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John Charlton & Sons. Rochester, N. Y.

THE CHARLTON GRAPE.

62.61

1903

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THE IDEAL BUNCH OF GRAPES.

“Let me suggest the name of ‘CHARLTON’ for your new Grape.—”Prof. H. E. Van Deman.

WILDER SILVER MEDAL.

Philadelphia, 1899.



BARRY GOLD MEDAL.



The CHARLTON GRAPE is a cross between Brighton and Mills. Vine a good grower, with stout, heavy foliage, which does not mildew. Bunch ideal, medium to large, compact, and sometimes shouldered. Berries medium to large, globular in shape; color red, similar to Catawba; flesh tender (there is no pulp), rich, sweet and vinous, dissolving readily from the seeds, of which there are but few. Skin thin, but firm enough to insure good keeping and carrying qualities. In season before Concord, showing color seven or eight days before that variety. Is in eating condition before being fully colored. Is a prolific bearer and good keeper. We consider it in quality the "GRIZZLY FRONTIGNAN" of all hardy American native grapes.

It has been awarded, among others, the following prizes:

The Barry Solid Gold Medal.

The Wilder Silver Medal.

The Bronze Medal of the American Institute.

Two Certificates of Merit of the American Institute.

The most exquisite hardy grape in existence. Will ripen up perfectly if cut when three-quarters ripe.

## TESTIMONIALS.

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From many testimonials we select the following.

The Storrs & Harrison Co. write, September 30, 1898 :

"DEAR SIRS—Basket of your new seedling grape duly received, for which accept our thanks. If these are average bunches, it certainly is a very fine large bunch and berry, and exceedingly good in quality."

Yours truly,

THE STORRS & HARRISON CO.

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Samuel D. Willard, the horticulturist, Geneva, N. Y., writes us October 1, 1898 :

"GENTLEMEN—Many thanks for the little basket of grapes received from you yesterday. They suit my taste well. They seem to be peculiar in this that there is no hard pulp, but all entirely ripened through. The cluster is satisfactory, and it would seem to me that a grape ripening so nicely and possessing so many good qualities should commend itself to all wanting good desirable grapes about their homes."

Respectfully,

S. D. WILLARD.

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The late Judge Samuel Miller wrote October 1st, 1898 :

"The basket of grapes received. The Mills grape I never grew, but in your seedling the Charlton, the noble Brighton is very nicely shown. The only difference is, it is better than the Brighton, which I think is giving it high praise. The fact is, there are few or any better grapes. Thanks for the treat."

Yours truly,

S. MILLER.

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Gardening Co., Chicago, October 8, 1898, writes :

"Through the courtesy of Mr. J. C. Vaughan we have had the pleasure of tasting your new Charlton grape, which we consider very fine."

Yours very truly,

THE GARDENING CO.

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W. Paddock, Assistant Horticulturist of New York Experimental Station, Geneva, October 10, says :

"In Mr. Beach's absence your letter of October 3d, together with a basket of Charlton grapes, has been referred to me. The grapes arrived in excellent condition. We notice several peculiar qualities in the grape. It evidently has some vinefera blood. It is possible to bite through the skin and pulp somewhat in the same manner that one can eat Malaga grapes, then raisening quality that you mention. The quality of the grape is good with a peculiar flavor. It is remarkable in that the seeds are released so readily. The skin and pulp are firm enough so that it would make a good shipper. We would be very glad to know more of the grape, when and where it originated, its parentage, growth, productiveness, etc."

Yours truly,

W. PADDOCK.

Stephen Hoyt's Sons, New Canaan, Conn., October 13, 1898, say :

"The box of grapes came duly to hand. They seemed somewhat crushed, yet one could see the size of both grape and bunch. We pronounce it a fine grape. The pulp is very tender, and the seeds very readily separate from it. We would like a vine to test with our other varieties. The only objection we can see to your grape is that it is rather late in ripening, but perhaps no later than Concord. Thanking you for the sample, we are,

Yours respectfully,

STEPHEN HOYT'S SONS.

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Dr. Hexamer, then editor of the American Agriculturist, wrote us Oct. 14, 1898 :

"The sample of grapes which you have so kindly sent me arrived in good condition. The grape pleased me so much that I took the specimen to the American Institute Fair just then in progress. They are highly commented on by fruit growers who saw them, and I shall try to secure a certificate for them. I had a photograph taken of one of the bunches with a view of having it engraved and published in the American Agriculturist. Please give me as full a description of the origin, history and general characteristics of the vine as you can, to enable me to write an article to accompany the illustration."

Yours truly,

F. M. HEXAMER.

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"The judges at the American Institute reported as follows :

"A cross between Brighton and Mills. Red, cluster medium, compact, not shouldered, berries variable from medium to large, quality very fine. Two seeds, free from astringency, pulp much like Mills. Very valuable as an amateur grape."

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J. H. Hale, the Fruit Expert, writes October 21, 1898 :

"The basket of grapes you so kindly sent me some time ago just reached me to-day—one bunch pretty thoroughly demoralized, but the other one in fine condition, which shows its good keeping qualities and the high quality of the grape, which in many ways reminds me of the Catawba. It is certainly a very delicious grape, and if it has a healthy and vigorous vine I should consider it of great value."

Yours very truly,

J. H. HALE.

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The American Agriculturist, February 10, 1899, says :

"A NEW RED GRAPE.—Among the many new grapes at the last fair of the American Institute in New York none has interested us more than the Charlton, a photographic reproduction of a bunch of which is given in our frontispiece. It is a cross between Brighton and Mills, raised by John Charlton, Rochester, N. Y. The original vine has fruited the past six years, and its fruit seems to improve each season. The berries are globular in shape, and medium to large in size, moderately compact, and sometimes shouldered; color red, similar to Catawba; quality best; flesh tender and melting, juicy, sweet and vinous, separating readily from the seeds, of which there are but few; skin thin, but firm enough to insure good keeping and shipping quality. Season early, showing color before Concord, but the fruit is in eating condition before it is fully colored. The vine is a strong and healthy grower and a prolific bearer. We shall watch its development with no little interest."



ONE-HALF OF VINE THREE YEARS FROM GRAFT.

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CARRIED PERFECTLY TO LONDON, ENGLAND, UNINJURED.

On September 18, 1899, we sent fruit of this grape to the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, which reported as follows :

“The grapes came over to this side in an ordinary cross-handled basket made of thin wood and fitted with a cover, quite uninjured, excepting that some had dropped from the bunches. The bloom was perfect, although the bunches had simply been wrapped in soft paper, and there was no other packing material used. The color is purple, with a reddish tinge ; the pulp less viscid than of some other American varieties we have tasted, and the flavor very pleasant and sugary, reminiscent of the strawberry and black currant. The skin is tough and the variety should keep a long time after ripening. Not a berry had decayed on arrival.”

Chas. A. Green, of Green's Fruit Grower, wrote us September 22, 1899 :

"Your new red grape as tested with Brighton, as grown by me, has a more compact cluster, berries a little larger, quality a little better than Brighton, more meaty, flesh very tender. I consider the quality superb, and think your new grape exceedingly promising."

GREEN'S NURSERY CO.,

per CHAS A. GREEN.

The Rural New Yorker, in its issue of September 23, 1899 in its report of the meeting of the American Pomological Society, just held at Philadelphia, says: "There were but few really new fruits shown. The Charlton Grape, which is the result of a cross between Mills and Brighton, by John Charlton, of Rochester, N. Y., is one of the most delicious red grapes in existence. The bunches and berries are in size about like those of Catawba."

Again, November 19th, 1899, it says: "A box of these grapes were received October 6th. The berries are of medium size, perhaps a trifle larger than Brighton. They vary in color from amber to a deep purple. The skin is very thin, yet firm. There is not a particle of acidity in the flesh about the seeds, which are small and few. They part as easily from the flesh as do those of any of the foreign grapes. The flesh is meaty, without any pulp. It is juicy, sweet, and of high quality. Should the Charlton grape develop no weakness, we predict for it a quick popularity, since we know of no other grape its equal in quality."

The late Wm. Saunders, horticulturist of the U. S. Department of Horticulture, wrote us September 25th, 1899, as follows :

"The box of grapes came to hand in good condition, and I am much pleased with the fruit. The bunches are of good size and of fine appearance. The Brighton is my favorite table grape, but does not always set well. The Charlton appears to be as good flavored as the Brighton, and a better bunch and berry. You may congratulate yourselves in possessing a fine grape which bids fair to become popular."

Yours respectfully,

WM. SAUNDERS.

Thomas Meehan & Sons, September 25, 1899, says :

"We duly received your letter of 21, together with package of your new grape, the 'Charlton.' To say the least, we are much pleased with its quality. It seems to us have the flavor and texture similar to the European grapes. Have you yet placed the grape on the market? If so, please quote prices."

Yours very truly,

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS.

Prof. Beach, New York Experimental Station, Geneva, N. Y., wrote September 27, 1899 :

"The basket of Charlton grapes came to hand last night in good condition. I hardly expected that you would send me this fruit, because I had already the privilege of examining it at Philadelphia, and also at your place, so it came as a pleasant surprise. I am glad of the opportunity of tasting it at leisure, but doubt if my opinion of its quality will be changed on closer acquaintance. The sweet pulp readily melts away from the thin, tender skin, and the fine flavor and excellent quality of the fruit will give it a high rank as a dessert fruit."

Sincerely yours,

S. A. BEACH.



Ellwanger & Barry writes September 29, 1899 :

"Please accept thanks for the clusters of your new grape called 'Charlton,' which were received to-day. It is an admirable, new variety, and we are glad that it bears your name. Both berry and cluster are large and handsome, and the quality is superior, so far as we can judge it will be, a very desirable and welcome addition to the list of choice grapes. As soon as you place it on the market we shall be pleased to give you an order for plants."

Yours very truly,

ELLWANGER & BARRY.

T. S. Hubbard & Co. wrote us September 30, 1899 :

"The basket of grapes received and tested. The quality certainly is very fine. I do not recall a grape that suits me better for my own eating. Size of cluster and berry are all you can desire. Color is dark red, not quite so attractive as Brighton. I notice it is almost too compact (?) causing some berries to crack where attached to stem. I fear this may be quite a fault for shipping or keeping. If not too much foreign blood in it, and if foliage withstand disease, and it has the necessary constitution, it will prove a valuable grape. From what I saw of it on your grounds last year, I judge it is productive and a vigorous grower." Wishing you success with it,

I am, yours truly,

T. S. HUBBARD.

Prof. Bailey writes October 5th, 1899 :

"Returning from an absence I find the sample of grapes which you have sent me. The sample was evidently a little past its prime by the time I tested it, but I was very much impressed with the high quality of the fruit. It seemed to me to be one of the best grapes I have tested in a long time, and I also liked the looks of the bunch and the berry. If this is a nominal sample of your Charlton, and if the vine is hardy and productive, it seems to me that it is destined to be a very important variety."

Yours very truly,

L. H. BAILEY.

G. B. Brackett, U. S. Pomologist, Washington, D. C., wrote us October 10, 1899 :

"We received September 23 a cluster of grapes from you through Wm Saunders, superintendent of gardens and grounds. From this cluster we have had paintings and descriptions made. We understand that you (Prof. Van Deman, not us) have named this Charlton. Are we correct? The quality of this grape we have rated as very good. The size of the bunch is very large, and if it does as well in other places as it does with you it is certainly worthy of cultivation. We should be pleased to know more of its history."

Yours truly,

G. B. BRACKETT.

C. L. Watrous, Des Moines, Iowa, President of American Pomological Society, October 10, 1899, wrote :

"The box of Charlton grape came last night, the 9th, in fine condition. I opened the box and passed them around at the dinner table, and the verdict was that the fruit is at the front of all the table grapes we have ever tasted, and I have about all the best ones in this country. I think the fruit lost some of its sprightliness by reason of the frost of which you speak, but it is certainly of the very best quality. If the vines succeed in the West there will certainly be a demand for it."

Yours very truly,

C. L. WATROUS.

Chase Bros. Co., Rochester, N. Y., October 16, 1901, writes us :

"Your samples of new, white and red grapes are received and have been carefully tested. The red grape is a wonder. If it has a robust constitution, and has a good leaf, say equal to the Niagara, it would prove of great value if a good bearer. In quality there is nothing that I know that we grow outdoors that is of any special value in a commercial vineyard that begins to compare with it in quality."

Yours truly, LEWIS CHASE.

T. S. Hubbard Co., Fredonia, N. Y., says under date September 29, 1903 :

"We received from you a few days ago a basket of the Charlton grapes, for which please accept our thanks. We have delayed giving our opinion of the grape until we could test them after they had remained in basket and wilted to some extent. Have carefully tested them each day since they arrived, and in our opinion it is a very valuable grape, if the samples sent us are fair specimens. We do not know the parentage of the vine, but judge it must be a cross between one of our native varieties, and one of the foreign vinifera varieties. We are led to this conclusion by the nature of the pulp, which is very soft and meaty throughout, and from the readiness which the seeds part from the pulp. The bunches were all in perfect condition when the samples reached us, and only two berries had dropped from the clusters, and they were not crushed. It bears transportation admirably. In quality it is very fine. If the vine is as healthy and hardy as it seems to us the Charlton will prove a decided acquisition to our list of new varieties." Yours truly, T. S. HUBBARD CO.

Lewis Roesch, Fredonia, N. Y., writes November 23, 1903 :

"Sample grapes came duly to hand, and they are very fine indeed. They taste very much like the Massasoit (Rogers No. 3 (?) and they look like them also, only the seeds separate so freely from the pulp. I don't remember ever noticing this in Rogers No. 3, or is it on account of their being so long past their prime? Now I don't say that they are Massasoit at all, but if I was you I would satisfy myself on that score before I put them out as a new variety. If it is healthier, and a better bearer than Massasoit, it is a valuable grape indeed, and I wish you great success with it." Very truly yours, LEWIS ROESCH.

Geo. S. Josselyn, Fredonia, N. Y., wrote us November 30, 1903 :

"Gentlemen—The grapes were received in my absence, and after lying in the office several days before opening, they were not so good as they would otherwise have been. I should say the quality is excellent."

Yours truly, GEO. S. JOSSELYN.

(Note.—These two last lots of grapes were cut from the vines November 21, and were in perfect condition, showing its keeping quality.—J. C. & Sons.)

Joseph S. Chase, the noted grape expert of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, says :

"Your letter received, likewise the grapes, for which please accept my thanks. The grapes came in fine condition. I think in the Charlton you have a very fine grape. I will not attempt to give description of it, as I could not do the grape justice in doing so. Your grape far excels its parent, the Brighton, in three very important points. First in being a closer bunch ; second, in quality, and a more meaty pulp ; third, in more staying and keeping qualities, where the Brighton fails. It will place itself on record where known as a much needed outdoor grape. I think it comes nearest to the ideal bunch of any grape I have yet met with."

Yours, JOSEPH S. CHASE.

Price of Vines, 2 years, each, = = \$ 2.50  
" " " five vines, = 10.00

JOHN CHARLTON & SONS, ROCHESTER, N. Y.