

best time for holding our own is earlier than that of a purely Agricultural Society, I would suggest that the Prize List be extended so as to embrace agricultural products more generally, and that competitors be admitted to exhibit in this department only by payment of an entrance fee of one dollar. In this way, to a certain extent, the want of a Provincial Exhibition could be supplied. I regret the absence of our worthy President, Mr. Desbarats; but at the same time, it gives me an opportunity to testify, without embarrassment, to the fact that to his devotion to Horticultural pursuits, to his deep interest in the welfare of the Society, and to his judicious management, we are mainly indebted for our prosperity. And I cannot omit bearing testimony to the untiring labors and to the faithful discharge of official duties of our Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Pell.

Without longer detaining you, I have the honor, on behalf of the Directors, to present to you the 18th Annual Report:—

#### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONTREAL AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1863.

Your Board offer their hearty congratulation on the auspicious circumstances under which the Society assembles on this the 18th anniversary. At no period of its history has equal success attended its operations as during the past year. We meet, for the first time, free of debt, having not only met the current expenses, but liquidated many long-standing claims at the same time. As will be seen by the Secretary-Treasurer's Report, there is a balance in the Savings Bank to the credit of the Society of \$396.73,—besides property to the value of at least \$250 in the charge of the Treasurer. Those only who are familiar with the early history of the Society in its struggle for existence, the difficulties attending its management with accumulated debt, can fully appreciate its present fortunate position. Your operations have been chiefly confined to the promotion of

#### EXHIBITIONS,

the first of which was held in July, at Nordheimers' Music Hall. This was intended for Roses, but such is the uncertainty of the season, that a few days often bring flowers to rapid maturity, or prevents their

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