

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, was held in the City Hall, Hamilton, on Tuesday evening, the 16th December. 1890.

The President, Mr. A. M. Smith, of St. Catharines, took the chair at 8 o'clock p.m., and introduced Mr. D. McLellan, mayor of the city, whose remarks are here reported in brief, owing to the absence of the official reporter.

The mayor said that when he received a letter from the secretary of the Association, asking for the use of the council chamber for this meeting, he had at once placed it before the city council, and it had received the hearty sanction of that body. He regretted that there was not that evening a larger local attendance of the citizens of Hamilton to show the interest they take in the progress of horticulture and agriculture in our country. He thought that the Association had done a wise thing in choosing the city of Hamilton as their place of meeting, because this city was situated in the very heart of the best fruit region of Ontario, and near to the Niagara district, which is so well and so favorably known on account of its great adaptability to the culture of our finest varieties of fruits. By such meetings as these, and through the interesting and valuable reports of them which were scattered so widely by the Department of Agriculture, the Association was advertising the capabilities of this province throughout the whole world. The agricultural delegates of the British farmers who had recently visited this country, had carried away with them the most favorable impressions of the agricultural and horticultural resources of this province. He was aware that no very lengthened address was expected of him at this time, and he would therefore simply extend to the Association a most hearty welcome on behalf of the citizens of Hamilton.

The President replied on behalf of this Association, thanking his worship the mayor, and through him the citizens of Hamilton generally, for the kind welcome, which had just been extended to them. On coming to this city the society felt that they were in a sense only coming home again, for it was its birthplace, and for this reason, as well as because of the general interest always manifested here in their work, the members felt more at home than in any other city in the province. The president closed his remarks with some complimentary expressions regarding the beauty of the hall which the city had so freely placed at the disposal of the association.
