

I then harrowed about one-fourth of the patch, levelling the surface very smooth. After sowing the seed on all the ground I again harrowed. The ground was very dry, and the weather continued hot for three weeks; consequently it was some time before the seed came up. I was soon sorry I had not harrowed all the ground before sowing, for where I omitted this operation but few seeds came up. Notwithstanding the extreme heat of the sun the grass grew astonishingly fast, branched out beyond all expectation, and grew about waist high by the first of August. It was headed out like millet, though seeming more vigorous and hardy. By the 10th of August the heads, which were from one to six inches in length, were all turned to a golden-yellow color. I cut and threshed off the seed, and had sixty-three pints from the one pint of seed sown. I am confident that not more than half the seed came up, and consequently the sixty-three pints were the product of half a pint of seed. In Tennessee it should be sown about the first week of May, on clear and loose ground, harrowed smooth before and after sowing. One bushel of seed will, I think, sow three acres. I recommend the Hungarian grass to be the best and most nutritious food of all grasses, and shall rejoice when our State shall be supplied with it."

Communications.

RAIN DROPS.

BY G. T. B., GRANVILLE.

[We seldom have occasion to announce to our readers that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the writings of our correspondents; and probably there is not much occasion for doing so in reference to the present communication. To be sure some of the rain drops are warm, like those that fell during the recent hurricane, and the Fruit Growers' Association comes in for a few heavy drops at the tail of the shower; but the Association is now a well established tree, which puts out an annual show of blossoms and ripens excellent fruit, and the only effect will be to shake down a few wormy apples if there are any such upon it.—Ed.]

Granville, July 20.

DEAR JOURNAL.—It is a wet day emphatically, and nothing to be done out of doors; will you accept of a few lines for your pages if found worthy of a place?

I noticed H. G. F., a correspondent in your last issue, asks information concerning a "Sulphur shower." Was it any thing more than a fall of pollen from the

spruce and firs, brought down from the air by a sudden shower or heavy dew. I have frequently noticed such an appearance as he has described, and have attributed it to the above mentioned cause. It closely resembles lupuline, the pollen of hops.

I have been watching the king birds about my hives of late, and have come to the decided opinion that they take no bees but drones. Drones leave the hive in the middle of a warm day and fly far from home, more than a mile; they are then high in the air, quite out of sight, but not out of hearing, and I have distinctly heard them filling the space above and about me with the hoarse hum of their wings when half a mile from my hives. They straggle back one by one, and on a warm evening I have heard them coming some time after sunset. No doubt the king-birds have ears as acute as my own, and linger about the hives to pick up the lumbering fatties on their homeward journey. I have repeatedly shot them in the very act of taking bees, and never found a bee in the crop of one, but the gizzard would be full, crushed out of all bee shape; on washing these fragments and examining with a microscope, I have never yet found any part of a sting, though legs, feet, antennæ, &c. were readily recognized. I shall never shoot a king-bird again for a bee robber.

The crops are all very good in our county, particularly grass, corn, and, as a general thing, apples. Here and there late frosts did some damage to the blossoms. Strawberries have been very fine and very abundant. By way of putting to shame that Halifax Triumph de Gaud that girted three inches, I may assure your readers that a strawberry, I am not sure of what variety, was raised at Paradise, Annapolis, that measured in circumference four inches and a half.

Winter rye is almost a total failure in Wilmot and Aylesford, and has been for some years back, owing to the ravages of an insect that eats off the straw at the joints. I have not been able to get a specimen, but judge it is the larva of some species of Daddy-long-legs. Can you suggest a remedy? How it rains! and I without hay caps. Mem.—To get some the first dry day.

I wonder why the Fruit Growers' Association has all its shows near Cornwallis this year,—that it may be more entitled to the "international" part of its title, I suppose; and I wonder why so important a change was made in the terms by which the London Society's medal may become private property. Why not let bye-gones be bye-gones, and begin again with a fair start and no favour, if the change spoken of was necessary. Knowing how much easier it is to find fault with what other men do than do better myself, I forbear any remarks on the "list of prizes," but

this, that it would bear a still greater change with improvement.

How it does rain, to be sure!—Believe me, dear Mr. Editor,

Yours sincerely,

G. T. B.

FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

The July Quarterly meeting of the Association was held at Wolfville on the 16th inst., according to announcement. The following gentlemen were appointed Judges to the Annual Exhibition to be held at Somerset in October:—

1. *Medals and Collections of Fruit.*—D. R. Eaton, Oliver Foster, G. A. S. Crichton.

2. *First six sorts of Apples on prize list.*—J. W. Cornwall, Charles F. Eaton, Leander Rand.

3. *Remaining Apples.*—Isaac Shaw, DeLancy Harris, Henry Skinner.

4. *Other Fruits, Honey, Nursery Stock, and Fruit Barrels.*—J. G. Byrne, Herbert Harris, Dr. Bingay.

5. *Roots and other Vegetables.*—John M. Parker, Jas. E. Fellows, Robt. Stewart.

Judges for the July, August, and September Exhibitions—Thos. W. Chesley, Isaac Shaw, D. R. Eaton, Geo. V. Rand, and J. R. Hea.

It was resolved that the October Exhibition for 1868 be held at Halifax in connection with the great Industrial Exhibition, and the sum of two hundred dollars from the funds of the association was voted, conditionally, towards the prize list for fruit on that occasion.

THE JULY EXHIBITION

was then opened, when a very interesting collection of early fruits and vegetables was displayed, as well as a rather remarkable collection of last year's apples.

Of the latter Mr. John G. Byrne exhibited Ribston Pippins, Æsopus Spitzenberg, Keswick Codlins, Nonpareils, Baldwins, and the Willoughby apple, most of which appeared as plump and fair to the eye as at any time in the year; Mr. Richard Starr also exhibited Nonpareils and Cooper's Russet, and Dr. Hamilton Nonpareils.

Among the samples of smaller and summer fruits exhibited there were shown by Richard Starr, 4 varieties of Cherries, Dr. Hamilton, 4 varieties of Cherries, Dr. McLatchy, 3 varieties of Strawberries, Geo. V. Rand, 8 varieties of Strawberries and 4 of Cherries, Robt. Stewart, Cherries and Currants, Robert W. Starr, Cherries and Currants, J. G. Byrne 3 varieties of Cherries.

Early potatoes were exhibited by Dr. Hamilton and Robert Stewart; several varieties of Peas by Dr. Hamilton and others; Beets by Charles Fritze, Robert Stewart and Dr. Hamilton; Carrots, Kohl Rabbi, and Cabbage by Charles Fritze;