

as it is hard for many, who have not personal acquaintance with Nova Scotia, to believe that we have made such progress in fruit cultivation as will enable us to compete with other parts of the Dominion, or that our climate and soil will admit of it.

Allow me to say, then, that under an arrangement with Mr. Kilborn, the exhibitor of the Ontario collection, I took charge of the fruit on its arrival, unpacked it myself in the Exhibition Building, and had it carefully arranged and well placed, in the same court with the Nova Scotia collection, and that the apples were in perfect order.

The judges appointed were Charles E. Brown, Esq., of Yarmouth, a gentleman who occupies the foremost place in that county as an experienced and successful cultivator of the finer sorts of fruit; Robert W. Starr, Esq., of Cornwallis, who is second to no one in this Province as a critical judge of apples, and who for several years past has devoted a good deal of attention to their nomenclature and classification; and Alfred Saunders, Esq., late Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society of the Island of Jersey, and now residing in Halifax. Only one of these gentlemen is a member of the Fruit Growers' Association, or in any way connected with it.

I think it will be admitted that from such a jury an intelligent and impartial award was to be expected: and while regretting any disappointment that may be felt in any quarter as to the result of the Exhibition, I am quite confident that no person who saw and examined the collection in Halifax will say that there could be any question as to the justness and propriety of their decision.

We can, and do, raise superior fruit in Nova Scotia, and in considerable quantities. It may be, however, that with longer notice, and more careful and extensive preparation, a collection of apples can be got together in Ontario which will entirely outshine anything we can produce. The fruit-growers of Nova Scotia will be happy to meet their brethren of Ontario at any future occasion in friendly and honourable competition; and whatever party bears away the palm next time, at least the great advantage will result that we shall be becoming better acquainted with each other, and doubtless be better friends in consequence.

JOSEPH R. HEA.

Sec. F. G. Association.

Wolfville, N. S., Jan. 20, 1869.

JUDGES' REPORT.

To the President of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association and International Show Society.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, appointed by the Council of your Association to examine and report upon the collections of apples in competition for the prize of one hundred dollars and a gold medal, offered for the "best collection of apples from any Province of the Dominion," having carefully examined the same as regards number, size, perfec-

tion and quality, beg leave to report as follows:

We find but two collections entered—one from Ontario and one from Nova Scotia. The one from Ontario numbers about sixty sorts. That of Nova Scotia contains over two hundred varieties.

In the comparison of standard varieties common to both collections, we find that those grown in Nova Scotia are much the largest and finest in the majority of cases, while in some instances the flavour of those from Ontario was superior to the others.

Of the described and recognized varieties there is a much larger proportion in the Nova Scotia collection than in that from Ontario. The number of standard or recognized varieties described by the American pomologists, Downing, Warder, Thomas, &c., contained in the Ontario collection, was about twenty sorts, while Nova Scotia had nearly ninety. Of those marked in their respective lists as native varieties and seedlings, Ontario showed eighteen, few of which were worthy of notice; and Nova Scotia about forty, many of which were superior both in appearance and flavour. The remainder of the Ontario collection was made up of medium and small-sized kinds, some of them very inferior in flavour and appearance, with apparently local names; but, in some instances, the names of superior fruit wrongly attached.

In the Nova Scotia collection, twenty-eight sorts were labeled with the growers' names only, being (as was explained to us) the produce of young trees imported from New York, and the names lost: some of these were very fine in appearance and flavour; the remainder appeared to possess local names, some of them being well known in the country.

In the comparison of the same sorts in the two collections, we find Northern Spy and Snow-apple equal in size and colouring, while the Ontario Snow-apple has the highest flavour. King of Tompkins County, Rhode Island Greening, Blue Pearmain, Talman's Sweet (misnamed Danvers Sweet, see Warder p. 557), Twenty Ounce Pippin (misnamed Baldwin, see Warder, p. 461), and Gloria Mundi (misnamed white Spanish Reinette, see Downing, p. 214), of the Ontario collection, were much smaller, and in other respects not better than those grown in Nova Scotia. Ribston Pippin, and Yellow Bellefleur, of the Ontario collection, were quite small and inferior in appearance, while those of Nova Scotia were very large and well grown. The Gravenstein from Ontario, although much the smaller, was beautifully coloured and exceedingly high flavoured.

Of other varieties worthy of notice in the Ontario collection, we find Twenty Ounce Pippin (which seems to be the Twenty Ounce or Cayuga Redstreak of Downing and Warder), and Ramsdell's Sweeting, very large, good flavoured and handsome; Fall Pippin, and Black Detroit, large and fine; Yellow Newtown Pippin, Seek no Further, Butter

Apple, Vandervere, Spitzenberg, Branslaugh's Seedling No. 4, and Fleming's Seedling No. 3, were of good medium size and flavour. Out of the numerous small sorts we only select two as worthy of particular notice, namely, James' Dessert, and Corwin's Winter Russet, both rich, and of high flavour.

In the Nova Scotian collection we find, of noticeable varieties, in addition to those already mentioned, the Emperor Alexander, Blenheim Pippin, Pound Sweet, Mammoth Russet, Broadwell, Early Bough, Keswick Codling, Dutch Codling, Sweet Russet, Drap d'Or, Golden Globe, Golden Ball, Canada Reinette, Colvert, Swaar, Hutchings' Seedling, Pumpkin Sweet, Golden Sweet, Cat Head, Ox Apple, and Micmac, which are large to very large, and many of them fine flavoured.

From the medium sized we select Autumn Strawberry, Porter, Williams' Red, Saxon, St. Lawrence, Munson Sweet, King of the Pippins, Calville Rouge, Early River, Autumn River, Rambo, Court-pendu-plat, Hubbardston's Non-such, Maiden's Blush, Asopus Spitzenberg, Flushing Spitzenberg, Minister, Lysecom, Baldwin, Herefordshire Pearmain, Concord Pearmain, Delaware, Harvey, Striped Gillsflower, Summer, Bellefleur, Nonpareil, Roxbury Russet, Golden Russet, Hunt's Russet and Norfolk Beaufin, as well known standard varieties. From those marked native sorts, we select Calkins Pippin, Early Calkins, Sweet Calkins, Bishopbourne, Sweet Redstreak, Morton's Red, Fall Pippin, Sandford's Blush, Port Wine, Johnson's Red, Jackson's Fancy, Pierce Apple, Pudsy Apple, Bellevue, Starr's Seedling, Black's Red, Segee, Willoughby, Margaret Pippin and Christmas Sweeting, for size, appearance and flavour.

Among the unknown varieties we particularly notice the kinds labelled Greenough, Lawson, W. Eaton, Ross, North, Harris, Woodworth, C. Sandford, Bars, Manning, Wilson and Dickie, as being large, handsome apples. We also notice a few of those small varieties which, although not profitable to the producer, rank high with the connoisseur as dessert fruit, namely, Pomme Grise, Golden Pippin, Royal Pearmain, Golden Reinette, Court of Wick, and Pomme d'Api.

In conclusion we would remark that, on the whole, the collection from Ontario cannot be considered a superior lot of apples, coming as they do from what we have always been led to believe was one of the best fruit-growing districts of the Dominion.

We, therefore, in view of the results of our comparisons—first, by number of kinds; second, by standard varieties; third, by identical sorts in the two collections; fourth, by size, appearance, and marketable value of the remaining kinds—have not the slightest hesitation in awarding the prize given by your Association, to the collection from Nova Scotia.

Given under our hands at the Exhibition Buildings in Halifax, this eighth day of October, A.D. 1868.

(Signed)

C. E. BROWN.

R. W. STARR.

ALFRED SAUNDERS.

} Judges,