

The Association has also from time to time offered and awarded prizes for the best essays on subjects connected with horticulture. Such essays have been published, and other papers of a similar kind, and these publications are known to have given an impetus to horticulture among the yeomanry of our Western Province.

The Council of the Association has also offered prizes for collections of insects beneficial and prejudicial to agriculture and horticulture, and at this moment several of the most learned and enthusiastic entomologists in the country are members of our Association, ever ready to hold their ability and knowledge at the disposal and for the instruction of our Association. Nor ought mention to be forgotten of the efforts the Agricultural Board are making in the same direction, it having recently contributed a handsome sum for a similar purpose. Prizes for the encouragement of hybridizers, and producers of new and valuable fruits, have been held out as inducements for members to enter the arena, and contend with enthusiastic producers on the other side of the line. The future is big with wonders, through the efforts of such men as Wilder, Dana, Hovey, and Grant.

Correspondence, too, has been opened up with the neighbouring Provinces, and an interchange of fruits for exhibition has been the result. Our reports are thus widely circulated, and only the other day we received a valuable gift on agriculture from Sir William Young, through the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia. We desire others to share in the advancement of the common good of this and the other Provinces of Canada.

More recently we have entered upon another means for the advancement of fruit culture, in that we have unanimously agreed to present to every member a specimen of some new vine or fruit tree. This year, "the Euamelan," a new vine, highly recommended, will be placed in the hands of every member desiring it, on condition of reporting to our Society of its success or failure during the next five years; a condition we hope to see generally complied with.

Nor does the Association leave the horticulturist at a loss what to do with his fruit, and how to keep it, after he has raised it. We have had profitable discussions on the marketing and preserving of fruits. We desire generalization on both matters, and anxiously look to the old and new members for expressions of their experience on such matters, in order to a wide circulation for the public benefit.

There is just one desideratum that we would like to mention, and that is the enlistment of the middle class of society in this good work—the encouragement of the amateur who has only his quarter or half an acre. The study and practice of horticulture has an elevating and humanizing tendency. To the wearied artisan on his return from a heavy day's work, there is nothing so refreshing as

the tending of a few fruit trees in his garden patch. Indeed, wherever this taste has assumed the form of enthusiasm, comfort, content, health and happiness, have almost invariably been the concomitants. With the increase of fresh members, intent on the accomplishment of the grand objects of the Association, we may look for fresh successes and triumphs on new and unbroken ground.

ROBERT BURNET, President.
D. W. BEADLE, Secretary.

The Curculio.

A PRICE SET ON HIS HEAD.

The season is rapidly approaching when this plunderer of our plum orchards commences his operations, and those who wish to save their fruit must be on the watch for this most mischievous insect.

In order to facilitate the detection of the animal, we give a portrait of his person, in the first cut greatly magnified, and in the second of the natural size. Fig. 1 is a side view; fig. 2 shows the appearance from the



back; fig. 4 represents the insect in the act of perforating the young plum; and fig. 3 the crescent mark left after the operation.



To encourage their destruction the Fruit Growers Association offers to pay a handsome bounty for their bodies. Any and every person sending to Mr. William Saunders, of London, two thousand of the plum curculio, will be paid the sum of twenty dollars; or sending one thousand, the sum of ten dollars; or sending five hundred, the sum of five dollars. The transportation must be prepaid. Those who wish to send these insects to Mr. Saunders will find a strong wide-mouthed vial or small bottle very convenient. By filling this about two-thirds full of sawdust, and then wetting

it thoroughly with alcohol, brandy, or strong whiskey, and putting the curculios into this as soon as they are caught, they will creep into the saw-dust and be preserved by the spirits until ready to be sent to Mr. Saunders. The vial should be kept closely corked. In counting the insects Mr. Saunders will, of course, reject any insects sent which are not the true plum curculio. As soon as they have been counted he will send by mail to the sender of the insects a certificate which will entitle the holder to the bounty money, on application to the treasurer, Mr. D. W. Beadle, at St. Catharines. Surely the combined inducements of a crop of fruit and the liberal bounty should have the effect of greatly lessening the numbers of this troublesome pest.

Trees for Shelter and Ornament.

To the Editor.

SIR,—I am delighted to notice your plea on behalf of planting trees, and I am confident that instead of its being, as at present, considered a luxury, in a few years it will become a necessity in this country. When I commenced clearing my land, some thirty-five years ago, and had fixed on the site of my house, I determined to save a good many of the trees near the house, and although folks laughed at me I stuck to my notion.

The only mistake I made was in saving too many of large growth, and cutting down too many of the young ones. A good many of the large trees were blown down by the heavy summer gales which often accompany thunder storms, but I have a number of fine trees yet; particularly elms, maples, and basswood or lime. The beech and the ironwood do not stand well as single trees. I have an elm tree in my garden, I think about eighty years old, having a nice natural bower on one side, where I keep a garden chair in summer. The branches reach to the ground, and with a little trouble there is room on the other side for a second chair. I would recommend settlers going into the woods, who love trees, to cut down all the large timber near their houses, but spare the young trees from six inches in diameter downwards, and if they do not experience the good of them in some years after, I shall be much astonished. In our hot summer days it is pleasing to see the horses and cattle standing under the grateful shade of the trees enjoying themselves, instead of being roasted in the bare burning heat of the open fields.

With regard to the hemlock, I cannot understand why it should be so delicate; but I have had a good many transplanted, of various sizes, and they do not in general seem to thrive, though they seem to flourish in the woodland. The basswood, too, is very tender, and does not bear transplanting well, which is a pity, as it is a beautiful tree and stands the wind well. I sowed a little plot with soft maple and basswood in my garden at the same time and in the same place. The