

nection. I started at 5 a. m., and before I had gone a mile from home, had to stop, take the horse out of the sleigh, turn and go around through the fields. Mr. Smith was perhaps not so determined as I was to get here, for "where there is a will there is a way." I think Mr. Parker has a letter from him, though. I am sure there are a number of gentlemen here who have a little better knowledge of the capabilities of the county than I have. I grow a few apples, but did not ship, having sold mine at New Glasgow for \$2.50. Barrels at present cost us 26c. each; we should get them much cheaper.

Coal has always been the uppermost thought when Pictou County has been mentioned, but there is also good farming land on the west side of the Middle River. On towards River John is where these apples were grown, and we look for a boom in fruit growing, as it is well adapted for it.

I've heard people say "they did not know good apples could be grown in Pictou County." I would like to ask them where their eyes were at the last exhibition. I would not like to say our exhibit was as good as yours, especially to-night; but it was a good second.

In the matter of spraying there is very little done; but one gentleman near me had sprayed his potatoes this year, with good results, and I believe next year many will spray from this one practical illustration.

We hope to have Professor Sears visit us during the coming season, and give us some lessons in spraying. I believe the Horticultural school is doing good work.

We had a meeting of our County Farmers' Association, of which I am secretary, in our district lately, at which Mr. Ralph S. Eaton as well as Professor Sears, gave us quite a practical talk. We intend starting a Fruit Growers' Association in West Pictou, and I observe that your President suggests that each county form a branch of your association, and I think it should be done.

I came to this Convention not to make a speech, but to learn all I could in respect to the cultivation, handling and marketing of fruit. We know a little in Pictou County, but would like to know more. (Applause.)