

OUR BRANTFORD MEETING.



FIG. 1982. W. M. ORR, PRESIDENT FOR 1901.

ONE of the best meetings we have ever held in point of real work and valuable addresses was held in Brantford the 19th, 20th and 21st of December last. Not that many members showed up in attendance from the locality, but a fine attendance of our best fruit growers, shippers and representatives of societies and colleges, and all combined to lend importance to the occasion.

After the report of our experimental shipments was presented by the secretary, which was given our readers in the December number, the Hon. John Dryden gave an address containing much encouragement to fruit growers. He dealt chiefly with the San Jose scale and his efforts to perfect a system of continuous cold storage transportation of tender fruits to England. Among all the branches of agriculture, he said, there was none of more importance than fruit growing, and he instanced the success of the Ontario

exhibits at Chicago and Paris. Their results had been achieved by time and effort. The fruit farmers, he said, have had to learn that fruit trees could not be used as forest trees, and that they had to be continually tended, that fruit suitable to one section was not suitable to another. In that work the Government experimental stations had aided. Insect pests, he urged, had to be fought by the farmers unitedly. Some people were apt to place too great reliance upon law. It was necessary, but it could only be enforced when backed by public opinion. They could not drive the people generally, and they could not drive farmers especially. When he established the travelling dairy to educate the farmers and farmers' wives to right methods in the home, he was asked why he did not start cheese factories and creameries. They came, as he expected, from the education afforded from the travelling dairy. He was sure that within five years those who had opposed his San Jose scale legislation would say he had been right. He would be the proudest man in Ontario if for twice \$100,000 he could have stamped out the scale. Even with the methods being adopted it was found that the pest was getting ahead of the inspectors, and that \$300,000 would be required to annihilate it. That was more than the legislature would vote. It remained, and would for some time to come. The work done had stamped out the scale in at least 100 districts. The nurseries, he believed, were the chief danger, and he would enforce the proper fumigation of stock. No treatment yet adopted have absolutely killed the scale, but he knew no better way of meeting the difficulty than by continuing the present method of spraying.