Local Intelligence.

Pennsylvania Fruit Growers' Society.

The State Society of Fruit Growers met yesterday at 2 o'clock, P. M., in the Orphans' Court Room, in the Court House, this city.

The association was called to order by its President, Josiah Hoopes, of West Chester. M. F. Otto, of West Chester, the Treasurer, and Mr. Thos. Meehan, of Germantown, the Secretary of the Society, were also present.

On motion the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with, and the Secretary was directed by the President to proceed with calling the roll of names of members. A large number of members representing different counties in this State, and some from adjoining States were present.

On motion Alex. Harris and H. M. Engle were chosen assistant secretaries of the meeting to aid in taking a record of its proceedings. The Treasurer read his report which was referred to an auditing committee of three members. The Secretary next proceeded to read the following report of S. W. Noble (the Chairman of General Fruit Committee) to the President and members of the Association:—

To the President and Members of the Fruit Growers' Society of Pennsylvania.

After a lapse of several years, our section of country has been blessed with an abundant crop of fruit of nearly all kinds, the past year; and I have endeavored by circulars addressed to the Chairman of each county and other members who are interested in fruit growing, to get information and advice in regard to the different varieties of fruit to plant, their cultivation and care, modes of planting, trimming and pruning, preservation from disease, destruction of injurious insects, situation and soil for orchards, the keeping and ripening of fruits, &c, and have received a number of answers, but they have not been so generally responded to as I *had* hoped, from which, and other *information*, I make the following *report*:

No. 1. APPLES.—Best 12 varieties, ripening as follows: 3, Summer—3, Fall—6, Winter—with description and outline drawings of new sorts.

Summer—Red Astrachan, Bough. *Fall*—Maiden Blush, Porter, White Doctor. *Winter*—Fallawater, Smith's Cider, Baldwin, Smoke House, Ridge Pippin, Long Island Russett.

In addition to the above, I would present to the notice of the Society, some varieties which, having but a local reputation, and not generally known, have not been recommended as much as those above named and desire their trial: Conells, Taney, Knoub's Early, Jefferies, Summer Hagloe, Conrad Pippin, Carey, McLellan, Pierce, early Irish Pippin and Jackson. Also, a new large early apple called the Starr, from Woodbury, New Jersey, which was brought to the notice of the Pomological Committee of the Pennsylvania State Horticultural Society and reported favorably.

No. 2. ORCHARDS.—How prepared, planted and cultivated, and best situation.

It is recommended to prepare the ground with deep fallow in corn and potatoes, well manured the previous season; plow deep and plant 30 feet apart, cultivate well with potatoes or other low growing crops, keep the soil open and mellow; afterwards keep in good condition by manuring frequently, not allowing the ground to remain in grass more than one or two years at a time; for by letting it remain in grass the roots are encouraged to come near the surface, and then plowing deep and cutting them off, the trees are much more injured than by frequent shallow cultivation.

Best situation—A good loam soil well drained, with protection from the cold winds, by natural or artificial shelter. Some recommend planting when the rains cause frequent surface upheavals; better cultivation nor manuring are needed under these circumstances.

No. 3. PEARS.—Best 12 varieties (Standards) ripening as follows: 3, Summer—6, Fall—3, Winter.

Summer—Doyenne du Cornice, Osband's Summer, Tyson.

Fall—Bartlett, Sickel, Bell Lucretia, Howell, Urbanist, Sheldon.

Winter—Lawrence is the only one generally recommended, but some notice the Vicar of Wakefield and Winter Nelis.

To those desiring a larger collection I would recommend the Juliana, Brandywine, Manning's Elizabeth, Dver Bosscik, Beurredays, Beurre Bose, Bultum, J. Rutter.

No. 4. PEARS.—Best 6 varieties (Dwarfs.) Manning's Elizabeth, Bell Lucretia, Buffum, Duchess d'Angoulemo, Howell, Vicar of Wakefield.

No. 5. STANDARD TREES.—How planted, with the preparation of the soil and after culture.

Same as for other Orchards except closer planted, 20 to 25 feet apart.

No. 6. DWARF TREES.—How planted and cultivated, and are they profitable for general culture.

Ground prepared by plowing and subsoiling. The pear should be budded near the root of the quince so that the point of union can be covered with earth, without planting very deep, thus preventing the borer from entering the quince. Keep the soil well cultivated.

In cities and sheltered situations, with good clean culture, they have sometimes been profitable, but have not generally proved successful.

No. 7. PEACHES.—Best 10 varieties, with the preparation of the soil, how planted and pruned, and how to prevent the yellows and curl of the leaf.

Hale's Early, Large Early York, Susquehanna, Smock, Tech Early, Old Mixon Free, Stump the World, Crawford Early, Ward's Late Free, Crawford Late.

Dry, warm soil and well cultivated, seems essential to success in peach growing. Plant from 15 to 20 feet apart, prune with low heads; no prevention or cure for the yellows, but to destroy all trees as soon as they appear diseased, thus preventing it from spreading to others, which it is thought it does, by the pollen of the blossom and by contact with the roots. Curl of the leaf is thought to be produced by cold, early in the spring, and that shelter prevents it. It is also stated that the yellows will not soon affect the trees on light, dry, sandy soil in any climate where the mercury does not fall below zero.

No. 8. QUINCES.—Which are the best and most profitable varieties, how cultivated and how to prevent attacks of the borer.

Orange is recommended as the best; the Angers is inferior variety; the Fortune is better than the Orange, and sometimes succeeds well.

Prevent the borers by wrapping tarred felt, such as is used for roofs of buildings round the tree 8 inches above the ground and 2 beneath, in the spring, remove in the fall to harden the wood.

No. 9. PLUMS, APRICOTS AND NECTARINES.—Which are the best varieties, how cultivated and how to prevent the black knot and the attacks of the curculio.

Plum—Yellow Gage, Jefferson and Richland.

Apricots—Moorpark, Breda and Peach.

Nectarines—Not much cultivated on account of the trees being generally destroyed by the curculio.

The Yellow Gage in the list above is a distinct fruit from the old variety of that name; it is cultivated in Lancaster county, and described as the earliest and most desirable of all tried plums.

Black Knots—Begin in time and cut them off and burn them, and they can be subdued. No known preventive from the curculio except jarring, shaking down on sheets or cloths and destroying them and being careful to prevent them from propagating from the fallen fruit which has been stung.

No. 10. CHERRIES.—Which are the best 6 varieties for table use and 3 for cooking, and how to prevent the splitting of the bark and black knots and the attacks of birds and insects.

Best Six—Black Tartarian, Gov. Wood, Yellow Spanish, Purple Guine, Bleeding Heart, May Duke.

Three for Cooking—Early Richmond, English Morello, Late Kentish.

For cracking of the bark it is recommended, as a preventative, to slit it in the sixth month, but the killing of the bark on the southwest side is generally caused by the sun shining on the bark in Winter when the tree is frozen and suddenly thawing it, which can be prevented by heading low or otherwise protecting it.

To prevent the attack of birds provide plenty of fruit for the birds and yourselves, and it is proposed to plant Mulberries of early varieties of Mazzards for this purpose.

No. 11. NATIVE GRAPES.—Best varieties for table use, best varieties for wine, with description of new sorts, including the wood, foliage and fruit.

Best Variety for Table Use—Hartford Prolific, Concord, Clinton, Martha.

For Wine—Clinton, Ives.

No description of newer varieties have been received, but some of Rodgers' Seedling are reported favorably of in some sections, No. 3, 19, 32 and 42.

No. 12. SOIL.—How prepared, vines planted and pruned, with after culture, best form of trellis and best mode of keeping grapes.

A good dry alluvial soil is considered best. Clay soils do not do as well as those of a looser nature prepared by plowing and subsoiling. Give plenty of room on the trellis, cut out the old and weak wood and let the strong canes run and bear. A self-sustaining, self-bracing trellis is said to answer a good purpose, formed of chestnut poles 11 feet long, planted 8 feet apart, two rows leaning towards each other and fitting together at the top like rafters to a building, and nailed to a strong board, the end posts braced to the next one, then wires stretched from end to end like the lath on a house. This trellis cannot fall down or blow over, the vines run up its inclined sides and fall over the other side at the top which has a tendency to check their growth.

No advice in regard to the keeping of Grapes, except that they must be well grown before you undertake to put them by for keeping.

No. 13. FOREIGN GRAPES.—Best 6 varieties, ripening, early, medium and late, with the preparation of borders; pruning and keeping the fruit.

Black Hamburg, Bowood Muscat and Black Barbarose, are recommended. Borders completely underdrawn and composed of 1-3 sand and 2-3 surface soil and sods. Cut out old stunted wood, and fruit the strong canes.

No. 15. VINERIES.—How many are there in your county, and how are they constructed.

15 Vineries are reported from Chester county generally on the lean-to plan, 14 to 17 feet wide.

No. 16. STRAWBERRIES.—Best 6 varieties, how planted and cultivated, with description of new sorts:

Wilson's Albany, Agriculturist, Triomph de Gand, Green Prolific, Ida, Philadelphia. For field cultivation, plant in rows from 2 to 3 feet apart, and 12 to 15 inches in the row; Napoleon III and Chas. Downing, are noticed as promising amongst the new sorts.

No. 17. RASPBERRIES.—Best varieties and partially the varieties, preparation of the soil, how planted, cultivated and protected:

Three Hardy,—Philadelphia, Clark, Doolittle.

Partially Hardy—Brinkle Orange, Fastolf, Hornby. The Pearl, Ellwanger and Mammoth Cluster, are recommended for trial as Hardy Raspberries.

Trench the ground, two spits deep, mix a portion of manure with the soil; plant in rows 4 to 6 feet apart, and 3 to 4 apart in the row. Manure in the fall with stable manure as a top dressing; protect by bending down and covering with leaves or litter those that are not hardy, which should with more, if necessary, be left for a mulch in the summer, thinning out the young shoots, and cutting out the old wood as soon as done bearing, and pinch back the long canes. Hardy varieties treated the same, except they do not need covering.

No. 18. BLACKBERRIES.—Best varieties, with preparation of the soil and after culture:

Kittatiny, Lawton and Wilson.

They should be cut back in mid-summer to make them branch out, and if the ground be mulched they produce well; some mulch with a heavy coat of coal ashes all over the ground which answer a good purpose.

No. 19. CURRANTS, Gooseberries, CRANBERRIES.—Best varieties and how cultivated:

Currants.—Red Dutch, *Cherry*, White Grape.

Gooseberries.—Houghton, Cluster, Downing's Seedling.

Cranberries.—None.

No. 20. RIPENING & STORING.—Best mode of storing, keeping and ripening Apples and Pears:

Storing in barrels in a cold dry place is recommended for Apples, they should be carefully picked and sorted and put in the barrels on a clear day and removed to such a place. If wanted for use early they can be placed in a warmer temperature to ripen and develop their flavor.

Pears require careful watching; if in too dry a place they will shrivel up and decay. They may be placed in a tight box or chest in a cold upper room, raising the lid slightly to admit air enough to dry the moisture which arises from the pears, but not to wilt them; and remove to a warmer room when likely to freeze and generally ripen upbetter by being covered with a blanket or cloth.

No. 21. INSECTS.—Insects injurious to vegetation, with modes of prevention or destruction:

No general mode recommended for destroying insects, but no doubt every successful fruit grower must endeavor by all means within his power to destroy the codling, moth, curculio, caterpillar, grape thrip, and other pests whenever their effects are seen, at all times, places and opportunities.

No. 22. SOIL.—What is its general character and what manures are considered the most beneficial:

Stable manure is generally considered best for all kinds of soil, while some on good clay loam or limestone land recommend wood ashes, ground bones and superphosphate of lime as the best manures for vines and fruit trees.

INQUIRY ABOUT THE FRUIT CROP OF 1869.

The fruit crop of the past year was the most abundant that we have had for a number of years, though some varieties of pear, particularly the Bartlett did not bear as well as it usually does, as it generally bloomed profusely. It is a subject of inquiry whether under such circumstances the vitality of the tree is so drawn upon and the flow of sap so diverted from the portions of the ground not properly performing their functions that the blossoms do not set their fruit; the same thing occurs frequently with the Duchess d'Angoulemes pear which blooms often profusely on the new wood, to remedy which the blossom buds will have to be taken off, or the tree pruned, so as to lessen the number of buds to expand.

The extreme heat of the latter part of the summer caused the fruit to ripen up before its proper season, consequently it did not keep well.

As the value of a general report will depend very much on the materials from which it is made, which are the reports from the various counties and from individuals, while I cordially thank those members who have furnished reports, I doubt the propriety of making up and recording lists of fruits for cultivation, extending to embrace the whole of this section of the State, without more information on this subject than has been given.

And I would recommend to fruit growers, to test new fruits as they are brought to their notice, in order to get the best of the different kinds; but not to recommend any variety until they have given it a fair trial.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL W. NOBLE.

Chairman of General Fruit Committee.

Jenkintown, 1 Mo., 18th, 1870.

After the transaction of some business of minor importance, an interesting discussion arose respecting the matter contained in the above report—the topics being taken up and debated *seriatim*. In the course of the debate the Primate, Townsend and Early Harvest varieties of the Apple were highly recommended by different members for cultivation. Mr. C. Hiller stated the Early Harvest had not done well in Lancaster county, that the None Such was a better variety. After much debate as to the propriety of endorsing the suggestions and conclusions embodied in the above general report of the Committee, it was finally adopted. With regard to Summer Pears, the Ott variety was highly spoken of, and the Rutter was recommended as a Fall pear.

On motion, in order to terminate a discussion that else might prove interminable, a Committee of Five were appointed by the Chair to report business for the Meeting.—Mr. A. Thomas suggested that a committee be appointed to make a list of all the fruit on exhibition, to be handed to the Secretary for embodiment in the annual Report of the Society. On motion a committee was appointed consisting of five members—viz: A. Hoopes (chairman). A. committee was, also, appointed to examine all fruits sent to the Association for a name; S. W. Noble was appointed chairman of the committee.

The business session of the afternoon meeting having been disposed of the subject of dwarf pear trees was debated. Some of the members thought that the cultivation of dwarf pear trees, as *dwarf* trees, was a failure—as in a short time they get large roots and become standard pears. Mr. Parry suggested that on account of the little room they occupied it was very desirable to have them in some localities. Mr. Satterwait, of Delaware county, stated that on his place trees planted for dwarfs soon became as large as those which were planted as standards. Other members stated, on the contrary, that by attention and proper pruning the dwarf trees could be kept dwarfed.

The report of the committee appointed to prepare a programme of the topics to be considered by the association, having been presented to the President by its Chairman, further general discussion was dispensed with. The report, on motion, was accepted and taken up item by item for discussion.

The first item was read by the President—it was as follows:

"The cause of the failure of the Grape in Eastern Pennsylvania?"

A long debate ensued, in which it was conclusively shown that in some localities in Eastern Pennsylvania the Grape did succeed, and was grown with profit, but that such localities were peculiarly situated, and were generally located on the sides of the eastern slopes of the Alleghanies in shelterd positions with a sandy or porous soil. The following resolution, presented by Mr. Mitchell, was finally adopted by a vote of 12 yeas to 8 nays, as expressive of the opinion of the association:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the failure of the native grape in Eastern Pennsylvania is due to atmospheric influences producing mildew and other diseases.

On motion Mr. Wm. L. Peiper and Mr. Allen Guthrie, both of Lancaster, were elected members of the Association.

The second item for consideration was: Question—The best known mode of eradicating the curculio?

Dr. Suesserot suggested that the only feasible method of destroying curculio was to kill it before it emerged from the larva state; J. Stauffer agreed with Dr. S. Mr. Jenks thought stated that a very successful way to destroy these troublesome insects was to jar the trees; fruit growers in southern Illinois employed this method with success. Mr. Satterwait, of Delaware county, thought that jarring the trees would not prove an entire remedy. He thought that by protecting and increasing the number of birds—they would destroy these insect pests. Mr. S. Harvey thinks the curculio) were diminishing in numbers in his section—probably they would have their day and ultimately disappear. A member stated that he had by jarring the fruit trees and catching the insects in sheets, been successful, in a measure, in freeing trees of them, and thereby growing fruit.

Pending the discussion—the meeting adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

Evening Session.—Society met at 7 o'clock P. M.

President Hoopes read his annual address, which was of an able, instructive and entertaining character, and treated of topics of great interest, not only to fruit-growers, but also to those not engaged in the cultivation of fruit.

At the conclusion of the address a spirited discussion was had with reference to the best methods of eradicating mildew (or fungus) from fruit trees. The chairman, Mr. Hoopes, said that mildew on the Rose could be removed by applying manure water and tobacco in a liquid state. Several of the members spoke highly of the efficacy of soft soap as a wash for removing mildew; the use of liquid manure and air slacked lime was, also, recommended—the lime to be used when the dew is on the leaves.

The item which is the best known mode of preventing black knots on cherry and plum trees?" was next debated.

Mr. Meehan recommended the persistent cutting out of the black knot on fruit trees, in its early stage, and, from experiments, believed that it can be totally eradicated.—Mr. Harrison regarded fungus as an indication but not as the cause of the disease of black knot. A member suggested that in some experiments made with weak carbolic acid he had been successful in removing the black knot.

The 4th question—"The best method of ripening winter fruit?" was next discussed.

H. M. Engle, of Marietta, stated that by keeping apples in the coolest possible place (without permitting them to freeze), and having them simply packed in barrels he had succeeded in keeping and ripening fruit well. Mr. E. favored early picking.

Mr. Stauffer, of Chambersburg, exhibited fine Catawba grapes, which he said he kept by putting them in boxes, with paper between the bunches, and placing the boxes in a cool dry place in the cellar.

Mr. Mitchell said he seemed to argue that fruit must be kept cold—but that fruit must be brought to a higher temperature for ripening; and keeping cool too long it loses its power of ripening. Mr. M. also stated that he packs his grapes dry and in barrels and placing them where they would not be most susceptible to sudden change of temperature would preserve them well.

The 5th question—"What varieties of pears, apples, and peaches are of most healthy growth, and permanently vigorous constitution?" was next considered:

After considerable debate it seemed that a majority of the members favored Native American seedlings in preference to the foreign varieties—as they were best adapted to our climate.

The Lawrence and Ott varieties of pears were highly spoken of.

With regard to apples the Alf Summer was highly spoken of by Mr. L. S. Reist as doing well in Lancaster county.

Pending the discussion of this question the Society adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock this (Thursday) morning.

Thursday Morning Session.—Wm. Saunders of Washington, D. C. read the following paper at the opening of the session.

PRUNING WITH REFERENCE TO FRUITFULNESS.

Natural laws are constant and unvaried in their operations. Our knowledge of these laws is derived from accurate observations of causes and effects. Pomology is the systematization of explanations of these observations. The science of pruning fruit trees is therefore the explanation, or concentrated evidence of effects produced by manipulations on the branches and other portions of plants derived from the accumulated knowledge of centuries of observation and experience; and when we consider the lengthened period during which pruning has been performed—the general intelligence of the operators, and the countless repetitions of similar processes ending in similar results, it is reasonable to suppose that a sufficient number of facts have been observed to establish a very perfect science.

I do not propose entering into an extended review of modes of pruning; neither do I intend to discuss, what is of far more importance, the principles that science has established for our guidance in performing the operation, but will at once proceed to state that, so far as the production of fruit is concerned on trees that form fruit buds on short spur branches, such as the apple, pear, plumb and cherry, I am convinced of the evil of *shortening in*, as it is technically termed, the young growth or points of shoots, at any season, either summer or winter.

When we wish to form a thickly branched, bushy plant, such as we desire in a hedge, the end is accomplished by frequently pruning or cutting back the growing shoots as they project beyond the ideal limit. But this method totally fails when side branches, slender, but numerous, as the object of a close hedge requires; but when the development of numerous lengthy shoots is the aim, as in willows for basket making and similar manufacturing purposes, pruning is performed during winter only, and the more decided or severe the operation, the stronger and better the resulting growth.

Similar treatment to the above, will produce similar results when applied to fruit trees.

I will take the pear as an example; and certainly no variety of fruit tree has been so tortured under the sanction of both science and ignorance, as this has been; when the tree is submitted to a regular course of winter pruning, together with regular pinching of young growths during summer, a thicket of slender growths is produced, and, if it is followed up with skillful persistence, may produce that great desideratum—a beautiful pyramidal shaped tree.

On the other hand, when summer pruning in its every shape is abjured, and thorough or severe winter cutting the systematic rule, a profusion of growth, consisting of more or less luxuriance, are yearly produced, and yearly removed, just as practised in the culture of willows, excepting that the pear growths are useless, and the willows are valuable.

All who are familiar with pear culture will recognize these widely different modes of treatment, and the distinct forms so produced; also that both agree in one important particular, that is, they produce but very little fruit.

Having practised both of these systems to my entire satisfaction, it occurred to me some twelve years ago, to let the trees alone. I had pruned, pinched and disbudded, until my trees were acknowledged to be as finely formed as any in the country, and they certainly were as productive and unlined as the most beautiful Norway firs.—I felt the risk of abandoning an orthodox custom, and being classed among *negligent cultivators*, but my eyes were opened. I saw that these orthodox manipulations trees were naked of fruit, and resolved, that, however much it might shorten-in my reputation, I would not for the future shorten-in my fruit trees.

To illustrate another particularly the plan now pursued, I may state that in the spring of 1863, I planted a collection of sixty varieties of pears. These were set in duplicate, one-half being on quince roots, the other on pear stocks. These have received the same general treatment throughout.—When planted they were pruned down very closely, many of them cut so as to resemble a smooth walking cane, from two to three feet in length. In the Fall of that year, they were cut back, in order to establish a proper spread of branches, but with the exception of taking a few canes from some of the varieties, the branches have not been shortened since; some few tall branches have been removed entirely where they have become crowded, and yearly shoots encouraged at the point of cutting, which ensures the healthy heading over of the cut, and is essential in the mode of management, to take the place of future removals.

During the second and third years' growth young shoots of these, four and five feet in length were not uncommon, and it required some firmness to repress the inclination to prune, but experience soon proved that it had been lightly formed and was not to be lightly abandoned; and even the longest of these shoots became thickly studded with fruiting spurs, and the dead time furnished with blossoms, and subsequently with fruit.

To show the Society what I mean by a thickly studded system of fruit buds, and the rapidity with which they form when allowed to grow as nature designs, I have a few branches of various ages, which I submit for inspection.

After the essay was read an animated discussion took place on the subject of Pruning.

Mr. H. M. Engle, of Marietta, remarked that it seems to be the opinion that dwarf pears form roots and will soon grow into standards. Mr. Mitchel agreed in this.

Mr. Harrison, of Philadelphia, said cordage was wanted. Trees were often crowded; planted too thickly. The trees in such cases must be thinned; the knife must be used unsparingly. Most of pear trees were planted too thickly—they should be planted from 18 to 20 feet apart. Let 4 of the trees be sacrificed in order that the others may flourish.

Mr. Thos. Meehan said he agreed that pear trees were generally planted too thickly together; but nevertheless they should not be too widely planted. The trees need protection; it was well to plant trees of smaller growth between them. Pruning also invariably injures a tree. The result will be noticed in 20 or 25 years; the tree is weakened. The man who prunes closely his tree on a street, for instance, will not have so flourishing a tree as his neighbor who lets nature have her sway. The tendency of pruning is to weaken the vitality of trees; it renders them liable to disease. Many of the diseases pear trees now labor under is caused by too much pruning; trees should propagate also from healthy trees.

Mr. Engle confirmed Mr. Meehan's theory that too much pruning was not to be recommended.

Mr. Miller said that he pruned but little but that he had dwarf pear trees 21 years old that bear well. Mr. H. cultivated his ground well.

Mr. Harrison, of Philadelphia, said that in his experience the only blight he had among his trees was caused by pruning too closely. A great deal of blight is caused by too much pruning.

Mr. Meehan said that weakened vitality did not always cause disease—but by propagating from trees of weak vitality a bad stock was obtained. Pruning the roots had the same effect. Mr. M. thought that dwarf trees 20 years old could be transplanted without much danger.

Dr. Suesserotb offered the following resolution relating the illegal pruning:

Resolved, That we, the members of the Penn'a Fruit Growers' Association, do hereby agree to use our best endeavors to secure the passage of an act by our State Legislature, now in session for the better protection of shrubbery, fruit and shade trees; whereby the frequent acts of vandalism perpetrated by the employees of Telegraph Companies, and others, shall be constituted a misdemeanor and provision made for their merited punishment.

Dr. S. said that in his section of the State telegraph employees had a habit of hacking and cutting trees along their line of wires. Prof. Heiges favored the passage of the resolution—he noticed that in the Southern part of his (York) county many trees were killed in this way.

Mr. Reed, also, spoke in favor of the resolution; he noticed in some instances whole sides of trees were cut off to allow the passage of the wire. Mr. Bomberger, of Harrisburg, favored the resolution, and amended it by substituting the word "Society" for "Association."

On motion it was resolved that the next annual meeting of the Society be held at Chambersburg, Franklin county.

The Society then went into an election for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

President—Josiah Hoopes, West Chester; Vice Presidents—S. Noble, Jenkinstown, D. W. Gross, Harrisburg; Dr. Suesserott, Chambersburg; Recording Secretary—Alexander Harris, Lancaster; Corresponding Secretary—Thomas Meehan, Germantown; Treasurer—Robt. Otto, West Chester.

The following item was next discussed: "What varieties of peaches are most healthy, and have the most vigorous growth and best permanent constitution?"

Mr. Harvey suggested that those varieties having the most deeply seriated leaves were the best.

Mr. Parry, of N. J., said in his State the Mountain Rose was an excellent variety; that is a new peach just coming before the community.

Mr. Kerfoot remarked that in Harrisburg the Susquehanna variety did excellently. Mr. Bomberger, of Harrisburg, stated that the original tree of this variety was found by a blacksmith on the bank of the Susquehanna River. The tree was transplanted into a garden, fruit was now one of the best varieties along the river.

Mr. Engle, of Marietta, thought the Susquehanna was not generally a good bearer. The Crawford Early was in his opinion, an excellent fruit to be planted in rich, strong soil. The Susquehanna should be planted in thin soil.

Mr. Grossier, of Franklin county, said the Druid Hill peach did well in that section.

Mr. Hinkle, of Lancaster county, stated that he had found quince bark a good remedy for yellows.

Mr. J. Stauffer, of Lancaster city, agreed with Mr. Hiller as to guano being a good remedy.

Mr. Brinton, of Lancaster county, recommended leached ashes for the yellows.

Mr. Harrison, of Germantown, recommended the old Morton Freestone as the best peach for canning.

Dr. Suesserott, of Chambersburg, recommended soft soap for the disease of yellows.

Mr. Mitchel offered the following resolution in place of the one he previously offered, respecting the failure of the Grape in Eastern Pennsylvania. Mr. M. moved the reconsideration of the resolution adopted by the Society, yesterday, and offered the following in lieu of the one adopted:

Resolved, That many of the failures in grape culture after being a few years planted, are due first to improper locations, and 2d, by injudicious pruning; secondly, propagating varieties of feeble vitality which are injuriously affected by atmospheric changes.

"What are the influences of hibernization on fruit?"

The debate of this item was opened by Mr. Harvey, of Chester county, he said that some say that the seed of strawberries are influenced by the pollen when said strawberries are planted side by side. Perhaps when an orchard of early and late apples are planted near together the pollen of the apple blossoms affect each other. I am persuaded that different varieties of potatoes planted near together affect each other; in spite of what botanists say I know this to be the fact.

Mr. Purple, of Columbia, had noted that vines affected each other; the pollen of the squash will affect the pumpkin; the same is the case with the potato.

Mr. Merceron had not noted this peculiarity in potatoes.

Mr. Harrison moved that "cross-impregnation" be substituted for the word "hybernization" in the item under discussion. Concurred in.

Prof. Heiges thought that the abnormal excrescences found on vines and trees, were often mistaken for the effects of "cross hybernization."

Messrs. Harvey, Meehan, and other members, expressed the belief that no real "cross impregnation" can take place.

Mr. Parry, of N. J., said that he knew that vines, (such as the citron and melon) would be affected by the pollen of each other; he narrated an amusing incident where the pollen had an influence upon the pulp of the seed.

Prof. Heiges, of York county, believed that the pollen had an influence, especially in the Creveling Grape, which not having much pollen of its own, required fertilization from the pollen of other varieties.

Mr. Mitchel offered the following resolution which, after some debate, was adopted:

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the suggestion made by our President, in his annual address, that the Legislature be petitioned to make an appropriation to, and aid in carrying out the object of this Society, which represents a very important interest, and one which well deserves the fostering care of the State, and that a committee be appointed to carry out the object of this resolution.

Thursday Afternoon.—The Society, pursuant to motion made at adjournment, met at 2 o'clock.

On motion a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Noble, Merceron and Harvey, was appointed to select and make up a box of the rarer and newer varieties of fruits, for exhibition, to be forwarded to Charles Downing, of Newburg, N. Y. The President, Mr. Hoopes, remarked that this was but due to Mr. Downing in reward for the eminent services he had rendered fruit growers by making rare new fruits; besides Mr. Downing had requested that all fruit growers' societies should forward rare, new fruits to him in order that he might examine them and if necessary name them.

The President stated he had the pleasure of introducing Mr. Thomas Meehan, of Germantown, the Secretary of the Society to those present.

Mr. Meehan stated that he had not prepared any written address, but would make some extemporaneous remarks on "Fruit Cultivation in general." The speaker remarked that great improvements could be made in fruit cultivation. That the people of Lancaster county, although well advanced in fruit growing and distinguished for the quantity and quality of fruit grown in Pennsylvania, could still much room for improvement. Mr. Meehan spoke of the nature of a fruit tree and the different functions of its parts—its leaves and roots. With regard to the roots of a tree they should be kept as near surface as possible without actually being in the light—the leaves of a tree must have light, but such was not the case with the roots. Water is prejudicial to the roots of a tree; so also is a hot soil; for a hot soil produces evaporation and deprives the roots of the water essential to their growth and life. Coolness and moisture is very essential to grow fruit trees well; it is therefore a question whether a system of mulching is not better for fruit trees; and that it should be practiced instead of that system of cultivation which leaves the roots of trees once exposed to the unfavorable influence of heat, &c.

With regard to the influence of soil and climate on fruit in our woods that the wild grape vine bears never or very seldom and exceptionally. The vine also is, in the woods, subjected to those conditions most favorable to promote its growth, and in cultivating the grape we should study Nature and imitate her.

In answer to the query "what influence the stock has on the graft?"

Mr. Meehan said it had no more influence than the quality of the stock might have—but the stock made no difference in the quality of the fruit of the graft. Mr. Meehan was satisfied that the stock could not change the character of the fruit of the graft. Mr. Meehan remarked that the fibres of trees die annually and that a fibre that lives over a year becomes a root.

Mr. Purple, of Columbia, believed that Mr. Meehan was correct in his theory; but that he (Mr. P.) thought the fibres of evergreen trees often lived over a year, and did not die until 3 or 4 years elapsed.

Mr. Meehan remarked that although the bulb of a plant be planted in soil that freezes soon after the root was planted, nevertheless the root would thaw the adjacent soil and grow—the roots would thaw their way through the frozen earth. However cold it may be, the trunk and branches of a tree are not frozen, the internal heat of the tree prevents that; if the cells containing the sap of a tree were to freeze, the tree would burst and death must ensue.

Mr. Satterthwait, of Montgomery county, remarked that surely the small twigs or branches of a tree froze. Many things such as the cabbage may be frozen, but they will afterwards thaw out and live.

Mr. Meehan said that in all large trees often a large portion of them were dead, that the dead portion being filled with moisture, it freezes and bursts the tree—that is the *dead portion* of the tree. A cabbage is weakened by freezing; its vitality is permanently affected.

Mr. Purple maintained that winter wheat freezes but afterwards grows. A cherry tree, which has a tight bark, freezes and bursts the bark, and then grows more rapidly. Mr. P. thought that frost was essential to the growth of trees.

Mr. Satterthwait insisted that the freezing and thawing of some plants, and of the branches and twigs of trees would not kill them.

Mr. J. Stauffer of this city instanced a plant that possessed latent heat; he thought that the freezing of trees did not necessarily kill them.

Mr. Wm. Saunders, of Washington, D. C., said he was of the opinion that wood did contain latent heat, else why did it make heat when burned?

Mr. J. Stauffer explained the chemical process by which the action of fire produced heat.

Mr. Saunders remarked that recent investigations show that if animals (cold blooded ones) are frozen solid they will die feet. In good condition; 4 feet column alley at rear of lots. Adjoining Pennock's property on the east. An excellent opportunity for persons of moderate means to secure a comfortable home in a pleasant part of town.

A lot in rear of Shirk's Confectionery, fronting 32 feet, 2¼ inches on the alley running from West Orange street to Chestnut street, between North Queen and Prince, by 151 feet deep, with a DWELLING-HOUSE and a substantial two-story brick building thereon, slate roofed, now used as a tin-pin alley, cabinet-maker shop, &c. Adjoins the Black Horse Hotel property on the south. Access from North Queen street, by a 4 foot alley.

Sale to commence at 7 o'clock P. M., when terms will be made known by

CATHARINE SHUBER,
JOHN A. SHUBER,
Administrators.

Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 19, 1870. 1td4-tfw

LAND AGENCY IN NELSON COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

The Nelson county Farming, Grape, Mechanical and Mercantile (Incorporated) Company have opened an office on their farm, 7 miles northeast of Nelson Court House, where the President or Clerks of the Company may be found at all times. They solicit correspondence with persons desirous to purchase or rent lands in Nelson or adjacent counties. Address the President at Nelson Court House, and correspondents will be promptly attended to, he is a practical man, with large experience, is a lawyer of 30 years practice, still practicing, and was a land trader before the war. He is well acquainted with all the lands in Nelson and adjoining country, and will investigate the title to all lands we may sell. Nelson county will compare favorably for original fertility of soil with any county in Virginia, is perhaps the most rolling of any county east of the Blue Ridge. The valleys and flat lands not surpassed by any in the State for farming and planting purposes, and the south, southwest and southeastern slopes of her mountains and hills, it is thought, is unsurpassed in any part of the world for the quantity and excellency of the forest Grape.

And the abundance of pure spring water that abounds in every section of the county together with the immense water power that is capable of driving any amount of machinery that may be desired for the most extensive manufacturing companies, and last though not least, we have perhaps the most salubrious climate in the world. We have at least 100,000 acres of land in lots and tracts from one acre to 1,000 acres, ranging from $2 to $50 per acre. We have one tract of 10,000 acres of Mountain land for sale.

Persons desiring to purchase, are respectfully solicited to open correspondence with us.

ALEX. FITZPATRICK, President.

REFERENCES.

Judges Wm. J. Robertson, Watson Rives, Sheriff, Shackleford Falls, the Faculty of the University of Virginia, the bar of Nelson county, and Albermarle.

ALEX. FITZPATRICK, President.

jc9-1yw28

LOCAL ITEMS.—*From Salisbury*: We have been furnished with the following items by a correspondent:

Since my last there has been but little news in Old Salisbury. On Saturday the 15th inst. there was a fox chase on Cook Tillier's Mansion House Farm, at the Gap. Although the sun came down almost continually during the day, a goodly number had assembled to witness the sport. At 2 P. M., two old Reynards were thrown out and allowed about half an hour's start of the dogs, and at a given signal the nine men on horseback dashed away through a valley of unbroken pasture, making a fine spectacle of the sport that followed. The fleet-footed Reynards, two mules, owing to the heavy rain, they were compelled to take off the dogs for fear of their lives, and the dogs, after having run about two miles, they headed homeward to their respective homes, perhaps to dream of the pleasures of the hunt. The day was concluded by all appearance, to have been the largest hunt of the season.

Mr. S. B. Black, who resides in this (Salisbury) township, on the Old Lancaster and Philadelphia Road, on a tract of 33 acres of land, owns a splendid brood mare, by the celebrated stallion "Black Hawk." Within the last year he has added to his stock two of the most valuable brood mares, one of which is a dark bay, 5 years old, and the other a sorrel, 6 years old, both of which are in foal to "Black Hawk." Although the stallion is a comparatively young one, he is a sire of some of the most valuable horses in this county. Mr. Black's stock of horses is now composed of the following: Two of the mares above named, one Irish Chief Stallion, coming two years old, two Hambletonian colts, besides several very fine mares, and one fast trotting gelding. Any person visiting Salisbury would do well to visit Mr. Black and view his valuable stock. Salisbury cannot be beat for blooded horses by any township in Lancaster county.

The officers of Philos Lodge K. of P., were installed on Saturday evening, January 8th, by Past Chancellor, T. D. Worst, assisted by P. C., Shultz, P. C., Rosborough and others. The Lodge is in a most flourishing condition.

LEGAL NOTICES.

ESTATE OF A. LIGHTNER HENDERLIDE, late of Salisbury twp., dec'd.—Letters of Administration on said estate having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted thereto are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will present them for payment to the undersigned, residing in said township.

MARGARET ANN HENDERSON,
Administratrix.

Jan5-4tw-1

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION ON the estate of John Campbell, late of Manor twp., Lancaster county, dec'd having been granted to Charles J. Rhodes, all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment, and those having claims will present the same for settlement to the undersigned Administrator.

CHAS. J. RHODES,
Safe Harbor.

Jan18-6tw3

NOTICE—THE HUNTER'S DALE LUMBER COMPANY. The Court of Common Pleas of the County of Lancaster in Equity, having decreed the dissolution of the firm known as The Hunter's Dale Lumber Company, and appointed the undersigned receiver to settle its affairs. Notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to the same to make immediate payment and to those having claims to present them to

D. G. ESHLEMAN, Receiver,
No. 36 N. Duke st., Lancaster.

Jan12-3tw

ASSIGNEE'S NOTICE—ASSIGNED ESTATE of William W. Steele, of Drumore township, Lancaster county, William W. Steele, of said township, having by deed of voluntary assignment, dated January 10th, 1870, assigned