

## The Vineyard.

### GRAPE GROWING

On the Borders of the Keuka, Seneca and Canandaigua Lakes.

This business, like the magicians bean, has sprung into existence and grown to vast proportions within a comparatively brief period, bounded since its first inception, by the recollection of living witnesses, then of man's estate. Indeed, twenty years covers about the full period of efforts in vineyard culture.

In 1864 it was estimated that within the vicinity, and on the borders of the Keuka or "Crooked Lake," there would be near four hundred acres of vineyard in bearing, and producing a crop of six hundred tons of grapes; sufficient, as it was thought, to overwhelm all of the available resources for consumption of both city markets and the wine cellars; and, indeed, it did fairly overstock and glut them.

The year 1870 will long be noted for both the extent to which the production had grown in a period of six years and also for the perfection of the crops. Wines of that vintage doubtless will rarely be excelled from the same varieties of fruit.

The year 1871, however, has excelled any and all others in the vastness of the crop, though in quality considerably short of that of 1870, yet a great crop, and in quality a fair average.

The rapid increase of the production, and also of the sources of consumption, will be shown by the following estimates based upon good authority, and proving that the cultivation of the grape in this like region already is, and is to be, a very important interest.

The crop of 1871 may be set down as not varying much from—Keuka Lake and vicinity, 7,500 tons; Canandaigua Lake and vicinity, 2,000 tons; Seneca Lake (west side), 1,000 tons—total, 10,500 tons.

Of this, about one-third has been made into wine (the full capacity of our cellars), or will be distilled; and the balance, some seven thousand tons, has and must find consumption elsewhere, and mostly through the city fruit markets.

From the abundance of the crop, and also of most other fruits, the prices have netted low. Yet it is quite safe to say that the crop is worth to the producers one million of dollars, as the product of from seven to eight thousand acres of land, and much of it of a character forbidding the ordinary pursuits of agriculture.

There are two marked defects in the management and character of the vineyards of this locality.

1. That in management consists, as I think, in allowing an over-crop of fruit to remain on the vines for want of will and courage to thin down to a condition that it may perfect and ripen early in its season, instead of lingering into frosty nights and ungenial weather.

2. The character or condition of a large majority of the early vineyards, consists in their having been set almost entirely with the Catawba and Isabella, both late varieties, and now being superseded by more desirable and profitable kinds.

Now, as a large area of the land occupied as vineyard is stocked with roots, well established, of these varieties, there seems a block to progress, unless some system of engrafting can be found by which the fruit may be changed to better-paying varieties without waiting for the tardy and undesirable process of uprooting and re-setting. Therefore, "Is grape grafting a practical and reliable process?" has become an inquiry of interest.

D. S. WAGNER of Putney, Steuben Co., N. Y., has invented instruments which he uses in grafting the vine (and all other fruits) with perfect success, as it is said; the principle being in fitting the cleft perfectly to the cleft in the stock, which his instruments accomplish to a certainty, in the hands of any person of ordinary skill and judgment. His system seems very fully indorsed by the best vineyardists of Hammondsport, Seneca Lake, and other localities where it has been tried, and he invites the inspection of his own vineyard, where he has illustrations of his success for some years, and fruiting vines of the setting of 1870, showing, by careful test, an improvement instead of deterioration of the quality of the fruit.

With such ready means of changing the varieties of vineyards already grown, the promise to those in the grape growing interest is greatly enhanced, as it opens a new resort to such as have or may make mistakes, or who, for other cause, may desire to change the character of their production.

Can the RURAL NEW-YORKER, or any of

its hundred thousand readers, cast any additional light upon this question of grafting the vine which has been so long a subject of experiment and desire, but without success at all satisfactory, by any of the old methods? R. H. W. Penn Yan, N. Y.

WE know that Mr. WAGNER'S instruments are useful, especially to a novice in grafting. But it is not true that no practical and successful system had been dis-

covered previously. As long ago as 1858 or 1859, MOTTIER of Cincinnati exhibited at the Western Fair splendid specimens of Delaware grapes, and wine made therefrom, that had been produced by grafting the Delaware on the Catawba; and FULLER (of the RURAL NEW-YORKER now) in his Grape Culturist, gave his method, many years ago, which has proved entirely successful by those who have faithfully followed his directions. We have seen indorsements of his method from CHARLES DOWNING and other culturists of equal eminence, who had not succeeded invariably, until they adopted it. We write this without Mr. FULLER'S knowledge, nor with any design to disparage Mr. WAGNER'S method, but simply to show that any one who can use a grafting knife, and will observe the conditions laid down in pages 86-88 of the Grape Culturist, may succeed without finding it necessary to buy the right to use a patent.

the hands and the understanding. As an illustration of what a realm of beauty may be created in a small space, and with a single class of plants, almost, our engraving is effective; and such is its mission in our columns—a suggestion to all Lovers of the Beautiful.

A Beautiful Vase.—We give an engraving of a beautiful vase which the Editor of The Garden, who saw it as shown, says con-



INTERIOR OF A FERN-HOUSE.

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## Floricultural.

### FLORICULTURAL NOTES.

Interior of a Fern-House.—We give herewith a view of an interior of a fern-house, to illustrate the beautiful effect that may be produced with this class of plants when disposed of in a large Wardian Case



A BEAUTIFUL VASE.

(for the structure is nothing less) in a semi-natural way. In this instance other plants accompany the ferns. We do this because we believe it as important to educate the eye and the taste of people as to educate

tained in the center a good plant of *Epiphyllum truncatum* surrounded by a ring of large Houseleek (*Scempervivum tabulariforme*) alternated with common *Pteris scrupulata*. Plants of the *Epiphyllum* trained as low pyramids are peculiarly suitable for vase decoration—indeed, it is doubtful if anything that blooms in summer would form so lovely a subject for a sitting-room or conservatory vase as, this, which blooms so freely in mid-winter.

Self-Acting Portable and Floral Fountain.—On the next page we give a very neat device we find in the English Mechanic. It will be a suggestion for Yankee ingenuity to act upon. It is a table and floral fountain. Self-acting, and calculated to play from one to four hours. It can be used wherever flowers and running water are desirable. The top part acts as a cistern and when the water has run out the jet is unscrewed and screwed into the cistern; then it is reversed, both top and bottom being alike. The whole operation can be performed in half a minute without spilling a drop of water. The flower vases are movable for reversing. It may be made a beautiful table or sitting-room ornament.

Separating Flower Seed.—Having raised some flower seeds during the past season, which I find it difficult to clean from the chaff, I would like to inquire how such seeds are cleaned. I have found Drummond's Phlox worse than anything else to clean, the chaff being so near the same size and weight as the seeds, that no sieve will separate them perfectly, nor will fanning blow out the chaff. I have tried every method that suggested itself, but have been unsuccessful. Any information in regard to the cleaning of these or any kind of garden seeds, will be very acceptable to one who is willing to impart any new facts he may learn, for the benefit of the readers of the RURAL NEW-YORKER.—INQUIRER, Roanoke, L. I.

We cannot understand why you should have so much trouble with your Drummond's Phlox seed, as we consider it one of the very easiest to separate from the chaff. You must have waited until the seed had mostly dropped out before gathering, or cut it too early, and it has now shrunken in the pods; for the seed will naturally drop as soon as ripe, and separate itself from the chaff. The seed pods should be cut when fully grown, and just as they begin to turn yellow. Put into loose bags or boxes, and when dry the seeds will readily separate from the chaff.

The Marechal Neil Rose is highly considered as a green-house climber, worked on instead of Mammett stock.

## Pomological.

### FRUIT FOR EASTERN IOWA.

THE Eastern Iowa Horticultural Society at its Annual Meeting at Cedar Rapids Dec. 21, voted for and agreed upon the following fruit list:

Apples—For General Cultivation.—Tetofsky, Red Astrachan, Red June, Sweet June, Oldenburg, Benoni, Maiden Blush, Cole's Quince, Snow Lowell, Bailey Sweet, Striped Pippin, Porter, Jonathan, Dominic, Tallman, Winesap, Rawles' Janet, Ben Davis, Perry Russet, and Willow. For trial—Peach Pound Sweet, Clyde Beauty, Kentucky and Grimes' Golden.

Pears.—Bartlett, Seckel, Flemish Beauty, White Doyenne, Beurre de Dijon and Duchesse de Angouleme.

Strawberries.—For general cultivation, Metcalf's Early, Green Prolific, Wilson's Albany. For trial, Charles Downing and Colfax.

Raspberries.—Philadelphia, Purple Caul, Miami for general cultivation, and Lewis' Ever-bearing and Davidson's Thornless for further trial.

Grapes.—Concord, Clinton, Hartford Prolific, and Delaware for general cultivation. Ives' Seedling, Agawam, Martha and Salem for trial.

Blackberries.—The Kittatunny was the only one recommended.

### POMOLOGICAL GOSSIP.

Naragansett Raspberry.—The New England Homestead says this "is a seedling from the Brinckle's Orange, is six years old from the seed, having been in bearing four years. It bears luxuriantly, the berries averaging much larger than any other variety. The fruit is cone-shaped, of an excellent flavor, the color bright crimson, bearing carriage better than any of the favorite market sorts. It belongs to the everbearing family, producing fruit on the new canes which come up in the spring, thus carrying the crop along until the last of October, or until the frost kills the foliage and green fruit. The canes are large, growing on good, rich ground, which they require, six or eight feet high. They are perfectly hardy, but it is better to mulch them in the fall with long stable manure, and lay them down, giving them some protection, such as will save them from the cutting winds, and yet not exclude the air. In the spring, after being taken up and tied to stakes, the ground should be thoroughly forked over, cleaned out, and kept clean throughout the season. This treatment is equally essential in the cultivation of any raspberry if an abundant crop and rich flavor are desired. This variety first appeared in the garden of Mr. JOHN F. JOLLS, of Providence, who is well known as one of our most constant and successful exhibitors at the horticultural exhibitions, and as a keen and active amateur gardener."

Lanier Apple.—This new seedling apple was exhibited at the Cotton States Fair in 1870, and again in 1871, and attracted much attention. Its principal merits are large size, fine appearance and good bearing qualities, as we were assured by the originator, Mr. THOMAS P. SHAW, of Edgefield, S. C. The tree is some fifteen years old, a very vigorous grower and of good habit. Fruit large to very large, oblate and always regular. Skin yellow, thickly streaked with carmine and with a purplish carmine cheek, a few green blotches near the base. Calyx small, open, in a shallow and regular basin. Stalk short, slender, set in a deep cavity. Flesh crisp, brittle, sugary, rather coarse grained. Quality good. Maturity end of October to end of November.

Florida Oranges, according to the Rural Carolinian, have lost the high character they held a few years ago in the Charleston market. The complaint is, they smell rusty and are liable to rapid decay; and while some good oranges are produced in Florida so many bad ones are received that the credit of the fruit is destroyed. This deterioration in the orange produce of Florida, the editor thinks, is due to the unsuitable soil on which many groves are planted and to neglect in properly cultivating and manuring the groves.