

*clad.*" How true is it that necessity is the mother of invention. Practical men of judgment and discernment are the authors of profitable ideas. We must encourage the production of hardy varieties, the rigour of our climate demands, as Mr. Gott says, the *ironclad* among apples, pears, peaches, and grapes. All success to the pioneers in this desirable field for the aggrandisement of human happiness and human comfort.

To those of you, who anticipate evils to our own grape-growing from the *Phylloxera*, and its introduction and propagation, by the means taken to induce the planting of a larger acreage, and that by the very suggestions made in this paper, I would merely say, that there is a margin for the cultivation of the grape in Canada. Our summers are shorter than those in more southern climes, and in the countries named,—less time is therefore allowed for its ravages,—the temperature is cooler,—and hence its exertions are less active. Our very position may yet give us the command of one of the most profitable of the commercial interests of the world—the fruit market. Ontario is yet destined to take a foremost place in fruit-growing, and if her cultivators are true to themselves, they may yet derive the profit and advantages connected with the most extensive fruit operations.

I'll run the risk of being thought an annexationist, and urge upon our people, the study of the Americans at home. What push and dexterity they show in carrying on their commercial operations. What did not Longworth do for Cincinnati? What are not speculators doing for the vine-growing islands in Lake Erie? We want a few of such men, men of push. There is no reason why we should not go and do likewise. Grape-growing encounters no difficulties in Canada, that have not been equally prevalent in the States.

At the risk of repetition, I would again urge upon our Association to secure and disseminate the white raisin grape raised by Mr. Reid, of Port Dalhousie. It is, and has been to me, a subject of wonder, that a berry so promising should have been allowed to remain under a bushel, or a bed for that matter, for the last ten years. I fear something is wrong either with the producer, Mr. Reid, or with the Association, or with both. What is true of Mr. Reid's grape is equally true of the Fellenberg plum. Mr. William Roy, of Owen Sound, has again and again called attention to this important fruit, so admirably adapted for drying, but the call has fallen on inattentive ears, and the merits of the plum are left to do honour to the few who appreciate it themselves, but who find it exceedingly difficult to inoculate others with their furor. I do wish that somebody would fire a thirty-ton gun on these and kindred matters from that good piece of ordinance the *Horticulturist*, and awaken our members and outsiders to the importance of giving a lift forward, and upward, to those fruits, that are of first-class merit and value. We do require a few strong men—weaklings are no avail.

It were unpardonable were I to omit mention of the improvements recently made in exhibiting our fruits. We have long submitted to the incubus of "this is how it has been," and "this is how it is to be." It is impossible satisfactorily to view and judge of fruit packed as close as peas on our show tables, with scarcely a space separating the individual's specimens, and, if separated, parted with a piece of dirty "Globe," or "Mail."

Through the intelligent action of Colonel Shanly, and the admirable executive ability of Aldermen Withrow, Close, and their able colleagues, we have a Hall, for our purposes, containing fruits and flowers alone.

I am vain of this triumph. For years I have striven to attain this consummation. When at Ottawa, the mere mention of the propriety of such an arrangement to Col. Shanly was enough to secure its accomplishment. To him, gentlemen, you are indebted for your fruit and flower Hall at this Exhibition at Toronto. We only trust, that other places seeing and appreciating the advantages, will go and do likewise. In speaking of this Exhibition, it seems befitting that I should notice how admirably things have been appointed. The means of classification which have been afforded us, and our agricultural confreres, have tended to give a prominence to exhibits, which never before has been the case in our Provincial Show.

Let me say that what has been done in your department in your fruit Exhibition is very marked in other departments.

Stoves have been separated from the Babel generally found in all central buildings—cheese with its wholesome flavours, and living freight, has been relegated to a house appropriated for the sole purpose of its exhibition. Elsewhere we had it in close proximity to our beautiful grapes. This is a mighty improvement on the delightfully blended smells of cabbage leaves, turnips, beets and onions, with those of butter and cheese. Thanks to the unstinted liberality of the Corporation of Toronto led by the broad and popular views of a Mor-