

old things have become new. His interest, too, is seen in certain enquiries of our officers, as to his future planting and cultivation. The horticultural world has been turned upside down to him.

Provincially, our tree distribution has had a good result. It has constituted the length and breadth of our fair Province an experimental garden or farm. Instead of a limitation to the good in a small, and perhaps uncentral locality in the trial of a plant's adaptation to our soil and climate, here is a provincial test—in everyway worthy of the broad and enlightened views of our fruit growers. It is most remarkable that good reports reach us from every quarter of the most unvarying success of our plants. This, although the limits be most divergent—here we have reports from Elgin and Kent, as well as from Simcoe and Ottawa, each giving no uncertain sound, that where the plants grew from the first planting, there they have succeeded beyond all expectation. The future of this initial success, it would be hard to pourtray, when every farmer throughout the land only cultivates the best and choicest fruits, when every orchard shall be a sample orchard, when only good fruits shall be sold in our markets, when a general taste for good fruit is diffused—who will be able to make a correct estimate of the benefits accruing from our dissemination of the best fruits?

It is not to be expected that all the trees sent out will succeed equally well in every part of our lengthened country. A beginning, however, has thus been made, to give a general appreciation of the benefits to be derived pecuniary, as a matter of taste, and socially, from this dissemination. Great results lurk in the future for our fruit-growing interests. When the farmer learns what variety of apple is best for his soil and climate, what good is to accrue from growing winter varieties, what ready sale for homogeneous sorts, there will, doubtless, be a great *bouleversément* in fruit-growing, and a mighty advance on present modes of culture. The pioneers who are labouring to introduce these good times must not faint by the way, nor flag in their efforts. It may be up-hill work, but the issue is certain; we may not see it, but it is not far off. The ameliorating influences are at work; it may be that their onward march is silent, but it is none the less certain; there is a good time coming—it is looming up the depths of time.

Let us take courage, the success that has attended, and is now attending, present efforts, will not fail of ultimate success. Every fruit-grower has to be informed on the results of all fruit discussions; the best mode of cultivation; the best variety of both large and small fruits; the best time and method of planting, and then we need not fear the fruitful and successful issue.

Nor does the good of these efforts seem likely to simply benefit our own Province of Ontario. Nothing has been more marked by us in our intercourse with our American neighbours than to find that they are impressed with the benefits arising from our tree distribution. We have had frequent remittances from the United States to secure, not so much membership, as to make certain of receiving *our* Report and trees. Our Report is valued in Florida and Nebraska alike, and it even reaches, in its distribution, the Pacific Slope, the Empire State of the West—California. In all notices of our Report and progress, unfailing attention is given to the distribution of trees, as practised by our Association. It might not be amiss for a winter discussion on the methods of making this dissemination more beneficial.

The testing of the qualities of fruit-trees could not possibly be more perfect; if indeed the reporters are faithful in the discharge of their work. The future fruit-growers of our country have only to peruse the past issues of the publications of our Society to find out what varieties of fruits are best suited for their locality. What is more heart-breaking to a fruit-grower than to find that, after cultivating, tending, and watching a fruit-tree for ten or twelve years, it turns out to be a worthless variety?

Our test is infallible. The fruitfulness of the variety, its hardihood, its adaptation to the soil, climate, and locality, the amount of winter-kill, its liability to blight, the ravages of insects, the standard of excellence as shown by its market value, each and all of these requisites are fully exhibited in our provincial fruit-testing. Of course, these reported testings are not uniform—they differ as much as the individual faces of the reporters, as much as their dispositions and powers of observation. But, on the whole, there is almost uniform agreement on the essentials. It is just like the issue of any one of our meetings for fruit discussions—which is the best apple, pear, peach, plum, grape, small fruits, for cultivation? One or two varieties of each sort, are sure to well up. Snow, Seckle, Crawford's Early, Lombard, 'Concord, Black Cap, are sure to be among the

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