By Mr Benoit :

Q What was the cost of the production of your 120 gallons of syrup ?—I could hardly tell you ; I had other things in hand at the time.

Q. Suppose a farmer cultivated an acre of sorghum, what would be the net profit ?—I could not give you the net profit to the farmer, because he does the work himself. I might give you the gross profits.

Q. What is the cost of producing an acre of sorghum ?—The way I would calculate the gross profits would be this: Suppose he takes his cane to the factory; half of the syrup goes to the factory and half goes to the farmer. The farmer would have 60 gallons for his share; it is worth 50 cents per Imperial gallon. That would give him $30 for his acre, besides which he would have twenty bushels of seed as grain, which would be worth 60 cents a bushel.

Q. You could not use the seed east of Montreal. It does not ripen; some heads may, but a very few ?—Here it ripens without any trouble at all. Perhaps you have not the best kind.

Q. We had the Early Amber, from Minnesota ?—There is no trouble here. Last year it would not ripen here very well. but in 1882 it ripened perfectly. The seed, as I was saying, would be worth, say $10; that would be about $40 that the farmer would get as the profit on his acre. The expenses, of course, have to be taken out of that. Perhaps he would do the work himself, and perhaps he would hire.

Q. At what time do you sow your seed here ?—About the 15th of May.

By Mr. Landry:

Q. When extracting the syrup, the factory keeps half of it ?—The farmer gets half the syrup and all the grain.

Q. And how much do you charge by the gallon, when you are working by the gallon ?—I have never done anything in that way.

Mr. W. Hague Harrington, of Ottawa, called and examined.

By the Chairman:

Q. What experience have you had in the study of entomology ?—I have been collecting and studying insects for about ten years; and for several years have been upon the Council of the Ontario Entomological Society, and have assisted in preparing the annual reports of the Society for the Ontario Government, so that I have been forced in that way to go somewhat thoroughly into the study, and especially into the study of injurious insects.

Q. What do you know of beneficial insects ?—That is a question that requires a great deal of study. There are many classes of beneficial insects. For instance, we may take the *Neuroptera*—that is the order that embraces the dragon-flies. These are all beneficial insects; they prey upon the other insects. Then in the *Coleoptera* or beetles, there are large families that are insectiverous. These are principally the ground beetles, found usually on the ground, which may, if seen on a plant, be mistaken for destructive insects, whereas they are really preying upon the insects which are injuring the plant. A knowledge of entomology is necessary, in order to know the difference. Then in the *Hymenoptera*, which includes bees and wasps, there are a great many beneficial insects, especially parasites, which, in the larval state, feed upon the injurious insects. The wasps, which many people regard as injurious, are really beneficial, because they feed upon young caterpillars, upon spiders and other insects. They are really beneficial, though they occasionally may sting grapes or other fruit. The loss, however that they occasion is very little, compared with the good they do. In all the orders there are beneficial insects, as well as injurious ones. Among the *Hemiptera*, or bugs, though many injure plants there are also many which feed on other insects. It is hard, unless a person has a perfect knowledge of entomology, to know what insects are beneficial and what are not.

Q. Can our farmers do anything to increase the number of beneficial insects ?—They could do something if they knew the beneficial insects; they could refrain, for instance, from killing those that are beneficial.