

The Flemish Beauty and Beurre Clairgeau are, however, the king of pears. Wherever they have been disseminated, they have done well. The Flemish Beauty is adapted for almost every district in our land. It does well at Hull, opposite Ottawa, and flourishes at Meaford, Collingwood, and Owen Sound. The Beurre Clairgeau is a noble fruit. It requires only to be known to be appreciated. We have never known a tree of the Beurre Clairgeau blight. This, however, may not be the experience of the larger growers.

In speaking of the almost uniform success that has attended the distribution of trees by the Association, and the happy results to fruit-growers and others, it would be unpardonable not to notice the real source and strength of our efforts in this direction. It is the governmental aid that enables us to make such efforts as we are doing for the good of the fruit interests of our country. Surely it is a wise provision of our Legislative Assembly. It has often occurred to us, that seeing the wonderful amount of good being accomplished by the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, that the grant is not increased. Surely double the amount would not be considered too large a sum by the politicians at the helm of affairs, for the advancement of such an important interest as that of the Association clearly is. What is the Society doing for an increase of the grant?

It may be possible that our Society is languishing for the want of a vehicle to convey its doings and its efforts to an appreciative public. In these days of reading and publishing, the society that overlooks the assistance to be obtained from the use of the fourth estate, will soon fall in public favour however beneficent its aims may be.

Let the members of the Association plead with their representatives in the Legislative Assembly to urge the claims of our Society, and as the great lever to accomplish their purpose, let them point to the profitable and truly admirable individual and provincial results that have accrued from the distribution of plants and trees by the Society. Success demands consideration. Means are wanted to render the Society a still greater and greater success. Economically administered, the funds are fairly spent for the advantage of the whole constituency of our Province. Greater means, and thereby increasing responsibility, would meet with greater consideration and more marked success.

As an omen of good, we notice the reconstruction of the Dominion Board of Agriculture, under the leadership of the Hon. Mons. Pelletier. Great results may be expected to flow from his patriotic purposes and plans. We trust that an effort will be made by the Dominion Board for the introduction of foreign, but to us new, fruit trees of all fruitful varieties. We rest satisfied that the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario has set a fair example of a course that has been productive of abundant good in the past, and more than likely to be productive of increasing good in the time to come.

## SECOND PRIZE ESSAY ON THE BEST MODE OF ACQUIRING STATISTICS WITH REGARD TO THE QUANTITY OF ORCHARDING IN ONTARIO, AND THE AVERAGE ANNUAL PRODUCT.

MOTTO:—"Order is Heaven's first Law."

BY GEO. MILL, WARWICK.

In modern times, the science of statistics is applied to almost every kind of business with beneficial results. The increase or decrease of population, the progress and effects of education, epidemics, commerce, agriculture, etc., are all subjects of statistical investigation. Statistics are the account books of a country, the storehouse from which politicians, historians, correct thinkers and reasoners draw some of their principal conclusions.

Notwithstanding the obvious advantages of this science, it must be admitted that it has its difficulties, and in nothing are these more perceptible than in the statistics of fruit growing. Although there are certain leading principles recognised by intelligent fruit growers yet it is not uncommon to find them holding opinions "wide as the poles asunder," on the culture and general management of orchards. For instance, one fruit grower will insist on the necessity of having the ground where apple trees are planted thoroughly underdrained, while another will assert with any amount of confidence that trees planted on the surface with the ground well ridged up will do equally as well, if not better, than where the ground is

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