

In conclusion I may say that I have had the honor of being a full private member of this Association all these years, and have seen with pleasure its rise and progress to its present character, and the assistance it received from such noble men as Rev. Mr. Burnett, Wm. Saunders, Judge Logie, P. C. Dempsey and others. And I wonder why I, who have done so little to advance the work, should still live at nearly four score, while these useful men, younger than I, have been called away. But we bless their names for their works which follow them, and we hope to meet

"On the other side of Jordan  
In the sweet fields of Eden,  
Where the tree of life is blooming,"

where the eternal tree of life bears everlasting fruit, instead of temporary trees bearing perishable fruit only once a year.

### GARDENING IN RELATION TO CIVILIZATION.

BY PROF. SHORT, OF QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON.

When I was asked to contribute a paper or address to this Association I felt, of course, extremely flattered, but I felt also that I had really nothing that was worth contributing to gentlemen who were so well acquainted with the practical aspects of gardening, fruit culture, and so on, and I was therefore at a loss to know on what subject I might address the Association; but being a lover of gardens and a reader of history and a student of civilization, I thought that possibly I might select something which would enable me to approach you more in my own line. Therefore I thought that possibly I might throw some suggestions before you of a historic nature, dealing with the relation of gardening to the progress of civilization. I may take as the text of my remarks the statement by that eminent philosopher, noted scientist, great statesman—and, I am sorry to add, great political boddler—Lord Bacon, once Chancellor of England. He said, in one of his inimitable essays: "God Almighty first planted a garden, and indeed it is one of the purest of human pleasures. It refreshes the spirits of men, and without it, buildings and palaces would be but mere gross handiwork; and a man shall ever see that when nations grow to civility and elegance, man comes to build stately sooner than to garden finely, as if gardening were the greater perfection." And indeed the remainder of this essay is an extremely good illustration of this fact; for while it expresses the science of the new development in gardening of the Elizabethan period, yet it does not express that perfection of gardening which the architecture of that period expressed in the stately mansions which were then rising all over the fair British land. But although I shall return to that period as an extremely interesting one in the history of gardening, let me briefly refer to some of the earlier stages. Now, civilization is something which, in its origin, is shared by the few. The great mass of men in the early stages know little or nothing of the forces which are leading them on. They know only that which interests them immediately, but not the final outcome of that, nor the bearing of it on their future development. Only kings and princes, slave-masters and so on, know or have a glimmering of what is meant; and those are the men in ancient times who build palaces, plant gardens, rear fancy animals, and in general lead the lines of civilization. Later on, when we find an aristocracy rising, we find these men surrounded by others who are equally interested in such things, and who become the patrons of art and the leaders of civilization; and the great merchants and the great traders and politicians, and so on, come to be the leaders of humanity and carry on the progress of man. And then, of course, when we come down to our modern times, and begin to recognize what democracy means, and the spread of this thing abroad, these things come to be shared by the common man; and it is one of the chief features of congratulation of our modern civilization that it has carried forth to the common man, to the ordinary citizen, the opportunities and privileges of civilization; that he can now have a

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