

fruit is small and almost worthless. Other varieties are mentioned, and their value for planting in that County fully discussed, but sufficient has been given to show that the paper is a most valuable contribution to our knowledge of the varieties of apple most extensively cultivated and tested in the County of Prince Edward.

The meeting was continued for two days with marked interest. There was an exhibition of some choice winter fruits, many of which are recent importations from Great Britain, fruiting for the first time in this Province.

There will be a mid-summer meeting of the Association at the Ontario School of Agriculture, Guelph, early in July.

ENGLISH SPARROWS.

BY JOHN KNOWLSON, LINDSAY, ONTARIO.

Having observed an article in the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST headed as above, I beg to say that in the winter of 1878-'79 I made a similar discovery to that made by your correspondent, Mr. Newhall, of Toronto. I happened to be looking out of a window in the direction of some dwarf pear trees and gooseberry bushes, and saw a number of sparrows picking busily at something, and at the moment concluded those trees must be infested with some sort of insects, and went at once to examine, but failing to see anything of the kind I began to scrutinize more closely, and soon discovered that they had been picking off the buds, the outer scales of which I found under the trees in quite conspicuous quantities. I mentioned the circumstance at the time to some of my horticultural friends, and expressed a doubt as to whether this importation was going to prove a boon to the Canadian fruit grower. A large flock of those birds visited my orchard and garden that winter, but since then they appear to have decreased in number in this locality, for although I occasionally see a few on the streets, I have not witnessed a visit from them during the present winter. It has occurred to me that possibly there may be a reason for these birds not attacking the buds of my trees the present winter from the fact of its being a very mild open season, affording the sparrows an opportunity to find food on the bare ground; and consequently it may be only in extremely severe winters that they are driven to the necessity of picking buds from the trees.