ladies in the manner above stated, will not be deemed *ultra vires* of the Statute, by the powers that be. We desire to try the experiment, hoping for success. Our financial statement for 1897, shows that in addition to the nice premiums given to our society last spring by the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, which were much appreciated. Our directors procured and distributed flowers, plants and bulbs, to our 60 members to the amount of $42.61, and we have a cash balance in the Treasurer's hands from last year's receipts of $24.46 not a bad showing for our first year, our total receipts from members' subscriptions, Legislative grant, County grant, exhibition fees and sale of a few bulbs amounted together to $157.77 ; and our total disbursements, $133.31, leaving a balance in hand of $24.46. Every member receiving the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, are highly pleased with same.

Jos. BARKER, *Sec.*

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THE ORILLIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.— The annual meeting of the Orillia Horticultural Society was held on Wednesday, the 12th ult. The retiring President, Mr. Tool, occupied the chair. The Secretary-Treasurer made his usual financial report, showing, with a balance of $21.38 from 1896, total receipts of $261.08, of which $131.50 represented membership fees. The total expenditure was $171.65, leaving a balance on hand of $89.43.

Before vacating the chair, Mr. Tool suggested that in view of the satisfactory state of the finances and the great increase of the membership during the last two years, it might be desirable this year to assimilate the methods of the Society somewhat to those which prevailed in many societies throughout the province. It was complained of by many of the members, mostly residents of the town, that beyond the satisfaction of knowing that the Society seemed to be doing good work in its way, they received no value for their annual fee of one dollar each, whilst in some such societies, each member became, by affiliation, a member of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, and thereby entitled to a yearly subscription of the HORTICULTURIST, to receive the Association's Annual Report (a publication of much value) and to share in their annual plant distribution, and also a distribution of bulbs, plants, or seeds by the Horticultural Society. Most of the societies which give so much to members do not have exhibitions nor award prizes, so that all their funds are available for such purposes. The Orillia Society is of longer standing than most and began with shows and prizes, and it might not now be well to entirely give up their work in that direction ; but if the annual fee were to be raised to say $1.25 and a membership of two hundred gained, there would probably be funds enough to carry on both methods and it might be well that the society should consider the matter. A good deal of discussion followed Mr. Tool's remarks and it was moved by Messrs. G. H. Clark, and E. B. Alport, that the executive and Board of Directors for 1898 be requested to consider the matters, as suggested by Mr. Tool and that they be fully authorized to deal with them as they may think best. This was carried unanimously, and the meeting was then adjourned.

AN APPLE PUZZLE.

ⓣHE following addition to the apparent mystery and the errors of figures is taken from the St. Nicholas Magazine. Perhaps some of our clever Model School or Collegiate Institute scholars can furnish a solution and tell where "the hole in the saucepan " is :—"Once upon a time there were two old men who sat in the market early every morning and sold apples. Each one had thirty apples, and one of the old men sold two for a cent. and the other old man sold three for a cent. In that way the first old man got fifteen cents for his basket of apples, while the other old man received ten cents, so that together they made twenty-five cents each day.

"But one day the old apple-man who sold three for a cent was too sick to go to the market, and he asked his neighbor to take his apples and sell them for him. This the other old man kindly consented to do, and when he got to market with the two baskets of apples he said to himself : 'I will put all the apples in one basket, for it will be easier than picking them out of two baskets.' So he put sixty apples into one basket and said to himself : ' Now, if I sell two apples for one cent, and my old friend sells three for one cent, that is the same thing as selling five apples for two cents ; therefore, I will sell five apples for two cents.'

"When he had sold the sixty apples he found he had only twenty-four cents, which was right, because there are twelve fives in sixty, and twice twelve is twenty-four. But if the other old man had been there, and each had sold his apples separately, they would have received twenty-five cents. Now, how is that explained ? "