

THE BRANTFORD MEETING.



SINCE a verbatim report has been taken of this meeting, to be sent out from the Department of Agriculture to all our members early in 1893, it is unnecessary to give any detailed account here of the work accomplished at our last annual winter meeting. Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather the local attendance was large, and the efforts of our directorate to encourage the fruit growing industry of the section, seem to be fully appreciated.

Principal Dymond presided at the welcome meeting at the Institute for the Blind, and showed us every possible courtesy, favoring us with a rich musical treat in the performance of several instrumental and vocal selections of classic music by the pupils. Mayor Secord, in well-chosen words, welcomed us to Brantford, and President Pettit in his address spoke hopefully of our work, and called upon the directors to aid him in making a creditable display of fresh fruit at Chicago, during the coming summer.

There was a large attendance for the day meeting at the Court House. The greater part of the first morning was spent discussing Prof. Craig's paper on "Plums Native to America." The classified list appearing in our report, with illustrations, will be exceedingly valuable for reference. The afternoon was largely occupied with apple growing, spraying, windbreaks, and bee-keeping as an adjunct to fruit growing. Mr. Holterman, who read the paper on this latter subject, did not advise a fruit grower to undertake bee-keeping if his time were already pretty fully occupied; in such a case it would probably not pay, but otherwise there is money in the business, even at the present low prices for honey. In his own case the profits of two years had about equalled the whole value of his stock of ninety-five colonies, worth, say, \$700. Besides this the fruit grower has the special advantage of the usefulness of bees in the fertilization of the fruit blossoms. In reckoning his profits he had reckoned his time at \$1.25 per day.

Prof. Pantan's lecture Wednesday evening, on "Enemies in Horticulture," illustrated with stereopticon views, was much appreciated, and will be put in shape for our report. Some excellent music was contributed by local talent, which much enlivened the meeting. In reply to a question on the best six varieties of apples to cover the whole season, Mr. A. McD. Allan, gave the following list: Duchess, Gravenstein, Ribston, Blenheim, King, and Ontario;