

nals. The Board, after fully considering the matter, agreed to make preliminary arrangements so as to bring up the subject for consideration at next meeting, and report their views to the Legislature. Certain applications for registration of Thoroughbred Stock were dealt with, the registry of some being authorized, and of others deferred for further information. The President, Hon. Mr. LeBlanc, and the Secretary were named as a committee to prepare a circular to breeders, requesting an expression of their views as to the propriety of raising the standard of requirement for registration in the Nova Scotia Herd Register.

During the present winter a large amount of attention has been given in the English papers to Nova Scotian Agriculture, particularly Fruit Growing, as the columns of the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE have testified. We are again called upon to quote an appreciative article published in the English *Canada Gazette* and in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*:

CANADIAN FRUIT.

From an interview with A. H. Johnson, of Wolfville, Nova Scotia, an active and prominent member of the Fruit Growers' Association, we learn that there are some splendid openings for settlers, both in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to enter into the cultivation of fruit for local and other markets. There is also a specially fine opening for experienced nurserymen, with a moderate capital, to open nurseries for supplying fruit trees in those provinces, nearly all trees now used requiring to be brought a long distance, and at a considerable expense and risk, by railway from Ontario or the United States nurseries.

The demand for the fruit products of those provinces far exceeds the supply, and is rapidly increasing as its quality becomes known. The climate is exceptionally well adapted for the growth of many varieties of fruit. It is generally admitted that the fruit grown in that locality, especially in the "Annapolis Valley," so-called, in Nova Scotia, has a finer flavour than any American Apple. This is to be in some measure accounted for by the dampness of the climate, by the absence of extreme heat, by the position of the lands protecting them from the damaging winds, and especially by the shorter summer season of the northern latitude, ensuing more rapid maturing of the fruit.

The proximity of the fruit-growing portion of those provinces to the seaports of St. John and Halifax, which are open

all the year round, in addition to their direct and rapid communication with the largest consuming markets of the United States, as well as with this country, gives them exceptional facilities for this trade.

COST OF PRODUCTION.

Good improved Apple growing lands, well situated, can be purchased for 20 dols. (£1 to £6) per acre, and even less. In some cases, where they are situated off main roads, or where society is not so good, this price would include ordinary buildings. It of course rarely occurs that a whole farm would be adapted for fruit growing, but it is not advisable in that country to depend entirely upon fruit—the most successful mode being mixed farming, having only moderate sized orchards, where position and soil are best suited.

In preparing for a new orchard, and to do it full justice, it would cost about 12 dols. 50 cents, (say, £2 10s.) per acre. If the land, as in most cases it is, were under a proper state of cultivation, the cost would not be nearly so much. The cost of the trees, about fifty per acre, would be about 12 dols. 50 cents (£2 10s.) With the same preparation of the earth, it is customary to plant Plum trees between the Apple trees, without in any way interfering with them. These trees will cost 12 dols. 50 cents (£2 10s.) per acre. In the meantime, while waiting for the growth of the Apple and Plum trees to their bearing maturity, it is customary to use the land for what is known as "hoed crops," such as Indian corn (Maize), Potatoes, Peas, Beans, Carrots, Turnips, thus keeping the soil mellow, and the top-dressing used for these crops gives sufficient nourishment for the trees. These crops are generally sufficient to pay for all expenses of cultivation, except probably interest and taxes on the original outlay.

PLUMS.

The Plums will begin to bear fruit in about three years, and some in two years. Allowing a fair average product for the third year of, say, 25 bushels per acre, worth, say, 75 dols., these will then increase rapidly in their product, reaching, say, in the sixth or seventh year, about 1½ and even 2 bushels per tree, or about 225 dols. (£45) per acre. If carefully packed, boxed, and properly handled, even 50 per cent. better prices can be obtained.

APPLES.

The Apple trees will begin to bear to a considerable extent in from seven to ten years, in seven years many producing a half barrel, and in ten years a barrel per tree, say 50 barrels per acre at 2 dols.

(8s.) per barrel (a fair average price on the ground.) In about fifteen years their yield will increase to about 2 barrels per tree: at 2 dols. (8s.) this will give 200 dols. (say £40.) With these, as with the Plums, judicious picking, packing and selling will materially add to the price.

Windfalls and inferior grades of Apples can be used for evaporating, cider making, &c., and should pay for barrels, expense of gathering, &c. In making calculations it is well to remember that Apple trees produce more abundantly every alternate year, while an occasional loss of Plums by frost will have to be allowed for.

In most cases the Plum trees will last twenty years, being productive without interfering with the Apple trees.

SHIPMENT.

As regards the shipment of Apples, particularly for the English market, considerable experience and great judgment are required to do it successfully. At the present time many mistakes are being made, and much valuable fruit lost by shipping at improper seasons, also in sending fruit not suited to the market.

Shipments should be as follows:—First, Gravensteins, commencing from October; they should not be shipped later than November 1. Golden Ball, Fall Jannetting, Duchess, Oldenburgh (Russian Apple), Munson Sweets, Snow Apple (Fameuse), as well as the Emperor, may be included in this shipment, but their shipment is not advised unless the crop should be short in England.

No. 2 shipments from November 1 to December 1, should include Ribston Pippins, Blenheim Pippins (Blenheim Oranges), King of Tompkin's County (known as Kings), Spitzenburg, Blue Pearmain, Hubbardson's Nonsuch.

It is not wise to ship to London market after December 1 until about January 10, or so as to reach there about January 20, the market always being full for some time after the Christmas sale.

No. 3 shipments may be made from the middle of January, or say the 20th, to about February 15, and should mainly consist of Baldwin's, Rhode Island Greenings, and Golden Russets: Vandeveres, if shipped at all, should be included in this lot, but they are not liked in the London market, and their shipment is not advised. This variety is poor in quality, but splendid keepers, and would do for reshipment, country orders, &c.

No. 4 shipments, from February 20 as late as March, and even April, consist of the Nonpareil (Russett) and Northern Spy. These comprise the main varieties exported. Besides these there are a