

come. We have but a few acres planted as yet, but enough to demonstrate whether we are on the right track or not.

What we in Nova Scotia may expect per acre, is future experience. From enquiry and correspondence we find the Massachusetts growers think 50 barrels per acre is the average crop in well-kept bogs. We are more subject to late frosts to take the bloom, and early ones to attack the fruit. Aside from this, judging from crops that have been taken from certain bogs in Aylesford, the conditions are equal to theirs. We have both the shallow Savannah lands such as New Jersey berries are largely grown upon, and the deep muck bottoms like Long Island and Cape Cod. It remains to be seen which will do the best here. The former can be prepared for less than one-half the cost of the latter.

In reference to the local market, the crop is yet so small that *we* hardly affect it. Our growers have realized large prices. One of our growers wrote me last year that he realized \$50 for five barrels at the station. That was in April last. They were sold below the market price for Cape Cod berries. Last fall American berries were sold at \$7 or \$7.60 per barrel of 150 quarts, in Halifax. Now they are quoted by importers at \$12 and \$14, which quite stops the consumption of them. About 500 barrels were imported last year to Halifax alone. The American growers get \$5, \$6, and \$7 per barrel of 100 quarts, and sell mostly in the autumn. The middle men get the high prices that rule late in the season.

When the acres that are now planted in Aylesford alone come into bearing, our local market will be supplied to overflow. We must then seek markets abroad. Our secretary, Mr. Starr, tells us that cranberries are safe at \$4 per barrel in England, if they can be grown for that money. We hope for better things than that. Last year thousands of barrels (according to the president's report to the August meeting of the Cranberry Association) were sold as low as \$3 per barrel. This was second class fruit, badly packed. When we export cranberries shall we pack them to compete in the three dollar class in the United States market, and with small Danish and Dutch fruit in the English market, or shall they stand like our apples, first class the world over? A barrel of cranberries has been like a magnet to me, and I have kept my eyes open, and am here compelled to grumble at a large part of the packages I have seen from our provincial growers.