

Yellow Belle Fleur grown in Lunenburg Co., \$5.00—Dan'l Wilde, Newcombville.

C. W. Lane, for best barrel Bishop Pippin or Yellow Belle Fleur grown in King's Co., \$5.00—J. Elliott Smith, Wolfville.

Ducoffe & Rubin, for best barrel Bishop Pippin or Yellow Belle Fleur grown in Queen's Co., \$5.00—Stephen Mack, Mill Village.

R. Dawson & Son, for best barrel R. I. Greening grown in Lunenburg Co., \$5.00—E. Manuel Hebb, Bridgewater.

H. H. MacIntosh, for best box Bishop Pippin grown in Queen's Co., \$3.00—Stephen Mack, Mill Village.

T. R. Pattillo, for best box Northern Spy grown in Yarmouth Co., \$3.00—John W. Reynard, Reynard's Bridge.

J. Elliott Smith, of Wolfville, received three diplomas offered by the Association for the best barrels from any county of Nonpareils, Golden Russets and Yellow Belle Fleur. J. S. Hebb, of Bridgewater, took the diploma for Splas, and E. T. Nolley, of Middleton, the diploma for King of Tomkins.

SINGLE PLATES.

Baldwin—First, C. C. Slocum, Middleton; second, R. W. Starr, Wolfville.

Banks—First, C. S. Fitch, Wolfville.

Blenhelm—First, C. C. Slocum; second, Richard Tretheway, New Germany.

Ben Davis—First, C. S. Fitch; second, J. Elliott Smith, Wolfville.

Fallowater—First, Richard Tretheway; second, Wm. Hebb, Bridgewater.

Golden Russet—First, C. M. Vaughan, Wolfville; second, J. Elliott Smith.

Gravenstein—First, C. S. Fitch; second, Zacharia Wilde, Wildeville.

Hubbardston—First, R. W. Starr; second, E. Manuel Hebb, Bridgewater.

King Tomkins—First, C. C. Slocum; second, S. & M. Newcomb, Upper Granville. (Judge's Note.—An especially fine lot of Kings.)

Nonpareil—First, J. Elliott Smith; second, C. S. Fitch.

Ontario—First, J. Elliott Smith. (Judge's Note.—An exceptionally fine plate.)

Ribston—First, C. S. Fitch; second, J. E. Smith.

Greening—First, P. P. Crouse, Bridgewater; second, R. Tretheway, New Germany.

N. Spy—First, Mrs. S. C. Parker, Berwick; second, C. C. Slocum.

Stark—First, C. A. Patriquin, Wolfville; second, Filsom Watterman, S. Brookfield.

Wagner—First, C. C. Slocum; second, R. W. Starr.

Yellow Belle Fleur—First, Arthur Handry, N. Brookfield; second, J. Elliott Smith.

Wealthy—First, Joshua Kaulback, Bridgewater; second, Mrs. John Jodry, Bridgewater.

New and Promising Commercial Apples—First, Gano, Jehiel Hennie, Gaspereaux; first, Wellington, J. Parks, Port Williams; second, Cooper's Market, C. M. Vaughan, Wolfville.

New and Promising Dessert Apple—First, McIntosh Red, J. Elliott Smith.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Peter Innes, Coldbrook; Vice-president, R. S. Eaton, Kentville; Secretary, S. C. Parker, Berwick; Assistant Secretary, J. H. Cox, Cambridge. Executive—C. A. Patriquin, Wolfville; A. C. Starr, Starr's Point; G. C. Miller, Middleton; R. J. Messenger, Bridgetown.

Re-topping Apple Trees.

A correspondent recently sent to the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station the following questions, which were answered by Prof. W. M. Munson as below:

"Can sweet-apple trees be successfully grafted? Will it pay to re-top a large sweet-apple tree a foot or more in diameter? Should an orchard of 100 trees be all of one variety?"

It is very doubtful if the flavor of the fruit has any relation to the value of a given tree for purposes of grafting. Tolman Sweet is often used as a basis for top-working.

Apple trees up to a foot in diameter may be top-worked if unsatisfactory. Care, however, should be used that too much of the top is not removed in any one year. Cut off about one-third of the top the first year and insert cions on stubs not more than two or three inches in diameter. The next year remove more of the top and insert other cions, and the following year complete the work.

It is not advisable to plant a solid block of 100 trees of one variety unless there are other trees in the immediate vicinity. Some varieties are self-fertile and will give satisfactory results if planted alone; but it is always safer to provide for cross fertilization. In large orchards every third or fourth row should be of a different variety. Two or three varieties are enough for a commercial orchard, however, and it is seldom advisable to plant more.

CHAS. D. WOODS, Director.

Mrs. Slimdlet—The boarders are all at the table. Where's the milk?

Cook—Here, mum; but it do look awful blue.

Mrs. Slimdlet—Then hurry into the dining-room and pull down the yellow sunshades.

POULTRY.

Advice to Beginners.

Since the British market requires more eggs and dressed poultry, and pays good prices for both, it is to the interest of the Canadian farmers to provide the goods. The first thing to do is to cull out all scrubs and breed only pure-breds. Second is to get the breed best adapted to your locality and market. Third, but not least, to give them proper attention. The breeds most suitable for the export trade, or indeed for the home market, are Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, Orpingtons and such heavy breeds. If you want to grade up your flock you may do so in two ways: first, by buying good birds; second, by buying good eggs from breeders who have the class of fowl you prefer. Whatever you buy let it be the best. Get a good pure-bred male, and when picking out a breeding pen get a male that is strong in the weak points of the females of your flock. Do not try keeping more than one breed to commence with. For the requirements of the market for dressed poultry we want a bird that will dress plump; and to fill the bill of egg requirements we want a clean, good-sized egg. Cleanliness is essential in the sale of eggs, as well as of poultry. To all beginners, as I am one myself, I say start with the best—they are the cheapest in the end. Feed regularly with a variety of foods, in the list of which should be some fresh meat, vegetables, oats, wheat, milk, etc. Supply sand or gravel for grit, and lime or ground oyster shells. Keep the birds clear of lice, and let them exercise on the sunny side of a building when weather is suitable. In cold weather scatter grain in chaff or straw to induce them to scratch, and thus secure exercise. R. H. C. York Co., Ont.

Good and Bad Incubator Hatches.

One of the chief causes of failure in rearing chicks with incubators is traceable to the condition of the parent stock from which you desire to hatch. We know that the young of all life inherits the characteristics of the parents, but should disease be one of those characteristics it is overlooked. It is quite true that the eggs of our fowls contain embryo, either healthy or otherwise, after the mother hen. Should the mother hen have received improper care when a chick, one can readily see where the foundation of her future weakness was laid. We can, therefore, say that we have traced the cause of some of the poor hatches to the improper care of the chick. In order to get good, strong, healthy chicks, you must have the same qualities in the egg as in the parent stock from which it was the offspring, and to get good strong eggs the hens must have proper care and management from the time they leave the shell. The foundation of most diseases and disorders is laid in the chick, so to make a success of your hatches, see that the parent stock is in a good strong, healthy condition, and doubtless their chicks will hatch well and grow with such strength and stamina as to be able to throw off any disease without any severe strain on the physical system. I have not found it a difficult matter to hatch a good per cent. of chicks under these conditions, but I have had considerable difficulty in rearing them at first. Experience is a great and good teacher, and I have learned that to successfully raise chicks in the brooder they must be kept clean, sufficiently warm, and have dry feed. I think no one will make a mistake by using one of the good prepared chick foods, as it is almost a sure preventive of bowel trouble—the greatest disease of the brooder chick. There are many different ways of feeding and caring for chicks after they are placed in the brooder. The plan I have adopted, and which gives the best results, is to place the brooder in a colony house, about 6x10 ft., which has a good-sized south window about two feet from the floor. The chicks are not allowed outside of this for a week or two, unless the weather is very fine, and on fine days the colony house door may be left open. My reason for placing the brooder inside the colony house is that in the spring we often have very heavy rains, and sometimes continuing for two or three days, as we had last year. The chicks can have ample room to scratch and get all the exercise necessary inside the colony house, and still have free access to the brooder for warmth; otherwise, with just the brooder, I have experienced considerable difficulty in feeding and caring for the chicks in wet weather, and I had once to remove the whole hatch from the brooder to allow it to dry out. When the chicks are old enough to do without heat, I remove the brooder from the colony house and put in perches, on which they soon learn to roost. I then give the chicks free range and they invariably come back to their own colony house to roost at night. E. W. BURT.

EVENTS OF THE WORLD.

A \$1,000,000 fire occurred at Oswego, N. Y., by the burning of the big starch factory there.

A passenger train on the Chinandaga Railroad, Nicaragua, was derailed and wrecked, over twenty first-class passengers being killed and many injured.

Hundreds of people are reported to have been killed by a volcanic eruption on the Island of Java. An entire town is said to have been swallowed up.

Over one hundred widows of foreigners who lost their lives in the recent mining disaster near Pittsburg, Pa., are being sent home to Europe by the Relief Committee.

In accordance with the British War Office reforms, all the heads of departments of the War Office have received letters of dismissal, with notification that they will be employed elsewhere.

It was stated by Lord Landsdowne in the House of Lords recently that 10,000 Chinese laborers will, at an early date, be introduced into the Rand mines as an experiment.

Chamberlain's health has been undermined somewhat by the strain of his long fiscal campaign, and his friends are much alarmed about him. He has decided to take a two months' rest, and will probably go to Egypt.

The worst tidal wave known since the fourteenth century, visited Finisterre, on the west coast of Spain, lately. The fishing population lost all their property, and so great was the height of the wave that rocks forty feet above the high-water mark were covered with seaweed and pebbles. Boulders weighing four hundred pounds were flung great distances.

A terrific head-on collision between No. 7 west-bound Soo express and No. 8 east-bound Soo express occurred on the C. P. R. near Arnprior, Ont., recently. The casualties, the majority of which were confined to No. 7, amounted to fourteen killed and twenty injured. The collision was due to forgetfulness of orders on the part of the conductor and engineer on the west-bound train.

A recent despatch received at Vienna from Sofia, Bulgaria, says that the chiefs of the Macedonian revolutionary organization have sent out circulars ordering a renewal of the insurrection. "Liberty, autonomy, and a Christian ruler," is the battlecry of the Macedonians. Przewalsky, the noted Balkan historian, who has just completed a six-months tour of the Province, asserts that during last year the Turkish troops destroyed 300 villages and massacred 40,000 persons, many of whom were women, children and aged people.

The garrisons at Windhoek and Okahandja, German South-west Africa, have been relieved by Franke's company with two guns. Upon the following day, a fierce fight, which lasted for six hours, occurred between the little German force and the natives, who numbered thousands. As a result of the conflict, the natives were obliged to withdraw to the hills. The Hereros have devastated all the farms and railway stations in the vicinity of Okahandja, killing 44 of the settlers, many of whom were women and children. The military losses on the German side, as reported so far, amount to twenty-six. Universal rejoicing has been caused throughout Germany by receipt of word that Col. Luettwien, Governor of the Colony, who, with a detachment of militia, had been missing for some weeks, has arrived at the coast in safety.

Japan and Russia are in mortal combat. The long season of parley has come to an end, and once more the horrors of a great war are engrossing the attention of the world. The first laurels have come to the Japanese, who, about midnight on February 9th, during a temporary lull in the throwing of searchlights from the Russian vessels, made a sudden onslaught with a number of torpedo boats, upon the Russian squadron in the outer roads of Port Arthur, badly disabling two battleships and totally wrecking a cruiser. With marvellous rapidity, after working the damage, the Japanese escaped uninjured. The vessels lost are described as being among the best of the Russian fleet, and the blow is a staggering one. Added to the loss is the mortification to the Muscovites of having been caught napping in their own harbor, and of having been thrown into such consternation that they were unable to find speedy or true enough range to inflict any damage upon their assailants. . . . In the morning, the Japanese squadron, consisting of about fifteen battleships and cruisers, again approached the harbor and opened fire, being met by a cannonade from the batteries along the shore in conjunction with the guns of the Russian fleet. Again the Japanese succeeded in knocking holes in two more of the enemy's fleet. Disabled and stranded battleships so blocked the entrance to the harbor that gunboats were prevented from getting out, and battleships and cruisers from