

I have now completed my list, and hope that out of it may come some fruits that will prove worthy of general cultivation. It is, I think, an important feature of our work to improve the varieties of fruits, both in the interest of the grower and of the consumer, and I do not think we should be hindered from giving our honest opinion of a new fruit, because it may help to make rich the originator or the introducer; nor should we hesitate to condemn a poor thing for any personal reasons of friendship to the introducer.

L. WOOLVERTON.

Prof. Wm. SAUNDERS (Ottawa).—I am glad the subject has been brought forward by the Secretary. Some of the new fruits that have been brought before us of late have great promise; but some of them may succeed in some parts and not in others. I think it is of very great importance to the fruit growers of our country to know just what is being done in this direction. I may add that I hope fruit growers will use the experimental farms in testing new fruits. I assure you that every precaution will be taken to keep the fruits from becoming public property.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Once more we have met together to render an account of our stewardship for the year, and in council to call from our various experiences such information as combined wisdom concludes to be important, as well as for the advancement of horticulture and the general benefit of our country. Nay, if we possess the true spirit of our profession, our aim will be to reach out to humanity with a desire to do good to our fellow man by upholding whatever store of knowledge we may have been able to extract from Nature's great storehouse of horticultural treasures. We are inspired into effort when we observe the good results of the labors of those who have gone before us; but still the field of research grows wider. The deeper we dig into the horticultural mine the clearer we see our own imperfections, and yet how keenly interest grows in the glorious study. There was a time when organizations such as ours were looked upon by an ungenerous public as a species of ring, working only for individual benefit; but with the spreading of interests, the dissemination of our discussions, and the unswerving persistence, generosity and honesty in principle of our pioneers in horticulture, to-day we find an appreciative audience. Other organizations with similar interests are working in full sympathy with us. Hand in hand we travel with our elder sister agriculture, and so interesting are the consultations we have had together that individual interest gives place to a feeling of duty to our country and interest in a general welfare.

But it is not enough that the agriculturist and horticulturist should foster an interest in our studies—the field is much wider and must include all kinds and conditions of humanity. But how shall we reach the masses? We must look to the rising generation, and in order to reach them we press for a place in common schools, that practical as well as theoretical horticulture may form a branch in the training of children. Our claim, too, is not based alone upon the money value to be reaped in after years from a knowledge of and interest in this subject; we aim higher and crave a hearing from our educational promoters as well as the public. Upon the grounds of morality and social purity in their wisest sense, we appeal to a Christian people that in the early training of children the kindling of an interest in nature's charm and treasures will lead the young mind to deeper investigation, and through this channel be led to a contemplation of our great Creator. In itself the study is elevating, refining and pure; we do not see the rough element of the human family taking to flowers; even in the lower walks of life we find those whose tastes are centered in the garden or forest flowers. Find such a man and we see an enchanted home, a kind and loving husband and father, and one whose sympathies are good and pure, whose children will live to bless him. It cannot be looked