

The President said he had never been able to discover the disease until the fruit appeared.

Mr. Smith thought that it could not be definitely distinguished unless bearing fruit.

Mr. Haskins was asked to give his opinion, but said he didn't know enough about it.

Col. Brooks said that suffering came from sin—some transgression of the law. They possibly had been careless; hence the breaking out of this disease. He believed in the primitive soil, and thought that no such productions as potatoes, pumpkins, etc., should be put in to rob the delicate fruit trees of the elements of the soil which they required to bring them to perfection.

The further discussion of the subject was deferred, and the regular programme of business proceeded with. In the meantime Dr. Watt will prepare a draft of a Bill to be submitted first to the Association, and subsequently to the Local Legislature.

#### THE PLANTING OF SHADE TREES.

Mr. Beall, of Lindsay, read the following paper on "The Advisability and Feasibility of using the Canadian Walnut Tree as a Shade and Ornamental Tree throughout Canada :"

Forty years ago, when probably there was not more than one-fifth as much cleared land in Ontario as there is to-day, the idea seemed generally to have prevailed that the woods must be utterly destroyed before the country would be suited for the operations of the husbandman; but thousands of persons throughout this fair land see that the wanton destruction of our noble forest by the early settler was far too general, and are now endeavouring to remedy the evil in some degree by planting various kinds of trees in places where most required. The inhabitants of our cities, towns and villages seem generally to have taken the lead in this good work; but many of our rural settlements are already giving evidence, in the long lines of stately maples and other deciduous trees along some of our country roads, that the landowners have become aware of the necessity of planting largely of trees for the protection of their lands from the evil effects of high winds, as well as for shade and shelter for their live stock; and where this has been accomplished to any considerable extent, the owners find that they have added much to the beauty of the landscape, and thereby greatly enhanced the value of their real estate. Now that the good work of tree planting in the rural sections so largely prevails, the question very naturally suggests itself, what is the best kind to plant? My answer is, that no tree indigenous to this Province has so many and such strong claims for consideration at the present time as the black walnut tree (*Juglans Nigra*). It is easily propagated—requiring little or no skill in its cultivation; grows rapidly, has a fine appearance even while comparatively young, and when old is one of the most magnificent trees to be found in this or any other country, and, in addition to this, it is at maturity the most valuable of all our trees for its timber. It is easily propagated; for all that is required to produce the most satisfactory results is to plant the nuts about the latter part of October, about two inches deep, in the spots where the trees are needed, in a deep, rich clay soil that has been thoroughly subsoiled; and its after cultivation is simply to let it alone; to permit nothing to touch the young trees. I am not aware that any other hardwood tree grows so rapidly as the black walnut tree. A growth of from three to five feet in height during the first summer is not infrequent, and when the soil is suitable its growth is proportionately rapid for many years. I have twenty-five or thirty trees now on my grounds from fifteen to twenty feet high, with fine heads from ten to fifteen feet in diameter, all grown from nuts planted eight or nine years ago. No other trees have given me so much satisfaction as these. They have a fine appearance, and when in leaf make an excellent shade tree. The foliage emits a strong aromatic odor, very agreeable to most persons, and the tree when in a healthy state is always free from caterpillars and other noxious insects. Downing, writing of this tree, says, "When full grown it is scarcely inferior in the boldness of its ramification or the amplitude of its head to the oak or chestnut; and what it lacks in spirited outline, when compared with those trees, is fully compensated, in our estimation, by its superb and heavy masses of foliage, which catch and throw off the broad lights and shadows in the finest manner."