

Mr. Brodie—Oh, yes, well drained. If you work up the soil in the spring of the year it will be lumpy and clotty, showing that there is a considerable quantity of clay.

Mr. Barnard—An important change in the mode of manuring trees would be in using superphosphate in a dissolved form, and less ammonia and less nitrogen. Nitrogen will force the sap in the trees, which won't mature well. The reverse would be obtained with superphosphate in a soluble form. I would like to see tests made in which were used both potash and phosphoric acid; they can be got at a very low rate. As to clover, you cannot grow it unless the soil is fully supplied with phosphoric acid. You would be surprised how little nitrogen would be needed, if you used potash and superphosphate. I have a chart which shows what we can have in clover, and what in leguminous plants.

Mr. Charles Fisk—We had a Bessemianka the fruit of which would rot on the tree, and if picked two or three weeks before it was ripe, it would rot on our hands. We tried top-grafting on the Russians with Flemish Beauties, and it gave us some very fine fruit in about two years.

The President—Have you fruited any of the Russian pears?

Mr. Chas. Fisk—Not with us. In an apple orchard we have trees that have been planted for twenty-five years, but which did not bear until the last two or three years. We laid it to the fact of no other pear trees having been planted in the orchard, and since these have come into flower we have had good crops. We put it down to self-fertilizing.

Professor Craig—The Flemish Beauty is not a complete self-fertilizer, but sufficiently so to give us good crops. The Beurre d'Anjou is a partial self-fertilizer, but it is better to have a Flemish Beauty planted alongside it. The Goodale is also a partial self-fertilizer. If you have Bartletts alone, you are not likely to get good fruit.

Mr. Johnson—As I understand it, clay is best adapted for pears. Would it be well to take away a certain portion of soil and replace it with clay, and set your trees in it? Those who have not clay-loam must do something.

Mr. Brodie—Pear trees can stand pretty dry soil. Some of our soils where we have had good bearing trees have been dry. In digging a foundation for a cellar a few years ago we had to remove four Fameuse trees, and the soil was dry, and for about six feet you had to use the pick. The pears seemed to thrive freely in that soil. Between the row of trees the soil was moist. As far as drainage is concerned, I find it is best to put the drains—stone ore the best—between the rows of trees, and not under the roots.

Professor Fletcher—Did the willows get into your drains?

Mr. Brodie—Oh, no.

Mr. J. M. Fisk—I think it would be a mistaken idea to go abroad that clay is absolutely necessary to pear culture. At Abbotsford we have no clay at all; it is sand, or gravel. I think that the pear requires the natural drainage more