

R. W. STARR being called upon, read the following paper upon

NOVA SCOTIA POMOLOGY.

*Mr. President* :—It is a well known fact that almost all the fruits of the Temperate Zone can be and have been successfully grown in the fruit belt or most favored parts of this province. Grape vines from the Loire and the Rhine, under proper treatment, will ripen their fruit in the open air, as well as those from the banks of the Delaware, the Hudson, or the Connecticut. Peaches, nectarines, and apricots, can also be successfully grown by those who have the requisite amount of skill to devote to their culture and management.

Pears, plums, cherries, and quinces are grown as successfully as in almost any other locality on this continent, and as to the smaller fruits, they are so indigenous to the soil that until a few years ago our local markets have been fully supplied with wild strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, blackberries, blueberries, and cranberries. During the past few years, however, a great advance has been made in the cultivation of those fruits, and now our markets are well supplied with improved cultivated varieties.

But sir, it is not with these fruits we shall occupy your time to-day. When consenting to prepare a paper on the Pomology of Nova Scotia we felt that it would be undertaking too heavy a contract to attempt to cover the whole ground indicated by the title of the subject, and that it would be impossible to compress so much into the limits of a paper like this. We shall, therefore, take up but one branch of the subject, leaving the others for future consideration. The fashionable craze just now is the cultivation of the apple. Everybody is talking about apples, and nearly everybody is planting, or preparing to plant, apple orchards, so in order to get an indulgent hearing from the audience we can perhaps do no better than to tell what we know of the different varieties of apples grown in the province.

Just here a little bit of a confession to the audience may not be amiss even though our brother fruit growers have a laugh at us. We do not always practice what we preach, and our hobby, altho' it has not thrown us, has nearly run away with us. Experimenting with new sorts in the endeavor to find something better than the old standard varieties has been our fad, and as a result we found ourselves this season in the possession of a collection of named and recognized varieties, numbering over eighty distinct sorts. Many of those have