

and to arrange for meetings with representative farmers of the district. The visitors found more Duchess apples than any other one variety. For these there is a fairly good local market in the Muskoka district before the summer visitors leave the highland and lake country of Ontario. There is also a certain demand for the same variety of apples in the mining and lumbering country along the north shore. At most, however, this market is limited in extent, and there are quite as many Duchess produced now as there is demand for. Very few winter apples are grown about Orillia. The Peewaukee is grown more extensively than all the other winter varieties combined. These have given fairly good satisfaction except that the fruit, being large, is apt to fall from the limbs while the trees are young. As the trees grow older this fault is in a measure remedied.

The Wealthy, which is grown to some extent, has given splendid satisfaction, being a good yielder and thriving well. Messrs. Creelman and McNeil will recommend that no more early apples be planted, and that a number of the Duchess already planted be top grafted with winter varieties. The Duchess is not so satisfactory as the Tallman Sweet for this purpose: still it serves very well for grafting on. In winter varieties they recommend the Greening, Ontario, Ben Davis, Wealthy, and Baldwin as a list to choose from, with the preference of confining as much as possible to one or two of these varieties. The Spy does not seem to do well about Orillia, although it does remarkably well in the Georgian Bay district.

#### ONE CONSIGNEE.

**W**HILE we advise contract sales as the best in all cases where practicable, it is evident that there will often be a surplus unsold, which must go forward to the commission merchant. We must not,

therefore, despise this middle man, who is often of the greatest service to the fruit grower.

Many, however, make the mistake of dividing their shipments, even in the same market, between several consignees. This is a great mistake, because it brings a man's fruit into competition with itself.

The wisest plan is to select one good reliable consignee in each city, and be as constant and regular in shipping goods to him as possible. He will soon learn the brand of his consigner, and make it known among the buyers, and will then often make sales in advance even of the arrival of the goods.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE FRUIT MARKS ACT.

**M**R. E. D. SMITH'S bill to amend the Fruit Marks Act came up for discussion in the House of Commons last month, and was lost on a division. The aim of this bill was to provide for the inspection of fruit by Government inspectors before it was shipped, so that the responsibility for proper grading would rest on the Government inspectors. As the act now stands each packer must do his own grading and marking and become responsible therefor. The Hon. Mr. Fisher, in opposing the bill, said that no one should be as capable of properly doing the work of grading and marking as the packer himself, and that to inspect only ten per cent. of the packages, as Mr. Smith had proposed, would not sufficiently guarantee the quality. It would also be impossible to obtain a sufficient number of qualified inspectors at the season when they would be most required. The guarantee of the shipper, Mr. Fisher thought, would be worth infinitely more than any government guarantee, and the fruit grower, by a personal oversight of the grading and marking, had an excellent chance to build up his reputation.

Another bill by Mr. Henderson, of Hal-