

Forestry Congress, at one of its Montreal meetings in August last said—"Agriculture is, in truth, the basis of a nation's greatness," and a much higher authority than he tells us—"the profit of the earth is for all, the King himself is served by the field." Recognizing the force of these truisms, being convinced that horticulture is but agriculture in a more advanced and more perfected form, and knowing that the Agricultural Societies throughout Quebec are deservedly sustained by liberal grants, we would respectfully remind the Council that our Horticultural Society is entitled, in all fairness, to something like a just appropriation of the bounty of the Province.

Our Association, you will remember, is but two years old ; if it continues to progress in the future, as it has done from its birth, we may look forward with confidence, in the course of a few years, to a well developed and vigorous maturity. Our farmers are only beginning to realize and recognize its importance ; there can be no better means of conveying practical lessons of useful instruction in the school of horticulture, than by open competition at our annual shows. We would invite all residents within the Province to "come over and help us." They may rely upon a kindly reception, and that their exhibits shall be judged by the only true standard—merit. We would also call the attention of our members, and of those intending to become members, to one of our Regulations, No. 16, which says—"The Prize List is open to competition, to members and their families, free." We would be much rejoiced to find several out of the same family, girls and boys, all competing for prizes ; of course only one of the family can compete in the same section.

We cannot conclude this Report without tendering our warmest and well deserved thanks to Mr. J. M. Browning, Montreal, for the repeated acts of kindness which he has conferred upon us, and for the valuable information he gave us, in our infancy, as an organization ; to Mr. Henry S. Evans, the energetic and courteous Secretary of the Montreal Horticultural Society, for several volumes of Pomological and Agricultural Reports, as also the Report of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario for 1881 ; to the many kind