

borne a wrong name for seventeen or eighteen years. Would it be believed, that the grower, who had annually carried off prizes for his apple bearing a wrong name, was greatly annoyed, that it was ruled out of competition, because it was wrongly named, and entered for competition in the wrong section. Local efforts to raise our culture into its proper place, and to the enjoyment of its true dignity, must be made in every quarter, and then, and then only, shall the want of due appreciation for fruit-growing be exploded, from our townships and towns.

The ennobling pleasures of fruit-growing are yet to be commended to our artisans and tradesmen. Once an individual has been launched upon the Pacific ocean of tree culture and fruit-growing, he forsakes and considers mean, former debasing attractions. Elevating delights are to be found around the family circle at the first exhibition of the first dish of plums, peaches or pears. How the commendations of the approving wife, and the expressed appreciation of the younger children over some toothsome grapes, gratifies, and is ample reward for the time spent, and the labour bestowed in the cultivation.

An esteemed correspondent, Mr. Adamson, of Hamilton, has been urging me to give greater attention to the enlisting of the hard-working villagers, townspeople, and citizens in fruit-culture. Amateur fruit and flower-growing associations affiliated to our Provincial Association would have a beneficial effect in developing fruit tastes, and bringing out the desire to cultivate fruits and flowers.

I wonder, if I should provoke hostile criticism, if I extended my remarks on the want of appreciation of the benefits accruing from fruit culture, to the individual members of our Association? How much of the labour is undertaken by a very few? Let the contributors to our periodical, the *Horticulturist*, testify to the truthfulness of this remark. It is where all, or, at least, a large proportion of the membership of any society lend a helping hand in forwarding its interests, that success attends the efforts. We need a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether, and there is no fear of failure. What we want is more concentrated and united purposes among fruit-growers professionally. Earnest discussions on the best fruit markets—on the best methods of preserving our markets from being over-glutted, either by the home or the American producer. We have powerful rivals across the lines, men possessed of brains, as well as abundance of pecuniary means, who are continually scheming in the good sense, and carrying out almost invariably their plans to successful issues. A barrier to the difficulty we have for years had in accomplishing these results has been lately removed by the establishing of the *Horticulturist*. I must say, however, candidly and truthfully, that advantage has not been taken of this mode of ventilating the remedies for our difficulties. That great difficulties do exist is undeniable. How best are they to be removed? They are not likely to rectify themselves. Determination and action are necessary and pressing. I am certain our editor, Mr. Beadle, would open his pages to a temperate and full discussion of these and kindred topics.

When the best, however, has been devised and done, and the fruit raised, we have still difficulties to contend with. From our peculiar position, a few degrees further north than our more southern neighbours, our markets are permanently flooded with foreign fruit before ours is ready. The problem how best to meet this state of things is arduous and almost embarrassing. The American grower ought not, and cannot be excluded from our markets. How then are we to be protected? I suggest that reciprocity in fruits become the order of the day. If our energetic neighbours and cousins anticipate our fruits in our own markets, what hinders that we lengthen out theirs by carrying the war into Africa? Our own supineness alone prevents our supplying Buffalo, Detroit, Rochester, and Ogdensburgh with our late small fruits. If separating tariff views and notions hurtful to commerce prevail, as we believe they do prevail, let us by all means urge on a better state of things. We require, we need reciprocity in fruit interests. What is true in regard to fruit is equally true with regard to fruit trees. It is a fact that any quantity of nursery produce can be introduced into Canada from New York State and Ohio, but that similar Canadian productions have to pay a differential duty!

Then let politics be laid aside, and let us demand equal advantages. Let us have a fair field and no favour. Our manhood will enable us to hold our own. What we need is adequate legal protection. Place Canadian and American growers on the same platform. Should climate and skill and go-aheadativeness favour our rivals, then let the patient, steady industry of our people, act as a counterweight. *Nil desperandum*. Our F. G. A. of Ontario must