

fruit trees and shrubs, even killing many that had hitherto stood the test of years and thought to be well established.

The young trees planted here, on the laying out of the Kitchen Garden five or six years ago, have suffered much from the above causes. Forty-four pear, six plum and seven cherry trees were found to be worthless, and had to be consigned to the rubbish pile—although up to this a more healthy, vigorous and promising lot of young trees, just coming into fruit, could seldom be met with. The smaller fruits suffered less: Gooseberries and Currants had their usual attack of caterpillar, but those being kept under, they did as well as usual. The more persistent attack of mildew on the English varieties of Gooseberries is less easily overcome, and I fear will continue to be a drawback to their more extensive cultivation. Grape-vines were vigorous and the fruit abundant. The season may be said to have been exceptionally favourable for the vineyard: having escaped the late spring and early fall frosts, with the unusual drought of August and September, did much to mature doubtful varieties and improve all. Lindley, Delaware, Concord, Rogers' Nos. 4, 19, 33 and 44, with some others, produced largely and ripened well. Adirondac, Iona, and Salem were slightly affected by mildew, but all bore heavily, and the general result was most satisfactory.

The Apple crop, like that generally throughout the Province, was limited in quantity, and the quality of fruit hardly up to the average sample. All through the month of May and first half of June the nights were cool, and vegetation backward: consequently early vegetables were for the time scarce, but after this all culinary vegetables were very plentiful. Many of the staple sorts—Potatoes, Cabbage, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Peas, Beans, etc.—were specially abundant in their season—Tomatoes producing at the rate of 500 bushels to the acre.

On account of the long-continued drought and scarcity of water, which had to be obtained in limited quantities from various sources at the cost of much time and labour, the Flower Garden, I regret to say, had not at any time during the summer that fresh and luxuriant appearance which might have been expected, from the increased number as well as the many additional species and varieties of bedding plants which we had taken some interest in collecting. Yet under these adverse conditions they kept growing and blooming, so that when compared with others elsewhere they were pronounced by many to be wonderfully fine.

From the amount of extra labour in this department throughout the season, and especially in the spring months, in laying out and planting nearly twenty acres of a new Orchard, including Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries and Strawberries, as well as nearly two acres of Grape-vines, and an arboretum composed of over 300 different species and varieties of trees and shrubs, under the supervision and direction of the Fruit Growers' Association, and which will no doubt be reported on elsewhere, you are aware that not a great deal could be accomplished in the way of new work or permanent improvements; yet this has by no means been overlooked when time and opportunity permitted. During the summer the dilapidated wooden verges of the Kitchen Garden, which from the first were of a temporary character, and in their decayed state have been an eyesore for years, have been removed and substituted by what we consider a more permanent and less expensive article, namely, small boulders, or the larger-sized pebbles collected from the field, costing only the labour of drawing and laying them, and which now present a neat and rather unique though somewhat rural appearance. Other minor alterations have also been made, and some gravel thrown on to the walks and drives, but in this there is yet much to be done.

Some few additions have been made to our stock of Greenhouse plants, and all continue increasing, and are as healthy as can be; still the list is very limited and incomplete compared with what might reasonably be desired, consisting as they do principally of soft-wooded plants, no money having ever been spent for this purpose; but it may truly be said that we have all in number and perhaps in value that the space will accommodate. The houses and workshops connected therewith, as you well know, are in a very inconvenient and unsatisfactory condition. Constructed from the first on a very primitive and contracted plan, especially the system of heating (by flues),

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