

Horticultural.

WHAT KINDS OF GRAPES—THE BEST.

ED. FARMER: I have been requested to state, through your columns, "what kinds of grapes experience has proven best for the Willamette valley?" Now this is a difficult question to answer properly. The valley of the Willamette is not, as we understand the term, a valley; for there are hills, prairies, flats, mountain-spurs, alluvial bottoms along the rivers, creeks, branches, and springs, all fulfilling the term *country*, and not valley. A valley is a low strip of land lying between hills, or mountains, and generally lining the margin of a stream. The physical features of the so-called Willamette valley are various and great, so much so, indeed, as to preclude the possibility of classing the whole country under the local term valley. There are mountain-spurs west of the Cascades, and east of the Coast mountains, which are, near the mountains, high, rolling, and descending to the large valleys and prairies below. These are good land, and are covered, in many instances, with fir, but mostly with oak, often large. The southern slopes of these descending, and often broken, ridges and hills are fine for all hardy grape vines. They are rich enough, elevated above early and late frosts; are dry, and possess all the pre-organic matter, as well as organic, to grow grapes of superior quality. The hills near, or on either side, the Willamette river, are all fine prairies. Low, wet, frosty lands, no matter how rich, should never be planted to vines. Rolling prairies, dry bottoms, and valleys, are all good for vines; but still the best lands are the southern slopes of high hills.

What kinds of grapes? Of natives, so far as my experience goes, sustained by that of others, the following-named vines do well: Delaware, Concord, Martha, Hartford, and perhaps Allen's, Arnold's, and some of Roger's hybrids, also Clinton, Union Village, Diana, as well as Rebecca, Anna, Iona, Israella, Adirondac. The last five are, with me, quite tender, and they mildew and rot. The old Isabella and Catawba are still grown by many, but, unless in a few favored locations, they are late in ripening, and sometimes the berries or fruit are frosted, and the ends of the vines are often killed, also.

For table use, the Martha, Delaware, Allen's Hybrid, Rebecca, Iona, and perhaps Israella, are the best.

For wine, Delaware, Martha, Clinton, Iona, Anna, and Catawba. There are many other wine grapes which have a local reputation, as the Norton, Ives, Rentz, etc. But as I am no admirer of wine, and shall deprecate the day when wine shall fill our land, I beg leave to say no more about wine grapes. These who love wine can consult George Husmann, A. Harashty, William J. Flagg, Charles Reemelin, and others.

For keeping, the Clinton, Goethe (Reg. No. 1), Diana, Brant (one of Allen's hybrids). You may keep these grapes in fine condition, for months. All good-keeping grapes should be extensively cultivated; for what can be better, of long winter evenings, than to have a basket of rich, well-preserved, and nearly as good as fresh, grapes? A luxury few know the value of. Suppose, all over this country, every family had, the winter through, an abundance of grapes to eat, how much healthier would all be? Grapes cool the system and prevent fevers; they regulate the stomach and digestive apparatus; they prevent worms, and invigorate the whole system. Grapes often cure diseased kidneys, aid the dyspeptic, ward off consumption, and induce long life. In this mild climate, we use too much animal food. We need, and ought to use, more fruits. Our health demands a large percentage of fruits with our more concentrated food. Hence the great use of, and necessity for, grapes.—Wine would only aggravate the evil.

The best grapes are the foreign.

The Black Hamburg, Muscat d'Alexandria, Chasselas de Fontainebleau, Frontignan (white and red), Royale Muscadine, Black St. Peters, Black Prince, etc. The Black July is also a foreign grape; it is early, but not of first quality.

Now, if we can grow to perfection in this climate the foreign grapes, we need no others. My experience is, therefore, favorable to the successful growing of these noble grapes. The splendid grapes grown at Butteville, near the Willamette river, in Marion county, is proof also to the same effect, besides there is much proof otherwise. I have grown as fine Black Julys, Gros Couleards, and Chasselas de Fontainebleaus, as can be found anywhere. I shall propagate the Chasselas de Fontainebleau, believing it to be one among the best of grapes. It would be well for a few, as an experiment—costing but little—to try growing the foreign grape, and at some future time report success or failure.

And now, Mr. FARMER, why cannot some of your various vine-growers write a little for us, giving their success or failure in growing either the native or foreign vines? An article from the proprietors of the Butteville vineyards could not fail to be of interest. All fruit-growers have an interest to maintain, and all should help along the good cause. Farmers, and Fruit-Growers, let us hear from you.

PHILO-VITIS.

ROSE CUTTINGS.—One of the best methods of securing the success of these, says a recent writer, is to stick the cutting about an inch deep into clean river sand with properly prepared soil about an inch below to receive the roots as they strike. The clean sand prevents the rotting. A correspondent of the Horticulturist succeeded with this when every other mode failed—and says he does not lose one in twenty.

The Horse.

DAILY EXERCISE.

Without regular exercise no horse can long be kept in health, and I believe that as far as this point is concerned even those which are hard-worked would be the better for half an hour's airing every morning as soon as they have been fed and before they are dressed. But those masters who are particular about the mouths of the animals they ride or drive, find that the hands of their grooms are generally so heavy that they spoil the delicate "feel" on which the comfort and pleasure of riding and driving so much depends. Hence in such cases the poor horse is condemned to confinement in his stable, not only on the day when he is to be ridden or driven, but on those also when he is to be idle.

The health of the body is sacrificed to the maintenance of the delicate condition of the mouth which is so highly prized by good horsemen and accomplished whips, and I confess that I plead guilty to having for a long series of years acted upon this principle. A fair share of health may be attained without exercise if the work is never interrupted for more than a single day, and at the same time there being only one pair of hands to interfere with the mouth, its delicacy is not impaired, that is to say if they are not as bad as those of the groom.

Sometimes a large and smooth snaffle is allowed as an exercise bridle in the hope that it cannot injure the mouth, but even this will do mischief if the weight of the rider is thrown upon it, as is too often the case. Leaving out of the question this objection to the adoption of exercise, there can be no doubt that a daily walk out of doors for half an hour, especially if it can be managed on turf, will be of the greatest service to the horse's health.—Stonehenge on the Horse.

The extensive salt works in Park county, Colorado, will be in active operation next summer.

Swine.

CONVERSATIONS.

THE HOG BUSINESS.

ED. FARMER: There is one material interest to Oregon that is somewhat neglected, and allowed, to a very great extent, to die out—that is pork-raising. The American people are a swine-eating people, and whether or no swine's flesh be healthy, it will be used so long as an abundance of corn can be raised. The Jews discard swine's flesh altogether as food, but we are not certain that they are nearer right than we. Pork is more nutritious than almost any other meat, and should not be eaten in such great quantities as other meats. If swine are fattened properly, their flesh is as healthy as any other meat. All animals are liable to disease, but the hog is no more so than sheep. Oregon being no corn country, wheat becomes the basis of fattening; hence it is hardly probable that pork can ever be raised as cheaply here as in the corn-growing States. But it will not do to import meats or anything else constantly that can be produced here, or our country will become poor indeed.

The first requisite in raising swine is to have good stock. The Berkshire hog is considered by most raisers in the States as best. The Chester White has its admirers, and crossed with the Berkshire makes a splendid hog. The common wind-splitter or fern-digger well crossed makes a fine hog. Mr. Thomas Cross used to think he had about as good a hog as was needed for Oregon of this class. The Essex is certainly a splendid hog, but is not so good to cross with as other thoroughbred hogs. The crosses of this hog are not so even.

The next thing required is plenty of food. To have good hogs, with tender, juicy meat, they ought to be fed about all they will eat, so that in nine or ten months they will be fit to kill. Old hogs seem to fatten more easily, but are not so good meat. March pigs fed on milk and a little wheat, and let run on June wheat in summer till wheat begins to ripen, and then turned upon that till November, and then put in pens and fattened till Christmas, make perhaps the finest pork for Oregon. If clover can be raised successfully, this would be better for growing hogs, but there is hardly lime enough in our soils to make clover a constant success. It does well for a time, but loses its hold after a few years.

I incline to the idea of making our hogs feed themselves mostly; that is, let them take the wheat in the fields until the rain comes. We can not afford to raise hogs on threshed grain, but grain in the fields is not worth as much by twenty-five per cent, as when threshed; hence we can compete with the Chicago market, although they feed corn. Wheat in the fields can be produced in Oregon for forty cents a bushel. This being the case, meat ought to be produced for six cents per pound, but management must be used here to raise hogs for this money. No slovenly farming will do it. No fern-digger hogs will do it. Sheep and hogs in western Oregon are more profitable than cattle, and will continue to be more and more so as eastern Oregon takes the cattle business.

Hogs and sheep can feed upon our wet lands in winter, upon our winter wheat or winter oats, and cattle cannot; hence the greater profit in the two first.

T. L. D.

Joseph Harris says if he could induce every reader of the *American Agriculturist* to make up his mind to never let a year go past without making a few rods of ditch, he should feel he had accomplished something worth living for. He thinks underdraining will be the great farm work of the next quarter of a century. While some lands need it more than others, he has never seen a farm some portions of which did not need underdraining.

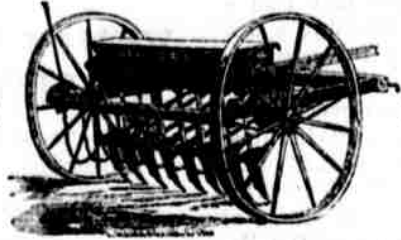
Hawley Dodd & Co.
Portland, Oregon
offer for sale at the lowest market price
Hardware, Iron, Steel
and Agricultural Implements.

EXCLUSIVE SALE FOR OREGON FOR
JOHN DEERE'S MOLINE PLOWS!

BY FAR THE BEST PLOW IN USE.

WE ALSO OFFER FOR SALE THE CELEBRATED
COLLINS' CAST CAST-STEEL PLOW
For either Turf or Stubble Lands.

SPECIALLY IMPROVED FOR 1871. HAS THE NEW LEVER ATTACHMENT



AGENTS FOR THE WELL KNOWN

BUCKEYE GRAIN DRILL!

THESE DRILLS ARE MANUFACTURED BY

THOMAS & MAST, AT SPRINGFIELD, OHIO,

And are the Most Successful Drill in Use!

The Lightest Running



The Strongest Wagon.

THE MITCHELL WAGON.

Farm Wagons.
exclusive sale for the Mitchell Wagon with
patent Hounds Reach (something new.)
no other wagon has them, we want
them the best wagon for sale in this state.
Send for descriptive Circulars.

PREMIUM LIST

FOR THE

WILLAMETTE FARMER.

LARGEST EVER OFFERED IN THE STATE

\$820.00 IN U. S. COIN!

The other Premiums are of the best quality, and are offered at the price for which they are sold by responsible firms in this city.

GOLD PREMIUMS.

For the largest number of subscribers over 100, at \$2.50 each, two to compete... **\$250 00**
Largest number over 85, at \$2.50 each, two to compete... **200 00**
Largest number over 75, at \$2.50 each, two to compete... **175 00**
Largest number over 60, at \$2.50 each, two to compete... **125 00**
Largest number over 45, at \$2.50 each, two to compete... **50 00**
Largest number over 10, at \$2.50 each... **20 00**

No person will be allowed to compete for more than one of these premiums, nor for any one of them in connection with the premiums offered by Mr. A. J. Dufur. Parties desiring to compete will inform us for which one, so that we may enter their names in a book and credit them with subscribers' names and money as fast as received by us. Parties will have until the 1st of Sept. next to compete for the above prizes, after which the names of the parties winning the prizes will be published in the FARMER.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Pitt's Challenge Thresher, 6-horse separator and 8-horse power, imported by Cunningham & Co., Salem—price, \$775—for 650 subscribers, at \$2.50 each.
Buckeye Reaper and Self-Raker, No. 2, imported by Cunningham & Co., Salem—price, \$250—for 250 subscribers.
Dodge's Self-Raker Reaper and Mower, No. 2, imported by Cunningham & Co., Salem—price, \$250—for 250 subscribers.
New York Mower and Reaper—price, \$25—for 250 subscribers.

One 2-horse Bain, Studebaker, or Mitchell Wagon complete—price, \$175—for 175 subscribers.
Buckeye Mower, No. 3, imported by Cunningham & Co., Salem—price, \$125—for 125 subscribers.
Buckeye Seed Drill—price, \$120—for 120 subscribers.
Finlayson's Broadcast Seed Sower—price, \$80—for 80 subscribers.
Junior Buckeye Cider Mill—price, \$35—for 35 subscribers.
Wade's Oregon Plow, high landside, fish-tail cutter—price, \$19—for 20 subscribers.
Blanchard Churn, No. 6—price, \$10—for 10 subscribers.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS & BOOKS
Mason & Hamlin's Cabinet Organ, (style 21) imported by Stratton & Waller, Salem—price, \$175—for 175 subscribers.

Webster's Unabridged Pictorial Dictionary—price, \$15—for 15 subscribers.
Webster's National Pictorial Dictionary—price, \$6—for 6 subscribers.

Harding's Photograph Family Bible, with clasps—price, \$13—for 13 subscribers.
Guitar—price, \$15—for 15 subscribers.
Violin—price, \$15—for 15 subscribers.

Elgin Silver Watch, 3 oz. hunting case, (W. H. Perry movement,) value \$40, for 40 subscribers.
Mr. Dufur's premiums cannot be claimed in connection with any of the foregoing.

Names may be added to lists from any post-office.
Address, A. L. STINSON, Publisher, Salem, Or.