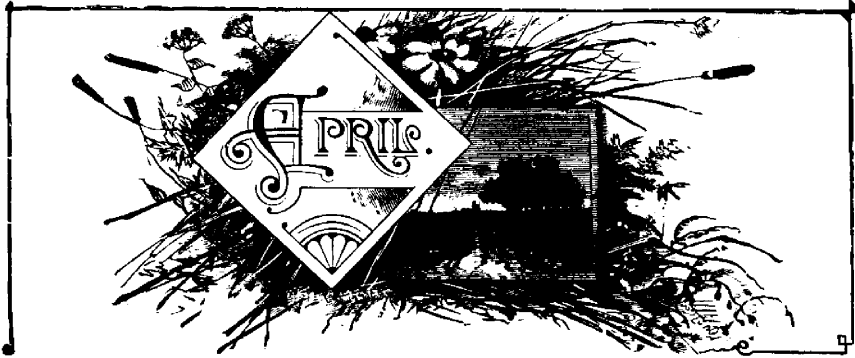


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PROMINENT CANADIAN HORTICULTURISTS.—XXV.

W. M. ORR, Fruitland.

TWENTY years ago, Mr. W. M. Orr was engaged in successful commercial life. His duties had been such as to lead him to visit many parts of Ontario, Quebec and the Eastern Provinces; and he had improved his opportunities to note the most favorable localities. Passing frequently through the Niagara Peninsula, he was so enamoured with its beauty of situation and its productive fruit farms, that he resolved to make a total change in his life work, and settle down on a farm in this famous fruit region, at a place now known as "Fruitland." The farm of ninety acres in extent, protected from frost by the mountain on the south side, and the ameliorating influence of the water on the north, is favorably located for the growth of tender plants.

When Mr. Orr began to plant fruit, his friends predicted failure. What could he do with a fruit farm, having no experience? But he did not fail. He gradually extended his plantations of fruit. A small vineyard, then ten years planted, was soon enlarged to cover fourteen acres of ground, and included the following varieties: Champion, Niagara, Vergennes, Concord, Rogers 3, 9, and 22, Worden and Delaware. These varieties have all been profitable, but if compared in this respect, they would stand about in the order named. This has been his experience, yet he would not advise others to plant Champions. The Niagara has been a favorite variety with him, and he has planted one-third of his whole vineyard to that variety. The Vergennes keeps so well that he