

After lunch and speeches at the Asylum, the whole party visited the residence of Mr. Stevenson, the Secretary of the Orillia Society, so romantically situated on the shore of Lake Couchiching, half hidden away by beautiful climbers, and grand old forest trees. No wonder he calls it the "Hermitage." Here Mr. Stevenson indulges his taste for the æsthetic in nature, as well as in many branches of practical fruit growing.

One special feature of our Orillia meeting was the presence of so large a number of ladies; and that two of them, Mrs. McHennell and Miss Hodge, contributed papers. These were much appreciated, and will appear in our report. That by Miss Hodge appears in this number of our Journal; she is a practical florist and all she says will be duly appreciated.

The next meeting will be held in Woodstock, in December.

### GRADES OF CANADIAN APPLES.

By favor of the Hon. J. F. Wood, we have received a copy of amendment to the General Inspection Act, assented to 1st April, 1893—so far as regards the grades defined for Canadian apples. It is as follows :—

1. The section, numbered one hundred and ten, added to *The General Inspection Act*, chapter ninety-nine of the Revised Statutes, by section seven of chapter twenty-three of the Statutes of 1892, is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor :—

"110. No. 1 inspected Canadian apples shall consist of well grown specimens of one variety, of nearly uniform size, of good color, sound, free from scab, worm-holes and bruises, and properly packed.

"2. No. 2 inspected Canadian apples shall consist of specimens of one variety, reasonably free from the defects mentioned in class No. 1, but which, on account of inequality of size, lack of color, or other defects, could not be included in that class."

This much then should be quite satisfactory to fruit growers generally in Ontario, who should now be able to quote prices direct to English wholesale buyers, and even to retail grocers and private consumers, f.o.b., on these well defined grades.

If then the fruit is according to grade agreed upon, it is a sale; and much better prices would result, providing confidence can once be established.

The next question is concerning the appointment of an inspector, who could, on request, inspect and place the Government brand upon the fruit it true to grade. It should also be his duty to prevent, as far as possible, the sale of all fruit which is fraudulently packed, either when offered for sale in home markets, or when being shipped for export.

Something of this kind is necessary to prevent Canadian apples from losing their fair name abroad, which their excellence really deserves.