

FROLIC OF THE FRUITS.



FAID the lemon to the squeezer,
 "Did you know 'twas Christmas
 time?"
 When I hob-nob with the
 cherry and the pineapple
 and lime;"

But the grapes here interrupted, tumbling
 down in a bunch,

Crying, "All of us in bottles makes the best
 part of the punch;"

But the coconuts up-bristled—neither eyes
 nor hair they lacked—

Yelling, "Milk beats all the punches, do you
 think our heads are cracked?"

The bananas pointed fingers full of scorn at
 all they saw:

"We're the flour of Brazil, though we're
 better when we're raw."

The bumptious apples chimed in with a
 peeling laugh and said:

"Not a fruit can beat us painting any town
 and orchard red."

The pomegranate objected, and a voice with
 mellow reach

Sang, "Look upon this cheek and say, now
 a'int I just a peech?"

Pecans began to rattle, and walnuts made a
 whirr

To drown some northern voices: "You're
 a chestnut with a bur-r-r."

The chestnut snapped their shells; "You've
 been roasted, too," they said;

And the peanuts sneered—"Oh, we're the
 only nuts who have a head."

The oranges and grape-fruit came slowly
 rolling in

Singing, "See the best of Christmas—we've
 a Klondike in our skin."

The quince and the citron grumbled over
 family jars gone by,

When their brethren from a stew fell to
 fingering in pie.

The melon rolled with laughter as she bumped
 upon the stairs:

"Preserved and pickled Christmas! watch
 the dinner come in pears!"

The prunes began to simper as they clambered
 off their plates:

"These fruits have got no memory, watch
 them take along dry dates."

The procession fell in line, and the berries
 said 'twas plum,

But they didn't care a fig, and the currant
 jokes were "bum."

They all took up a quickstep, and with many
 bounds and bobs

They tropped into the sanctum—"Merry
 Christmas, Mr. Hobbs!"

The gooseberry turned green, as she courtesied
 with a duck;

"Here's your health in cherry-bounce;
 Happy New Year, Mr. Tuck!"

A CHESTNUT BURR.

* Our Book Table. *

THE WESTERN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
 The first published report of this young
 Society has come to hand from the president,
 the Rev. Prof. Baird, of Winnipeg. It is a
 tidy pamphlet of 120 pages, and contains in-
 teresting and valuable papers on such topics
 as House plants, Practical Tree planting,
 Small Fruits for Manitoba, Doubtful fruits,
 Trees for Windbreaks and Winter Protection,
 etc., etc. We wish every success to our
 Sister Society.

CATALOGUE of Champion Fruit Evaporator,
 a Dryer, G. H. Grimm, Mfg. Co., Montreal.

REPORT OF THE CHEMIST, (Prof. T. T.
 Shutt,) of Central Experimental Farm,
 Ottawa, 1897.

**REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGIST AND
 BOTANIST** (Dr. Fletcher,) and of the **FOREMAN
 OF FORESTRY,** (W. T. Macoun,) of the Cen-
 tral Experimental Farm, Ottawa.