

FRUIT GROWING CAPABILITIES OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The following extracts are taken from an Essay kindly presented to the Fruit Growers' Association by the executors of the late Rev. Alexander Forrester, D. D., of Truro, and entitled, "Agricultural Capabilities of Nova Scotia."

The Association would desire to publish the whole valuable paper, but as its present design is to direct attention chiefly to the culture of *Fruit* in the Province, only such portions as have reference to this subject have been selected.

In nothing does the excellence of our climate appear so conspicuous as in the growth of fruit. There is, perhaps, no country in the world, the States of the American Union not excepted, better fitted for the growth of apples and pears than three or four of the Western Counties. We believe there is scarcely a County in the Province that is not capable of producing good apples and pears, if they receive ordinary attention in propagating and fertilizing; but in the Counties referred to, namely, Hants, Kings, Annapolis and Digby, the fruit is unsurpassed, either for summer, fall, or winter use; for dessert or culinary purposes. Apples generally ripen, according to their sorts, from the beginning to the end of October, and both in size and flavor, when the season is at all favorable, are unsurpassed, if not unequalled, in the most celebrated fruit-growing countries. When it is stated that such apples as the *Nonpareil*, *Golden*, *Ribston*, and *Royal Pippins*, all ripen well on standards in the orchards, which they do not in Scotland, and only in some parts of England, without the aid of artificial means, such as espalier or wall, we surely possess the most indubitable evidence of the geniality of our climate.

Pears are not grown in such abundance as apples; but, wherever they are fairly tried, they thrive equally well; some of the finest American and French pears ripening without the assistance of either espalier or wall.

But the climate of Nova Scotia is equally well-adapted for stone fruit. Plums ripen as well on standards, in the open orchards, as they do any where in Scotland, on espaliers or walls. Peaches also