TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

WISCONSIN

STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

1870.

TUESDAY, February 1, 1870.

President Dr. JOSEPH HOBBINS called the society to order at 7½ P. M. About fifty members in attendance.

W. T. LEITCH, President of the Madison Horticultural Society, gave the

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the State Horticultural Society:

Your annual assembling in this city has already become an event looked forward to with interest and pleasure by the local society of this city, which I have the honor to represent, and they have imposed upon me the pleasing duty of expressing to you their hearty welcome and sympathy in the objects which you have at heart. The field which you have entered is a wide one, and certainly needs to be well and fully occupied in this state. Our climate is such, that to make horticulture successful, requires a large amount of study, observation and patient scientific investigation. We have enemies in the winds, and in the great extremes of heat and cold, and it is for you to inform the people of this state how to fortify and protect themselves against them; you have not only to point out the enemy and the means of defense to the good people of the state, but your mission is also to incite them to avail themselves of the means of defense at their disposal. The man who makes two spires of grass to grow where but one grew before, has been well called a public benefactor, and the man, or body of men, who shall induce the farmers of this state generally to protect their farms, orchards and homes by belts of timber, and shall induce them to set apart a portion of every prairie farm to the growth of fruit trees, and who by word and deed shall cause the people to look upon every man who wantonly wastes and cuts trees and timber as a public enemy; who by precept and example shall persuade the people to adorn and beautify their homes with flowers