

was not all. Increased interest in fruit-growing was a consequence. At first, the Society was perhaps, singularly fortunate in their choice of trees for dissemination. There was an out cry that people knew nothing of the merits of the Eumelan. In fact, there arose what has ever characterised society at the introduction of anything partially unknown and undescribed, that the Direction had erred in issuing wholly unknown varieties. The proof of the pudding is the eating of it, however, and soon these fears and out cries were proved ephemeral as the gnats on our summer breezes. The Eumelan has come into general cultivation, and few new varieties of grapes are now considered more valuable. In Hamilton the cultivation of the Eumelan has received a mighty impulse. It is successfully grown by several of our members who knew nothing of its merits till their attention was called to it by its distribution by our Society.

Mr. S. Woodley, may be mentioned as a fruit-grower, who has been singularly fortunate in its cultivation. The samples of this variety exhibited at Guelph, London, and Hamilton last year went far to disabuse minds partially prejudiced against its introduction to the public, by our society. It is no longer doubtful that the dissemination of the Eumelan has proved a wonderful success. It has opened the minds of our farming community to the knowledge of good fruit—fruit of high flavour, a plant marked by hardihood, and capable of being cultivated over a large area. As a good accruing to the community at large in the dissemination of our trees and plants, I may mention it as a fact, that since our distribution commenced, there has been a greater and wider enquiry, and purchase of new varieties than there was ever before in the history of fruit culture in the Province. People have not been satisfied in resting contented with one new variety of excellence, they wish to possess all the market varieties now being issued from the nursery of our professionals. The Isabella, which was by far the best known variety over the length and breadth of the land, has given place to earlier and richer varieties. Few people are now found planting this variety. They desire Rogers' sorts, Rickett's Grants, &c., &c. We maintain as a fair, sure and unmistakable result of our plants and trees distribution, notable new varieties have been introduced, which it is not too much to say, will yet bear fruit a thousand fold as a testimony to the far seeing policy of the Fruit Growers' Association of the Province in their thoughtful dissemination of superior varieties of fruit-bearing plants. No little good has been accomplished in bringing multitudes of people into personal contact with good fruit. It is very well to read about good fruit, to see the exaggerated figures of various sorts of fruit in interested catalogues issued, or in the extravagant cuts in books and directories on fruit and fruit culture. To grow, handle, superintend and taste is a very different thing. We almost require to see to believe. It is true that there among us, those who believe anything,—they put nothing to the test but their own folly. If an individual comes along promising great result from a certain purchase which he is ready to guarantee, they at once close with the bargain, showing an immense amount of credulity, and how easily an individual, blinded by a false zeal, may part with his usual common sense and his money. The common motto is not a bad one, in reference to fruit growing, seeing is believing. Farmers as a rule, want experimentally to see the fruit before they invest. Some, indeed unfortunately are satisfied with a showy plate. Give us the man, who desires to grow good fruit for himself. It is a means to get him to bestir himself to make enquiry after good fruit, before he invests.

What glowing eulogiums we have heard on the fruit produced by the trees sent out by the Association? It has often done us good to hear the well merited meed of praise. The Society deserves no little or niggard acknowledgement for this bringing our farming community into the very presence of excellent samples of good fruit. This good fruit is just as easily grown as inferior sorts. In reality, easier. It requires attention, it is true, but what worth having does not require attention, care, and painstaking? In this respect too, in introducing, and serving to cultivate a better species of horticulture, the efforts of the Society are not without their beneficial result. To make more careful cultivators than they were formerly, is not without its reward. It is a curious as well as an instructive sight to see the old horticultural manner of pursuit, and the new, as developed under the fostering hand of our Association. Who has not seen the half dead outside row of Kentish cherry trees, the broken and decayed apple trees, the suckers hiding the base of the original trunk, grass, and disorder everywhere dominant? Who has not seen all this changed? The owner has been recently cultivating the Society's trees, a new view, as well as a new taste, has been infused, and all

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