

REPORT

OF THE

Fruit Growers' Association

OF ONTARIO,

FOR 1873.

To the Honourable the Commissioner of Agriculture :

SIR—It is my agreeable duty to acquaint you with the fact that the membership of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario continues to increase, so that there now are nearly three thousand names upon the list. The Annual Reports are much prized by the members, and are sought for by Horticultural and Pomological Associations in the United States and Europe. The coloured lithograph of some valuable fruit which accompanies each of the later reports, has added much to their value. The Directors have continued the distribution of promising fruits with good results. In the Report which I now have the honour to submit for your inspection will be found much valuable information in relation to matters of fruit culture, and some very valuable essays. The Report of the Committee charged with the exhibition of the fruits of the Province at the meeting of the American Pomological Society held at Boston on September last, will be very gratifying to yourself and to all others who take an interest in the prosperity of our Province. The Society labours under a want of sufficient means to carry out its objects perfectly, the very increase of membership while enlarging our field of effort and experiment at the same time greatly increases the expense of distributing trees and plants for experiment. With a view to facilitate the operations of the Association, the Directors have taken the liberty of making some suggestions in the way of revising that part of the Agricultural and Arts Act which relates to this Association. You, sir, I know will give these suggestions your most careful consideration, and will not fail to recommend to Parliament the passage of such amendments as shall place the Association on a better footing for the carrying out of its important operations. The Association has already taken a prominent position, such a position as you would wish to have it take, among the Pomological Societies of the world, and I take pleasure in handing you the Report of its transactions for 1873, believing that you will feel a just pride in its wonderful prosperity.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. W. BEADLE,

Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.