

per basket of eight pounds; it is a seedling raised by Thos Rivers, England; Bassett is worthless; *Prunus Simoni* had been fruited by him, and he considered it not to be of the highest quality, but it was attractive in appearance, and would sell well on the fruit stands.

PEACHES.—In reply to the question, What are the six best varieties of peaches to grow for market in the Niagara district?—the President, Mr. A. M. Smith, gave the following list, viz:—(1) Alexander, (2) Early Rivers, (3) Hales, (4) Crawford's Early, (5) Wager, (6) Bowslaugh's Late. The latter is one of the surest bearers. Stevens' Rarripe is very desirable, an Old Mixon in appearance, but ten days later and much superior. It promises to become a first-class market variety. It has the quality of hanging well on the tree without decay.

In the evening a lecture was given by Prof. Panton, of the O. A. C. Guelph, on "Fertilization of Plants," which was most profitable, and made full of interest in the manner which Prof. Panton is so well known to treat scientific subjects.

Thus was ended a meeting long to be remembered by all those privileged to attend.

## HARDWOOD IN ONTARIO.

By R. W. PHIPPS, COMMISSIONER OF FORESTRY FOR ONTARIO.

THE possible scarcity of that great requisite to the rural Canadian, hardwood for fuel, leads me to suggest that the ideas usually held as to the quantity within our reach are exaggerated. I see, in a later article, the *Bobcaygeon Independent*, a paper which should be well informed on such subjects, says:—

"What about our cordwood? That is a very important matter, and every year it increases in importance, for the sources of our cordwood become fewer and more remote. There is not so much cordwood left in Canada as is commonly supposed. Of the thousands of miles of railway operated by the Grand Trunk Company, the Midland is the only division that runs through a cordwood country, and only a portion of that division can supply fuel in considerable quantities. The City of Montreal is even now suffering from a dearth of cordwood. Maple in Montreal is selling at \$8.00 a cord, birch at \$7.50, and beech at \$7.00. A large dealer has publicly declared that there is no cordwood to be bought throughout the country. Toronto has for its chief sources of supply the Victoria branch of the Midland, the district around Penetang; the new extensions of the Northern Railway; two or three years will make a great reduction in those sources of supply, and then there will be the same condition of affairs in Toronto that now exists in Montreal. There are several facts connected with the cordwood trade which deserve