

REPORT OF BROME COUNTY FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION FOR 1884.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to report the continued prosperity of this Association, in every sense of the word. Our membership has increased, thus showing a greater interest taken by the farmers in horticulture and fruit growing, and the articles exhibited have been more numerous and of better quality, thus showing that the people have been stimulated to make greater exertions and to take greater pains in the production of fruits and vegetables, than heretofore. At the same time, those who have rather an eye for the beautiful than the merely useful, have not neglected to make great efforts in the growing of beautiful flowers and foliage plants.

About a year ago, we were informed by Mr. Charles Gibb that an extra fifty dollars had been voted by the Council of Agriculture for the purpose of buying Russian apple trees for distribution among the members of the Association. Therefore, we procured from Messrs. Tuttle, of Baraboo, Wis., and Mr. A. W. Sias, of Rochester, Minn., about two hundred trees, consisting of sixteen varieties. The trees were distributed among fifty-two members of the Association, and from reports we have received, very few of the trees died. We hope to be able to find some brands among these several varieties, that will be suitable to our climate and worthy of propagation.

The annual exhibition was held on September 16th and 17th, on the grounds of the Knowlton Park Association, at the same time as that of the Brome County Agricultural Society. As the "Park Association" had put a floor in the upper part of their building, thus nearly doubling the space, we were enabled to make a very much better display of the fruits and vegetables than heretofore, both to visitors and exhibitors.

There were on exhibition more than 600 plates of fruit. The exhibit of grafted apples, was very large and of very good quality, and there was a larger number of plates of the newer and choicer varieties than ever before. Of crab apples, there were eight or ten collections, and many single plates that were very creditable. Mr. W. M. Pattison, of Clarencville, P. Q., made an exhibit of 60 plates of choice outdoor apples, a very beautiful collection. There were besides, two or three small exhibits from the neighborhood of the village of Knowlton, but owing to a severe frost a night or two before the days of exhibition, the display was very poor. By the way, the exhibit of seedling apples, was not good; it was below the average.

The show of vegetables was large and exceedingly good. In some of the collections, there were as many as 35 different kinds of vegetables. Among the vegetables, the cabbages, onions, potatoes and turnips were particularly worthy of praise. In fact, there were no vegetables exhibited that were not really worthy of a prize.

Owing to the severe frost a night or two before the exhibition, the show of cut flowers, floral designs, &c., was much poorer than usual. Total failure in the floral department was, however, prevented by the goodness of some of our lady members in sending their choice foliage, flowers and plants in bloom to the show.