

## Organization of a Pomological Society for the Province of Quebec.

SIR,—During the past year a movement has been taking place among prominent fruit growers of the Province, which has had for its object the formation of a Horticultural Society which should be truly provincial in character. The efforts of these workers have been successful, so far as obtaining a grant from the local Legislature; and a meeting was called at Abbotsford, on February 8th, for the purpose of electing officers for the current year and the discussion of subjects pertaining to fruit culture.

The committee who have the arrangement of the programme in hand are J. M. Fisk, Abbotsford; R. W. Shepherd, Jr., Como; R. Hamilton, Grenville, and W. W. Dunlop, Montreal.

It is the intention of the promoters of the Society to organize after the same general plan as that adopted by the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, dividing the Province into a certain number of fruit districts, and having a representative from each on the Board of Directors.

J. C.

## Destroying Black Knot.

SIR,—Seeing an article in the HORTICULTURIST last spring on destroying black knot with coal oil, I determined to try its effects on two cherry trees, Early Richmond variety, four years planted, that had each year previously shown lots of bloom, but ripened few or no cherries. Having had to cut away a great many branches, owing to their being infected with black knot, I was about sick of them and was getting careless about the trees, but was anxious to see the result of experiment. I took fresh kerosene and sprayed it well into the parts infected. Later on, I saw the knot was certainly not increasing, so gave them another dose. In due time the cherries ripened and the black knot looked sick. I gave them another dose in November; at New Years, the scar is on the trees, but no signs of black knot around. Those trees have made a very vigorous growth and are about as full of fruit-buds as they can hold.

W. T. D.

## Memoranda, 1893.

*Russian Apricot*.—Color orange, crimson on sunny side. Flesh deep orange, parting cleanly from stone; juicy on one side and crisp on the other when ripe enough to fall from the tree. Ripened from 13th to 20th August about ten dozen fruits, many having previously fallen off from curculio stings. Would make an excellent preserve. (Name lost).

*Abundance Plum*.—Color bright crimson, yellowish on small portion of under side. Very juicy and sweet, but skin and close round the stone acid. Size rather larger than Orleans. The earliest plum I have grown, falling from the tree from ripeness on 20th August, when Washingtons growing close by were not ripe till 6th September.

*Prunus Simoni*.—Much as described in nurserymen's catalogues. Fell from tree from ripeness 26th August. Flesh crisp.

A. G. H., Boyne, Halton County.

## Horticulture in South Africa.

SIR,—In reading an interesting account of the fruit exhibits at the World Fair, Chicago, and observing your name, I write you for some information. I have been for ten years studying fruit-growing and sun-drying of fruit. This is an isolated part of the world, but has a splendid climate, and, were it not for the destructive hail-storms, we would always have fruit in abundance. Quinces grow to perfection; peaches like weeds, thousands lie rotting on the ground every year in almost every garden. I would be thank-