

Gibb referred, however, I have had no personal experience, and I therefore prefer not to give any opinion upon them. At some future stage of the meeting if any subject with which I am familiar comes up I shall be very glad to say a few words.

Mr. GREENFIELD (Ottawa).—I am happy to say that since the last meeting here there has been a great change and development in fruit growing in the Ottawa valley; if we only continue for a few years we shall be quite independent and have plenty of fruit of our own. The greatest trouble we had was to find fruits that would stand the climate, but at last the Tetofsky came in, and it has proved very valuable for this climate; it is hardy and early, coming in about ten days before the Duchess, and it is a good bearer. The Duchess, too, we find an excellent apple, and one that stands the climate well, and then, again, we have the Wealthy. I have grafted several trees and I find that they bear a great deal better than the standard trees, and yield finer fruit. I have tried St. Lawrence, Red Astrachan, and Fameuse, and several others, but none of them will stand the climate. They may stand one or two years, but will eventually die out. I hope further progress will be made and that we shall soon have some good fruit in this country.

Dr. HURLBURT.—I have had some experience in growing hardy apples. My experience has been that it is not so much the fruit as the tree. You get a good standard tree, perhaps one that has grown up in the country, or that has been got from a colder climate, and I think the fruit is as safe as it was further west. I have had experience from along the St. Lawrence, south of this, away to Hamilton. There are several varieties of trees which everyone who has cultivated apple trees knows will grow better in a cold climate and produce an apple of much better flavor than they would further south. I often found this through the colder latitudes in the northern part of Europe. I have found this to be the case with an apple we call the Bitter-Sweet, which, especially for cooking, has a much better flavor here than in Western Canada or the Northern States. My experience has been that it is far better to have dwarf trees, and have them sheltered by other trees. I believe if these hardier varieties could be introduced and cultivated here, and have them well sheltered, and, as far as possible, dwarf trees, that a variety could be cultivated here equal to any part of Ontario.

Mr. BRODIE.—How did you protect your dwarf trees from being crushed down by the snow; mine were crushed all to pieces.

Dr. HURLBURT.—Well, perhaps mine are sheltered from the snow; I have no difficulty that way; there were no snow banks around me.

The PRESIDENT.—Perhaps it was to the driving of the snow to which Mr. Brodie referred.

Mr. BRODIE.—Of course we have a good deal of snow, though I don't know that we have any more than Ottawa; but generally around our line fences, especially if we have a wind-break, it gathers. I have often seen it on the level two feet deep across a farm two acres in width. Down in Quebec I am sure it is two feet on the level where there are no trees at all, you can only see the top of the fences, so our dwarf trees would be covered completely in that part of the country.

Dr. HURLBURT.—Snow covering a tree will not injure it; it will protect it. Perhaps in the places Mr. Brodie refers to the wind is not broken by woods or anything else. I find that if you pack snow around the trees, and it remains there, it is a protection to the tree, not an injury.

Mr. BRODIE.—I find we have to dig out our trees; as the snow thaws it gets heavier, and the branches break right down.

A MEMBER.—I happened to give an agent travelling around last year an order for a few dwarf trees, and he told me that dwarfs did not live long. Now, I would like to know, if there is any truth in that?

The PRESIDENT.—I am not aware that there is any truth in it at all.

The SECRETARY.—I suppose you mean dwarf apples.

The MEMBER.—Yes.

Mr. BUCKE.—We are expecting great things from the Experimental Farm. They are making collections of fruits and trees, and in a few years we shall have valuable knowledge. But there is one thing attention should first be called to, and that is a collection of seedling apples grown in the parts around here, down the Ottawa River and

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