

hard, and tough. The Devon is the breed that, in my opinion, presents the greatest advantages and suits best the wants of the country. They are hardy, very good milkers, both as to quantity and quality—some of the herds are, in this respect, surpassed by none. The oxen are unequalled by those of any other breed, as working cattle, being large, strong, quick, docile, and of a uniform red colour, easily matched. When grown, they fat so readily and make such superior beef, that it is now a disputed point in England, whether the Durham surpasses it. These last two points should particularly recommend them to us. The old red stock of the country, well remembered by many who now hear me, were Devons; and I have heard men of good judgment say were quite equal to any ever imported.

These are the principal English breeds. The others sometimes mentioned are only sub-varieties. Thus the North Devon almost equals the Ayrshire as milkers, retaining the other peculiarities of the original breed. Herefords, a large Devon, raised for working oxen or beef. The Yorkshire is a Durham, the cows very large and great milkers; but these peculiarities it is only possible to preserve where the breeder has the greatest skill and uses extra care, and are quite unsuited to us in our present state of agricultural advancement. I intended making some remarks on sheep raising, a branch of husbandry too much neglected by us, but have already exceeded the time I proposed to occupy; and although my subject is far from being exhausted, is, in fact hardly touched upon. I shall now close, hoping to hear some practical remarks from the men of experience I see before me.

FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The annual meeting was organized at the Temperance Hall, Wolfville, on the 15th January, by the taking of the chair by the President, C. C. Hamilton, Esq., M. D.

The President delivered the annual address, in which he described the origin and history of the Association, and made such suggestions as his lengthened experience as a fruitgrower, and as President of the Association, indicated with reference to the future.

PRIZES FOR ESSAYS.

A member proposed a debate upon the pruning of fruit trees, as a subject not sufficiently understood, but of great importance, and desired that the Association should have the benefit of the experience of those knowing most upon the subject; after some discussion it was

Resolved, That prizes of ten, seven, and five dollars, be offered for the best essays

by members of the Association, on "The pruning of fruit trees; the mode, season, extent, treatment of wounds, &c., and with application to the different varieties of Apple, as well as of other fruit trees.—The conditions to be arranged by the Council of the Association."

CLASSIFICATION OF APPLES.

The Council's classification of Apples as adapted to our Province, and recommended for general cultivation, was submitted and discussed; and it was understood that some alterations would probably be required, as the results of further and closer trials of certain sorts. It appeared also that a different value would have to be placed on certain varieties, as to be recommended for the usually heavier lands of Annapolis county, or for the lighter soil of King's, and so in reference to other counties of the province; and this subject is to have the consideration of the council, who will be glad to receive information as to the success or failure of any particular variety of apple in any section of the province, and as to the supposed cause or causes. As it is of very great importance that a judicious selection of sorts should be made by every person setting out an orchard, the Council desire to be able to give the best and most reliable information.

After considerable discussion it was decided, and ordered to be published, that experience has proved the true *Roxbury Russet* to be comparatively useless on light soils in this province, and therefore not to be recommended generally for the county of King's, where the orchard lands are generally light.

DOMINION PRIZE.

It was resolved

"That the Association appropriate \$— in cash, and \$— for a gold medal, both to be awarded for the best collection of apples from any of the provinces of the Dominion of Canada."

It was left to the Council to fix the amount of money to be appropriated under this resolution, on the most liberal terms that the funds of the Association will admit of.

REPORTS, ETC.

The Secretary read and submitted his annual statement of the finances of the Association; also the report of the Council for the past year; also a list of members, and statement of arrears of subscriptions due; also a Report of the Monthly Exhibitions held in the summer and autumn of 1867; also a petition to the Legislature for the usual grant to the Association.

On presentation of the report of the Exhibitions of the smaller and summer fruits, the Floral Gilt Medal of the Royal Horticultural Society of London was presented to Mr. George V. Rand, of Wolf-

ville, whose admirable exhibition of strawberries fairly won it.

This Challenge Medal was taken in 1866 by Dr. C. C. Hamilton, and with his consent and that of its present holder, it was resolved.

"That the Silver gilt medal be retained by Mr. Rand for the ensuing year, and thereafter be held by the Association, as its property."

The Secretary was directed to order the American Journal of Horticulture for the use of members of the Association; and to make arrangements for depositing a portion of the Library of the Association in Annapolis, with one of the members of the Council.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1867.

This Association was formed in the year 1863, and was designed to bring together the earnest practical fruit-growers of the province, with a view to the fostering and improving of the great fruit growing capabilities of the country.

Hence, the chief efforts of those concerned in its management, were directed in the first place to the selecting and bringing together for comparison and examination of the leading marketable varieties of fruit.

To this end public annual Exhibitions have been held, open to all parts of the province, and an ever-increasing interest has been manifested on the part of the public generally; this was never more distinctly manifested than during the past year; though the season had been unfavorable, particularly so for many kinds of fruit, yet the increased knowledge, taste, and skill of cultivators, attributable in no small degree to this association, enabled the exhibitors to present a display of fruit in the highest degree creditable, and which proved beyond cavil or doubt the adaptation and resources of Nova Scotia as a Fruit-growing country.

There are no reliable statistics at the present time to shew the extent of the fruit growing interest of the province; since the last census an immense advance has been made. In the regions best adapted to fruit-growing almost every farmer has planted an orchard, many entering quite extensively into the business; and the information obtained in and by this association, and disseminated throughout the province, enables those starting in such enterprise to do so to great advantage, as they have now the means of knowing the best kinds to cultivate, with reference to healthiness and thriftiness of the trees, and adaptation of different varieties to different soils, as well as with regard to the quality of the fruit for different seasons, markets, and uses. Connected with the Association, and purchased by its funds, is a most valuable library of the best horticultural works, all of the most practical kind, treating of the tree,