

said, "to find how well the Elberta does with me. It seems hardy and productive." "Have you much leaf curl upon the trees?" "No," he said, "very little indeed when I spray the trees with Bordeaux. There is a case in which my spraying has proved a complete success."

**Near Markets.**—I find my best markets near home for the sale of my peaches. I find any variety will sell, and I have no express charges or commissions. My son and I are in partnership; he does the business part of selling and collecting and I attend to the pickers and the care of the orchard.

**Grapes** also are all sold in Aylmer, St. Thomas or London. I find a good many shipped up from Grimsby and Winona, but I can get a slight advance upon that stock because mine goes into the shop much fresher from the vineyard. I have been a subscriber to your journal for many years and am putting into practice much of the information gained from it.

**Hired Men** for fruit farms, who will do satisfactory work, are fewer than for the grain farm. A man who can plough about trees without breaking the bark, who can plough close to the trees so that little or no work remains for plough or spade, who knows how to handle fruit in picking and carting so as to do it the least amount of injury, is much to be desired.

The usual wages for men seems to be about \$22.00 a month the year around, with house and garden, or about \$25.00 a month for eight or ten months with the same privileges. Of course this is a minimum price. We believe in gradations of pay according to worth, and when a man proves himself valuable, that value should be recognized by a supplemental amount. One such man we know who gets about \$350 per annum because he takes a certain amount of responsibility and shows an interest in the success of the enterprise.

**Fruit Farms** should pay for the labor from the beginning. No man should think of waiting for an income until his apple, pear or peach trees begin bearing, but should put something in every acre to make it pay the outlay upon it every year. A friend has purchased about one hundred acres of land at a cost of over fifteen thousand dollars; he has drained it, fertilized it, planted it, and worked it most thoroughly for about ten years, until the capital invested has run up to about \$30,000! He is waiting for the pear trees to pay back a good income proportionate to the capital invested. Well, they may, if all conditions are favorable, but how much better could the yearly income from small fruits or other crops between the trees have been made to equal the yearly expenses during these ten years of waiting, so that the capital invested would still be only the original \$15,000! He should ponder the old proverb:—

"Who plants pears,  
Plants for his heirs!"

**Foreigners** who have money to invest should live in Canada a year or two at least, and study conditions. A civil engineer has thirty acres of a fruit farm; he left a good business in his own profession, where he was making \$2,500 per annum, and bought without studying conditions or location. He has wasted five years' income waiting for trees to grow, and now, because they do not yet produce fruit, he wants to sell and go on surveys in South Africa! But the location was ill-chosen, and goes begging for a buyer.

A **New Society** has been organized at Walkerton this winter through the enterprise of our director, Mr. A. E. Sherrington. He writes that they have a membership of more than fifty persons, and that it is the intention to hold a public meeting on the 13th of March. He is seeking in every