



FIG. 2379.

Grass and trees have made this street beautiful.

among fruit growers. Crimson clover has been a favorite with many, while others have used rape and some rye. The latter has been used the last year or two, but unless ploughed under early in the spring, it causes a heavy drain upon the moisture in the soil and is thus an injury to growing plants.

At the meeting of Western New York fruit growers a Michigan fruit grower said that he had had more satisfaction with oats as an orchard cover crop, because it was a complete protection, at the same time dying down so that it did not become a drain upon the soil. Prof. Taft, Horticulturist at the Michigan Agricultural College, has been experimenting along this line, and his report for 1901 says:—

Oats seeded alone as an orchard-cover grew 15 to 18 inches high. They held snow and leaves during the winter, lessened the freezing and thawing of the soil, and also prevented the soil from freezing to as great a depth as on uncovered soils. The lessening of the injury from frost is considered one of the most vitally important results to be secured with orchard cover crops. Where

oats are used as a cover crop the ground in the spring was practically free from weeds and remained moist considerably longer than where other crops were used. The oats were easily worked in with a disk harrow, and it is estimated that the cost of cultivating the orchard when oats were used was fully one-third less than when crimson clover was used. Rape and turnips used as cover crops, while fairly satisfactory, were unsightly during the winter and gave off an offensive odor. Crimson clover seeded with oats was less satisfactory than either sown alone.

#### THE UP-TO-DATE TOWN

THERE is no more important work before our Horticultural Societies than that of civic improvement. American towns are awakening to the possibilities before them, each emulating the zeal of the other to such an extent that every man of taste and ability as a landscape architect is being pressed into active service. Nor is Ontario far behind, for the lawns and gardens of Hamilton and Toronto never presented a more beautiful appearance, and public sentiment demands an extension of the parks and