



## HINTS TO APPLE GROWERS

GOOD VARIETIES PAY—FOUR FAVORITES—  
TOP GRAFTING—INDIVIDUALISM IN FRUIT  
TREES—THE TALMAN SWEET A STOCK

BY

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**I**N THE older parts of Ontario, such as the counties of Middlesex, Perth, Oxford and Brant, as well as portions of Huron, where the best apples grew in times gone by, to-day there is a great neglect of young tree planting as well as of pruning, and the natural result is a diminution in the quantity of apples grown and a decline in the quality of the fruit produced. Now, in Grey, in the northern part of Durham, and in the county of Northumberland, the young orchards are just about equal to the older ones in number, showing that planting is there going on vigorously.

In the former cases there is no doubt the trees were planted from some twenty-five to forty years, when there was no exact knowledge of, and, perhaps, but little experience, in varieties—when only apples

were in demand, when the soil was new, when insect pests and fungous diseases were rare, and when the only skill required was simply to take the fruit. Under these circumstances the business of apple growing was exceedingly profitable; but there soon came a glut in the earlier varieties. They were not suitable for the export trade, so that as soon as the home market was supplied there was no further call for them. The soil lost something of its virgin freshness; the trees would not grow so well; and with the increased number of trees there came a quadrupled increase in fungous diseases and insect pests. Not only was there a falling off in the demand for the particular variety they were growing, but there was an increased difficulty in growing any variety; hence farmers got the idea that there was no money to be