

THE ORCHARDS AND GARDENS OF ORILLIA.

gentlemen are members of the Orillia Horticultural Society, which was organized eleven years ago, and which, by holding exhibitions, offering many and liberal prizes and other means, has done much to foster and promote fruit growing in the district. Mr. C. L. Ste-

phens has been Secretary of the Horticultural Society since its formation; he lives in a delightful place on the lake (Couchiching) shore, to which a flying visit was made by many of our members on the occasion of the meeting.



FIG. 1297.—"THE HERMITAGE," HOME OF MR. C. L. STEPHENS, THE SECRETARY.

PRUNING GRAPE VINES.

THE trouble with an unpruned vine is that it bears too much fruit, and this means poor quality. Let us take a thrifty Concord vine to illustrate this matter. At the end of the season such a vine, in good soil, kept well tilled, should have somewhere near to 300 fruit buds on the new growth of the past season. Now, a good Concord vine should bear about twenty pounds of first-class fruit each season; if it does this steadily year after year no more should be expected. To bear that amount of fruit, not more than fifty buds are required. But as we have seen our vine has about six times that number, hence many in excess of the

need. Leave the vine untrimmed and the 300 buds will overbear and the yield will be very inferior. Prune to reduce the number of buds to fifty and a good crop of fruit may be expected. That is the simple proposition needed for guiding your pruning knife. Cut away, therefore, enough of the young canes to bring the buds down to the right number. A good rule with Concord is to remove all the canes but five, and cut these back to nine or ten buds each. The Delaware class should have even less. Prune and tie up so as to have a good distribution over the trellis. The pruning should not be deferred beyond this month if it can be helped.