

# Editorial Notes and Comments

## HOW TO MAKE FRUIT GROWING PAY.

**A**NOTHER successful house meeting of the Grimsby Horticultural Society was held on Saturday evening, February 28th, at the house of Mr. J. M. Metcalfe, and was well attended by both ladies and gentlemen.

Both village and country people were attracted, not only by the social character of the gathering, but also because the fruit growers were anxious to hear what a practical man like Mr. E. D. Smith, of Winona, M. P. for Wentworth, had to say on how to make their business pay; and because the village people were anxious to hear a paper on Roses by the Honorary President, Mrs. E. J. Palmer. Besides these subjects, excellent music on violin, 'cello and piano was contributed by the Misses Metcalfe and Mrs. J. M. Metcalfe.

These monthly meetings are so interesting that they are likely to be a regular feature in the future work of the society.

## CHOICE OF VARIETIES.

**I**N his opening remarks Mr. Smith emphasized the great importance of kinds of fruit for profit. The time has passed when all apples bring the same price, or when it matters little about the season of a peach. We have new varieties of peaches to cover the season, and some of the newest varieties pay so much better than the old, that in some cases the latter are but an encumbrance of the ground. The Yellow St. John, for example, has not only filled a gap just in advance of the Early Crawford, but it is so good a variety that it is to-day one of the most profitable kinds to grow for Canadian markets.

The beginner, therefore, in buying an or-

chard, should study the varieties in it, and if any are undesirable he should bear in mind that they must either be rooted out or top grafted, and this expense must be considered.

## PROPER SOIL AND LOCATION.

**I**N buying a fruit farm an important consideration is the soil conditions in relation to the fruits to be grown. The most signal blunders are often made in this way, resulting in failure and disappointment. Mr. Smith pointed this out most clearly, and thought a few hundred dollars additional to secure right soil should not be considered when making a purchase.

Location was important with respect to markets. Mr. Smith's practice is to sell all fruit f. o. b., and in this he spoke in line with the advice given in these pages. He condemned the custom of shipping everything to the commission merchant, who often takes the kernel and returns the husks.

The secret of success in fruit growing is to *grow a choice article* and then sell it for its value, and the fruit grower should do this himself and have something to say about the price. There is no trouble selling a really choice article in any market by direct sale.

## FERTILE SOIL AND MOISTURE.

**T**HESSE are two essentials to success in fruit growing, and Mr. Smith pointed out how important the latter is in a dry season, such as often prevails with us. Cultivation for the retention of moisture was a good practice, and in no section had growers more faithfully observed it than in the Niagara District. But through their faith in cultivation as a panacea, the growers were forget-