

favoured varieties. So it is with our society varieties—there is pretty uniform agreement; hardihood, prolificness, market value, are sure to be much alike in all the reports.

Who would underrate this test and resulting good to the country? Just in proportion as our association exercises diligence in the selection, and care in the mode of issuing these trees, will the benefit accrue to the community. Our present success, as well as our past failures, must alike make the Society careful in the dissemination of varieties of known excellence. We have scarcely known any society that has been so exempt from cavilling and fault-finding, as has been this scheme and effort of our Association. Where so many interests are at stake, where there are so many loopholes for failure, it is remarkable that so little fault-finding has reached the officers of the Society. In some instances the trees have not taken root, this in one case, at least, has been owing to the purchase of stript trees. It is almost impossible at all times to guard against this fraud. The new arrangements, however, of the Society have diminished this difficulty infinitesimally; of late there has been little to desiderate in this mode of dissemination. It is a matter of fact, that our distribution of small fruits has sometimes acted injuriously on our members' list. This has been a matter of surprise to those of us, who well know the importance of the cultivation of small fruits in a community. We question if any kind of fruit cultivation pays the producer better than the production of small fruits. This culture is but in its infancy. The Association has done well, therefore, to mingle in their issues, specimens of small fruit plants. The gooseberry dissemination was, from some cause, a failure, but the same remark is not applicable to that of any of the other small fruit plants. The Mammoth Cluster and vines have done well, and this may even be said of the gooseberry in some localities. The profits of small fruit culture are something enormous; we know of one case, and it is but a sample of many others, in which a patch of strawberries, *i. e.*, Wilson's Albany, little over a quarter of an acre, yielded in one season the enormous sum of over \$750. Surely such recitals of matters of fact ought to encourage a wider acreage of small fruit culture. This cultivation, however, is quietly but surely progressing. In the neighbourhood of large towns, at Drummondville, at Windsor, Hamilton, London, and elsewhere, the cultivation has received such an impetus from various successful growers, that there is no fear but the taste for small fruit culture will grow, and be developed into somewhat of its just proportions. Of late nut growing has received the favourable attention of a few fruit growers, whose tastes are based on the remembrance of the early days of their nutting rambles in the old land; we fear that the precariousness of the crop will always deter the general fruit growing public from largely embarking in this cultivation. In some of our favoured districts, you may find nut growers for a succession of hundreds of miles in extent. Take as an illustration the lake shore road from Amherstburgh to Welland, and you will find a continuous stretch of country of hundreds of miles in extent, more or less fruitful in nut bearing trees. We have to deplore as we have often done, that few people cultivate, or ever think of cultivating, the different varieties of the cranberry. Might it not be fairly within the province of the efforts of the F. G. A. of Ontario to disseminate among their members samples of one of the best varieties of the swamp cranberry, and one of the upland variety?

The members of our Society have shown themselves singularly interested in the distribution of the apple. This will always be, in Canada, the king of fruits. Hitherto the planting of innumerable varieties has been the common rage. Farmers have not planted so much for profit as for fancy. The consequence is, when the buyer comes along, he is puzzled at the number of varieties, and the seller receives only a small sum for his outlay. One-sort orchards ought to become the order of the day. Where foresight in this respect has been shown, it has met with ample reward. Mr. Springer, of Wellington Square, has an orchard of a thousand Northern Spy, for which he never has any difficulty in commanding the highest prices going, because **THEY ARE ALL OF ONE VARIETY!** What splendid profits would accrue to our fruit-growers from orchards wholly of Swayzie Pomme Grise, or of Grimes' Golden. We are bold to say that these two varieties have few or no compeers. They are both A. 1. apples. Shippers like apples all of one variety. They carry better than mixed sorts, and bring better prices.

Pear culture, for the present, has received some rude shakes. The terrible blight and pests have sickened the few enthusiasts who were all soul in the cultivation, and have driven others to the cultivation of the more profitable business of grape-growing and wine-making.