

it from our member." Then we tell them that they will be aided in making their own place an experimental garden; that plants are annually distributed among the members; and to this they often reply that "Neighbour So-and-so received one and it died," or that it proved to be no better, or perhaps not as good, as sorts he already had; as if such things were not to be expected. Let me give you a leaf from my own experience in this direction. I have imported some hundreds of varieties of apples and pears from Europe, all of them supposed at the time to be far better than any we had, and out of all these I have now not more than five or six apples, and perhaps as many pears, that have proved to be of superior value. Should this, gentlemen, discourage us from continuing our experiments? If, out of hundreds, we succeed in getting one variety of great value, is not that a sufficient reward? Have our hybridists lived in vain because they have succeeded in producing but two or three really superior varieties in a life-time?

OUR PERIODICAL.

Gentlemen, we have undertaken the publication of the *Canadian Horticulturist*, and its free distribution to our members. I find it is being highly prized among them. By means of it we can disseminate an immense amount of knowledge. It is true that in its commencement we could scarcely see our way to undertake so great an enterprise, but the increase in the Government grant has enabled us, with the most rigid economy, to meet the expenditure. We hope next year to be able to print it in double columns and add eight pages to its size, thus making it as valuable as any other periodical of its kind published upon the continent.

The advantages which this Association offer to its members, I am happy to say, are being appreciated. There has been a gradual increase in our numbers for the past few years, and small as it seems to us who are anxious to extend its benefits to every one who tills a rod of ground in the Province, I find, upon examination, that we really number fully three times as many members as any kindred Association, not excepting the great American Pomological Society.

FORESTRY.

It is but a short time since the subject of Forestry was undertaken by you, and already you can begin to see the results of your labour. Questions are being asked as to the best way to ornament grounds by the planting of trees, or to increase the value of our farms by roadside planting, or by planting on lands that, being rocky or broken, do not admit of cultivation. Some have already commenced such planting, and who can compute the increase in value of every farm in the Province when our country roads shall have become avenues of stately trees, and our rocky fields and broken hillsides are covered with profitable timber? Attention has already been turned to the planting of the black walnut as a profitable timber tree, whose rapid growth, combined with the high price of its lumber, gives it a prominent position. The maple and elm and basswood, when planted along the roadside and thus given room for development, become objects of great beauty. Who of us does not enjoy not only the beauty of such trees, but the grateful shade they afford us when driving on such hot days as we have but recently experienced? And is not all honour due to those municipalities which are encouraging such roadside planting by the granting of premiums and the enacting of suitable protection?

THE GARDEN.

This has been too much neglected, particularly by our rural members. There is no part of the homestead more attractive than the well-kept garden. I know a person that prides himself on keeping his garden in good condition, and I have known persons to come long distances just to stroll around his garden and admire his beautiful blocks of roses and other well-kept flowers. I could always enjoy a visit to his well-grown pears, grapes, dwarf apples and plums. The small fruits were never neglected, and in their season became a source of attraction not only to the stranger who visited his grounds, but to his own family. His vegetables were always good, and he was never heard to complain that