

Editorial.

THE FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

AUTUMN MEETING.

We are always glad to publish information in regard to the above named useful Association, but are usually obliged to obtain the facts at second hand. The Horticultural Department of the *Weekly Globe* is ably edited by the Secretary of the Association, and we are indebted to its columns for the following:—

"It has been decided to hold this meeting on the 15th day of September, 1871, at Goderich, and we notice that the Directors have decided to offer premiums for best samples of fruit to be exhibited at the meeting. Competition is open to all members, and to all who may become members, and as any one may become a member by sending the sum of one dollar to the Secretary, D. W. Beadle, St. Catharines, it might be said that the prizes are open to all.

Arrangements are made whereby any one who may not be able to be present at the meeting may compete for the prizes. Two of the Directors, Messrs. A. M. Ross and W. H. Mills, have been appointed a committee to receive and place on the tables any fruit that may be sent to the exhibition, and see that it is properly arranged and classified. Any boxes of fruit intended for exhibition may be sent, charges prepaid, to A. M. Ross, Esq., Goderich.

The prizes are three in each class—eight, six, and four dollars, for first, second and third prizes. In apples and pears there must be twenty varieties, named, three specimens of each variety: in peaches, plums and crab apples, there must be ten varieties, named, and six specimens of each sort; and in grapes there must be ten varieties grown in open air, three bunches of each variety, named.

A very distinctive feature of this prize list is the large number of prizes offered for Canadian seedling fruit. In order to be worthy of a prize, it is very correctly required that the fruit shall be equal to the varieties of the same kind and season now in cultivation. The prize offered is five DOLLARS each, for the best Canadian seedling apple, pear, peach, plum and grape;

six bunches of the grape, and a dozen specimens of each of the other fruits.

There are also two prizes of five and three dollars for the first and second best Canadian hybrid grape, three clusters of each, not before exhibited.

There are also prizes of two dollars each for the best quart of uncultivated Canadian wild plum, the best three clusters of uncultivated Canadian wild grape, the best twelve quinces, the best quart of autumn bearing raspberries, and of autumn bearing strawberries.

In apples, pears, plums, peaches, grapes, and crab apples, not seedling, exhibitors can only take one of the three prizes offered under the head of each fruit.

We notice also that it is required that all the fruit receiving a prize shall be the property of the Association. The object of this is to enable the society to avail themselves of this opportunity to send samples of some of our best fruit for examination and comparison by kindred societies in the sister provinces and other places, so that a correct knowledge of the fruit growing capabilities of the country may be as widely disseminated as possible.

Copies of the prize list will be at once mailed to all members of the Association, and any others desiring any further information on the subject can obtain it by writing to the Secretary.

At the last meeting of the Directors it was ordered that all persons who have paid their membership fee for 1871, and had not received the pear tree and small fruits distributed in the spring, should be supplied with them in the fall. Such members would do well to notify the Secretary of their having failed to receive their tree, &c., so that none shall fail of getting them in the autumn.

We learn also that the Directors have appointed several committees to examine personally different parts of the country, and inquire into the fruit growing capacities of the several sections, and make a report in writing of the peculiar advantages and disadvantages found to exist, and the present condition of fruit culture therein. We most earnestly ask of the farmers and fruit growers of these sections that they will give to the gentlemen of these committees every facility for prosecuting their inquiries that may be in their power, for such investigations as these will largely contribute to the spread of much needed