

and put up strictly first-class samples. Orchards that have come into bearing have generally yielded such satisfactory returns that more trees have been planted, and such has been the increased planting of orchards for commercial purposes that it is apparent our fruits will soon become an important part of our products, a source of wealth to the Province, and a valuable item of export.

Thanking you for the interest you have ever manifested in the welfare of this Association and the liberal and enlightened encouragement given to all its efforts to promote the fruit growing interests of Ontario.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient servant,

D. W. BEADLE,

*Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.*

## PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held in the Agricultural Hall, Yonge Street, Toronto, on the Evening of the 23rd day of September, 1878.

The President took the Chair and called the meeting to order. The Secretary read the minutes of the last annual meeting.

The Directors submitted their annual Report.

### DIRECTORS' REPORT.

Your Directors take much pleasure in being able to state that during the past year there has been continued interest manifested in the operations of the Association by the members, and that the meetings have been very interesting and, we believe, productive of good results. The winter meeting was held at Hamilton, in February, the summer meeting at St. Catharines, and the autumn meeting at Sarnia.

This year has been marked by a new feature in the work of the Association. It has for a long time seemed to be very desirable that we should have some medium of intercourse between the members on horticultural subjects, more frequent than the annual Report, something that would present as often as once a month topics of interest to our membership, and become a record of our progress. After careful deliberation your Directors decided to issue a monthly serial of sixteen pages, devoted to the interests of this Association. The ninth number is already in your hands, and we hope you have found this publication a welcome visitor at your homes. It is not intended to supply fully the place of the annual Report, but to place more promptly before you information that has hitherto been obliged to remain until the close of the year.

In the spring we caused the Burnet Grape to be sent to all the members, and have reason to believe that the plants were carefully put up and mailed, and trust that this variety will prove a decided acquisition to our list of grapes.

This has been the first year of our history under the provisions of the Act confining our representation in the directorship to that of the Agricultural Association. As was to be expected this change has added to the expense of attendance upon the meetings of the board, and this, together with the increased expenditure incident to the publication of our monthly, has more than absorbed the means at our command. (We trust that in as much as this increased expense is largely due to the passage of the new Act our Legislators will see the propriety of soon adding to our annual grant.)

We have to lament the death of one of the members of the board. Francis Hansford Hora, died at his residence, near Kingston, on the 4th of May last. Deeply interested in promoting the objects of this Association, it was a pleasure to him to do all that he could to help on the work of gathering and disseminating information on the subject of fruit culture.

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