

In closing, we cannot but congratulate ourselves and the country on the relation which you sustain to its agricultural and horticultural interests, and look forward with the expectation that they will be most materially advanced under your wise and liberal administration.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
D. W. BEADLE,
Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Court House, in the City of Ottawa, on Tuesday evening, the 21st day of September, 1875—the President in the chair.
Secretary Beadle read the minutes of the last Annual Meeting.
The Directors' Report was then read, which was as follows :

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

Your Directors take much pleasure in submitting their Report for the present year.

Our Society has continued its beneficent operations, diffusing information on the subject of fruits and their culture, to every section of the Province, whose population evince a continually increasing interest on the subject.

We have noticed with great interest the zealous efforts of many of our most talented horticulturists in the production of new hybrid fruits of great value, and have decided to advance the fruit interests of the country by giving them a wide dissemination. In order that they may be the more widely known and the better appreciated, it is proposed to illustrate our Reports with coloured lithographs of those which give promise of being best adapted to our climate and country.

The Report for 1876 will contain a lithograph of the valuable Raspberries raised by Mr. William Saunders, of London, and Mr. Charles Arnold, of Paris.

Another year's experience confirms us in the conviction that the holding of our meetings at various points contributes largely to the wider circulation of interest, evidenced by the increased attendance and spirited discussions which have marked these meetings of the year.

At Hamilton, the winter meeting was held. The attendance was large, and the interest well sustained. At Drummondville, really important discussions took place on the very principles of horticulture—mulching, and its highly beneficial effects, receiving much attention. These results were amply illustrated by a magnificent display of fruits of the season. At Belleville we had another evidence of the stimulus which the labours of this Association has given to the production of new fruits, in eliciting the largest display of seedling fruits that has ever been exhibited. Most of these fruits have been produced by the application of science to the art of horticulture in the hands of men singularly skilled in delicate manipulations.

Through the courtesy and kindness of our Belleville friends, we had another opportunity of noticing the advantages of the social element in our meetings, relieving the tension of severe discussion by the amenities of social life. In any future reunion, recommend us to the manner in which the intentions of the members of the Horticultural Society of Belleville were carried out by a Palmer and a Wallbridge.

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