. We have used nearly all the cabbage in our own family for the past two seasons, with no bad results.

If you think this experience would be of any benefit, you can add it to the report.

Yours respectfully,

DANIEL DEMPSEY.

Stratford, Ont.

THE STRIPED SQUASH-BEETLE.

I wish to ask is there really any known remedy for the striped bug, excepting the old Indian remedy—catch him, then you may kill him. Heretofore I have not suffered materially from their ravages. I have generally planted a few squashes through the cucumber and melon patches early to give them their first meals, and to give time and warning of their approach. This method has been all that has been needed till the past summer when they came suddenly, and in swarms. Had I been away that day they would not have left a hill standing. Some strong hills, in the short time of two hours, were completely riddled, having as many as eighty on a single hill. I must have killed one or two thousand the first half day.

After three days they were somewhat abated. I replanted the destroyed hills, and then began trying remedies. First was white hellebore sifted on till the plants were covered; second, a table spoonful of carbolic acid to a pail of water, applied with a brush, drenching three or four times in two hours, then adding two tea spoonfuls Paris green; but all to no purpose. Then a friend came along and told me his remedy that had never failed, namely, paper flags fastened to sticks so as to wave just above the plants. I asked him whether it must be the Union Jack or the Stars and Stripes; he thought the Old Lion the best. However, the little scamps did not scare worth a cent, but continued their work if the flags did not brush them away. Another remedy was an emulsion of sweet milk, ten parts to one of coal oil. One neighbor told me he applied this when they raised in a swarm before him. It was a failure with me, as I wet many of their backs, but that did not stop their dinners. I applied it with a brush three times on a small

plot as fast as it would dry. As a last resort I took clean Paris green and sifted directly on the plant that was being eaten. While the upper surface was covered with the green they continued to eat away on the under surface till destroyed, provided it kept dry and without dew or rain. Some of the first application was wet by a rain-fall and the plants all destroyed. For the past six years the only remedy I have found is to hand-pick them early in the morning as soon as they appear, let the task be ever so great.

J. P. WILLIAMS.

Bloomfield, P. Ed. Co.

GRAPES.

DEAR SIR,—It has been stated in the *Horticulturist* that those subscribers receiving premium plants and vines are expected to report success or otherwise as their experience may be, and give opinions in reference to *merit* in various locations. I send you a little experience I have had with those received from the Association and other sources.

I do not grow grapes largely for market, but chiefly for private use as table grapes (canning purposes), and presents to friends. I have grown 33 varieties, and do gather them by the bushel. As for the best varieties, the Delaware has till lately, say two or three years, held first place, but has had to take a back seat. The Brighton now stands pre-eminently victor. It has steadily improved with age and in the strength of the vine till this year, as unfavorable as it has been with us, they were all gathered before the frost, and soon after the Champion. I could pick bunches by the dozen of $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. weight, while a few turned the scale at $1\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. I placed a number of different kinds of grapes in the fruit room separately, and all other kinds had but few customers while the

Brighton remained. Visitors and all parties testing it pronounced it the best out-door grape they ever saw. Some were kept to try their keeping qualities; they remained good till near December. Some were dried something like raisins, in a warm room. They were meaty and pleasant, while the Delaware and all others tested, dried away to nothing but skins and seeds. The Moore's Early was laden well for a small vine, and colored but a little behind Champion, which was very poor, some fine clusters being left on till frost came, but without any improvement as to quality; neither do I think it as good as Champion for cooking. The famed Prentiss, which made such a stir among grape men has, I think, got too near the North Pole; except it greatly improves with age, it must be discarded and put down as worthless. The Worden vine I received was a poor, weakly plant, scarcely made a live of it the first year, and making but little growth the second year, has made a very fine growth the past year, and will give some specimens in the near future. I have set 15 vines of the Jessica, and was much taken with the quality of its fruit and early fruiting. The first vine set out the first year set three bunches, the only vine that ever fruited with me the first year. I left only one-half of the first two bunches to ripen. I fear the vine is quite tender, and will want careful attention in our northern climate; I hope, also, this will improve with age and strength of vine. Early Dawn fruit very like Clinton; quite tender, and sprightly, ripened very fine this year, began to ripen in part with Champion; fruit keeps well. Hartford Prolific does well with me; very seldom fails to ripen, bears heavily, and is a good canning variety. I had this year 110 bunches on one branch of a vine, which occupied 15 feet each

way of the trellis, and have discarded many, such as the Adirondac, for which I paid \$5.00 for a small vine, Ontario, Northern Muscadine, Isabella, Iona, Concord, Creveling, Pocklington, Rogers' 15, 19, 22, 43; the 44 is the best, though not yet tested by me.

I have the Niagara, Woodruff, Jefferson, Lady Washington, Duchess, Walter, Wilder, Brant, and Early Victor. The Duchess and Lady Washington both fruited and partially ripened; some berries of the Lady Washington were very high flavored and fine. I hope, in a favorable season, they will delight us with their large and showy clusters, as well as the popular Niagara.

PLUMS.

The Glass Seedling Plum is very fine, all that was claimed for it; a good, hardy grower, and fine bearer; is not surpassed for canning, and has but few equals.

Moore's Arctic and Curculio proof tree has blossomed around me in several places, while the larger and older tree I have has not yet done so; neither have I seen any fruit of it in my neighborhood, for the curculios destroyed them all every time. It appears a very tender tree; I have grafted it on others several times; they have always frozen in winter, besides common sorts, as Washington, Princess, Peach, Egg, Lombard, &c., have come out all right. My original tree is still sound, and I hope to see the fruit this coming year. I am trying the Shippers Pride—the trees have done well so far; will report on them further on. The Russian Apple received last spring has grown fairly, but I do not think they are an extra strong grower.

FAY'S RED CURRANT.

of which we have such splendid drawings in our paper, have surpassed every other currant in growth so far, except the Raby Castle which, I think, will

fill the next place to it as far as yet tested.

RASPBERRIES.

I only keep a few varieties, and have held on to the old Red Antwerp for 30 years, and have been well pleased with results. Laterly, I have planted Cuthbert, Philadelphia, Reliance, Victoria, Franconia, and several others. I can't say that I find any surpassing the old Antwerp; the Cuthbert comes nearest in quality and productiveness, and stands second in our list. We gathered by the pailful off a small plot till we did not want any more, and then gave pailfuls away. The apple crop is our principal crop. Small fruits call for so much time to market that we cannot attend to it.

APPLES.

I am looking hopefully to the Russian family for something to turn up; some kind of winter fruit that will save with the Golden Russet, and prove as prolific and showy as the Oldenburgh, that will be a strong and vigorous grower to retop our 2nd and 3rd class fruits. Very many kinds are appearing to fail both in quality, quantity, and the general appearance becoming nubby-spotted, worthless for shipping—such as the Snow; it is played out, constitution gone, while the tree may be made profitable by retopping. The Swaar, Fall Pippin, Yellow Pippin, Jeneting, Benoni, Yellow Harvest, and a lot of others too numerous to mention, and the sooner the Fruit Growers get into something large and fine the better! and what shall it be? Have you, Mr. Editor, ever seen or grown the famed Nonpariel, of Nova Scotia; I would like to try it in Canada. If any of your readers can direct me where I can find it, it will be esteemed a favor.

Yours truly,

J. P. WILLIAMS.

GLOXINIAS AND GESNERIAS.

These beautiful plants are not very common in Canada, nor do I suppose they ever will become so in the same degree as the Geranium and a few other plants which can be grown with a measure of success under very varied conditions, and which I am pleased to know can be seen in nearly every real home in our country. I am quite aware of the fact that neither Gloxinias nor Gesnerias will ever become such universal household necessities as these plants I have just alluded to, but there is no reason why they should be so very rare and uncommon as they are. Well grown, perfect specimens of either are nearly as beautiful as it is possible for anything in the floral kingdom to be. And the Gloxinia in particular, by its neat, compact form of growth, freedom from insect pests, and long continuance of bloom, has, with the Gesneria, much to recommend it for the conservatory. After several failures I have had my efforts to grow these beautiful plants crowned with perfect success. Last season my Gloxinias were in bloom from May until September, and sometimes a dozen and a half of fine blooms on a single plant.

I will give a brief outline of the treatment required (or what was successful with me) in the culture of the Gloxinia, and this will in the main answer for both.

In the first place get bulbs (if you can) which have been kept right; that is, which, while resting, have been kept dry, or nearly so, and at a high temperature. Pot in soil composed largely of leaf mould or something light and porous. Do not fill the pots within an inch of the top, as later on the plants may need filling in with earth to make them firm. Cover the bulbs about half an inch deep with soil, and place the pots in a frame or case in a warm part of the conserva-

tory. It is best to have considerable bottom heat at first. Water sparingly till after growth commences. Do not, if possible, at this stage, or at any time wet the leaves or subject them to bright sunlight, as either of these mistakes will destroy the velvety beauty of the foliage. After the plants have become well established, water can be given freely. Keep an even but high temperature and a humid atmosphere until the plants commence to flower. The temperature may then be lowered as it lengthens the blooming season. After bloom has ceased withhold water and place the pots in a warm place to rest the bulbs until again required. The Gesneria requires the same treatment with the exception that I find it best to plant several bulbs of some varieties in one large pot. A pot of *Gesneria zebrina*, treated as advised, will form a great bush nearly three feet high, and at blooming time will be spangled with from fifty to a hundred bright red and orange colored flowers, which, with the rich velvety purple and green of the leaves beneath, makes an object of rare beauty.

I think among Gloxinias that the drooping kinds are the most beautiful, although I know it is considered proper to admire the erect kinds the most. The erect Gloxinia is a somewhat late introduction, and has been produced, I believe, by the skill of the florist, and is considered by some as a striking example of the way in which art can mend nature; but I cannot help feeling that much of the grace and beauty of a bell-shaped flower, such as this is, is lost by turning it stiffly upward at a correct angle of just so many degrees. I would advise no one to attempt the culture of either of these plants if not thoroughly in earnest about it; for an ill-grown specimen of either is a poor object, and bears about as much resemblance to a well-grown and perfect

one, as a dirty, unkempt arab waif from the city's slums does to a bright, clean, and tenderly cared-for little child.

FREDERICK MITCHELL.

Innerkip, Jan. 27th, 1886.

GRAPES.

I have to apologize for not answering your card of the 12th December *re* Grapes. I have removed from Brampton. Your card was forwarded in due course but it got mislaid.

A large variety of grapes are grown around Brampton with success. My own experience on clay soil was in favor of Delaware, Massasoit, and Clinton. Salem and Burnet mildewed bad. Brighton looked well but had not fruited. At the county fall fair I have seen some splendid bunches of Eumelan, Merrimack, and Wilder and Concord.

Yours truly,

WM. MILLER.

Oshawa, Jan. 15th, 1886.

STRAWBERRY GROWING.

MR. EDITOR.—I have noticed in some journals lately about large crops of strawberries. Now, as I am only a novice in raising them I thought that I would give you my experience and mode of cultivating them as it is the first time I have ever grown them.

In the latter part of August I planted one row each, 75 feet long, of the following kinds:—Camberland Triumph, Miners, Windsor Chief, Park Beauty, Vineland, Jersey Queen, Charles Downing and Sharpless, plants 1 foot apart in rows 2½ feet apart. In the fall when the plants were well established I manured heavily between the rows with old rotted stable manure. After frost I covered lightly with corn-stalks. In the following spring I cut off all blossoms and runners and kept the ground well hoed and hand-weeded throughout. The next year I allowed

them to make narrow matted rows. The result was 402 quart baskets sold at 10 cents each, and 90 quarts used in the family; 16 berries of the Jersey Queen, Sharpless, and Miners prolific, filled several baskets. [How many baskets did you fill with sixteen berries?—ED.] Do you consider this a good yield?

Yours truly, J. W. M.

Toronto.

GOOSEBERRIES.

I would like to say a word respecting the gooseberry figured in the December number (1885). I believe it to be the old Crown Bob which I can remember for more than thirty years, and I suppose it was an old berry then. I have grown it here in St. Thomas for the last five years and I had berries last year nearly as large and high colored as shown in the picture. It has never mildewed with me, but is not a strong grower on my soil, though very productive. I find the Downing ahead of anything I have seen here yet for flavor, size, productiveness, and strong vigorous growth. I grow some five or six varieties all under the same conditions, get good crops every year, and have never seen a particle of mildew.

St. Thomas.

JOHN WHITHAM.

PARIS GREEN FOR CODLIN MOTH.

I tried Paris green and carbolic acid on three apple trees with good results, giving them three applications in three weeks, the first just as the blossoms began to fall. One tree was the Grand Sultan which had for the last four years shed all the fruit but a very few irregular specimens, the ground being covered till near all had fallen. This year they were smooth and glossy, the limbs almost breaking with fruit, and not a dozen in all fell before ripe, the whole crop being gathered at once. I

did not see half a dozen apples with a sign of a worm upon them. The proportions were half a teaspoonful of Paris Green, and one tablespoonful of Carbolic acid to about two-thirds of a pail of water, and a little lime to save the leaves. I used it on some plums twice and the leaves began to die; I stopped its use, but did not save all the plums.

Bloomfield.

J. P. WILLIAMS.

STYRAX JAPONICA.

Several years ago, a plant named *Styrax Japonica* was introduced from Japan. Plants were advertised and sold for two years, since which time only one firm has had the plant catalogued, so far as I am aware. The reason for this is that the plants never flowered, though they were represented as bearing beautiful flowers. Many complaints followed, and the propagation of the plant was consequently stopped. Briefly, I wish to rescue the *Styrax Japonica* from its undeserved condemnation and place it where it rightly belongs, among our fine ornamental shrubs. I had one of the first plants sent out; and though it did not flower for several years, I kept on growing it for the sake of its fine form and beautiful foliage. I have had my reward. For two years past it has been covered with its beautiful pendulous, bell-shaped flowers, which are as white as pure snow. The flowers are succeeded by numerous white, oval berries nearly an inch long, which hang suspended to the branches till killed by frost. The plant is beautiful in flower and in fruit, and ornamental at all times. It is by no means the only plant that will not flower till it has a few years of age. Any one who is willing to wait can not fail to be pleased with this plant at its maturity. Its propagation should be resumed by somebody.—*Rural New-Yorker*.

GRAPE VINES AT SARNIA.

Mr. Peter Wellington reports that the Moore's Early and Worden both killed by summer frost, and that the Concord, Clinton, and Delaware are the principal varieties grown that part of the country.

BOOKS &c.

Native Grapes of the United States an exceedingly valuable and exhaustive paper, read before the American Horticultural Society at its last meeting by T. V. Munson, Denison, Texas.

The National Journal of Carp Culture is the only journal in the United States devoted to the subject of carp culture. It was established in 1885, is issued monthly, at fifty cents a year. Those interested in carp culture obtain a sample copy free by addressing L. B. Logan, Akron, Ohio.

The Maryland Farmer, published at Baltimore, Maryland, by Ezra White man, at \$1.00 a year, is a monthly magazine of 32 pages, devoted to agriculture, ably edited by a veteran agriculturist. It begins the year 1886 in beautiful style, with new cover of handsome design, new type and superior paper, giving it a very attractive appearance.

North East Europe Fruits are exhaustively treated, so far as our knowledge of them at present extends, in a Bulletin of the Iowa Agricultural College just issued. It contains a revised list of names, with notes on some of the fruits, trees, and shrubs from North East Europe on trial in the College grounds, and which have been sent out for trial during the past six years.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1886 comes as usual in beautiful and attractive garb. The cover is a most artistic thing of itself, the interior a charming picture book, and the reading matter interesting and instructive, such as the

article on Roses, Keeping Fruit, Onions, Mushroom growing, the Young Gardeners, &c. Send ten cents to James Vick, Rochester, N. Y., for a copy, and if you order seeds this will be credited on your order.

The Gardeners' Monthly edited by Thomas Meehan, and published by Charles H. Marot, 814 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, at \$2 a year, is a most welcome visitor. It is always filled with valuable information on horticultural subjects, and the latest intelligence of new and interesting plants, fruits, etc. We advise our friends who want the best horticultural publication in the United States to send to the publisher for a copy.

Alden's Library Magazine is a most valuable eclectic monthly published by John B. Alden, New York, at the low price of \$1.50 a year. The January number contains Premier Gladstone's celebrated article on the Dawn of Creation and Worship, and the February number T. H. Huxley's reply, entitled *The Interpreters of Genesis and the Interpreters of Nature*. In the March number is an article by S. Laing, on Mr. Gladstone as a theologian. Other articles on a variety of interesting and live topics of the day fill the nearly one hundred pages of each monthly issue. Single numbers can be had for fifteen cents.

Portfolio of rare and beautiful flowers, published by James Vick, seedsman, Rochester, N. Y. is a most beautiful and artistic production. The work contains six large colored paintings of natural size on fine heavy paper, twelve by fourteen inches, executed with the utmost fidelity to nature, and accompanied by descriptions and information relative to the plants and the several families to which they belong, corresponding in elegance and interest with the paintings themselves. The *Portfolio* makes a rich ornament for the

parlour table, and will be highly prized by every lover of the beautiful. It may be had by sending two dollars to the publisher.

A Literary curiosity is just issued by John B. Alden, Publisher, New York, at the low price of 50 cents. It is a copy of a quaint poem which was published nearly half a century before Milton's *Paradise Lost* and it is thought by some that Milton's immortal work was inspired by this poem. Only two copies of the original issue are known to be in existence, one in the British Museum, the other in the Bodleian Library. It is entitled "*The Glasse of Time in the first and second Age, Divinely handled by Thomas Peyton, of Lincolnes Inne, Gent., 1620.*" The present reprint preserves the quaint spelling, capital letters and italics of the original.

Poultry for Pleasure and Profit is the title of a very neat little book of 48 pages by G. M. T. Johnson, Binghamton, N. Y., in which the writer treats of fowls under three heads:—1st, those whose chief merit is their beauty; 2nd, those whose specialty is for eggs; and 3rd, those best calculated for market. Chapters are also devoted to the requisites for making the keeping of poultry both pleasant and profitable, how to house and yard them, how to manage, feed, &c. The price of the book is only 25 cents. If any of our readers would like to have a copy we will send one on receipt of name of one new subscriber and one dollar. When sending the name please to state that you want this book.

BRITISH ORCHARDS.—Last year there were 194,723 acres of fruit orchards in Great Britain. This year the area has increased to 197,532 acres. Last year 52,975 acres were devoted to market gardens. There are now 59,473 devoted to this purpose.

MY AIN COUNTREE.

I am far from my hame, an I'm weary often whiles
For the longed for hame,—bringin' all my Father's
welcome smiles ;

I'll ne'er be fu content, until my een do see
The gowden gates o' heaven, and my ain countree.

The earth is fleck'd wi flowers, mony-tinted, fresh, and
gay,

The birdies warble blithely, for my Father made them
sae ;

But these sights an' these souns, will as naething be
to me

When I hear the angels singing in my ain countree.

I've his gude word o' promise, that some gladsome
day, the King

To his ain royal palace, his banished hame will bring ;

Wi sere an wi heart runnin oure we shall see

"The King in his beauty," in our ain countree.

My sins have been mony, an my sorrows have been
sair,

But there they'll never vex me, nor be remembered
mair ;

His bluid has made me white, his hand shall wipe
mine ee,

When he brings me hame at last to my ain countree.

Like a bairn to its mither, a wee birdie to its nest,
I wad fain be gangin' noo unto my Saviour's breast ;
For he gathers in his bosom, witless, worthless lambs
like me,

An he carries them himsel to his ain countree.

He's faithfu that has promised ; He'll surely come
again ;

He'll keep his tryst* wi me ; at what hour I dinna ken ;

But he bids me still to watch, an ready aye to be

To gang at any moment to my ain countree.

So I'm watchin' aye an singin' o' my hame as I wait
For the soundin o' his footsteps, this side the gowden
gate ;

God gie his grace to ilk a sene wha listens noo to me,
That we may a' gang in gladness to our ain countree.

*Tryst—appointment.

—London Advertiser.

KEEPING GOOSEBERRIES.—Dr. Hoskins, of Vermont, says it is not generally known that gooseberries can be perfectly preserved the year round in common bottles with pure water. See that no broken or crushed berries get into the bottle, but all sound, perfect fruit ; then fill up with cold spring or well water, cork tight and set away in a cool cellar. No sealing is necessary.

KEEPING GRAPES.—Fussing up grapes with cotton, sawdust, paper, wax, and so

on, to keep them into the Winter, is all nonsense. Let the grapes ripen perfectly, and then carefully pick into shallow boxes or baskets, and without changing or disturbing, keep them in the coolest place you can command. That's all there is to it. The cooler the better, so they don't freeze.—*Wine and Fruit Grower.*

NEW RACE OF PINKS.—A French nurseryman, M. Regnier, sends out a new variety of Pink which originated with him under the name of Alexandre Regnier. "This Pink," he says, "forms the commencement of an entirely new and interesting race, the plant being robust and very hardy. The flowers are numerous, produced, are borne on sturdy, upright stems, and never burst." The flowers are sulphur yellow, and the season of blooming is so long the variety is called a perpetual bloomer.—*Vick's Magazine.*

MOORE'S DIAMOND GRAPE.—As the above grape was noticed in your *Magazine* last season, and we have one year's more experience, I will say a little more about it. Bunch large, berry above medium or large. A most beautiful golden yellow, and of the best quality. Vine perfectly hardy and healthy. It rots, like nearly all other grapes, but I don't care for that, as it is worth sacking if every sack cost two cents, instead of only one-quarter of a cent. It is about as early as any grape in my collection of sixty varieties. I look upon it as one of the coming grapes.—*SAMUEL MILLER, in Vick's Magazine.*

WHITE PLUME CELERY.—Our White Plume Celery is turning out very desirable in spite of remarks in these columns to the contrary. We have two kinds, the White Plume and the Improved White Plume, the latter of which is a trifle more vigorous than the other, and gives a few more stalks to the plant. The outside leaves are green or variegated ; the inside leaves a cream-white. The foliage looks pretty in glasses or celery "boats," and the stalks, though not quite so tender as celery blanched in the usual way, are perhaps not quite so mild or sweet, and yet very palatable. It is now a question whether this self-blanching celery is not the best for early use.—*Rural New-Yorker.*