

Mr. Chapais—What is the price?

Prof. Craig—I think it could be laid down here for about four cents a yard.

Mr. Edwards—Do you not think the Woodpecker destroys the apple trees? It works to get at the borers.

Mr. Fisk—There is a species called the sap-bird.

Mr. Edwards—They nibble right around the tree as if they intended to kill it. They do not miss a quarter of an inch and they run clear round. I have heard it said that they do this to draw the worms, but it affects the tree so much it lets worms in.

Wm. Craig (Abbotsford)—We have lost a number of trees planted by the late Mr. Gibb through the work of the sap-suckers. They dig holes in the bark and the sap oozes out, which attracts insects. They seem to suck the sap and eat the insects too, although it is quite a serious thing for our ornamental trees, such as white birch and mountain ash. We have tried shooting them and using various remedies, but without much satisfaction.

Mr. Edwards—They are a small bird, black and white.

Mr. Craig (Abbotsford)—Yes; different from the ordinary woodpecker. The tree dies eventually as a result of their continuous attacks.

Mr. Dunlop—With regard to woodpeckers, as a rule they are beneficial to the orchard. There are two varieties commonly called sap-suckers, the Yellow-bellied and the Red-headed. They are fond of the mountain ash and white birch. They form a complete girdle of punctures round the trees and suck the sap. They do this to cause the sap to ooze out and attract the insects, which they eat. The Yellow-bellied and Red-headed are the two varieties only which are injurious.

Mr. R. Brodie read the following paper:

#### A FEW NOTES ON LAST YEAR'S APPLE CROP.

This has indeed been a year of plenty for the farming population of Canada and the United States. We farmers have been feeding the world too cheaply, and have had to pay too much for labor in proportion to the revenue we get off our farms, and especially may this be said of the apple grower this past season.

It has been a great year for the cooper, the railway and steamship companies, commission men and apple pickers, but very little was left for the apple grower. From the 1st of September to the end of the year the British market has been glutted with Canadian apples. The total receipts of apples in Great Britain for the first half of the season ending 1st of January were 2,200,000 bbls., against 279,036 bbls. for the whole crop of 1895. Liverpool alone taking over 9,000 bbls. daily from 1st September to 31st December, the largest month being October, when Liverpool received over 12,000 bbls. daily. No wonder