

Professor Beckland was then introduced to the meeting. He commenced by referring to a visit he had made to the town of Milton some ten or twelve years ago, on the occasion of a County Fair. Even then there were many pleasing indications of the advanced and prosperous condition of the farmers in the County of Halton. There had, however, manifestly been great improvement since, and the erection of the hall they had met to open was a proof that the agriculturists of Halton were determined not to be in the background. The speaker then proceeded to give some of the results of his observations in a rather extended tour he had recently made in the United States. He spoke at some length of the Cheese Factory system, and its practical working in these localities where it had been introduced, and expressed the opinion that at least in some parts of Canada the adoption of this system would be found advantageous. There were difficulties connected with it, but cheese could be manufactured more cheaply, and of more uniformly good quality, on this plan than on the plan of private dairies. He then referred to the culture of hops, which was very largely carried on in some parts of the State of New York, especially in Otsego and Livingston counties. It had been found highly remunerative there and might be equally so in this country, especially now that the import duty had been taken off the article, and the British market was free to all the world. He would not commend this crop without a word of caution, especially to the inexperienced. It required some outlay, and if not properly managed, loss might be incurred. This season a new insect enemy to the hop had made its appearance, and given much trouble to those engaged in the culture of this plant. In conclusion the speaker alluded to the great resources, energy and progress observable across the lines. There was much to commend and imitate in that country, especially in the improved methods and appliances in use on the farm. There was also much to deplore, especially in connexion with the unhappy war now raging, and Canadians could not be too thankful for the blessing of peace, which he trusted might ere long be restored to the adjacent republic.

Mr. Clarke, Editor of THE CANADA FARMER, was the next speaker. He expressed his gratification at the opportunity of meeting so many of the agriculturists of the County of Halton, to whom he was not wholly a stranger. The kindly reception given him was doubtless attributable to his connection with THE FARMER, and it was but a sample of the general interest manifested by the farmers of Canada in that journal. Its present circulation was most encouraging, and there was every prospect of its being increased. For much of the pleasure and profit they derived from the perusal of THE FARMER, they were indebted to the able assistants who were associated with him in its management. Not the least interesting and useful feature in the paper had been the communications from practical farmers, many of whom had employed their pens very vigorously. This feature, it was to be hoped, would continue to be a prominent one. Let all feel themselves invited to contribute to the general good. Ideas and facts in whatever garb would always be welcome. Even fault-finding, if not unreasonable, would be hailed as one means of attaining the excellence and usefulness that were most earnestly desired. Sometimes criticisms had been made which were amusing on account of the misconceptions they betrayed. Thus, not long since, a correspondent who signed himself "Harry Home-spun, back in the bush," had complained that THE CANADA FARMER advocated too advanced and gentlemanly a style of farming, and the writer observed that he supposed the editor was an oily-haired, soft-handed city dandy, who had never heard the crash of a falling tree in his life, and would be frightened out of his senses were he to do so. The speaker knew something, however, by personal experience, of the toils of a farmer's life, having chopped, logged, and put in first crops with some of the pioneers in a western locality, and from a high appreciation of its importance, had always taken the deepest interest in all that pertained to the advancement of Canadian agriculture. Looking at the state of the farming interest in this country, many things presented themselves as desirable improvements. It was evident that agricultural industry must seek new channels, and as certain products which have been largely depended upon appeared to be failing, we must endeavour to supply their place. A system of rotation and a more varied style of farming were needed. Professor Beckland had suggested the trial of the cheese-factory plan of dairying, and already one or two of these establishments had been started in the County of Oxford. Others were in progress. He had just returned from the New York State Fair, where he met, among others, Mr. Ralph, the inventor of the Oneida Cheese Vat, who stated that he had sold several of his vats to parties in this country who had the establishment of cheese factories in view. The speaker then

spoke of the increased attention which was being given to flax, and commended the example of a neighbourhood in the eastern part of the Province, where the farmers had recently met to consider the flax question, and on a number pledging themselves to raise sufficient flax to keep a scutching mill in operation, parties at once engaged to erect one. Sheep-farming, the culture of fruit, and bee-keeping, were successively dwelt upon at some length, as deserving more attention on the part of the farmers of Canada than they were at present receiving. In conclusion, the importance of raising the agricultural calling by connecting more intelligence, scientific accuracy and judicious management with its operations, was strongly urged. Too many of the aspiring young men of our country allowed themselves to look down upon farming as a vocation unworthy their talents and energies. This was a mistake. No calling afforded better scope for mental ability, or a finer field for the educated man. Though the farmer might not have a great deal of leisure for reading and study amid the active labours of his vocation, he was quite as favourably situated in this respect as the professional and business men in our cities. Let our young men aspire to be educated farmers—they will thus elevate in public esteem a profession in itself a most noble one, and as they bring science more thoroughly into partnership with labour, farming will become less a drudgery, labour-saving implements will relieve the strain upon the muscles, and such enjoyment will be derived from that contemplation of nature, that sense of independence and those opportunities for reflection which are so characteristic of life on the farm.

On the conclusion of Mr. Clarke's address, a presentation ceremony took place. A handsome gold watch was presented to Mr. W. C. Beatty, as an acknowledgment of his efficient and valuable services as Secretary of the Halton Agricultural Society for several years past. An appropriate presentation address was read by Mr. J. McGiffin, and replied to in very becoming terms by Mr. Beatty. Tea and various other refreshments, abundantly provided by the ladies, were then passed round, and while enjoying them the assembly relaxed into sociality. Order being again called, several brief addresses were delivered by gentlemen residing in various parts of the county, and the meeting at length broke up, all concerned feeling that it had been a most agreeable, successful, and satisfactory festivity.

The U. S. Pomological Society.

This Society held its biennial session at Rochester, N. Y., commencing on Tuesday, 13th of Sept., and continuing until a late hour on Thursday evening. There was a large attendance of the most distinguished Pomologists of America, among whom we noticed Mr. Chas. Downing, of Newburg, N. Y.; Mr. Hovey, of Boston; Mr. Buist, of Philadelphia; Dr. Warder, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Mr. Knox, of Pittsburgh, Penn.; Dr. Edwards, of St. Louis, Missouri; Mr. Parry, of Cinnaminson, New Jersey, and others. The entire delegation from the Fruit Growers' Society of Upper Canada were also present.

The first day was spent in hearing the experience of gentlemen from different places, with apples of different kinds, most of which were southern or western sorts not well adapted to Canadian culture.

On the morning of the second day, Dr. Trimble, of New Jersey, addressed the Society upon entomology, dwelling upon the importance of a more intimate acquaintance with the habits of insects, and to the fruit-grower especially of those insects which feed upon the fruits. He dwelt at some length upon the Codling Moth, which infests our apples, and showed that by placing old cloths in the forks of the branches, or by twisting a straw rope a few times around the trunk of the trees, these moths would gather there to undergo their transformation, where they could be easily found and destroyed.

The Society then passed to the consideration of Grapes of different sorts. The Adirondac was found to be about as hardy as the Isabella, and a few days earlier than Hartford Prolific. The Creveling was a few days later than the Hartford Prolific, ripening between that and the Concord. The Union Village and Ontario were considered identical, and the Society voted unanimously to strike the name "Ontario" from the catalogue. It was thought to be about as good as the Isabella, and to require protection. Rebecca was sufficiently early for most parts of the New England States, and about as hardy as the Isabella. Maxitawny is too late for the climate of New York, but may do as far north as Philadelphia. The Iona is perfectly hardy, so far as tested, ripening

with the Delaware. The Isabella was reported by Dr. Grant to be perfectly hardy and earlier than the Hartford Prolific. Several of Rogers' Hybrids were introduced, and great variety of opinion seemed to exist as to their merits. Allen's Hybrid might be a very good grape for the amateur, growing with the Rebecca and Adirondac. The Cayahoga ripens with the Catawba.

The Society spent considerable time in a very interesting discussion upon the proper method of preparing the soil for planting grapes, and the best methods of planting, training and cultivating. We may give the substance of this discussion at another time.

Peaches, Raspberries, Strawberries, Cranberries, and Pears also received considerable attention, and we will close our notice of this interesting meeting by calling attention to the statement of Mr. Hovey, of Boston, that a gentleman of his acquaintance realized from ten acres of cranberries the sum of ten thousand dollars.

The Society adjourned to meet in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, in 1866.

UPPER CANADA FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at the Town Hall, in the town of St. Catharines, on Wednesday, the 5th day of October, at 2 o'clock, p. m.

This will, undoubtedly, be a very interesting meeting. A fine display of fruit especially of grapes, may be expected; and much information will be imparted by the members regarding their success with different varieties, in different soils and localities.

AMERICAN STATE FAIRS.—Most of these have now been held, and notwithstanding the unfavourable circumstances created by the war, have proved very successful. We took the opportunity of attending the Ohio and New York Fairs, and were much pleased with the display of products. In a future issue we purpose giving the results of our observations so far as they are likely to be of interest to our readers.

THE UNION EXHIBITION.—We are pleased to learn that subscriptions being collected in order to provide prizes for exhibitors at the Union Exhibition, to be held in Toronto on the 5th and 6th proximo, are far more than it was expected they would have been when the committee undertook their labours. Seeing that this is the case, the committee have decided to give prizes to the amount of \$1,400 instead of \$960, as was at first proposed. Already about \$1,200 has been promised and with a little more liberality on the part of our citizens, the remaining sum required to make this a successful meeting will soon be secured. The West Riding of the county have withdrawn from the union, and hold their exhibition in Yorkville, the week following the Union Show in Toronto. Owing to the small amount at first at the disposal of the Committee, they had decided not to allow entries for live stock and farming implements, but since the acquisition of the increased funds, both these are now included in the prize list, with the exception of stallions and bulls. The exhibition will be held this year in the Crystal Palace, the same as last, and should the weather prove propitious there is every appearance of a large meeting. The following is the appropriation made out for \$1,400 to be distributed in prize money. Agricultural Department, \$540; Fine Arts, \$120; Manufactures, \$310; Horticulture, \$400. Subscriptions to the amount of \$600 have been taken up. The City Council granted \$300, and the Government grant amounts to \$300. Mr. Sheriff Jarvis has been elected permanent chairman, and Mr. Edwards, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Leslie, jun., assists Mr. Edwards in the duties of secretary. The committee and the officers are sparing no exertions which will render the annual exhibitions as perfect and successful as possible.

FALL EXHIBITIONS.—North Riding of Oxford, Woodstock, October 4th and 5th, open to all Canada; West Zorra Township, October 7th, limited.

The Fall Show of the Smith, Harvey, and North Douro Agricultural Society, takes place at Lakefield on Tuesday, the 4th day of October next.

The Annual Show of the County of Ontario, South Riding, Agricultural Society, will be held in Whitby, on the 5th and 6th October.

The Ninth Annual Exhibition of the Dammer and Douro Agricultural Society, will be held at the village of Warsaw, on Thursday the 13th day of October.