

over the surface and about the roots of plants. I think wood ashes, especially for grapes, are very beneficial, and the cheapest fertiliser we can buy. There is an old gentleman in our neighborhood who collects all we want and delivers them at the farm at ten cents a bushel.

A MEMBER.—How many bushels to the acre do you apply?

Mr. E. D. SMITH.—About a peck to every ten feet square.

OYSTER SHELL BARK LOUSE.

QUESTION.—Is potash considered a good remedy for oyster shell bark louse, and what would be the proper proportions of potash and water? Would it injure rubber hose?

Mr. G. C. CASTON.—Weak lye is the best remedy I know for oyster shell bark louse. The best lye is that made from wood ashes. I once used a solution of borax and water for young trees, but I have found the lye to be the best, if you do not use it too strong. I never used it with hose, but with a broom. The early part of the summer, some time in the month of June, is, I think, the best time for applying it.

Mr. PATTISON.—I have found a solution of washing soda and soft soap an excellent remedy.

ADDRESS BY HON. JOHN DRYDEN.

The PRESIDENT.—We have with us this afternoon the Hon. Mr. Dryden, the Minister of Agriculture for the Province of Ontario, and I think we shall all be glad to hear from him at this stage of our proceedings.

Hon. Mr. DRYDEN.—Mr. President and gentlemen, I am glad to meet you this afternoon as a brother farmer, and my pleasure would be all the greater if I could spend a longer time with you than I shall be able to do, in listening to the discussions on the various topics to be brought before you. I recognise that here I am among men, who not merely have a knowledge of husbandry in general, but who, to a greater or less extent, are experts in a special branch of it. The only regret one feels, in attending a meeting like this, is that the agriculturists of the country are not here in greater numbers to profit by the knowledge imparted by your papers and discussions. This, however, will be partially remedied by the arrangements you have made for publishing and distributing your proceedings among our people, and it is a course of which I highly approve. Our people need to be educated in those directions in which you are able to impart the necessary instruction. In agricultural matters we have not all the same tastes. One man naturally inclines to and delights in the culture of flowers and fruits; another man is fond of domestic animals, likes to become acquainted with them, and so engages in the raising of stock. Our circumstances also differ, and he is a wise man and likely to be successful, who is able to adapt himself to the circumstances in which he finds himself placed; yet I hold that no man will attain the highest success as an agriculturist who is not enabled to follow his own natural tastes. Take a man who is ardently interested in fruit culture and try to make a stock raiser out of him, and he may prove a complete failure, whereas he would in all probability have been highly successful in the other branch. This is one of the reasons why so many men fail in agriculture. I never object to a young man leaving the farm and going to the city if he has no taste for farming; and it is perhaps a great advantage to the cities that they are replenished by young men from the farm. It is when people are thus permitted to follow their natural inclinations in the selection of their pursuits that they are most likely to attain the highest success. About ten years ago I had the honor to serve on the Ontario Agricultural Commission. The results of the labors of that commission have been published, and have become standard literature in almost every farmer's library in this country. Until the enquiries made by that commission revealed the true condition of affairs, I

had no conception of the state of the soil. I then learned that there were less many other things growing. Development of the soil we cannot hope for unless our work is accompanied by effort. Therefore I hope that in every class, whether it be the farmer or the city dweller, we should be together for the purpose of improving our augurs well together in your way. As a farmer, by such co-operation, we can produce, I think, a man who is a thing, deceive is a clever thing, but to chase, but to country at last upon our part to establish a very content to put quality of music it, and in that tion. If you The family thing long time; which rapidly as possible for butter. The best article? best methods. our individual by which the in bringing forth member of the which have been much has been only an indication know that some institutes at the farmers will like will be able to to attend those governments can deal in the way deal in the way propose that more information as we are by the department failed to reach lapse of time and hope that we shall be aided in fathers went in fertile fields. I