

cieties, and we have as the total amount paid in 1877 by the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of Quebec the sum of \$1,645 as compared with \$11,094 in Ontario.

These amounts, though made with a good deal of labor, are not absolutely correct. There are some omissions, but minor ones, and the sums total we present as close approximations, and such as will serve to show what has been done by a sister province, what should be aimed at by ourselves.

Our HORTICULTURAL NEEDS are—

- (1) Hearty coöperation from the County Agricultural Societies.
- (2) Distinct and independent organization of Local Horticultural Societies, for localities whose needs cannot be reached by Agricultural coöperation.

It may be said that many parts of Quebec are too poor to take much interest in such things. Farmers on some soils will continue to remain poor till they become commercial orchardists. In some exceptional localities even that most uncertain fruit, the plum, yields large returns. Small fruits bring high profits, and with some such the Montreal market is badly provided. The cranberry we import largely, yet many samples said to be American and first class both in color and size are the spontaneous growth of our own swamps. Market gardening when near market yields a profit far above that of general agriculture. The culture of winter blooming plants near Montreal has perhaps brought the highest return of all and the fact that we import largely what our own climate can as easily and cheaply produce shows that production is far from over done.

There is use, too, in beauty; if we must say it, there is moneyed value as well. To surround our houses with those "vegetable aristocrats," trees, contrasting the massive with the graceful, the formal with the eccentric, the fastigate with the drooping, is not a matter of expense. Such grouping can be managed with our own forest trees and need cost but a minimum of labor. It is but a taste—a taste, it is true, which does not appear to be everywhere indigenous, yet Edenic enough to be worth propagating.

Local Horticultural Societies when first organized give their