

COMMITTEES.

The following Committees were then appointed :

NOMINATIONS : G. C. Caston and J. S. Scarff (by the President), and R. B. Whyte, W. H. Dempsey and R. L. Huggard (by the meeting.)

FRUIT EXHIBIT : W. H. Dempsey, E. Morris and C. W. Van Duzer.

RESOLUTIONS : Thos. Beall, A. H. Pettit and W. A. Whitney.

HARDY FRUITS ALONG THE ST. LAWRENCE.

By W. A. WHITNEY, IROQUOIS.

It is well known that the vicinity of bodies of water is favorable to fruit production. For instance, the Niagara peninsula, situated as it is with Lakes Erie and Ontario and the Niagara River on three sides of it, is highly favorable to fruit raising, while places farther west in the same latitude are less favorable. The valley of the St. Lawrence, though lying farther north on both sides of the 45th parallel of latitude, is considerably tempered by the river, which has an average width of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles and is open all winter for a great proportion of its length, owing to the swift current and rapids. An important point is that the water comes to us from the great lakes in a warmer region. The thermometer indicates a lower temperature a few miles inland than along the river banks. While orchards are very few in number and sickly in appearance in the northern concessions, almost every farmer near the St. Lawrence can and does raise a good orchard.

A good proportion of the soil is a gravelly loam, which proves favorable to fruit trees even without underdraining. And even on heavy clay soil I have seen trees still bearing which must have been 70 or 80 years old. It is claimed, and I believe justly so, that such fruits as we can raise along the St. Lawrence are superior in quality and in keeping properties to the same kinds raised in the West. The Snow apples grown on Montreal Island are the finest in the world.

Experience has taught our fruit growers to be content with but a few varieties. In the past, smooth-tongued tree agents, with their wonderful cuts of large fruits, succeeded in imposing upon the unwary. A rapid growth and an early death was the inevitable result. We are now content with the survival of the fittest in fruit. I think it advisable for the present to recommend only varieties of known hardiness and productiveness. Several of the newer varieties are giving great promise, but I dare not make any definite statements just yet as to their subsequent worth.

I would suggest the following varieties in the order named for productiveness and commercial value, viz. :—

Summer : Yellow Transparent, Duchess and Red Astracan.

Early Winter : Fameuse, Scarlet Pippin, McIntosh and Wealthy.

Late Winter : Scott's Winter, Salome, Seek-No-Further, American Russet, Yellow Belleflower, Ontario, Talman Sweet, Canada Red.

Perhaps I might include the Pewaukee and the Ben Davis, but I would prefer to wait till further testing.

The main dependence is on the Fameuse, or Snow. Its good qualities are its hardiness, its fine flavor, either for cooking or dessert, and commercial value. It does not fall easily by high winds. It is in good demand. But it dislikes a low, stiff soil. This objection is obviated by underdraining. Fully 80 per cent. of our apples are Fameuse.

The McIntosh originated in my own township—Matilda, in Dundas county. It is, with us, one of the hardiest kinds. Its large, luscious fruit leaves little to be