

by the society during the year, and said that, in the spring of 1895, a small distribution of plants and roots gratis, for experimental purposes, was made to the members of the society—a work that should be developed. This year the list for distribution would be composed as follows: Apples, ten root-grafts—North Western, Greening, McIntosh Red and Windsor Chief, a Gibb Grapevine, a Burbank plum tree; whilst, in raspberries, there will be Golden Queen and Miller and, in gooseberries, there will be Red Jacket. He emphasized the need of a bureau of industries in the Province, in connection with the Department of Agriculture, from which could be obtained statistics and other information having reference to fruit-growing. In conclusion, he spoke of the loss sustained by the society in the death of Canon Fulton and Mr. Hugh McColl, the last named of whom resided at St. Joseph du Lac.

Mr. W. M. Pattison, Clareville, — who always looms to the front when any thing concerning fruit culture is on the tapis—contributed a valuable paper on "The Use of More Fruit in Our Diet." (1) in which he quoted from the remarks of numerous eminent medical men and scientists as to the value of fruit as an article of diet, and strongly contended, that if it were more extensively used, much of the money now expended in drugs would be saved. He advocated the eating of fruit at all meals, as a preventive of indigestion, and a means of the prolongation of human life. He paid a large tribute to the value and excellence of the Canadian apple. His paper was loudly applauded.

Prof. Fletcher spoke eloquently on "House Plants." He dwelt upon the beauty and attractiveness of flowers generally, and expressed the opinion that geraniums were the most satisfactory plants to grow in the house, as flowering more continuously than other plants. As to the best varieties he recommended: In single reds, Col. Holden and General Grant; in double reds, S. A. Nutt; in single whites, La Favorite, in double whites, Ayme Chevalero; in pinks, William Pfizer, cherry color, Gettyburg. In houses where not much sunlight could be obtained, such as begonias might be grown very successfully in the house whilst in bulbs he recommended hyacinths, tulips and narcissus, besides the calla lily. He declared the leafy mold of the woods to be the best soil for flowers. He showed how easily slips could be grown from almost any plants, and pointed out the absolute necessity of good drainage for all flowers.

Prof. Craig spoke very entertainingly on "The Useful and Beautiful in Horticulture." He explained the process of the fertilization of flowers, spoke of the production of fruit seedlings, dealt with the reproduction of plants by means of cuttings, and explained, in detail, the different methods of grafting.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The meeting then adjourned until Friday morning, when it resumed in the corporation offices. The first business was the election of officers, which resulted as under:—

Hon. President—Sir H. Joly de Lotbinière

Hon. Vice-Presidents—Messrs. J. M. Fisk, Abbotsford; R. W. Shepherd, Como.

(1) For the last 20 years, we have always begun the morning with stewed fruit, and now, at the age of 72, our digestion is perfect.—Ed.

President—Mr. J. C. Chapais, St. Denis, Kamouraska.

Vice-President—Mr. S. A. Fisher, Knowlton

Directors—No. 1 District, Mr. D. Westover, Frelighsburg, No. 2 District, Mr. J. M. Fisk, Abbotsford; No. 3 District, Mr. James H. Carter, Massawippi; No. 4 District, Sir H. Joly de Lotbinière, Québec; No. 5 District, Mr. Aug. Dupuis, Village des Aulnais; No. 6 District, Dr. Grignon, Ste. Adèle, Terrebonne; No. 7 District, Mr. E. A. Barnard, l'Ange Gardien; No. 8 District, Mr. R. Brodie, St. Henri.

#### PACKING AND SHIPPING APPLES.

Mr. R. W. Shepherd contributed a practical paper on "Packing and Shipping Apples," in which he stated that his experience of twelve seasons had been confined almost entirely to apples packed in boxes with paste-board compartments, similar to an egg case. Each box held about 1½ bushels of fruit. The apples should be packed in the boxes in the orchard, and not be put in barrels and then in boxes. He had found that Fameuse and McIntosh Reds sold well in the English market, and Wealthies were also favorites. Some exporters shipped in boxes, with bulging sides, like orange boxes, and the method had been thoroughly successful, each specimen of fruit being wrapped in paper before packing.

Mr. J. R. Ball, a leading horticulturist of Knowlton, read a paper on "The Culture of vegetables." He considered that farmers should be able to supply their families with crisp, fresh vegetables during the summer, but such was not the case in many instances. Every farmer should devote at least a half acre of land to the growth of vegetables and fruit. It would prove remunerative, as well as a source of profit, health and good living. A kitchen garden should not be surrounded by the trees or buildings, which shut out the light and air, but it should be sheltered on the northern and western sides by a tight board fence. He emphasized the necessity of procuring the best seed, thoroughly preparing the soil before sowing the seed, and cultivating well.

In the course of a discussion which ensued, Mr. Ball expressed the opinion that the best kinds of sweet corn to grow, were Early Vermont and Crosby's Early, and for later use, the Country Gentleman. For dwarf peas, he recommended Notts' Early, and for a medium variety, either Stragem or Biss Abundance. For beans, he considered that Improved Golden Wax was the best; but, if beans were grown in a locality where they showed a tendency to rot, he should recommend Golden Eye Wax, which, he believed, was rust-proof. Among early tomatoes, he favored Fordhook I., and among early cauliflowerers, he had succeeded well with the Snowball, whilst for early cabbage he liked Jersey Wakefield. (1)

#### REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Prof. Craig submitted the report of the Committee on Seedlings. Regret was expressed that all the districts had not been fully represented, but it was hoped that, as the work of the society became more fully known, the competition would be more general.

The final adjudication upon these seedlings for the society's prize will take place on May 1st, but between

(1) We still prefer the Early York. Prejudice, perhaps.—Ed.

now and then they will be examined monthly by the committee in order to ascertain which keeps the best.

Mr. Norman Jack, of Hillelde, Chateauguay Basin, read an excellent paper on "Spraying," in which he spoke of the excellent results that he had obtained by the adoption of spraying during the past three years.

Mr. C. Newman moved, that steps be taken to induce the Dominion Government to furnish cold storage, during the coming season, for the shipment of apples, and that a Committee be appointed to secure the carrying out of such movement. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. R. W. Shepherd introduced a discussion on "The best Varieties of Apples to Grow for Export in Cases and in Barrels." He recommended, for shipment in cases, the cultivation of Duchess, Fameuse, Wealthy, and McIntosh Red, and, for shipment in barrels, for the late keeping apples, he favored Canada Red, Canada Baldwin and Golden Russet. He emphasized the fact that, those who contemplated growing apples for export to England, should cultivate the red varieties, and it was no use sending uncolored apples to the British market; the people would not buy them.

The Committee on Resolutions, in its report, recorded the loss sustained by the Society through the deaths of Canon Fulton, Mr. Hugh McColl and Mr. R. W. Shepherd, and expressed sympathy with the families of the deceased. It also thanked the Town Council of St. Johns for placing the Council Chamber at the disposal of the Society for its meetings; in thank ed the Mayor and the local committee for the trouble they had taken to arrange matters for these meetings, and it thanked the retiring officers for their services.

It was decided to accept an invitation to hold the summer meeting at L'Islet.

Prof. Craig asked the co-operation of fruit-growers, in obtaining the dates when the several fruit trees bloomed in their several districts, with a view to using the information in connection with the fertilizing of such fruit blossoms as were not self-fertilizing.

The Mayor warmly acknowledged the thanks that had been accorded himself, the council and the Local Committee, and at His Worship's request Mr. E. R. Smith also said a few words in appreciation of the work done by this society, and inviting them to come to St. Johns again.

The convention then adjourned.

## Swine.

### FEEDING PIGS.

(Prize essay, 1895.)

Export of pigs and pork—The proper kind of pig—Feeding of pregnant sows—Price of pork.

For many years our farming methods have partaken of the nature of a spendthrift's wasting and squandering of his legacy. Blessed by nature with a fertile soil and a fine climate, there has been a feeling that these stores of wealth were inexhaustible; a feeling from which there was a rude awakening, when after years of continuous cropping, our farms

were becoming impoverished and our products shrinking far below the paying point.

The change to dairying, which followed, was decided y in the right direction. Farmers who adopted it have the satisfaction of seeing their yearly receipts increasing and their farms becoming more fertile; but we feel that the part of dairying which is most profitable is the part at present most neglected.

The fact which we wish to impress upon the minds of our fellow-farmers is this:—dairying and pig raising go hand in hand, they are twin industries, and in the latter lies the most profitable part of dairying. These assertions, we base, not on mere supposition and theory, but upon our own actual experience. We have learned that there is no animal on the farm which will yield so handsome a return for the time and money expended on it, as the pig.

The pig is an animal whose many good qualities are not fully appreciated and whose claims on our attention are not fully recognized. Requiring no expensive quarters, hardy and prolific breeders, they possess the merit of growing and thriving on food that would be rejected by other animals. It is the latter quality that makes them specially valuable on a dairy farm. We can say we have attained the highest degree of success, only when we have learned to turn all the products of no market value into something which is a marketable commodity. The refuse from the dairy is of no market value, and there is no medium through which it can be turned into dollars and cents so well as by means of the pig.

There is no reason why this country cannot raise enough pork to supply its own needs, and export large quantities. At one time, Canada imported annually \$2,000,000 worth of pigs and their products, but we have overcome that, and are now exporting, though only in small quantities.

There is practically an unlimited demand for bacon in Great Britain. Modern methods of curing are making it so palatable that it is taking the place of other meats. In England, Canadian bacon is so eagerly sought, that it commands a price, higher by two cents on the pound than does the United States product.

This fact can be connected with another, that annually there is wasted on the dairy farms of Canada enough good feed, which if directed in the right channels, would put thousands of dollars in the farmers' pockets. There is certainly, no way that we can use the waste whey, skim milk and batter milk to the same advantage as with the pig. The question as to how properly settled as to the number of pigs a dairy can keep profitably; we think however, it should turn off, at least, two porkers to every cow in milk.

It must be remembered too, that the pig sought after a few years ago—those great lumps of fat—are, very happily indeed, no longer in demand, for they are the most unprofitable to raise.

The pig we must produce to meet the taste of the customer of to day is an animal weighing from 150 to 200 lbs, a size which can be attained in six months. With animals of this class, there is no danger that the market may become glutted. There is no good reason why the Canadian dairy-fed bacon should not stand as high in the eyes of the world, as the Canadian cheese of to day.

We feel that we cannot urge upon our fellow-farmers, too strongly, to