

Horsechestnut, or at least one part of the tree has now for two years persisted in producing leaves beautifully variegated with white and green. If this curious growth could be propagated by budding or grafting, it would indeed be a desirable object upon a lawn.

Our Association carries away from the Collingwood friends their hearty good wishes, and an earnest invitation to revisit that town at as early a date as possible.

KEEPING QUALITIES OF THE WEALTHY APPLE.

A. HOOD, BARRIE.

MY ATTENTION has been called to the keeping and other qualities of the Wealthy Apple, by reading an article in your July issue from the pen of T. H. Hoskins, of Vermont.

Although this variety has been steadily gaining in favour since its first introduction, I feel sure that it is not even yet appreciated at its proper value; for when we take into consideration the hardness of the tree; the early age at which it comes into bearing; its regular annual productiveness; fine size, beauty, and regularity of the fruits; and its high standing as a dessert as well as a cooking apple; where, oh where! particularly in the north shall we turn to find its equal?

The distribution of fruit all over the branches instead of being clustered on spurs is, as remarked by Mr. Hoskins, one great point in its favour; and another, on which he is silent, but on which I can scarcely set too high a value is that when the apples do fall off the trees, which they are as little likely to do as any other kinds; they will not show a bruise, and can be sent to market along with the hand-picked without fear of complaints; and as regards keeping qualities I am a little afraid to tell the truth for fear I may not be believed.

On reading Mr. Hoskin's article, which was of course after 1st July, where he speaks of having them in good condition till 23rd March, I remember that my wife brought a plate of Wealthys out of the cellar about the 1st June, and they were then in good eating condition, so, thinking it possible there might be some left, I brought up a crock in which the remains of my stock of one kind or other had been left to get rotten, emptied out the contents, and found amongst them four or five sound Wealthys, and a number half rotten; the sound ones were plump as when first picked, the juice of the half rotten ones having swelled the flesh, and in good eatable condition.

Now will your readers be able to believe that I have sound Wealthy apples on 3rd July, in this jubilee year, that were grown in 1886? Perhaps not, but it is a fact nevertheless, for they were picked on the first week in October; were kept in a cellar that was not frost proof, and were consequently frozen; they remained in that condition a couple of months or so, came out of the frozen state uninjured, and have kept as above stated.

JUDGING FRUITS.

PRESIDENT LYON writes a very sensible article in the *Rural* about judging fruits, showing that the work of the judges may be very materially lessened and their investigations directed by care in framing premium lists, and by certain judicious rules. Speaking of the Michigan State Horticultural Society he writes as follows:—

"The fruits grown in the State, whether valuable or otherwise, are alphabetically arranged in the society's catalogue, and the comparative values of the varieties are given by means of a scale, varying from 1 to 10; the values for cooking, market and dessert being