

In the market place Brantford, on a Saturday, may frequently be seen a country dame, displaying for sale a very pretty assortment of Ferns. They range from single small plants of delicate Maidens-Hair to baskets lined with moss and filled with various kinds of these beautiful plants. We understand that there is a ready sale for these at prices ranging from 10 cts. for a single plant to forty and fifty cents for the best baskets. It seems to us that it would be very easy for some of our people to make a few dollars a week in this way. There are few places in this part of the country where ferns of various kinds can be found in greater abundance—what then is to hinder our young people from procuring as many as may be needed. The baskets also, could easily be constructed at home. Ferns are a plant which many people are passionately fond of. We would make the suggestion to some of our enterprising young people, that at any rate it would be worth a trial. For some months in the summer it might be found to be as profitable and more agreeable than berry-picking.

RESERVATION ITEMS.

Sour Springs.

A strawberry festival was held at the parsonage on July 8, there was a very fair attendance, the evening as far as the weather was concerned was all that could be desired. A band which had been engaged for the evening did not turn up, owing to so many of its members being abroad, engaged in harvesting.—Still an enjoyable time was spent. Miss Hastings, of Brantford, played several musical selections most ac-

ceptably. The Rev. Mr. Hedly, of Brantford, also gave two very pleasing recitations. Messers Fred Smith, J. Davis, J. C. Martin and G. Martin also assisted in carrying out the program. Another garden party will probably be held the third week in August.

A union service of the Anglican congregations on the Reserve, was held at St Paul's church on Sunday the 18th. The Rev. Mr. Piper, of Jarvis, was present, and preached a very acceptable sermon. On account of the heavy rain in the morning the attendance was poor especially of those from the distant congregations.

Mrs. Johnson, well known as one of the oldest residents on the Reserve, died on Sunday the 18th.—The funeral took place on Tuesday the 20th. After a short service at her residence, conducted by the Rev. J. Bearfoot, the remains were brought to St. Paul's Church, where the funeral service was conducted by the Rev. J. L. Strong and Rev. J. Bearfoot. Mrs. Johnson had attained the great age of ninety-two, but maintained her faculties marvelously unimpaired to within a short time of her decease.

The missionaries convention will meet at Kenyengeh parsonage on the last Tuesday in August.

The potato bugs have been exceptionally plentiful in this locality and probably in others also this summer. Last year their numbers were comparatively so small that many of the sanguine farmers began to think that the beetles was beginning to succumb to the yearly onslaughts made upon them, but this season has proved the baseless-

ness of such hopes. The immigrants from Colorado has reappeared in stronger force than ever, and it takes the most persistent efforts to keep the vines clear of the hungry devourers. As an offset to this however, another insect, which last year was becoming a most serious invader of our oatfields, has blessed us with his absence. Not this season do clouds of grasshoppers rise before the feet of the traveller on the grassy sides of our roads, or ruthlessly cut down prematurely our standing oats. The only beings that no doubt regret the absence of the grasshopper is our feathered stock, who this year have to search in vain for the, no doubt to them, delicate and delicious with which they were wont to fill their crops in seasons past.

A number of pickers who went to the neighborhood of Simcoe to pick peas, have returned home, bringing back from their fields of labor, nothing but a sad experience. They state that strive as hard as they could, the terms on which they were engaged left them nothing after paying the expenses of the journey and cost of living. The price is said to have been one-third of a cent a pound. It would take a pretty large quantity of peas to weigh three hundred pounds; he would indeed be a pretty good picker who made his dollar a day at such remuneration. The neighborhood of Simcoe will probably be given a wide birth in the future, and deservedly so.

The Western Fair takes place at London from Sept. 9th to 18th this year. See advertisement in another column.