

Observations during a somewhat extensive this season, through the western part of Canada West, that much information is yet to be gained, and to that end we should continue to write upon line, and precept upon precept. The subject is thoroughly investigated. A great point in setting out an apple orchard, or properly preparing the soil, is to have selection of such varieties as are known to be adapted to our Canadian climate, and at the same time of such excellent quality as to be fully marketable. Much has been said about the failure of trees sent over from the United States, and I am convinced that, it is rather due to the fact that the varieties usually grown here are such as have been propagated with no reference to the wants of the South and rather than to any inherent fault in the trees themselves. A variety of first rate excellence from Western New York, Pennsylvania, or Ohio is often worthless when grown further north. The only thing I will mention, viz.: the desire of the part of farmers to run down prices and have cheap trees. The American agents knowing that their trees are unsaleable at home, having large stocks on hand, will readily consent to take almost anything offered in order to effect a sale. Our own nurserymen on the other hand have extra difficulties to contend with. Owing to the severity of Canadian winters, many trees are killed between the time rising from seed till they are fit to send out grafted four year olds, and those that then escape may be considered as acclimated, and of more intrinsic value than trees grown in a milder and more equable climate.

As the result of my observation I give the following list of apples as especially adapted to Canada, and although the list is short it embraces what are really desirable.

Summer varieties:—Red Astrachan, Early Harvest, Keswic Codlin. Autumn varieties:—Pippin, Gravenstein, Snow Apple, St. Lawrence. Winter varieties:—Northern Spy, Baldwin, Colvert, Ribston Pippin, Pomme Gris, Barry Russet, Talman's Sweet, and Rhode Island Greening.

Some will object to the Northern Spy on account of the length of time it takes to come into bearing, but if it does, it proves extraordinary in its productive, and long lived; and I noticed in Essex County that of many hundreds of trees sent out from the U. S. Nurseries almost the only remaining survivors were Northern Spys. The tree has a habit when young of producing an overabundance of wood, which should be kept in check by summer pruning. As a general rule it is undesirable to plant out trees in the fall, except on light well drained soils. And as trees have been ordered for this fall I can strongly recommend that they should be planted in spring, in a dry spot in the garden, and planted in spring; or if planted out this fall they should be planted shallow, well staked, and a

mound of earth a foot high raised round the stem, said earth to be levelled again in spring.

Hoping to see the subject of orcharding still further discussed in your columns, and promising to contribute my mite to the cause.

JOHN MACKELCAN, Jr.

Hamilton, C. W., Oct. 7th 1861.

Peterborough Horticultural Society.

We have pleasure in noticing that this new Society, the organization of which this spring we recorded in a recent number, has lately had a successful meeting. Amongst the names of exhibitors we find those of the Rev. V. Clementi, President of the Society, Mr. Sheriff Hall, Mr. J. Gilmour, Mr. Kempt, Mr. P. Cooney, &c. We take the subjoined report of the meeting from the *Peterborough Review* of Sept. 27th.

"On Friday last the primary show of the Horticultural Society was held in the Town Hall, the use of which was kindly granted for that purpose by his worship the Mayor. The weather was most unpropitious: the rain clouds which had, for some time previously, been gathering above our heads commenced, early in the morning, to discharge their contents with an intensity and a pertinacity sufficient to damp the spirits as well as the bodies of those engaged in the endeavour to make the exhibition worthy of the patronage of the public."

Notwithstanding this *contretemps*, the tables, when the doors were opened at one o'clock, presented, thanks to the ladies who had furnished them with an abundance of elegant and tasteful floral designs and bouquets, a very charming appearance.

Mr. John Gilmour had converted the dais at the end of the room into an extemporaneous greenhouse, where were displayed choice collections of Cacti and other tender and interesting plants.

The exhibition of fruit was, partly owing to the season and partly to the day itself, on a very small scale. Mr. Carver's plate of plums, however, judiciously gathered, with their beautiful bloom well preserved, was universally admired.

The specimens of vegetables were creditable: had the weather been more favourable a greater quantity would have been, we have reason to know, forwarded to the Committee.

At five o'clock the doors were closed, and re-opened at seven, when a large number of visitors were present, whose ears were gratified by the spirited performances of the Peterboro Band, who, with their accustomed liberality, gave their services to the Society, and by their enlivening strains enhanced greatly the pleasures of the evening. At eight o'clock the President, the Rev. Vincent Clementi, addressed the assemblage, and then announced the result of the labors of the day.

On the whole we may reasonably consider the Society to be an established fact. It has