

P R E F A C E .

IN consequence of the articles sent to the International Exhibition not having arrived in Nova Scotia until May 1863, the final Report of the Commissioners could not be presented to the Legislature until the session of 1864.

It has been considered advisable to preserve in a permanent form the documents relative to the representation of our provincial resources in London in 1862, both on account of the satisfactory results of the efforts made by the Government, the Commissioners, and the contributors, to bring the capabilities of the province to the notice of the world, and as a record that may be of service on future occasions, when Nova Scotia will be called upon to take her place among her sister colonies at the Great Exhibitions of the mother country. It has also appeared desirable that some of the many flattering notices of our Court, which have appeared in the English press, should be preserved, as they are likely hereafter to be of value, or at least of interest, to Nova Scotians.

A few copies of the catalogue prepared by the Board, and of Mr. Knight's excellent Prize Essay, the demand for which has far exceeded the supply, have been reserved by the Commissioners. The latter work being now out of print, and frequently enquired for, the copies embodied in this volume cannot fail to be acceptable; and as it was necessarily restricted to the subject of the resources of the province, the Board have directed that a brief sketch of the History of Nova Scotia, contained in the Anniversary Address delivered in 1862, should be bound up with the Prize Essay, as an introduction to Mr. Knight's valuable work.

The Royal Horticultural Society held in October 1862, in connection with the International Exhibition, an International Show of ROOTS, FRUITS and CEREALS, at which two medals were awarded to articles sent from the Nova Scotian Court. As our agent in London took charge of the contributions from Nova Scotia, and an officer of the Board acted as Secretary to the Committee who collected and forwarded specimens from this province, a copy of the Report of the International Show Committee, supplied by them, is included in this publication.

R. G. HALIBURTON,

Secretary.