

close fence. The thorn of this country had sprung up in parts of the hedge row, and grew so much more vigorously than the original plants that it took entire possession of the fence. He thought this thorn well suited for the purpose of a hedge in this country. In reference to the "post and board fence" described by Mr. McDougall, he would like to ask him if he did not think even less wooden material would answer, by making the bank considerably higher?

Mr. McDougall said the objection to that would be, that a greater breadth of ground would be necessary to give such a slope to the embankment as to prevent washing and crumbling. The additional labor, also,—for the plough would not raise the bank sufficiently—would be an item of some importance.

Mr. R. L. Dennison had made a piece of fence on this plan some years ago, and he considered it the best fence he ever made. The embankment was 2ft. high, and about 3ft. base. He used only two boards. He thought the ditch no evil, but a benefit. Nothing ever got through this fence. He intended to make the same kind of fence next season, but he should use rails instead of boards. In answer to a member he said, the entire height, from the level of the ground, was about 3½ feet.

The President asked if any member could give information in regard to the locust, mentioned by one of Mr. McDougall's correspondents.

Mr. Mundie had tried the Honey Locust in the neighbourhood of Hamilton, but thought it would not endure the winter in this vicinity. West of Hamilton it flourishes, and makes a good hedge plant. The Osage Orange is also killed down in this part of the country, but above Hamilton it stands the climate very well. He considered the native thorn better than either, for hedge purposes.

Mr. Dennison knew a hedge of the Osage Orange which had had the best of care that was badly winter-killed. It might be seen at the residence of Judge Harrison, near this city.

Mr. Fleming thought it would not be prudent to recommend the Osage Orange for this vicinity.

Professor Croft had tried the honey locust. He had planted 100 locusts, and they stood the winter remarkably well.

Rev. Mr. Schreiber was of opinion from the observation he had made, that the Native Thorn was the best suited for fence purposes. He mentioned a hedge of English Thorn at Elmsley Villa, which though it was neglected, was yet so thick and strong that it would turn anything. He believed a good Thorn Hedge the cheapest fence in the end. The English Thorn took 8 or 10 years to make a fence. He had bought the plants in England for 7s. per 1000. He had used iron hurdles heavier than those mentioned by Mr. Beckett, but they would not resist unruly animals. They were very good for sheep. They cost 7s. 6d. each.

Mr. Grey had seen a hedge of the Osage Orange near Rochester. It did very well for a few years, but if the temperature falls 20° below zero it will kill them. He also saw a hedge of Buckthorn in the same neighbourhood which made an excellent fence. He had tried it with perfect success in Canada. No insects would touch it. He admitted it was not plentifully supplied with thorns, as other kinds, but nothing would get through it. He was decidedly opposed to the English Thorn in this country. It was a complete nursery for the *blight*, and would kill the orchards in the vicinity.

Rev. Mr. Schreiber recommended *nux vomica* to destroy field mice. A little placed around the fields would soon dispose of them. He thought nothing of that difficulty.

Mr. Fleming had the charge of a hedge of English thorn, and had not observed blight upon the old trees. No doubt great care was required to avoid it.

Rev. Mr. Schreiber asked if the same objection applied to the Canadian thorn?

Mr. Fleming said not. He had seen a good rough hedge of the native thorn. It was not so ornamental as the English thorn, but it would turn cattle. It would do so in about seven years. The great point was to transplant. By transplanting and cutting the tap-roots, it would thicken and make a good fence. Failures with the native thorn would be from want of knowledge.

Colonel Thompson thought it was about sixteen years since some English farmers brought out quicks from England, and attempted to grow hedges, with great confidence, in the township of Toronto; but he believed they never succeeded in enclosing a field. No portion of their hedges would turn small animals. Whether it was because they neglected them, or because the soil and climate was unsuitable, he could not say. Probably their other labours were so great that they could not take proper care of their fences.