

"There are many beautiful places in British Columbia where the home seeker may locate with great advantage to himself and to the country. Certain it is there is no lack of choice, splendid tracts of land are waiting the industrious and progressive worker that he may lay at his feet the hidden treasures of wealth in many forms. On our own beautiful and much-favored Island of Vancouver there are opportunities that cannot be surpassed in any part of our great Province, or even the greater Dominion. Metchosin is just such a place, with fine open rolling country, great old oaks and other giants of the forest dotting the landscape, reminding us of our surroundings in the Old Land. Many points have to be considered by the home seeker. One of the most important is climate: this great boon cannot be over-estimated, and in Metchosin we feel confident that we enjoy the best of blessing in this regard. The clearing is not too heavy. The land is tillable, and returns good crops to the industrious, intelligent farmer. But the special phase of agriculture, to my mind, which the district is best adapted to is horticulture. The land is right, the climate good and, with intelligent culture and perseverance, splendid returns are assured. Some years ago doubts were entertained regarding our district producing fruit of so high a standard as some other parts of our Province. This has been dispelled, for the best of all evidence is the fruit that comes to the Victoria market from Metchosin district. Apples, pears, plums, prunes and especially cherries (not making any mention of the strawberry and other small fruit, which are very profitable) will bring in a sufficient return, and a return increasing with the years, so that, with careful and systematic culture the \$500.00 per acre can be reached, becoming continuous if the owner carefully performs his part."

Mr. Brydon's opinions are entitled to respectful hearing. His fruit has taken the highest possible awards, and what he has achieved can be achieved by others.

Small Fruits.—It is hard to restrain enthusiasm about the advantages of these districts for the growing of small fruit. The size and flavour of the strawberry on this Southern end of Vancouver Island is one of the things strangers marvel at. "Doubtless God might have made a better berry, but he never did," the saying of Doctor Butler is here illustrated emphatically. With us it is most easy of culture, and, as elsewhere, serves the waiting orchardist's purpose. Readily taking to newly broken ground and easily becoming a crimson glory on sandy soil, it can be found flourishing on many farms. As would be expected in a cool and moister climate, currants bear enormously, are troubled with few insects and give good returns. Gooseberries do not mildew as in some localities, always bring a fair price and can be picked at leisure, either green or ripe. All the bush fruit stays so long and in good condition on the bushes, that picking is not the rush it is in other localities. The work of the Farmers' Institute has helped the fruit industry not a little. Better methods of growing, harvesting, packing and marketing fruit are now largely understood and acted upon. Raspberries are very large and of very fine flavour, the cooler climate favouring these, and with