

American market, and it would find an outlet in the Lower Provinces. Already we had experienced this, and in the future we would have more of it. This state of affairs necessitated keeping a close watch on our market, so as to make the most of it. And that there should be a man in Halifax to dictate the prices of the products for each day, who would telegraph us the different quantities of apples wanted and the prices offered. At the close of each day he would know the quantity and quality required for the next day.

MR. PARKER.—One cent per barrel would pay a man to look after the Halifax market.

On motion the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee, MESSRS. PARKER, DODD, MILLER and ARCHIBALD.

MR. R. W. STARR, the chairman of the fruit committee, hereupon read their report as follows :

REPORT OF FRUIT COMMITTEE.

Mr. President,—The winter of 90-91 appears to have been remarkably favourable to the preservation of the fruit buds and the young wood of fruit trees. There were few complaints of winter killing, and fruit trees of almost all kinds blossomed healthily and well. Apples of all kinds were full. Peaches, pears, cherries, quinces, and most small fruits gave promise of large crops. Plums were rather more variable, some trees being full while others in the same orchard scarcely showed a single blossom. But the cold dry weather of June seemed to have a very injurious effect on many orchards—in some instances the fruit did not set in proportion to the amount of blossoms shown, and in almost all instances the loss by falling of the embryo fruit before the rains commenced toward the last of the month was very large and very general. It has been observed that the best cultivated orchards suffered least from this cause, thus proving that a mellow surface is an effective mulch in dry weather.

We have suffered less from "black scab or spot," "*Fusicladium Dentricticum*," this season than for several years past. This we may safely ascribe to what our worthy Secretary for Agriculture most truly calls "a bad germinating season," preventing the growth of the spores deposited last fall, thus the bad weather was not all an unmixed evil, but may yet prove a blessing in disguise.