


# THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST

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## THE GRAVENSTEIN.

 OF all the general purpose apples ripening in October, we know of none that can at all compare with the Gravenstein, an apple which is too little grown in the province of Ontario.

In the Annapolis valley of Nova Scotia this apple has been grown quite extensively for export, but delays in transportation to the seaboard and ill-ventilated steamship accommodation have resulted in considerable loss in the cargoes exported. This has led many of the Nova Scotia orchardists to cease planting this variety, and to prefer varieties which will endure more abuse in transit, as for example Ben Davis, Baldwin and Stark.

At a recent Fruit Institute meeting in Colborne, Mr. G. H. Vroom, of Middleton, N.S., was present, having been sent to attend our meetings by the Federal Government. Being asked if the Gravenstein was the most important commercial apple of Nova Scotia, he said: "No, that is not our most important commercial variety to-day, even in point of numbers of trees, and while other varieties are increasing in numbers, no

new Gravensteins are being set out. The reason is that the Gravenstein is an early apple, and we want a keeper."

Now, our experience is in favor of planting this apple to a limited extent in the commercial orchards of Ontario, especially in sections where there is good connection with the export steamers, so that too much delay need not occur in transportation. Cold storage accommodation too is becoming year by year more nearly perfect, and will afford a sure means of safe carriage for such varieties as the Duchess, Alexander and Gravenstein.

Those who plant large orchards find great waste from dropping when all the varieties are winter fruit, and are all ready for harvesting at one time; whereas by having a succession of varieties, e.g.—the Duchess in August, the Alexander in the early part of September, the Gravenstein about the middle, the Blenheim about the end, and the winter varieties to work upon during October and November, the work of an apple grower is more evenly distributed throughout the