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| Guarantee premium | \$20 00 |
| Clerk | 83 00 |
| Freight and Express | 9 01 |
| Secretary and Treasurer | 200 00 |
| Editor, Canadian Horticulturist | 300 00 |
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| | \$2,984 24 |
| Balance due Treasurer | 126 58 |
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| Total | \$2,857 66 |
| September 23rd, 1878. | |
| The balance due Treasurer | \$ 126 58 |
| Due on account Burnet Grape | 530 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | \$ 656 58 |

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We have examined the foregoing receipts and disbursements and found them correct, which shows a balance due the Treasurer of \$126.58.

(Signed) ROBERT ROY, } Auditors.
ANGUS SUTHERLAND,

Dated Hamilton, 23rd September, 1878.

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN:—To me, in the capacity of President of your Association, the great event of the year has again come round, and I find myself in the position of again addressing you on the fruit interests.

The subject is a wide and attractive one, and I wish that I could do it justice. Had I the ability and the practical knowledge of many now hearing me, the picture would be better, because better painted. Your indulgence, however, has been so long extended to me, and to my efforts, that I am emboldened to pass in review before you matters deeply affecting fruit-growers, and fruit interests in the Province.

Like all other commercial interests in the country, fruit interests have been passing through a time of trial. Season has succeeded season, and the hopes of the husbandman have been deferred, if not disappointed. As a rule, the present is a poor fruit year, though here and there, owing to local causes, and the great extent of our country, several varieties have succeeded, and made a good return. The great staple—apples—is everywhere almost a poor crop, the samples, however, being singularly fine.

After the most abundant promise of fruit ever witnessed in Ontario, three nights of frost well nigh annihilated the entire yield. This event occurred just at the most critical period, from the 12th to the 15th of May. The apple, pear, and cherry buds were just developing the pollen—the first, and finest berries on the strawberry—the whole of the cherry crop, and the early shoots of the vine were cut down as if they had never appeared. Currants, black and red, though the latter were more severely handled than the former, were entirely despoiled.

The feelings of the amateur and professional can be better imagined than portrayed. One gardener, in the neighbourhood of London, estimated his loss alone on his small fruits at \$1,000. The fruit which was not wholly destroyed was severely injured. Those blotches on many specimens of fruits have doubtless been caused by the frost.

Strawberries were gnarled, apples, in many cases, were covered with rough, russetted patches, indicative of the severity of the frost, and even plums had an injured side, thickened and blackened, where the early varieties had made sufficient progress to be exposed to the visitation.

With all said and done, however, some fine samples have been produced. Sparse crops have enabled the trees and vines to put forth greater efforts in wood production, and the remaining fruit is fine and largely developed.

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