

my remarks referring to the Agricultural portion of the Bill. Mr. John Walton, President of the Peterboro' Agricultural Society, was also present, and was satisfied that the interests of the community he represented were amply secured. Suffice it to say that after an hour's adjournment (we sat from noon till mid-night); at o'clock the Hon. Mr. Allan moved that the following clause be embodied in the Bill, and at the motion was carried:

"Every Horticultural Society in any city, town, or incorporated village, incorporated under this act, or which may have been incorporated under any other act of the Provincial Legislature, shall be entitled to a public grant equal to the amount subscribed by the members of such Society, and certified by their treasurer to have been paid into his hands in the manner provided by the sections of the act relating to Horticultural Societies, provided that the whole amount granted to any such Society, shall not exceed one hundred pounds in any year."

I did myself the honour to address the meeting in advocacy of the claims of the Horticultural Societies. The fact of the Reporters not being returned "from refreshment to labour," till after Mr. Allan and myself had spoken, I account for no mention being made in the newspapers of our remarks.

If the Bill passes the Houses, and I entertain no doubt at all upon the subject, the Horticultural Societies will be placed in a similar position to that occupied by the Agricultural Societies.

A certain number of members will be required, a certain amount of subscription; and then the amount will be met by an equal sum from Government. The number is not to be less than 25; and the gross amount must not fall of \$40.

Report on Fruits.

The Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for the year 1861, comprise a valuable report, submitted by J. S. Cabot, Esq., Chairman of the standing Committee on Fruits.

Having taken a view of the meteorological phenomena which characterized the past year, he noticed the injury which fruit trees sustain—the report refers to the important fact that the varieties of the same species suffered much more than others—a fact which is calculated to press upon the minds of cultivators, the necessity of adopting the most hardy kinds. Thus, in the case of pears, the report says:

"The Bartlett and Beurre Bosc suffered the most, the trees of both having been almost universally severely injured, and in most instances wholly killed; while on the contrary, Marie Louise, Belle Lucrative, the Urbaniste, Louise Bonne de Jersey, seemed to escape unharmed; the two first of these last-

named having been, the past season, superior in quantity and quality to any season now remembered."

In regard to the special causes of the great destruction of fruit trees, the report states that perhaps no perfectly satisfactory conclusion can yet be reached, but makes the following suggestions:—

"If the attention of fruit growers should be drawn to a consideration of the matter, and by collecting of facts and comparing of opinions, some definite conclusion, as it might be, should be reached, it might induce a mode of cultivation that should measurably guard against a recurrence of the evil. On a previous occasion, similar to that of the present, the opinion was expressed that shelter to some extent, to be obtained either in the selection of a site or by artificial means, was an important element to success in the cultivation of some varieties of fruits, if not absolutely essential thereto; and this opinion has been strengthened and confirmed by observation the past season, when injury has been almost universal, and exemption from it the exception, it has been noticed that gardens or orchards that were in some way sheltered, have almost wholly escaped injury."

In this connection reference is made to the means of protection, and it is said:—

"This may be obtained by selecting a sheltered site for the garden or orchard; and where that cannot be done, by the erection of a high, close fence around it. If any question arises as to the efficacy of this last method, it needs to dispel the doubt, but a visit to the garden of Mr. Tudor, at Nahant, where, protected only by a high paling, fruit trees of all varieties may be seen flourishing luxuriantly, while outside of such enclosure, the hardiest trees cannot resist the influence of the fierce winds that blow over the peninsula. And there is no ostensible cause for the exemption from injury of the trees of Mr. Bacon of Roxbury, and Mr. Vandine, of Cambridge, and that these bore full crops of fine pears in a year so unpropitious as the past, but the shelter they receive. It further inculcates the importance, or the necessity, where profit is the object of culture, in a choice of varieties, of selecting the most hardy, keeping to view the quality of the fruit. There seems to be as much difference in the vigor and hardihood of different varieties of trees of the same species, as in the different races of animals of the same species; and it is only upon the more vigorous and hardy that a reliance can be placed."

Of strawberries, the new kinds are spoken of which were exhibited at the shows of the Society by Messrs. Hovey, and which we noticed at the time, and as we saw them on Messrs. H.'s grounds. The La Constante is described as "a magnificent fruit, of great size and beauty, of a fine color and good quality." Scott's new seedling, Lady of the Lake, is favorably mentioned. The practice of