

by the exhibitor, and then the largest amount for the best dozens of all the best known varieties which we name. In this way we bring out for exhibition, and can compare the same kinds of fruit, apples, &c., grown in the different localities of our Province.

The cultivation of fruit, especially the apples, is fast becoming an important interest in all of these British Colonies, for it is an undeniable fact that it not only can be grown very successfully and profitably, but when used as food, that its health giving qualities are such that it seriously interferes with the physician's fees, a proof of its usefulness as human food. I know of a family who thought they could only afford to buy two or three barrels of apples yearly but paid willingly £10 or £12 for medical advice and medicine; now that same family uses from 10 to 12 barrels of apples every year, and the physician's fees are proportionately decreased, and such would be the case were the people who live in cities especially to rise much more freely of ripe fruit.

The culture of fruit is still in its infancy, and the extent to which it may be carried is yet to be seen by another generation or generations. If, as it is believed to be the case, all the fine large showy and superior cooking and table apples, now cultivated up to the Gloria Mendi or Emperor Alexander, in size, came from the crab apple, and that, recollect, very much inferior to the crab of the present day which has also been improved by cultivation. Why not go on producing new sorts and cultivating present ones until you can produce apples as large as pumpkins; cherries and plums as large as our present apples, and grapes in proportion? It is just as reasonable, and in fact more so, with our present knowledge of the science of Horticulture and the great march of intellect when skillfully applied. The skillful horticulturist then has a wide field before him for the exertion of his accumulating knowledge, and can, by his successful efforts, add laurels to his already well earned fame, in promoting a science which is calculated to ameliorate the condition of our race.

But I feel that my feeble efforts to entertain this audience with anything very interesting would be of little account when I know that there must be present a host of fruit growers and men of enlarged mind and experience in this department whose opportunities for observation and the application of their practical skill are far before my own and heretofore I will not detain you longer.

If circumstances should at any future time permit me again to visit Canada I feel assured that, from what I have seen and heard from the intelligent men of this country, I shall witness a very great advance in all your material interests and prosperity.

If any of the persons who may now be listening to me should ever stray away down into Nova Scotia, which by some is called an "outlandish place," and it certainly is an *out land place*, for it has been styled, *Nature's Wharf for British America*, and I hope the day is not far distant when it will become so, I shall be most happy to see them at my place. It would afford me some satisfaction, and much pleasure, to be able to return, in some small degree, the many acts of hospitality, kindness and attention, which I and my lady have received from the inhabitants of Montreal, London, Toronto, Kingston and Hamilton. These acts of generosity have not been confined to the citizens of the above named cities alone, but leading men in the Government, Members of Parliament, the Presidents and Managers of Railroad Companies, Mayors and Corporations, and private citizens, have alike shown their good will and feelings towards the maritime visitors.

Permit me, Mr. President, to again thank you in behalf of the Maritime Visitors for your kind attentions.