

Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, its school of horticulture, the Nova Scotia Office of Agriculture, and the Canadian Government Department of Agriculture :—

THE NOVA SCOTIA FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

Was formed in 1863, when the acreage under fruit was probably about 2,500 acres. In 1893 it was estimated that there were 12,000 acres of bearing orchard, with 8,000 more of young trees. In 1871 apples were first sent to England. In 1896, a good year, it is estimated that 750,000 barrels were produced, of which 450,000 were exported to England. The Association has for its objects :—

The increase of cultivation of the various kinds of fruit.

The spreading of information as to the best methods of cultivating, packing, and shipping fruit.

The discussion of subjects of mutual interest : as freight rates by rail and steamer, ventilation on steamer, handling of barrels on embarking and disembarking to prevent damage, condition of fruit on arrival in markets, possible new markets.

Once a year, in January, it has a three days' session at Wolfville, at which papers are read and discussed. I attended it in 1898, and thought it must be very valuable to the farmers, who attend in large numbers. Each member receives the printed report.

The yearly subscription is a dollar = 4s. 2/.

The Secretary is Mr. S. C. Parker, Berwick, Nova Scotia.

At the Halifax Industrial Exhibition in October there was a fine exhibition of apples, plums, cherries, peaches, and grapes, from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, under the management of the Association.

THE SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE, WOLFVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA.

Was established in 1891 by the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association, assisted by a Government grant. Horticulture, Botany, and Microscopic Botany are taught by an able professor, Mr. F. C. Sears. The school consists of a class-room, with a good collection of English, Canadian, and American books on horticulture, horticultural journals, about twelve good microscopes, and a collection of pressed wild plants. Beneath the class-room is a potting shed or workshop, and, adjoining, a glass house with economic and ornamental plants and flowers, in which grafting, budding, and propagating are taught during winter. There is also a root cellar, in which apple stocks for root grafting during winter are kept. Surrounding the school are ornamental grounds, with a nursery of young fruit and other trees and plants close by.

The horticultural course is at present confined mostly to the propagation of plants and to fruit-growing—dealing with wind-breaks, protection from frost, setting out and planting, tillage, manuring, cover crops, renovation of old orchards, grafting, budding, the life histories of fungi and insects, spraying, harvesting, and packing of the fruit, cold storage, &c. The School of Horticulture is attached to the Wolfville University.

The classes are held during the winter months, from the beginning of