

Des Moines, Ia., summarizes briefly the advantage of parks to a city as follows: "They preserve for all time beautiful landscapes that would eventually be mutilated or destroyed by private ownership. They provide a place where the native flora and fauna may be preserved and perpetuated. They have a sanitary value in removing noxious gases from the air and in preventing the contamination of water courses. They promote public health by providing a place where nervous and sick people can frequently go to enjoy quietly a complete change of scene and surroundings, as well as a place where energetic and youthful persons can frequently engage in all active forms of recreation. They have an educational value by providing a place where growing plants and animals, geological, topographical and soil conditions and methods of propagation and cultivation may be studied. They add to the value of adjoining private property by giving an assurance of permanently attractive conditions. They make a city more beautiful and desirable as a place of residence, conditions that add to the pleasure and comfort of all citizens and tend to keep in and draw to a city people of wealth, influence and leisure."



FIG. 2023. FLEMISH BEAUTY PEARS.

OUR friend, Mr. W. G. Ross, of Picton, the energetic Secretary of the Picton Horticultural Society, kindly sends us the accompanying photograph, showing two Flemish Beauty pear trees raised in the Custom House garden. The two trees bore, last fall, about fourteen bushels of fine fruit.

QUESTION DRAWER.

The Best New Grape.

1202. SIR.—Please say what you consider the best and newest grape out for size, flavor and earliness of ripening.

HENRY LAMBERT, Orlawa.

The finest grape of those recently introduced is the Charlton, so far as quality and the size of fruit is concerned. It is being introduced by John Charlton & Co., Rochester. We do not know how hardy or productive the vine itself is. Campbell's Early is another excellent variety of the Concord type, as early as Moore's Early and superior to that variety. The vine is a

strong grower and hardy. It may be purchased from any of our nurserymen.

Trees For a Small Lot.

1203. SIR.—Please advise me as to how many plum, pear and cherry trees and grape vines I can plant on a city lot fifty feet wide and two hundred feet deep. The house and shrubbery would take about one-half, leaving about 50 x 100 for trees.

M. E. B., Toronto.

In a city lot the trees could be kept well headed in and planted a little closer than in the country orchard, but for standard pears, and for plums and cherry trees, twenty feet apart is close enough. If our correspondent