

the distribution of this valuable book will, we feel sure, serve to largely increase the list of new members for 1891.

One of the very practical subjects which was discussed at the meeting was the manner in which express companies in Ontario handle our tender fruits in transporting them to the various markets. This matter was first introduced at the Summer Meeting, by Mr. T. H. Race, of Mitchell. Many complaints were made by various members present, showing what great damage had been done to their packages of choice fruit by careless handling in loading and unloading, and in setting away on board the cars. It was thought that better accommodation should be provided, and that more time should be given for the careful loading and unloading of such perishable goods, especially considering the very high price which these companies charge. The whole matter was referred to a committee, who brought in the following report, which was adopted by the Association :—

That the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, on behalf of the fruit growers and shippers of this Province, hereby condemn the action of our express companies in their system of handling, stowing and transferring their fruits from the points of loading to the markets. That through their unnecessary rough handling and delays in transferring the fruit, growers are constantly sustaining heavy damage, for which, at present, there seems to be no reasonable remedy. We, therefore, hereby memorialize the Dominion Government to enact such legislation in the premises as will relieve the fruit growers and shippers by providing an enactment that will enable them to recover substantial damages from such express companies, and that the companies be compelled to carry such fruits to points of destination upon express train scheduled time.

Another subject of practical importance to our fruit growers was the inspection of fruit. It was agreed by all present that it would be a great boon to fruit growers in Ontario if there was some standard of excellence by which the various fruits could be sold upon mentioning their grade. If some plan could be devised by which buyers would be able to judge with confidence of the quality of the fruit they were purchasing, the prices which they would offer would be much in advance of those at present received by us, and we would find much more ready markets for our fruits. This also was referred to a committee, whose report also was adopted. Their report was as follows :—

That we deem it in the best interests of the fruit growers, shippers and customers, as well as the good name of our country, that a standard of excellence be established for such fruits as are shipped in barrels and other close packages into the markets of our cities and towns and for exportation to foreign countries, and that this Association memorialize the Dominion authorities to appoint an inspector for that purpose.

There was an attempt made at the preparation of a district fruit list, showing the fruit best adapted to each agricultural district, or division of such, in our province. This, however, was very incomplete, and will be subject to very considerable amendment before it is adopted. For instance, the Early Harvest was given, as one reported by a large number of local growers, as among the most profitable of summer apples (for their district). Now, it is evident to all who have had experience with this apple that it is utterly worthless on account of the scab. This renders it wholly unfit for market, and, of late, it is also