

The President being absent, the Vice-President, J. C. Rykert, M.P.P., took the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer read his annual report, shewing the receipts and disbursements for the past year.

The President's annual address was read by the Secretary. It was listened to with much interest, and on motion of Mr. Saunders, the thanks of the meeting were voted to the President therefor, and the manuscript referred to the Committee on Printing for publication.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then held, which resulted as follows, namely:—

President—Rev. R. Burnet, Hamilton.

Vice-President—J. C. Rykert, M.P.P., St. Catharines.

Secretary-Treasurer—D. W. Beadle, Esq., St. Catharines.

Directors—Messrs. John Gray and Geo. Leslie, Jr., Toronto; J. A. Allen, Kingston; W. Holton and W. H. Mills, Hamilton; A. B. Bennett, Brantford; W. Saunders, London; D. Caldwell, Galt; C. Arnold, Paris.

Auditors—W. L. Copeland and W. J. McCalla, St. Catharines.

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The Directors feel much gratification in being able to report the continued growth and prosperity of the Association. Since their last report three meetings have been held for discussions and exhibition of fruit, at Hamilton, in February and July, and at Goderich in September. The meeting at Goderich was well attended, and the display of fruits of unusual excellence. It was very evident from the appearance of the fruit shown from Goderich and vicinity, that this part of the Province is very favourable to the production of fine fruits, and the members returned from this meeting more favourably impressed than ever with the fine fruit producing capabilities of our Province. The Directors trust that invitations will be received and accepted for the holding of one or more of the regular meetings the coming year, in other remote parts of the Province, fully believing that the holding of such meetings is of great benefit both in awakening a deeper interest in fruit culture among the residents of that particular neighbourhood, and in bringing the fruit growers in all parts of the Province into closer relations with each other.

The Association distributed among its members, during the past spring, a tree of the Beurré d'Anjou Pear, and a plant of the Early Wilson Blackberry, and of the Mammoth Cluster Raspberry, with the understanding that the recipients are to report to the Secretary the success or failure of the same in their several localities. By this means we shall soon ascertain the value of these fruits in the greater part of the Province, which knowledge will be of great importance to future planters. Already the Eumelan Grape, distributed in 1870 to the members of the Association, has in a few instances shown fruit, and very soon we will know whether it is a desirable grape for general cultivation in the Province. We have directed the Secretary to supply all the members whose trees and plants failed to reach them last spring, or who became members since their distribution, with the same next season; and to replace those that have died, so far as he may be able to ascertain their loss.

The Directors have not yet decided what they will distribute among the members in 1872, but the President has suggested, and strongly recommended that we distribute a work now in preparation by our Secretary, entitled the "Canadian Fruit, Flower and Kitchen Gardener," designed to be a guide to Canadian cultivators in all matters relating to the cultivation of fruits, flowers and vegetables. The question is laid over until a future meeting, when it is hoped we will be able to see a considerable portion, if not the whole, of the work, and decide upon the propriety of acting upon the President's recommendation.

During the past winter a barrel, containing forty varieties of apples, was sent by us to the Fruit Grower's Association of Nova Scotia, which was received by them in good order. The correspondence relating thereto, will be embodied in full, in the Annual Report to Government.

The request for scions made by our friends in Nova Scotia, has been most gladly complied with to the extent of our ability at the time, and we hope to be able to furnish them with anything they may want.

We have also directed the Secretary to send scions to persons residing in the colder sec-

tions of the country of the day.

We have taken in regard to the competent persons, the hope of accomplishing the charge with them, with instruction and its capabilities such culture, its therein as might be were the court, Dougall and Beadle; the vice comprised within Leslie. The regular annual report.

We have also seedlings that may sum not exceed during the year, to pay the same. For the prizes her the award of such apples,) to disqualify fruit, such as peaches.

The Directors

First. An apple, thoroughly tested, is in Ontario.

Second. The apple.

THIRTY DOLLARS

TWENTY DOLLARS

All these to be more than two dozen specimens. President of the Association, what, in the opinion of the dessert, good, productive.

Third. The specimen, including a specimen on the merits of

FIFTEEN DOLLARS

Fourth. The Gooseberry and the development as seen

FIFTEEN DOLLARS

the Secretary, D. W. Beadle, 1872, and bear a medal on the outside

Fifth. To any one who has given five thousand of the TWENTY DOLLARS thousand, the sum of

furnishing him with We have also fruits that have been