

the Croton, and also with some unnamed Hybrids shown by Dr. Wylie of Virginia. Immediately on my return from Philadelphia I visited the London Provincial Show, and I state without fear or favor that the fruits on exhibition in Ontario were, taken class for class, superior to those I had seen in Philadelphia. I may say however that I saw there a few monstrosities in the shape of Duchesse de Angouleme Pears from Virginia, weighing from 17 to 18 ounces, and a few large and fine apples from Kansas that might stump the world. I might give you detailed accounts of the fruits on exhibition, but this would be unnecessary as they have already been placed on record, both here and there. The receiving and reading of reports and the discussions took place in the Foyer of Horticultural Hall. A Committee was appointed to examine and report on Mr. Ree's fruit house, which will hereafter appear in the proceedings of the Society. By the way, this subject of keeping fruits perfectly fresh and without deterioration is one of very great importance to all fruit growers, and the public generally, so much so that I take this opportunity to urge the Fruit Growers Association of Ontario to procure all reliable information upon this subject, and give to the Canadian public the result of their efforts in this direction. I tested some fruits kept in one of these houses for more than twelve months, and found them perfectly sound and without loss of flavour.

I earnestly hope that an interchange of thought and experience, may attain in fruit matters, between our neighbours and us which will be found mutually beneficial. I beg to close these remarks by quoting a paragraph from the address delivered by the venerable President, the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, under the head of "Importance of a Natural Society." He said, "How salutary the influence of such associations. Who that has witnessed the operations of this Society can for a moment doubt the usefulness and importance of these natural gatherings? The great practical truth of the present generation, said Daniel Webster, is that public improvements are brought about by voluntary combination and associations. The principle of association, said he, the practice of bringing together men bent on the same general object, uniting their physical and mental efforts to that purpose, is a great improvement in our age." To which the President gave assent, and then went on to say, "that if there were not an apple, a pear or a grape on exhibition, the stimulation of thought produced by the contact of mind with mind, and the information acquired by the free interchange of experience is far more valuable than the same amount of knowledge derived from books. It is the centralization of action,

which has produced the wonderful progress of our age, and when on the broad platform of common philanthropy free from sectional prejudices and party animosities, we become indirectly but not the less effectually united in the bonds of friendship and reciprocal regard, and when from the loving cause in which we are engaged we have learned to love each other."

WM. H. MILLS.

Hamilton, 11th October, 1869.

THE NICANOR STRAWBERRY.

The *Horticulturist* says "The Nicanor, of which we have felt the strongest hope for the credit of the disseminators, has proved of only second grade value. It is a very strong grower, under favorable circumstances, and produces an immense amount of fruit; but the berries are uniformly small, very few of large size—certainly not as the largest grades of Wilson; quality not a true strawberry flavor—resembles more nearly the taste of a dead ripe gooseberry; does not adapt itself to all localities, having proved a failure generally on light warm lands; it lack firmness, as well as size, to such a degree, that it will never be desirable for market, although very desirable for amateurs in lists of fruit for family uses."

GARDEN GLEANINGS.

Great injury has been done to the ungathered apples by the recent frost. Thousands of bushels have been spoiled.

There is an extraordinary dearth of peaches this year in France. The market gardeners of Montreuil, the great source of Paris supply, estimate the deficiency of their products as compared with an average crop, at £80,000.

Some farmers pasture cows in their orchards, causing destruction of young trees and low branches of large ones. Hogs or sheep are better suited for the orchard, as they cannot reach very high, even if inclined to damage the branches, and they eat the the fallen fruit which contain the grubs of the codling-moth, or the curculio.

Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, have lately introduced a new pear, called the "Edmonds," which promises to be a great acquisition to their fruit list. The editor of the *Country Gentleman* says that a young tree of this variety, set out about three years ago, bore nearly half a bushel of fruit of excellent quality, this year.

The Pomological Congress of France held its thirteenth session at Bordeaux. The business was conducted on nearly the same plan as that which has been adopted by the American Pomological Society. Fruits of promise being admitted, as well as those for general adoption—the latter requiring thorough testing in different localities. Five days were occupied by the Congress in transacting business. The lists of European fruits were severely thinned.