

4.
TRANSACTIONS

AND

REPORTS

OF THE

Fruit Growers' Association

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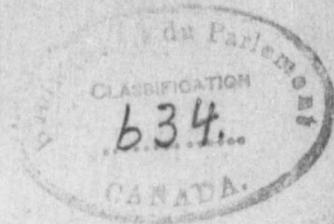
INTERNATIONAL SHOW SOCIETY

OF

NOVA SCOTIA.

1883.

HALIFAX:
NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY.
1883.



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FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

AND

International Show Society

OF

NOVA SCOTIA.

Patron :

HIS HONOR THE HON. ADAMS GEORGE ARCHIBALD, C. M. G.,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

OFFICERS FOR 1883.

President :

AVARD LONGLEY, ESQ.Paradise, N. S.

Vice-Presidents :

T. H. PARKER, ESQ.Berwick, King's Co.
GEORGE C. WIGGINS, ESQ.Windsor, Hants Co.
CHAS. H. MORSE, ESQ., M. D.Weymouth, Digby Co.
CHAS. E. BROWN, ESQ.Yarmouth.
JOHN H. DUNLAP, ESQ.Liverpool, Queen's Co.
JUDGE DesBRISAYLunenburg.
ISRAEL LONGWORTH, ESQ.Truro, Colchester Co.
T. M. McDONALD, ESQ.Durham, Pictou Co.
CHAS. ATKINSON, ESQ.Maccan, Cumberland Co.
J. B. JACKSON, ESQ.North Sydney, Cape Breton.
W. F. McCOY, ESQ., M. P. P.Shelburne Co.
T. M. KING, ESQ.Antigonish,
JAMES A. FRASER, ESQ. M. P. P.Goldenville, Guysborough.

Secretary and Treasurer :

C. R. H. STARRPort Williams, N. S.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Fruit:

R. W. STARR,	A. H. JOHNSON.
C. E. BROWN,	ISAAC SHAW.
BENJ. STARRATT,	C. R. H. STARR,
ROBERT MARSHALL.	

Publication:

PROF. D. F. HIGGINS,	AVARD LONGLEY,
R. W. STARR,	A. H. JOHNSON.
REV. F. J. H. AXFORD,	C. R. H. STARR,
REV. J. R. HART.	

Auditors:

GEORGE V. RAND.	GEORGE WALLACE.
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COUNCIL.

For Halifax County:

HERBERT HARRIS.	PROF. GEO. LAWSON.
P. C. HILL,	D. HENRY STARR.
GEN. LAURIE.	A. K. MACKINLAY,
H. B. WITTER.	

For King's County:

C. F. EATON,	R. W. STARR,
A. H. JOHNSON,	ISAAC SHAW,
JOHN G. BYRNE,	J. W. HAMILTON,
J. B. BOWSER,	WILLIAM SUTTON,
C. Y. JOHNSON,	THOS. TUZO,
T. E. SMITH.	

For Annapolis County:

BENJAMIN STARRATT,	C. B. WHITMAN,
H. H. MORSE,	ROBT MARSHALL,
J. R. HART,	ROBT FITZRANDOLPH.

For Hants County:

W. H. BLANCHARD,	H. V. B. FARNSWORTH.
W. P. COLCHESTER,	CHAS. BACON,
W. H. ALLISON, M. P.,	JOHN SANGSTER,
ANDREW SHAW,	W. ARMSTRONG.

For Lunenburg:

CHARLES FRITZE,	E. B. HYSON.
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HONORARY MEMBERS.

	Date of Election.
ROBERT GRANT HALLIBURTON, M. A., F. S. A.	Jan. 30, 1873.
JOSEPH R. HEA, D. C. L., Toronto.	" 6, 1874.
LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR HASTINGS DOYLE, K. C. M. G.	April 9, 1875.
ADMIRAL SIR JAMES HOPE, Harriden, Bo'ness, Scotland..	" "
HON. MARSHAL P. WILDER, Boston, Mass.	" "
HON. CHARLES DOWNING, Newbury, N. Y.	" "
EDWIN W. BUSWELL, ESQ., Boston, Mass.	" "
REV. ROBERT BURNET, D. D., Pictou.	" "
D. W. BEADLE, ESQ., St. Catherine's, Ont.	" "
ROBERT MANNING, ESQ., Boston, Mass.	" "
RICHARD STARR, ESQ., Cornwallis, N. S.	" "
F. C. SUMICHRAST, ESQ., Halifax, N. S.	Jan. 10, 1877.

LIFE MEMBERS.

	Date of Election.
JAMES BIGELOW, ESQ., Wolfville	April 9, 1875.
HENRY B. WITTER, ESQ., "	" "
CHARLES E. BROWN, ESQ., Yarmouth	Oct. 1, "
EDWIN CHASE, ESQ., Cornwallis	Nov. 1, "
R. W. STARR, ESQ. Port Williams	" "
CHAS. R. H. STARR, ESQ., Port Williams	Jan. 3, 1876.
W. C. SILVER, ESQ., Halifax	Dec., 1876.
JAMES SCOTT, ESQ., "	" "
GEORGE LAWSON, PH. D., "	" "
JOHN STAIRS, ESQ., "	" "
THOS. A. BROWN, ESQ., "	" "
THOS. A. RITCHIE, ESQ., "	" "
A. K. MACKINLAY, ESQ., "	" "
J. F. KENNY, ESQ., "	" "
M. P. BLACK, ESQ., "	" "
HON. P. C. HILL, "	" "
EDWARD BINNEY, ESQ., " (deceased)	" "

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

VICTORIA 27.—CHAPTER 46.

AN ACT to Incorporate the Fruit Growers' Association and International Show Society of Nova Scotia.

(PASSED THE 10TH DAY OF MAY, A. D., 1864.)

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows :

Charles C. Hamilton, Richard Starr, Robert G. Haliburton, Avar Longley, the Reverend Dr. Robertson, Herbert Harris, George A. S. Crichton, John Brown, Peter S. Burnham, D. Henry Starr, and such other persons as are, or hereafter may, become members of the Association, shall be a body corporate by the name of the "FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION AND INTERNATIONAL SHOW SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA."

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

(AMENDED JANUARY 12TH, 1876.

SECTION I.—NAME.

This Society shall be known as the "FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION AND INTERNATIONAL SHOW SOCIETY OF NOVA, SCOTIA."

SECTION II.—PATRON.

The Lieutenant-Governor, for the time being, shall be invited to become the Patron of the Association.

SECTION III.—OFFICERS.

The officers shall consist of President, one Vice-President, from each county represented in the Association, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, two Auditors, and a Council of twelve or more members, chosen from different counties, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting. The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Auditors, shall be *ex officio* members of Council.

SECTION IV.—PRESIDENT.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association; he shall have power to call special meetings when he shall deem it necessary, and he shall do so at any time upon requisition in writing of three members of the Council; he shall sign all orders for the payment of money; he shall name all committees not otherwise provided for; he shall have a casting vote when the votes of those present are equally divided, and shall perform such other duties as usually appertain to the office of President.

SECTION V.—VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The Vice-Presidents of the several counties shall be considered the official medium of communication between the Association and the county; they shall aid in collecting and disseminating information, and assist in promoting the objects of the Association. In the absence of the President from any meeting, the Vice-President for the county, in which the meeting is held, is entitled to the chair.

SECTION VI.—SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Association, and of the Council, keep minutes of the same, collect all assessments, dues, or other monies, and pay the same to the Treasurer promptly; sign all money orders, and perform all such other duties, proper to his office, as may be required of him by the President, or ordered by any meeting of the Association or Council.

SECTION VII.—CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The Corresponding Secretary shall take charge of the correspondence of the Association, and keep copies of the same for future reference.

SECTION VIII.—TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys, pay the same only by order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary, unless he be also Secretary, and shall report quarterly the state of the funds.

SECTION IX.—AUDITORS.

The auditors shall examine and report upon the books, accounts, vouchers, and financial statements of the Secretary and of the Treasurer, and shall be entitled to demand all books and papers three days previous to the annual meeting.

SECTION X.—COUNCIL.

The Council shall have the general management of the affairs of the Association, subject to the approval of a general meeting; and shall prepare premium lists and conduct exhibitions; shall select and

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send specimens of our fruit to foreign exhibitions, societies, and individuals, for exhibition, comparison, and identification. They shall meet as often as may be deemed necessary; five members shall form a quorum.

SECTION XI.—STANDING COMMITTEES.

Five members shall be named as a standing committee on fruits, they shall examine and report on all newly introduced varieties, as to their quality and probable value for general cultivation; shall endeavour to correct synonyms and wrong names, and shall collect information and report annually, through their chairman, on the state and progress of fruit cultivation in the Province.

There shall also be named a publishing committee, of three or more members, who shall attend to arranging, editing, and publishing the reports, transactions, prize lists, &c., of the Association.

SECTION XII.—MEETINGS.

The Association shall hold four regular meetings in each year, viz.: an annual meeting to be held in Wolfville, Kings Co., on the second Wednesdays in April and July, respectively, at such places as the President in Council may determine, and a fourth meeting shall be held at the time and place of the annual exhibition. Due notice of all meetings shall be given by the Secretary. Ten members present shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECTION XIII.—SUBSCRIPTION MEMBERS.

Any person signing, or authorizing the Secretary to sign for him, the constitution, and paying in advance annually the sum of ONE DOLLAR, shall be a member in full standing; but if he shall neglect to pay his subscription until the July meeting be past, he shall lose his privileges of membership until it be paid.

SECTION XIV.—LIFE MEMBERS.

Any person paying the sum of twenty dollars shall be constituted a life member and exempt from all future assessments.

SECTION XV.—HONORARY MEMBERS.

The Association may, at any regular meeting, confer the title of honorary member on any person whom they may choose to elect, and the Secretary shall transmit a diploma or certificate of election, signed by the President, and countersigned by the Secretary. This shall entitle the recipient to all the privileges and immunities of membership, except voting on questions of finance and management.

SECTION XVI.—MEMBERS PRIVILEGES.

Each member in full standing shall be entitled to the privilege of voting, of eligibility to office, of a copy of all the publications of the Association, of competing for all the prizes offered at the annual exhibitions, and of free admission to all the Associations shows, which admission shall be regulated by ticket not transferable.

SECTION XVII.—DISCONTINUANCE OF MEMBERS.

Any member who, after notice, shall neglect for the space of two years, to pay his annual assessment, shall cease to retain his connection with the Association, and the Secretary shall have power to erase his name from the list of members. And any member may, at any time, withdraw from the Association by giving notice to the Secretary and paying all dues and demands against him.

SECTION XVIII.—EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

If any member shall do anything to dishonor the Association, or shall place on the tables for exhibition, or premium, specimens bearing his name, or mark, not of his own growth, with an intention to deceive, or shall be guilty of any breach of good faith towards the Association, he may be expelled therefrom, two thirds of the members present voting for his expulsion.

SECTION XIX.—FISCAL YEAR.

The fiscal year shall commence on the first day of January, and all annual assessments shall be deemed and taken to be due at that time.

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SECTION XX.—OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The objects of the Association shall be to collect reliable information on fruits and fruit culture; on gathering and marketing fruit; on new varieties—native or foreign; on the comparative values, classification, identification, and nomenclature of the many sorts now cultivated; on the diseases, insects, and other obstacles to success, and the remedies best calculated to overcome them. The Association will also hold annually an exhibition of fruits and horticultural products in some central locality, either independently or in connection with some agricultural or industrial exhibition, as may be deemed advisable, and shall exhibit selections of our fruit at all International Expositions, Horticultural Exhibitions, and Pomological Shows, when considered advisable; and also send specimens to eminent Pomologists for identification and nomenclature.

SECTION XXI.—ALTERATION OF RULES.

The foregoing rules are not to be altered or amended, except at an annual meeting, and then only by a two-third vote of the members present.

BY-LAWS AND RULES OF ORDER.

RULE 1st.—*Order of Business.*

1. Organisation of meeting.
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
3. Address of President.
4. Report of Secretary.
5. Report of Treasurer.
6. Report of Council.
7. Reports of Standing Committees.
8. Reports of Special Committees.
9. Reading communications, correspondence, &c.
10. Deferred and new business.
11. Discussions on Fruit and Cognate subjects.
12. Election of officers.

RULE 2d.—All regular meetings shall be called at two o'clock, P.M., unless otherwise ordered by the President and Council.

RULE 3rd.—All resolutions must be submitted in writing, and signed by the proposer and seconder.

RULE 4th.—No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on any subject under discussion, unless by permission, or to explain a point.

RULE 5th.—At any general meetings of the Association members may introduce friends by name to the President, and such visitors may be invited to take part in the discussions.

RULE 6th.—The mode of balloting for officers at the annual meeting may be by simple ballot on each name proposed, or, if considered advisable, a committee may be appointed to select the whole names required, which may then be balloted for *en bloc*.

RULE 7th.—At any regular meeting of the Association, the foregoing rules of order may be altered or suspended for the time being, by a vote of members present.

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THE FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

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INTERNATIONAL SHOW SOCIETY

OF

NOVA SCOTIA.

ITS ORIGIN, OBJECTS, AND WORK.

A SKETCH

BY

C. DENNISON RANDALL, M. A.

THE Fruit Growers' Association and International Show Society of Nova Scotia is modelled from the Royal Horticultural Society of London, and is not indirectly an offshoot of it; it is therefore of most honourable descent. Its own history, as we follow it from its inception, is not unworthy of its distinguished parentage; nor has it done discredit to the high objects contemplated in its institution, or to the worthy man whose sagacity and patriotism gave it being.

The origin of the Association may, not inappropriately, be traced back to the great London Exhibition of 1860. At that important and wonderful Show, specimens of Nova Scotia Apples were displayed and attracted general notice and admiration.

In the Autumn of 1862, as a result, doubtless, of that display and the favourable impression it made, samples of Nova Scotia fruit were sent to London by certain gentlemen of Halifax for comparison with like species grown in England. From these were selected specimens which were offered for competition at the Show of the London Horticultural Society held that year. A Silver Medal, one of the most honourable allotments of the Society, and seven others of Bronze, were awarded as a result of the comparison, and many eulogistic remarks accompanied the gift.

In March, 1863, a meeting of Agriculturists and Fruit Growers' from different Counties, chiefly Halifax, Hants, Kings and Annapolis, was held in the City of Halifax, at which a Society was organized and denominated, "The Horticultural Association and International Show Society of Nova Scotia." The object of the organization, as stated in the minutes of the meeting, was "to take charge of contributions to European Shows, and to be a vehicle for conveying to its members the best information on the subject of Horticulture"; or, as it was expressed by the Chairman of the meeting, R. G. Haliburton, Esq., a member of the Bar of Halifax, it was "to secure to the Province the benefits that promised to result from the exhibition of Nova Scotia fruits at the Great International Show of the Royal Horticultural Society of London, held in the Autumn of 1862." Thus, about twenty years ago, and when fruit-raising was in its infancy in the Province, our apples had been objects of admiration at an exhibition open to the products of gardens and orchards of all countries. What surer indication could be afforded of the latent pomological resources of the country and of the promise they presented of great distinction in this sphere of our Provincial industries?

Associated with the name of Mr. Haliburton, as adverted to, we meet with others that have become as familiar to us, through their labours in connection with the objects of the Society "as household words," such as those of Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Robertson, Avar Longley, Richard Starr, Rev. John Storrs, D. H. Starr, R. W. Starr, Herbert Harris and others, which, for the sake of brevity required in this sketch, must remain unmentioned. Some of the gentlemen specified, and to whom the Province owes so great a debt of gratitude, have rested from their useful labors; others still live to pursue the good work with undiminished interest and vigor, and with the additional knowledge and experience acquired by years of untiring research and active service.

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The meeting in Halifax resulted, as stated, in the establishment of an organization called the "Horticultural Association and International Show Society of Nova Scotia"—a title afterwards slightly modified, the term "Fruit Growers" being substituted for the original "Horticultural." It is by this last application that the organization is known in the Act of Incorporation, passed on the 19th of May, 1864, and by which the Society is now universally designated.

Of the Association, as thus established, R. G. Haliburton, Esq., was appointed President; G. A. S. Crichton, Esq., Vice-President, and D. H. Starr, Esq., Recording Secretary,—the President agreeing to act also as Corresponding Secretary for the time being. To each of the four Counties of Annapolis, Kings, Hants and Colchester, a local Vice-President was assigned—namely, Dr. Robertson for Annapolis, Richard Starr, Esq., for Kings, James Thomson, Esq., for Hants and Dr. Forrester for Colchester. County Councils were also appointed for Halifax, Hants, Kings and Annapolis—for Halifax, James Forman, A. J. Ritchie, Herbert Harris, W. T. Townshend, Joseph Kaye, and John McDonald, Esqrs.; for Hants, Hon. R. A. McHeffey, Rev. F. Smallwood, G. P. Burnham and John Brown, Esqrs.; for Kings, Dr. C. C. Hamilton, Leander Rand, Edward Bishop and Abraham VanBuskirk, Esqrs.; for Annapolis, Moses Shaw, T. W. Chesley, Edward Cutler and Avar Longley, Esqrs.

At the first meeting of the Society, thus briefly described, the Rev. Mr. Storrs gave some highly interesting information relative to the introduction of choice varieties of fruit into the Province, and recorded the vast debt of gratitude due by the country to the late Hon. Charles R. Prescott of Cornwallis, for his most beneficial services in its behalf. Some of the varieties he introduced were brought from Western Canada, where they had been acclimated; but most of them were obtained from the London Horticultural Society, of which he was a corresponding member. Among these varieties, now so well known and so highly esteemed, may be mentioned the Ribston Pippin, the Blenheim Pippin, the Gravenstein and Emperor Alexander. From Judge Corse of Montreal he procured the Snow Apple, the Keswick, Codlin and a number of choice varieties of plums.

The following July a meeting of the Association was held at Kentville, in the County of Kings, which, being eminently in agricultural and horticultural district, was a locality most appropriate for the early operations of the Society. At this meeting, the president,

Mr. Haliburton, tendered his resignation of office, in order that the position might be filled, as in his opinion it ought to be, by a practical pomologist. Dr. Hamilton, of Cornwallis, a member of the Council for Kings' County, was appointed his successor—a choice, the wisdom of which, a long course of invaluable services to the Society, and to the cause abundantly demonstrated. Other meetings, either of the Association or of the local Council, were held at brief intervals during the summer and autumn in Wolfville, Canning, and Kentville—their frequency being occasioned partly by work in connection with the approaching Provincial Agricultural Exhibition, a department of which had been committed by the Government to the Association, and assumed by them.

The first exhibition of the Association was held at Kentville on the 7th and 8th days of October, 1863. As neither the Society nor the Province possessed at the time any exhibition building, the public grounds adjoining the Court-house were applied for and obtained, and being fitted up with temporary structures, were made to answer the purpose. As the weather, fortunately, proved very fine, no serious inconvenience was experienced. On that occasion the eight medals, awarded by the Royal Horticultural Society of London, were offered for competition by members of the Association—the silver for apples, one of the bronze for grapes, and the other six for different agricultural and horticultural products. Only a portion of the medals were drawn, as in the opinion of the Judges, the standard reached was not satisfactory. A disposition was thus manifested at the outset of the operations of the Association, to employ all proper checks and guards, that nothing might impede the work, or frustrate the objects, contemplated in the formation of the Society.

Towards the expenses of the exhibition and the premium fund two hundred dollars were contributed by the Government Commissioners, in recognition of the services of the Association, in connection with the agricultural and horticultural departments of the show. This sum, with the entrance fees, which amounted to \$226.28, enabled the Society to pay prizes to successful exhibitors to the amount of \$206.00, and the necessary expenses of the exhibition, having a small balance in their hands. These sums were not large, but, according to a high authority, we "should not despise the day of small things."

It ought to be recorded that the Administrator of the Government, General Hastings Doyle, was present with his suite at the

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Exhibition, and made some very gratifying remarks with reference to the display. He kindly accepted the office of distributing the medals, and announcing the prizes as they had been awarded—thus inaugurating a graceful service which has since been frequently repeated by succeeding Governors, or Administrators of the Government. It may also be mentioned that, upon request, a number of the exhibitors cheerfully agreed to send to the Royal Horticultural Society of London, a selection from the fruits which had been on exhibition. As these were carefully packed and transmitted, they arrived at their destination in good condition, and their reception was greeted with the most gratifying terms of commendation. A letter of acknowledgment was received from Mr. Murray, one of the secretaries of the Society, which not only referred to the fruit in most laudatory language, but expressed the desire of the Society to forward, in every way in their power, the interests of the Association, and conveyed the request that the manner, as might be determined on, should be indicated. After consideration, the Association decided that the bestowment of a silver medal for competition would best subserve the cause they were labouring to advance, and they replied to that effect. It is unnecessary to state that the medal was duly received, or that the competitors for it at successive exhibitions of the Association has proved a most powerful and efficacious stimulus for good.

The silver medal of the Association was awarded to Dr. Hamilton for the best nine sorts of apples, and one of the bronze medals for a dish of grapes. Of the others, one was bestowed upon P. S. Burnham, of Windsor, for onions, and another upon D. R. Eaton, of Cornwallis, for wheat. A bronze medal also, offered by the former president, Mr. Haliburton, for the best general collection of fruits and cereals, was conferred on Richard Starr, of Cornwallis. The highest prizes awarded for fruit were to John Longley and W. H. Hardwick, of Annapolis and Cornwallis, respectively; the first drawing \$8.00, and the second \$7.00 for winter apples, six sorts, six each. In pears, Juds on D. Harris and G. A. Allison, both of Cornwallis, drew the first two prizes of \$4.00 and \$3.00, respectively. Thus, at so early a period in the history of its organization, the Society, with a judgment which has been rarely at fault, determined as to the true line of its operations, and foresaw that it was in the culture of *apples* especially and in the placing of them in proper condition upon trans-

atlantic markets, that the Association would best perform its work and promote the interests of the Province.

At the first meeting of the Association, in 1864, the constitution was amended, and certain alterations adopted, one of which slightly modified, as already cited, the original designation of the Society—the term “Fruit Growers” being substituted for “Horticultural.” This was a very proper change, as the prime object of the organization was the promotion of fruit-culture, and the rendering of it a source of provincial wealth. On this occasion also it was decided that there should be regular quarterly meetings of the Society—the annual one in January and the others in April, July, and October, respectively. This was the first annual meeting, and was held in Wolfville on the 6th of January, 1864.

One of the acts of the Association at this meeting was to tender to the Lieutenant-Governor an invitation to become its patron—a request which was gracefully acceded to. An able report of the Society’s proceedings, in connection with the late exhibition in Kentville, was presented by the president; it may be found at length in records of the Association. The remaining regular meetings of the Society for the year were held successively in Wolfville, Berwick, and again in Wolfville, with additional ones in Canard, Middleton, and Bridgetown—the last three being occasioned by a resolve of the Association to hold an Exhibition in the autumn at Bridgetown. As it so happened that the Governor was unable to be present, the Exhibition was opened by Sir James Hope, the Vice-Admiral, who presented the prizes and medals as they had been awarded. The legislative grant this year to the Association was four hundred dollars, of which two hundred and fifty were expended in prizes to successful competitors.

As it was not contemplated or designed that this paper should be a full and lengthy history of the Association, or more than a succinct sketch of its operations, the acts of subsequent years will be summarized—only the most important being dwelt upon or even instanced. It was thought advisable to be more explicit in regard to the foundation of the organization and the first measures adopted, as its incipient movements were in a measure tentative, and as it was considered that greater interest would attach to a retrospect of the past, where much was necessarily experimental, and the work was new even to those who stood in the forefront of the enterprise. That so few mis-

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takes were made, as is confidently claimed in behalf of the Society—its officers and members—was doubtless due, in a great degree, to the singleness of aim and the steadiness of purpose by which all alike were actuated in their endeavour to secure the ends contemplated in the origination of the the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia.

To resume our narrative, as indicated, it may be stated in general, as the records of the Association show, that between the date of the transaction last recited, and the present, there have been held fifty-four formal meetings of the Society, and twenty-eight of the Council or special committees appointed for some definite and important work. Possibly there were others as will appear in the sequel. The localities, in which the meetings were held, have been Halifax, Kentville, Wolfville, Canard, Middleton, Bridgetown, Berwick, Windsor, Anna polis, and Port Williams.

In the autumn of 1865 an Exhibition was held in Wolfville. That it was a creditable one, and afforded proof of the beneficial influence exerted by the Association, may be inferred from the circumstance, that a collection of fruits and vegetables, made up from its exhibits for presentation to the London Horticultural Society, was regarded as of so much excellence, that a gold medal was bestowed in recognition. A collection of valuable scions was also received from the Society in further acknowledgment. The gold medal was won in competition with *all* the Colonies of Great Britain, and thus aids in assigning to Nova Scotia the honorable position she occupies among fruit-growing countries.

At the annual meeting of the Association, held in Wolfville on the 10th of January, 1866, a letter was read from the Corresponding Secretary, D. Henry Starr, Esq., calling the attention of the Society to the deception too often practised in putting up fruit, as seen in the Halifax market, and recommending such action on the part of the Association as should be deemed desirable. Whereupon it was by resolution determined that, in the opinion of the meeting, Government inspectors should be appointed; and further, that the president, Dr. Hamilton, should be instructed to endeavour to procure the necessary legislation.

At the quarterly meeting, held on the 4th of April, in Berwick, it was resolved to hold four monthly exhibitions of fruits, in July, August, September, and October, respectively, and one of winter fruit at the April quarterly meeting of 1867, which exhibitions were

successively held. The object of this arrangement was to bring together in their proper seasons the various fruits of the Province, that they might be seen in their perfection.

It was further resolved, at the same meeting, that the members of the Legislature for Kings and Annapolis Counties, be requested to use their influence with the Government to have an *advalorem* duty of thirty per cent. imposed upon foreign fruit-trees imported into the Province. A third resolution devoted the sum of \$50.00 to the purchasing of fruit-books, for use by members of the Association. Few appropriations have proved of more benefit to the Society, and through it to the general public.

During this year a collection of upwards of forty varieties of apples were sent to the "Massachusetts Horticultural Society" for nomenclature and classification; and a further collection to the Paris Exposition, confided to the care of Dr. Honeyman, a delegate to it in the interests of the Province.

In the autumn of 1867, the annual exhibition of the Association was held at Somerset. A sum of \$300 was devoted to the prize list from the funds of the Society.

At the annual meeting of the Society, held in Wolfville, on the 15th of January, 1868, it was resolved that a prize of \$100 and a gold medal, should be offered for the best collection of Apples from any part of the Dominion—the competition to take place at the General Exhibition to be held in Halifax in the ensuing October. The prize was competed for by J. C. Kilburn, Ontario, and J. G. Byrne, Kentville, and awarded to the latter.

It was further resolved, at this meeting, that prizes of ten, seven and five dollars, respectively, be offered by the Association to members of the body for the best Essays on Pruning Fruit trees—the mode, extent, season, &c., of the operation. We regret to say that those prizes were not competed for, although kept open for three years before being withdrawn by the Association. The Society's Exhibition was held this year at Bridgetown in September.

At the annual meeting of the Association for 1869, held in Wolfville, it was determined that, as the President, Dr. Hamilton, had drawn the Silver Medal as a prize three times, it was, according to the regulations that had been adopted, his private property; and it was delivered to him accordingly.

It had been abundantly proved from the very origin of the Society, that the best of apples could be raised in Nova Scotia; the difficulty all along had been in placing them in good condition in the British market. At first it had been found necessary even to preserve them, that they might appear at least of their proper size and form. Various experiments had been tried to overcome the formidable obstacles presented by a broad and stormy ocean, and a land transit scarcely less destructive; but the problem was not yet satisfactorily solved. At the annual meeting of 1870, the matter was again brought to the notice of the Association—a statement being made by Amos Black, Esq., one of its members, that he had in the preceding December, sent two barrels of apples—"Hutchings's" and "Black's Red"—to Liverpool, Eng., and that they had arrived in perfect order. Each was wrapped separately in paper. Other conditions were doubtless favourable; for it has been found that the mode of packing adopted in this case is not, *per se*, entirely reliable. It may be said that apples had been sent to England previous to this time, and had arrived in good condition, though no record of these facts appears in the proceedings of the Association.

At this meeting the Association determined to appropriate the necessary sum for procuring life-membership for one of the members of the body, in the "American Pomological Society"; and R. W. Starr, Esq., was designated to that honour.

At the same meeting arrangements were made to provide a building for the Association in Wolfville; which resolution was carried into effect, so that in the ensuing autumn the Exhibition of the Society was held in it. At this Exhibition prizes to the amount of \$320 were awarded to the Society, which was supplemented by additional special ones—seventeen in number—amounting to \$114. The Exhibition Building was built by a company, the Association holding in it two shares of \$100 each.

At the annual meeting of 1871, it was determined that the Dominion Parliament should be petitioned to lay a specific duty on all foreign apples, green fruits and vegetables, as well as upon all fruit trees imported into the Province. The annual exhibition this year was held in Wolfville.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Association for the next two years, contain but little that would be interesting to the general public. In 1872, scarcely more is recorded, than that "a lengthy and

instructive paper was read by R. W. Starr, Esq., on Fruit Exhibitions." A list of officers, annually appointed, completes the record.

In 1873, we read, that R. G. Haliburton, Esq., was made an Honorary Member of the Association, and Dr. Hamilton was appointed a delegate to the American Pomological Society, which met that year in Boston. It is said that "there is no general rule without exception." The Association had held an exhibition—one at least—every year since its formation. In 1873 there was none; and the Record fails to give the reason.

In 1874, as the Association had decided to accede to the request of the government, and lend their aid to the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition, to be held in Halifax in October, they determined, in place of their regular autumnal exhibition, to hold one earlier of summer fruits. This accordingly took place in Wolfville, in the month of September, and was a very creditable display and a most enjoyable occasion. Prizes were bestowed to the amount of \$182. It should be mentioned that at the July meeting of the Society, held at Annapolis Royal, it was decided to have an impromptu show of the fruits and flowers then in season. The Exhibition was considered a great success, and a credit to all who took part in it.

At the January meeting of 1875, a letter was read from the President, Dr. Hamilton, regretting his unavoidable absence, and stating that it was the first occasion since the formation of the Society that he had not been present. This was equivalent to saying that, for twelve years he had made it a point of duty always to be in his place at every meeting, regular and extraordinary, of the Association. Such an example could not but be of influence for good, especially as he was not present as a mere automaton; but by his counsels, suggestions and active labours, was at all times endeavouring to advance the cause. When it is remembered that the meetings were held at points, as distant as Halifax in the East, and Annapolis Royal in the West, we shall have some idea of the interest felt and the sacrifices made.

At this meeting a letter was also read from a London Firm of Fruit Brokers, upon the subject of Nova Scotia apples, stating what was required for the market, both as regarded the kinds, and the condition in which they should appear. The fruit, it said, should be well formed and even in size, the barrels should be larger and better made, filled to their utmost capacity and thoroughly packed, and should be neatly branded with the name of the apple and of the owner or packer.

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All this is now a matter of notoriety, but in those earlier days of the shipment of fruit to Britain, it excited no little thought and concern. It was further stated in the letter, that there was a difference of at least 4s. sterling involved in the price of the apples, as ordinarily placed on the English market, and those offered in the condition described.

At the annual meeting held on the 12th January, 1876, the Secretary read a letter, received by him from Birmingham, Eng., acknowledging the receipt of a package of apples sent by the Association for exhibition. It stated that for size, colour and general appearance, the fruit had excited a great deal of admiration; but, as it was not English grown, it could not, according to the regulations that had been adopted, be offered for competition.

Another letter was read from the "Massachusetts Horticultural Society," acknowledging the receipt of a collection of apples, pears, &c., sent from the Provincial Exhibition of Halifax, for examination and nomenclature. The Report, as regarded the collection of pears, of which there were about fifty varieties, was most satisfactory; as to the apples, it was rather less so. This was owing mainly to some of the varieties being unknown to the Society. A silver medal, received by the Association, accompanied the Report.

At this meeting delegates were appointed to attend the coming Exhibition of the American Pomological Society, to be held at Chicago. A Report by the President of the Association, one of the delegates, was subsequently received, stating that our Early Harvest and Early Bough Apples, excited general admiration and surprise, at the Exhibition, and puzzled the experts by their extraordinary size and beautiful colour. A silver medal was received from the Society as a return for the contribution.

A communication from Dr. Honeyman, suggested the propriety of the Association being represented at the approaching Centennial Exhibition, to be held in Philadelphia, and the President, Dr. Hamilton, was appointed the representative of the Society.

The Annual Exhibition was held this year in Wolfville. A collection of fruit sent from it to the Centennial at Philadelphia, was honoured by a diploma and a bronze medal.

At the annual meeting of the Association, held in Wolfville, on the 10th of January, 1877, the President reported, that by the advice of members of the Council he had attended an auction sale of certain

shares of the Exhibition Building in Wolfville, and had purchased them for the Society. With the consent of the other shareholders, the care of the building was intrusted to Mr. C. Y. Johnson, as Janitor.

At the annual meeting of 1878, a resolution was passed, conferring on R. G. Haliburton, Esq., the life-membership of the Association, in recognition of his services to the Society, and to the cause of Fruit Growing in the province, especially in having so effectively brought the capabilities of Nova Scotia in this department of her industries, to the favourable notice of the people of Great Britain.

At the July meeting of the Association, the ravages of the canker worm was formally discussed, and the experience of different members stated at large. The President had used tar-bands and wool-bands, but not with satisfactory results. He considered the fowls useful in destroying the chrysalides. Had used the Paris Green in solution with good effect; but recommended that it be of moderate strength, lest it should injure the foliage of the trees. He had tried also a varnish, made by the Pennsylvania Roofing Felt Company, mixed with grease, and found it preferable to tar, as it was very sticky and did not harden, and was moreover poisonous. Leander Rand, Esq., had used the Paris Green in powder, mixed with slaked lime and applied with a bellows. He approved of the powder rather than a solution, as it did not injure the leaves. A. H. Johnson, Esq., considered Paris Green as "a remedy worse than the disease," as regarded the year of its application; but he used it from a sense of duty, to prevent the multiplication and ravages of the insect in future years. He had tried hellebore without effect. Leander Eaton, Esq., had applied the Paris Green in solution, probably too strong, as the foliage was destroyed. Cyrus Webster, Esq., did not like the Paris Green. He depended upon the fowls and a smart blow of a stick against the branches of the tree. R. W. Starr, Esq., had found the birds to be the best reliance of the orchardist, and the best protectors of the trees. They were the allies, designed by Providence, to aid man in all such battles, and they were willing, skilled and powerful auxiliaries. It may be pardonable to take up Mr. Starr's words and add that there is a difficulty here too, which is the want of birds. Idle and mischievous and wicked boys, small and large, some large enough to consider themselves men, persecute and destroy these our active and useful friends; and we are compelled to pay the penalty in the loss of the crop—one of the most valuable, or rather *the* most valuable which the

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country produces. We complain of our hard lot, and it is well if we do not blame Providence as the author of it. It would be more becoming in us to acknowledge our folly and, it may be, our impiety as well.

The Exhibition of the Association this year, was held in Kentville, in connection with the County Agricultural Exhibition.

At the January meeting of the Society for 1879, the President reported that he had sold, subject to the approval of the body, the Exhibition Building in Wolfville, of which the remaining shares had come into possession of the Association. The Act received the sanction of the meeting.

A species of apples, the scions of which came from the London Horticultural Society, was shown by W. H. O. Haliburton, Esq., and which he considered peculiarly adapted to the English market. It is styled the Lemon Pippin; and may be described as a round, yellow apple, juicy and of a sharp, vinous flavour.

The regular annual Exhibition of the Association was held this year in Kentville. An attractive feature of the show was the ornamental plants and flowers by which it was graced, and for which the highest prizes of the occasion were offered. The Association thus showed its sympathy with the spirit of the age, which has wisely learned to render homage to the beauty and loveliness with which the hand of Nature has decked our fields and gardens—an homage inculcated eighteen hundred years ago by the Great Teacher himself, when in the inimitable Sermon on the Mount, He contrasted the simple and exquisite grace of the "lilies of the field," with the sumptuous adornments of the most magnificent of earthly monarchs.

At the annual meeting, held in Wolfville, January 6th, 1880, the Financial Report of the Treasurer, showed that the Association was possessed of property to the value of \$378.23—the amount being made up as follows: There was a balance in hand from the last year's Exhibition of \$30.61, a Bank Deposit of \$150, and Notes from responsible parties with other securities to the extent of \$169.62. In view of the importance of the interests intrusted to the Society, one cannot but regret that ample means are not at its disposal. The sources of income must be regarded as entirely too small, too few, and too precarious. This year the Association was represented at the Exhibition in St. John, N. B., by a contribution of Fruits, for which a diploma was granted.

As the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition was to be held in Kentville in the autumn, the Fruit Growers' Association decided to have an Exhibition in the winter, in place of the regular one in the fall. The Association was, however, represented at the Provincial Show, and contributed of the funds \$50 for prizes for fruits and flowers, and rendered effectual assistance otherwise. A fruit-stall under their management at the Exhibition was pleasingly patronized and added to their funds.

At the Winter Show, held in Wolfville, 247 plates of apples, 10 of pears, and a collection of grapes, was displayed. A collection also of 15 sorts of apples from Niagara, Ont., and of 15 sorts from Yarmouth, were shown by C. E. Brown, Esq., the Vice-President of the Society in that County. Fifty dollars were devoted to prizes.

At the annual meeting, held on the 26th of January, 1881, kind and feeling references were made to the death of the President, who had been called away during the interval which had elapsed since the Association had last assembled. The office, so long held by Dr. Hamilton, was conferred on R. W. Starr, Esq., his co-labourer of many years, and who had for some time past filled the office of Recording Secretary; to which last position A. H. Johnson, Esq., the local Vice-President of the Association was appointed.

An unusual degree of interest attached to this meeting from the presentation of three papers—the first on Pear Culture, by Dr. Burnett, of Pictou, and formerly of Hamilton, Ont., and ex-President of the Fruit Growers' Association of that province; the second, by J. B. Bowser, Esq., of Grand Pre—a Memorial Essay upon the work of the late President in connection with the objects of the Society; the third, by C. R. H. Starr, Esq., upon the Exportation of Apples to England. Mr. Starr's object being to show the importance and necessity of extreme care in selecting and packing the fruit, and the need of direct and regular steam communication with the Mother Country.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance in favour of the Association in the operations of the year of \$126.54, and that the Society had in hand, or in reliable securities, means to the amount of \$466.50. The sum of \$75 was contributed to the prize list of the Dominion Exhibition, to be held in Halifax in the autumn, on account of which the Annual Exhibition of the Society was set aside.

At the April meeting of the Association, held in Kentville, it was determined that a concise and orderly History of the operations of

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the body from its inception, should be prepared for publication ; that a thousand copies should be printed for the use of the members and for general distribution ; and that \$150 should be appropriated to that object. That action of the Society was the origin of the present sketch.

At the annual meeting of the Association for 1882, the Secretary was instructed to address circulars, containing a number of important questions in relation to fruit-culture to various prominent orchardists and leading members of the Society in different and remote parts of the Province, and requesting answers to the same. Such questions and answers, or a selection from them, to be incorporated in the sketch of the Society's operations, for the publication of which provision had been made.

A very gratifying experience of the Society, and of recent date, will show the importance attached to the institution abroad, and will appropriately and pleasingly close this sketch.

For the purpose of encouraging the better packing of fruit for the English market, Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, apple salesmen of London, G. B., offer through the Association, a prize of £5 sterling, for the best lot of Ribston Pippins, not less than ten barrels, that may be consigned to them during the month of December ensuing. The successful competitor will be announced, and the prize money paid, through the Treasurer of the Society at the Winter Exhibition, to be held by it in the city of Halifax, N. S., during the month of February, 1883.

Here the Record for the present closes. That it is not more lengthy has been already explained. A few closing remarks will be excusable, and may perhaps be expected.

From the foregoing resume, it will be apparent, as the writer thinks, that the Association has cast a wide and an intelligent survey over the domain intrusted to its supervision and management. The subjects which have occupied its attention have been very numerous and very varied ; they have too, been among the most important that can engage the consideration of an agricultural, a horticultural, and a fruticultural region. And there are few who will deny that the Society has been in no small degree successful in its labours. Information has through its instrumentality been broadly diffused ; the fruits and other agricultural products of the Province, have been brought to the notice of even distant countries, and have given a most favourable impression as to the capabilities and resources of the colony ; it has been made apparent, by the knowledge diffused, that

the apples, for example, of Nova Scotia are unsurpassed, perhaps unrivalled by those of any other country in the world; the operations of the Fruit Growers' Association have done much towards opening up and securing a market for our fruit, and thus to render its cultivation a source of prosperity and wealth. Experiments have been successfully made as to the kinds best adapted to our climate; the modes of transmission to distant countries have occupied the thoughts of the Society, so that now our finest apples can be placed in the markets of Britain with their bloom and flavour almost unimpaired. The ravages of insects and other pests, and the means by which they can be best counteracted, have been made the subject of careful and painstaking research, and the labour has not been in vain. So the work has been prosecuted with interest, fidelity and success. As the compiler of this sketch is not a member of the Association, he has felt the more at liberty to indulge in these laudatory, but as he believes, truthful encomiums.

Agricultural, Horticultural, and Pomological Exhibitions, are an institution of the day. Their utility, their absolute necessity it may be said, is universally recognized and acted upon. This is the sentiment of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, and has been ever since the organization was constituted. The very first year of its existence it lent its aid to one, and contributed much to its success; and from that day, when it co-operated with the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition at Kentville, to the present, it has either given its efficacious assistance to the various industrial shows which the province has originated, or has directly managed and sustained those of its own creation. Thus it has happened—and should be mentioned to the credit of the Society—that for every year of its existence, with the solitary exception of 1873, it has either originated and conducted a exhibition on its own account, or contributed funds and other aid to Provincial or County Shows, which have occurred with more or less frequency during the period of its existence. In the year 1867, no less than three exhibitions were held under the auspices of the Association.

The Province has aided by its funds these useful labours, and given ungrudgingly, if not always as liberally as the Society desired; and it will bestow assistance again, as occasion may require; and thus directly and efficiently promote one of the most important interests of the country, and be instrumental in diffusing prosperity and plenty throughout the land.

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REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING OF F. G. A., 1883.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association was held in Music Hall, Wolfville, on Tuesday the 9th January.

The Secretary's report for the year was read and ordered to lie on the table for future reference. The Secretary said the historical portion of the contemplated report of the Association was ready for the press, but owing to circumstances, he had been unable to have the work completed. The financial statement showed a balance of about \$630 in the funds of the Association.

Mr. T. E. Smith, delegate to the Antigonish and Cape Breton Exhibitions, made an extended report. At Antigonish the fruit exhibit was very small. He had procured a few dozens of apples for the winter exhibition, but owing to the carelessness of railway employees, they had been mislaid some weeks, and he feared they would not show to very good advantage in consequence. The fruit, considering the attention and cultivation it received, was very fair, but the knowledge of fruit culture in this district is very limited indeed. Scarcely any one knew one variety from another, and some dozens were made up from two sorts; yet there seemed to be a general desire for information. Some varieties were better than those grown in Kings County, viz.: Red Astrachan, Duchess of Oldenburg, Cayuga Redstreak and crab-apples. Plums looked very fine, but all complained of black knot. Some fine clusters of ripe grapes of the "champion" variety were exhibited. Mr. Smith took a small collection of fruits which attracted much attention, and served a good purpose as samples to name from, etc.

At North Sydney there was quite an extensive exhibit of fruit, but owing to the arrangement and want of light they did not show to as good advantage as they might have. Apples were exhibited under every conceivable name. Even Magnum Bonum plums were labelled Yellow Crabs. There was a fine exhibit of crab-apples. There were three entries for the F. G. A. prizes. The fruits awarded prizes were carefully packed for the winter exhibition. With the right varieties and proper cultivation Cape Breton may become a favored fruit-growing district.

C. R. H. Starr made a verbal report of the competition for the F. G. A. prizes at Annapolis, where there was but one entry and prize awarded to T. H. Parker, of Berwick.

The secretary said the report from the delegate to Truro and Yarmouth had not been handed in, but would be forthcoming. The secretary read the award of the special prize of £5 offered by Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, of London, for the best ten bbls. of Ribston Pippins, as follows:—

20 TOOLEY STREET, LONDON, Dec. 21st, 1882.

To the Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association:

DEAR SIR,—The time having expired for the arrival of any lots of Ribston Pippins, that were sent for competition for the prize we offered, we have the pleasure of handing you our reward. We must mention that we are very disappointed that our offer has not resulted in more interest being taken in the matter on your side, as we thought it would give an impetus to and cause an improvement in the method of packing. We intended making the prize an annual one, changing the sort of apple each time, but we think unless you are of opinion otherwise, that it would be useless offering it further, as so little interest is taken in the matter. We award the prize to the Rev. F. J. H. Axford, the ten barrels he sent were splendidly packed, the fruit one level size throughout, color good, and the method of packing we consider the best, that is, hard wood barrels with four flat hoops, with a little fine white shaving on the top. There was only one other entry, Mr. T. H. Parker's. His fruit was packed in a straightforward, honest manner, and was of good colour, and we feel justified in awarding him an extra prize of £1, for which you will find our draft enclosed.

Your obedient servants,

NOTHARD & LOWE.

Mr. Longley said the reason for so little competition was that it was not generally known, and moved the following resolution which passed unanimously:—

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Association be conveyed to Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, of London, for the generous prize of £5 stg., offered for the best ten bbls. of Ribston Pippins, which they have awarded to the Rev. F. J. H. Axford, of Cornwallis; also for

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the extra prize of £1 awarded to Mr. T. H. Parker, of Berwick, and would take this opportunity of expressing the hope that these gentlemen may be induced to continue the prize for at least another year, and we feel assured that the competition will be general, when the orchardists of the Valley are made aware of the continuance of the offer.

The President said he thought a mistake had been made in the method of distributing the prize lists.

Secretary Johnson said Messrs. T. W. West & Co., of London, had made an offer of £7 10s., to be expended in such a way as the Association may direct, for the encouragement of the better packing of fruit for the London market. A special committee, consisting of R. W. Starr, A. H. Johnson, and Avarad Longley, was appointed to consider the proposal and report before the meeting closed.

Later the above committee made the following report:—"Divide the £7 10s. in three prizes, viz: first, £3 10s.; second, £2 5s.; third, £1 15s. for the best lots of ten barrels each of the following varieties, viz: Northern Spys, Baldwins, and Nonpareils. The ten barrels need not necessarily be of one variety; to be consigned to Messrs. West & Co., and to arrive in London on or before the first day of April. Competitors must make their entries with the Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association, on or before the first day of March, together with a written statement of the method of picking, packing, marking, &c." The consignees will award the prizes, making their report to the F. G. A. for publication. The fruit to be sold for the benefit of competitors, and the proceeds remitted as ordered.

The report was received and adopted, and the Secretary requested to convey the thanks of the Association to Messrs. West & Co.

Mr. Axford read his report of the method of handling and packing the prize fruit, as follows:—

THE RECTORY, CORNWALLIS, Nov., 1882.

To the Secretary of the Fruit Growers' Association:

SIR,—According to the requirement by advertisement for competitors for prize offered by Nothard & Lowe, of London, England, for best ten barrels of Ribston Pippins, I forward you a brief statement of my method of packing and marking apples for market.

PICKING.—The fruit is hand-picked from off the trees singly and carefully into baskets, which are carefully emptied into apple barrels close at hand in the orchard (excluding all wormy fruit, to prevent good fruit being defaced by the worms in fruit bin). Thence they are taken to the fruit room, and carefully placed in the fruit bins, where they are allowed to sweat and remain until required to be put up for the market.

PACKING AND MARKING.—I secure, if possible, airtight barrels, believing that the more the air is excluded from the fruit, the better it will keep anywhere, and especially as freight in a vessel. Having obtained the barrels, I number the bottom and sides before I remove the bottoms, to secure the right ones when heading up. I then nail the heads and bilge hoops securely, taking care that no nail points are exposed inside the barrel. I then place a thin layer of excelsior shavings inside on the head of the barrel, line it with white paper, placing same upon the excelsior, and proceed to pack the fruit, marking in pencil the intended quality on each barrel to avoid any mistake when labelling. When sorting fruit I choose some of the brightest and best for heading with, so that when it is opened it may appear desirable, and ask to be poured out for inspection. I lay the first two layers of fruit with the stems down (they show up when the barrel is opened), placing them in tightly, after which I carefully put in the best from the basket, putting in perfect fruit in form, and of uniform size for the first quality; shaking the barrel occasionally that the fruit might settle. When full I put in some of smaller size to fill up the spaces, and place a layer of white paper over all, before I put in the bottom of the barrel, or as it is termed, head up, which operation I perform with the screw header (M. C. Bacon's, Falmouth), which took the prize at the Kentville Exhibition, where I bought it. Having got the bottom in place through steady pressure, and gentle tapping of sides of barrel all round, and otherwise shaking the barrel to get apples solidly in place, I put the hoops on and secure by nails, using stout shingle nails for bottom hoops, and other large tacks or small lath nails, as the hoops may require for the bilge. After which they are marked by stencil plates, with the name and quality of fruit, name of grower, and locality of growth, and forwarded to market, seeking for as good a price as is going.

I am Sir, yours truly,

FRED. J. H. AXFORD.

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This report induced considerable discussion. Mr. Longley said he believed apples were best packed immediately in the barrels from the tree, being assorted from the picking baskets. They look much fresher when spread than when placed in bins or heaps, and particularly the more tender varieties as Native Speys or Bellefleurs.

Mr. A. A. Pineo endorsed the views of Mr. Longley, he had tried this plan and found it satisfactory.

Mr. Isaac Shaw said apples should be headed at once and not left in the pen to sweat, as it is called.

C. R. H. Starr approved of packing directly in the barrels when practicable; but when there were hundreds of barrels to be gathered, it could not be done to advantage on account of the time required. They must be housed as rapidly as possible, and could be sorted during weather not propitious for gathering. He cellared apples in both hard and softwood barrels, and found the softwood barrels all had to be re-filled, while those in hardwood remained full and fresh.

Mr. Parker's report was read and favourably commented upon. The above reports were ordered to be placed on file for further reference.

It was resolved that the time for holding the winter exhibition be left with the executive, with the understanding that it be during the meeting of the Central Board of Agriculture.

Adjourned to re-assemble at 7.30 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

The President in the Chair. C. R. H. Starr offered the following resolution:—

Resolved,—That in the estimation of this Association, the time has arrived when it is absolutely necessary that a frost-proof warehouse should be provided in connection with the Railway at Halifax, for the better protection of perishable produce, more particularly that designed for export during the winter months.

There was an animated discussion upon this resolution, which passed unanimously, and a special committee, consisting of the President, Secretary, W. H. Allison, M. P., W. H. Blanchard, Windsor; Rev. Mr. Axford, Cornwallis, was appointed to take it in charge.

The Secretary asked for information upon quince culture. R. W. Starr said he thought they required surface culture. Dr. McLatchy said much depended upon the soil; they require moist soil. T. E. Smith said he had transplanted his quince trees from light soil to black mud and they were doing well now. Wm. Sutton said he had grown quinces for thirty years upon light sandy loam, manured on the surface. He considered them a profitable crop. Had sold them at auction in Halifax for thirty-five cents per dozen. Rev. Mr. Hart said he had seen the best success when rock weed was used for mulch. A. H. Johnson said he attributed Mr. Sutton's success to his having raised his own trees.

T. E. Smith asked for information as to the best varieties to graft in his nursery. A. H. Johnson said, graft Ribston Pippins, but don't sell Ribstons' to be planted in light soil. Baldwins, Nonpareils, Golden Russets, King of Tompkins, and Blenheim Pippins.

The Secretary endorsed the last speaker's views, excepting as to Baldwins—they fruited too irregularly.

R. W. Starr alluded to the difficult growing of Nonpareil and Ribston Pippin trees satisfactorily, and advised planting a portion of Gravensteins in every orchard.

Rev. Mr. Axford said his Nonpareil trees, in the shelter of the pines, were full of fruit, while those in the open had but few.

M. Longley said, he thought Blenheim Pippins a very fine apple, but recommended growing Gravensteins and Nonpareils for profit. Orchardists were prone to plant too many kinds; four or five varieties was enough.

R. Rand said it was the duty of the nurserymen to guide the purchaser in the selection of suitable sorts to meet the adaptability of their soils. It was great folly to plant too many kinds.

Mr. Smith recommended planting a portion of Gravensteins.

Mr. Longley asked for information as to when apples should be picked for foreign shipment. He thought it best to pick them a little green.

There was danger of leaving Ribstons on the trees too long, but Baldwins should be kept on trees as long as weather would permit.

Some discussion upon pruning ensued. Late spring pruning was recommended to set trees bearing.

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The Secretary spoke of the danger of sprouts from trees not grafted below the crown, and hence the liability of budded trees to throw out sprouts.

A. H. Johnson said, at Fonthill nursery they double-worked some kinds, first grafting and then budding.

Rev. Mr. Hart asked for information as to the progress of the reports. R. W. Starr replied they had failed to get the work done last winter, and no one had time to do it in summer.

Some discussion arose upon the charge made by Mr. Randall for the work done by him.

Resolved,—That the publication committee be called together by the secretary for the purpose of compiling the report; their expenses to be paid by the association.

Meeting adjourned.

C. R. H. STARR, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF MRS. A. H. JOHNSON, DELEGATE TO THE YARMOUTH EXHIBITION OF 1882.

I thought, the morning I first looked out on the brisk, energetic town of Yarmouth, that its people were far ahead of us, in enterprise and activity; and as I entered the handsome building in which the exhibition was held, I was suddenly impressed with the idea that, in exhibition matters also, Yarmouth was still ahead.

First, the decorations attracted my admiration, and the artistic combinations were as charming as the effect was marvellous, for, not only was the building beautifully decorated, but with true artistic spirit the exhibits were in themselves a decoration.

Capable and intelligent men were in charge of each department, under the systematic supervision of President and Secretary, and both attendants and exhibitors seemed proud of the display, as they had good reason to be. The politeness and attention I received, as the representative of the F. G. A., convinced me that that body held no

unimportant place in the estimation of the committee—an honor any association might covet.

Of stock and agricultural implements, I was no judge; but the dairy produce was a rare sight to behold: not the oily, slimy, salvy, earoty lumps, we sometimes see dignified by the title of butter; but fresh, cool, firm, and "gilt-edged," "good enough to eat."

The flowers were daintly arranged as if placed there by loving hands, and not huddled in unsightly clumps, by ruthless ignorance; and a handsome collection of native ferns was also shown.

I could have lingered for a time beside the splendid show of grains, roots, and vegetables, and longer amid the beauties of the fine arts department.

My business, however, was with the fruit, and this, arranged on white plates, on white covered tables, was, as usual, the most pleasant part of the exhibition. Some of the fall and early winter varieties, such as, *Major Sweet*, *Chenango Strawberry*, *Fall Jenmeting* and *Colvert*, were inferior in growth and coloring; but *Duchess*, *Gravenstein*, *King of Tompkins*, *Pomme Grise*, *Baldwins*, *Northern Spy* and *Nonpareil* were excellent, and scarcely to be distinguished from those grown in more favorable localities. *Ribston Pippins* were excellent, and also *Fameuse* and *Talman Sweet*. Pears were excellent, especially the *Bartlett*, while the plums were very fine considering the season. Some magnificent grapes called forth much admiration, and also some cultivated cranberries which were very fine. The collection taking the Fruit Growers' Prize, the members of the Association will have the opportunity of judging for themselves. It was with pleasure, I observed its fine coloring, smooth growth, uniform size, and good arrangement.

The whole fruit exhibit was a marvel to me, for I had not expected so fair a show; while I thought that Kings and Annapolis Counties, with their sheltered plains and sunny slopes, might well be proud of the fruit raised and exhibited by the "sea girt" county, whose people are so generous themselves in their meed of commendation and praise for our fruit displays.

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IN MEMORIAM C. C. HAMILTON, ESQ., LATE
PRESIDENT OF F. G. A.

BY J. B. BOWSER.

Mr. Chairman, Officers, and Members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia :

In assembling here this evening, in connection with the FRUIT SHOW, and ANNUAL MEETING of this ASSOCIATION, and reviewing the high position it has already attained in the influence exerted upon the numerous orchardists of this Province; we should indeed feel greatly encouraged in this good and patriotic work. When we consider the great object contemplated in its organization, it must be a source of pleasure and gratification to us, as a body, to behold what has already been achieved through its agency.

What more beautiful sight than the well-cultivated orchard in the genial spring time, when, through the laws of the Great Creator, those trees shoot forth and bud, and bursting into sweet-scented blossoms, appear dressed in robes of beauty, filling the heart of the beholder with admiration and wonder. But let the coming season of vivifying sunshine and shower do its work, and then, under the serene and pleasing aspect of an autumn sky, we view the amazing transformation from blossom to fruit; and each tree, with its branches weighed down, patiently awaiting the full development of the ripening process.

The object contemplated by this Association not only begets a feeling of social refinement and culture in the community around, but it reaches far beyond this, and is found to be a source of vast commercial importance.

Mr. President, we have said that this meeting and fruit-show is in connection with the annual meeting; and, Sir, we have been wont when thus met from time to time, to grasp the friendly hand and greet the cheerful voice and countenance of some of those, who, from the earliest history of this society, have almost invariably been found at their post of duty. Those of us most regular in attendance, have noticed, some few at least, whose presence seemed always to be looked for as a matter of certainty; and then, as the minutes are read, and

the roll of officers and members called, some one or other, perhaps, is found absent. We think to-night of *one*, an *honoured* and *prominent* office-bearer in this Association, who, by his counsels, helped in the planning of arrangements for this Exhibition, whose place is now found vacant; and a feeling of deep sadness comes over us, as we think that that one of our number will never again answer to the roll call, or again occupy his accustomed place in our association. We refer to our late respected President, Dr. Charles C. Hamilton, who departed this life October, 1880. He was a good citizen, a gentleman possessing rare abilities, and many virtues—generous hearted, kind, and hospitable.

In the interests of this Association, he bestowed much thought, time, and hard toil; and as we trace his work from its organization to his last act, it was one of devotion to the general good, and that of a *patriot* in the truest sense.

Realizing the splendid opportunity the farmers in this region possessed, for the development of this industry, he strove with all his might, both by example and otherwise, to encourage them onwards towards the securing of the noble object. And this seemed to become a very important part of his life work—his heart and soul were in full sympathy with it—earnestly desiring the full development of the energies of the people in this particular. Though the high aspirations of his mental and physical powers were but in part realized, he nevertheless felt the assurance, that through patient continuance in this noble work, the ultimate reward was certain. He therefore could anticipate in contemplation, as if from some lofty eminence, this magnificent valley, and these mountain slopes, as one vast forest of fruit orchards, teaming with golden, luscious fruit, under the autumn sky; and the hearts of all those engaged in its culture rejoicing in happiness and prosperity. And now, amid those pleasing anticipations, with the energies of his active mind unabated, and his keen eye intently fixed on the absorbing scene, so full of promise to all who would make the subject their study and labor, he calmly retires from the turmoil of active life to the quiet chamber, and there, surrounded with dear family and loving friends, "*ceases to work and live.*"

It will, we think, be exceedingly interesting to briefly review the history of this Association from its commencement, and the circumstances leading thereto. In the autumn of 1862, certain gentlemen

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residing in Halifax, conceived the idea of sending samples of Nova Scotia apples to England, for comparison with English-grown fruit. In order to accomplish this, they offered prizes for the best samples sent by any one to Halifax, which resulted in Hants, Kings, and Annapolis, sending a respectable and fine display of apples—the choicest specimens from these exhibits were then forwarded for competition to the London Horticultural and International Show Society, and were awarded a *silver medal*, together with a very complimentary description of their quality and flavor.

In the following year, on March 11th, 1863, a meeting of farmers and fruit-growers was called in Mason Hall, Halifax, when a number of gentlemen from Halifax, Hants, Kings, and Annapolis Counties, responded; and among the names of those present, we find those of Dr. C. C. Hamilton, Richard Starr, Esq., and others from this county. This Society was then organized under the name of "Fruit Growers' Association, and International Show Society of Nova Scotia." R. G. Haliburton, Esq., was chosen president, and D. H. Starr, Esq., secretary. On July 3rd, of same year, a meeting of the Association was held at Kentville, at which time the president, Mr. Haliburton, resigned the office, and Dr. C. C. Hamilton was elected president. That he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of its members, is most strikingly evident, from the fact, that at each annual meeting to this present, he was re-elected to the same honorable position. At the meeting just named, resolutions were passed for the holding of a fruit and vegetable show, together with farm stock, &c., which show was held at the Court-house, Kentville, October 5th, 6th, and 7th, and, as the records prove, with very gratifying results.

These exhibitions have been held, with scarce one exception, each year to the present. From small beginnings, this Association has zealously endeavored to work up the interest of fruit-growing; and in the face of much difficulty, continued to send collections of apples for competition to the various International Shows and Expositions, both in Great Britain, and the United States, where, in each competition, it received valuable awards, either of bronze, silver, or gold medals. And, in this connection, let me say, that the Association brought out a grand idea, of offering as prizes, for individual competition, these same prize medals, on condition, that after any exhibitor had won any one of these medals three times, it should then become the property of that person. Our late friend, Dr. Hamilton, was the

successful winner of one silver, and also a bronze medal at the same show. And in 1869, at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Show, he won a silver medal on his own venture.

In order, Mr. Chairman, to get a true idea of the noble-heartedness and patriotism of our late president, we would remind you of the fact, that, in the autumn of 1873, he, in company with the present secretary, R. W. Starr, Esq., visited the show of the Boston Pomological Society, and there exhibited a collection of our fruit. In 1875, he attended a similar show in Chicago, and in 1876, the great Centennial at Philadelphia, in 1877, one held at Richmond, Virginia, and in 1879, one at Rochester. And these efforts on his part, let me say, were purely voluntary, and at his own expense. Having an anxious desire to gain the fullest information in regard to raising fruit, he was thus enabled to gather very much valuable knowledge on those subjects, as well as to compare fruit of other countries with our own. In comparing soil and climate, he became more and more convinced that Nova Scotia possessed a soil and climate very superior, and therefore, with proper culture, apples grown here would compare favorably with the like fruit grown in any country. That he did not by mere sentiment alone, seek to influence others, in the matter of progress in the art of fruit-culture; is clearly seen by his example of skill and hard work, in the planting and cultivation of his own orchard. Those of us who had the pleasure last fall of visiting his orchard and inspecting the fruit, could not but behold with delight and astonishment, the magnificent display of the choicest varieties of apples and pears. When each tree and branch being laden with splendid specimens to their utmost capacity, would thus seem to say, "*see what culture has done.*"

Rapid strides have taken place in fruit-culture during the last ten years, and the enormous crop gathered last season, shews its capability and the extent of its operations. The wisdom of the Association in taking the initiative steps of placing its fruit on exhibition with that of other countries, is proved by thus happily preparing the way for its introduction to foreign markets. And from the reports, we find that Nova Scotia apples, *carefully handled*, are now ranked with equal favor with those of any climate under the sun.

The success that has followed the efforts put forth in this great industry, we claim has been directly through the stimulus of this Association. And while each member has contributed to its success,

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the unflagging zeal and perseverance of our late respected president have been largely instrumental in shaping, and in carrying forward the work to its present issue.

We therefore, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, would, in view of the loss we have sustained, bring our tribute of respect to the memory of our departed friend and fellow-worker, and erecting this, a monument of enduring praise, and inscribe on our banner the watchword,—*Excelsior—More Elevated.*

REPORT OF DELEGATE SENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT PHILADELPHIA, 1876.

To the President and Council of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia:

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with previous arrangements, your delegate left Halifax on Saturday, October 7th, on board the steamer *City of Worcester*, en route for Philadelphia, *via* Boston, in charge of the collection of fruit for Exhibition, consisting of seven barrels, six half-barrels, and one basket, containing one hundred and ninety-six varieties of apples, seven ditto crabs, and fourteen ditto grapes. Having arrived at Boston, and passing through the Custom-house, he re-shipped on board the steamer *Norman* for Philadelphia, *via* Fall River and New York, where he arrived on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Early on Saturday morning, he removed the fruit from the steamer, on Monday obtained the space assigned in the Agricultural Hall; and after much running about, secured plates and dishes to put the fruit on. Thus, after three days of unremitting labor, with all the assistance Mrs. Starr could render, everything was arranged.

The mode of packing adopted, proved eminently successful, the fruit opened in magnificent condition. The elasticity of the compressed hay at each end of the barrel proved fully sufficient, not only to resist all the jarring and knocking about, that the barrels were subjected to in the frequent handling, but also to fill the space caused by any shrinkage that may have occurred in the fruit, so that there

was not a single specimen injured in the transit. The colours had developed wonderfully on most of the varieties during the time they were closed up; the scarlet, red, and yellow tints were more distinct and pronounced, than at Wolfville, and commanded instant and undisguised admiration from all who saw and recognised the varieties.

Among the emigent pomologists and fruit-growers, who spent a great deal of time in looking over and identifying varieties, were Dr. John A. Warder, of Cincinnati, O., J. Stayman, Esq., Leavenworth, Ka., G. D. Hooper, Esq., Walpole, N.H., T. L. Whitacre, Esq., East Rochester, O., Lothrop Reed, Esq., Burton, O., Henry S. Evans, Esq., Sec. Montreal Horticultural Society, P. C. Dempsey, Albury, Ont., Dr. J. S. Richardson, Bourbon, Ky., Dr. A. Garcelon, Lewiston, Me., Z. A. Gilbert, Esq., Turner, President of Maine State Horticultural Society, H. Varney, Esq., Vassalboro, Me., Mrs. H. V. Austen, Richmond, Ind., Mrs. Whitman Philips, Ridgewood, N. Y., Chas. Inglefrietz, Esq., Secretary Michigan Horticultural Society, Josiah Hooper, Esq., of Pennsylvania, and very many others, whose names I cannot now call to mind. They one and all expressed admiration and surprise, at the appearance and variety of the collection; very many of the European sorts being altogether new to them, except by reputation.

The samples of grapes appeared to good advantage, and excited a great deal of interest among the growers present, who expressed admiration for the size, beauty, maturity, and flavor of the fruit, and surprise, that in our Northern climate, we could not only grow the various kinds of American grapes to such perfection, but that we could also grow successfully several kinds of European grapes, that seem to refuse to become acclimatised in any State of the Union, except California. Sutton's new grape, "Canterbury," received a good deal of attention from its fine appearance and very large berry. In quality it was pronounced by experts as "equal to a well-ripened Isabella." Victoria, or Sutton No. 3, being past its season, could not be so well judged of. Its character as an early grape, being vouched for by its appearance, caused a good deal of interest to be manifested by grape-growers to know what its future standing is to be, as a good reliable and very early grape is what is now being earnestly sought after.

A great mistake was made in not exhibiting our pears, as they would have added much to the interest of the collection; nor need we have been ashamed of them, for the half-dozen or so exhibited compared favorably with most of those then on exhibition. And as

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all the different States and Provinces shewed pears, the omission from our collection was the more noticeable. I spent some time in going over the collection with the Judges on Fruits, and shewed all the different kinds, explaining origin, peculiarities, &c., &c. Before leaving Philadelphia, which was not until the 27th of October, I endeavored to get some information as to what would be done about the awards on fruits, but failed, and since my return, I received a letter from Capt. Landreth, informing me that the Board of Jurors had awarded the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, a diploma—bronze medal—and an official award for excellence, &c., &c., of collection of fruit shewn, and that the whole would be forwarded to the Advisory Board at Halifax.

I devoted some considerable time to the examination of the different collections on exhibition, with a view to identifying some of our unknown varieties; also to become acquainted with some of the new sorts that are constantly being brought to notice. *Chebucto Beauty*, I found in the Ontario collection, as *Kentish Fillbasket*, (evidently a misnomer); and also in the collection from Maine as an unknown variety. *Foster's Nonsuch*, of Annapolis Co., I found in the Maine collection as *Starkey*; it is well known, and has a good reputation. It is supposed to be a native, and is named from the owner of the farm on which it was first found growing.*

Green Oz, or *Swaar*, of some, I found in the Pennsylvania collection, called *French Pippin*. In the Michigan collection, it was called *White Vandevere*, and again from Ohio, it was shewn as *Belmont*. On referring to Downing, I find his description of *French Pippin* a very accurate one of this apple, and I have since sent him specimens, which he pronounces correct.

The apple which we have frequently had shown on our tables, as *Nova Scotian*, I found in the Pennsylvania collection as *Fall Harvey*; this I also sent to Downing, and he pronounced it *Fall Harvey* beyond doubt.

Among the hosts of new sorts that I had the opportunity to examine and taste, I found but few that were equal to our best standard sorts, when taking everything into consideration. The greatest number of them are in season in the Fall or early Winter, and we can

*From notes of conversation with H. Varney, Vassalboro, and Z. S. Gilbert, Turner, Me.

hardly hope to find one among the whole list, that will rival the *Gravenstein*, *Ribston*, *Blenheim*, or *King*, for our climate or markets. Yet there are some very handsome, high-colored, and highly-flavored apples that I made note of, and for the benefit of those who may wish to test them, I will name *Mexico*, *Milding*, *President*, *Somerset*, *Kennebec*, and *Washington Strawberry* from the Maine collection, and *Decaire* and *Peach*, from the Quebec. Scions of all these kinds can be procured by corresponding with the Secretary of the Maine State Horticultural Society, and with the Secretary of Fruit Growers' Association of the Province of Quebec.

Dr. J. Stayman, of Leavenworth, Ka., who is writing a descriptive work on fruits, spent a great deal of time in examining the collection, and at his request, I presented him with specimens of about forty varieties that we have proved true to name, but were heretofore unknown to him, which he wished to outline and describe. Dr. John A. Warder, of Ohio, also got a number of specimens for the same purpose.

On preparing to leave for home, I gave the care of the exhibit over to the Canadian Commissioner, Mr. Perreault, with instructions to deliver it to Dr. Honeyman at the close, to be disposed of as he should think fit. The Doctor states, that when he went to look after it, some time before the close of the Exhibition, there was but a "beggarly array of empty dishes" left; the parties in charge having most shamefully neglected the care of the fruit after my departure.

Before closing this report, your delegate thus publicly express his thanks to Dr. Honeyman, Secretary of the Advisory Board of Nova Scotia, for advice and assistance; also to Capt. Landreth, Chief of Bureau of Agriculture U. S. Commission, and the clerks in his department, for kind attention, and assistance rendered in every possible manner, frequently putting themselves to trouble in forwarding the interests of the exhibit.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. STARR, *Delegate.*

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PEAR CULTURE.

*An Essay prepared by REV. R. BURNET, D. D., of Pictou, N. S.,
and read at the Annual Meeting of the F. G. A., Jan., 1881.*

It may be known, perhaps, to the members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, that I have had little or no experience as yet in the cultivation of the Pear, or, indeed, of any other variety of fruit in the Lower Provinces. My experience has been wholly obtained in Ontario, where I cultivated nearly three hundred varieties. I look forward, however, to the time, when I shall be able to speak with some degree of assurance on the best, hardiest, and most profitable varieties of this delicious fruit, which may be successfully cultivated in the Maritime Provinces.

From the casual inspection which I have been able to make of the few pear trees grown in this immediate section, I am persuaded that "Fire Blight," so disastrous and discouraging in the pear culture of the Upper Province, is very much modified in the County of Pictou. A pear tree in the front of my residence does not show the least symptom of the blight, and what is true with this tree of which I speak, is equally true of some few others with which I am acquainted. Should this prove to be fact in the "garden" of the Province, there will indeed be room for my congratulations to the members of your Association. Pear Blight is a terrible scourge in Ontario. So general, and terrible, has it been, that it has been a damper to the cultivation of the pear, even by the most enthusiastic of our pear growers. In New York State, near our border, the same thing is true. Many have left off growing pears on account of the difficulty, or almost impossibility, of growing the trees. Should this not be the case in your district, pear culture will prove not only pleasant, but profitable.

From a statement already advanced on a former page, it may be concluded that, in the early history of my cultivation of the pear, I was a great *quid nunc*. I confess to the having of a strong liking for everything new and rare, and, like the honey bee, gathered sweets from all quarters. I learned, however, to value the highest flavoured, the hardy, and the most profitable. The catalogue of these sorts is

brief and emphatic. To a very few of summer, autumn, late autumn, early winter, and late winter varieties, I now claim your respectful attention. *First in order, first in value, first in excellence, first in cultivation,* comes the *Bartlett*. It is so well known that it needs no description. It is one of the most popular pears. I have heard certain growers complain of its not being sufficiently hardy. On *dry, well drained* land, I never knew it being tender. It is a noble cropper, and, as in the case of a man, that everybody speaks well of, you would like just to pick out one little fault,—the *Bartlett*, perhaps, has the habit of bearing overmuch. I have never yet found the real grower, who conscientiously objected to this. I question if any pear, not even including the *Beurre D'anjou*, is as profitable a market pear as the *Bartlett*. Somehow it takes the fancy of the million, and, we believe, "there are millions in it." With a buttery, rich, melting, musky flavour, it may appropriately be styled the "King of Pears." Everybody can draw to a *Bartlett* pear. The longer the appetite is indulged, the readier does one feel desirous of renewing the pleasure of eating it.

One of the strongest recommendations for the cultivation of this variety is, that it is a vigorous, erect grower, delighting in being well and strongly fed with good, rotten stable compost. In our experience, we have invariably found that manure made in the cow-house was preferable for the *Bartlett*, and pears in general, to that raised from the sweepings of the stable. The *Bartlett* is like the poor man's fruit, as the currant is styled, in that it bears young, and abundantly. A great fruit friend of mine, on being asked at one of our winter meetings in the city of Hamilton, how many of this variety he would plant in every hundred planted, replied, "ninety-nine." On being further pressed to state what the hundredth ought to be, stated, "I would plant another *Bartlett*."

An amateur pear culturist, highly, or deeply, immersed in the fancy might, with advantage to his pleasure, though not with equal advantage to his pocket, plant for summer use, the *Brandywine*, *Beurre Giffard*, *Doyenne D'Ete*, and the *Tyson*. Of the four, the *BRANDYWINE* is the chief. It is perfectly hardy, and I never knew it struck with blight. It is an American pear, confessedly seedling-looking, with a very beautiful, glossy, dark-green foliage. The summer heat, and the winter cold, have very little effect upon this variety. *The fruit requires to be gathered ten days before ripe,* and

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the drawback of this variety is, that it needs eating the moment it is ripe. The *Beurre Giffard* and *Tyson* are noble fruits, the latter attaining to great excellence, and large size in soils adapted to its growth. The fruit is melting, juicy, and fine flavored, the tree a good grower, and produces one of the finest of summer varieties of pears.

AUTUMN PEARS.

Beurre Superfin holds much the same relation to autumn pears, that the *Bartlett* does to summer varieties. It is a grand pear, and not so sufficiently and generally known as it ought to be. The size of the fruit, and the beautiful form of it, commend it for market cultivation. Its appearance is peary, very juicy and melting, with a rich sprightly sub-acid flavour. It bears evenly all over the tree three or four varied forms of fruit. One beautiful green, peariform and handsome; another entirely russet, a third partially russet, and the fourth a pale green. It is certainly a fine pear, and has few peers.

Beurre Bosc, where it can be grown, stands much in the same rank as the *Beurre Superfin* in point of merit and excellence. It is, however, a more taking pear for the market, and there is never any difficulty in disposing of all the *Beurre Bosc*s that can be raised; they bring a long price per the barrel. For the mere gratification of eating I prefer a *Bosc* to a *Bartlett*; on the principle that I prefer a cod to salmon. The latter, like the *Bartlett* is too luscious; the former, like the *Bosc*, being relished always. Both varieties, unfortunately, are very liable to blight. The *Bosc* is a prolific bearer, with a long neck, deep-brown russet, highly flavored and delicious. The tree is sprawly, not a very vigorous grower, and does best on the native stock. It ripens to fruit in September, and early in October.

The *Belle Lucrative* and *Flemish Beauty* may be classed together, both in point of excellence and beauty; these varieties are well-known, being both in very general cultivation. Some growers prefer the one and some the other. I might apply to the case, a very common saying in regard to another sort of choice, "How happy would I be with either, were t' other fair charmer away." Both varieties are A1 in all respects. The fruit of the *Belle Lucrative* is large, melting, and very sweet, a great and early bearer; it has every good quality to commend it to the grower. The *Flemish Beauty* is apt to decay at the core immediately on maturity, but the size, shape, and quality place it in a first position among well-known cultivated varieties.

One of the most valuable of all autumn pears is the *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, or, as it is known in France and on the Continent of Europe, "*Bonne Louise D'Avrauche*." In North America succeeding over a larger area than any other variety of pear. It bears carriage well, *is easily marketed, and bears gathering at least a fortnight before it is ripe*. Rich, melting and buttery, it has become a general favourite. In bearing it is prolific, and gives a splendid return to the Horticulturist. The tree grows well, and forms a beautiful pyramid on the quince. We can conscientiously recommend this variety for cultivation to all pear growers.

The *Sheldon* and *Seckel* may be ranked together, just because they both begin with S. The *Sheldon* is by far the more profitable pear for the market, the *Seckel* standing first in point of excellence of flavour. The small size of the *Seckel* will always militate against it as a market fruit. *As an amateur fruit, it cannot be beat. Impossible.*

The *Sheldon* is a coarse fleshed but really delicious pear. It commands the market readily. People who have once bought it, desire the same variety again. We ought to add that it is extremely liable to blight, but for this drawback, few varieties could be cultivated that would be more remunerative.

EARLY WINTER PEARS.

At the head of this list deservedly stands the Honourable Marshall Pinckney Wilder's favourite pear, the *Beurre D'Anjou*, styled by the French "*Ne Plus Meuris*." Mr. Ellwanger, of Rochester, than whom there is no better judge of pears, says, in Ellwanger & Barry's Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits, "*One of the most valuable pears in the Catalogue*." This is no mean praise. Indeed, the pear speaks for itself. It requires only to be seen, to be appreciated. The fruit is often very large—always handsome, fine shape, buttery, melting, with sprightly vinous flavour. The tree is vigorous, largely free from blight, a good grower, and good bearer. Perhaps, I ought to bear the testimony, that *this variety keeps over a longer period than perhaps any other kind of pear*. It is classed as *late Autumn*, but in reality it keeps with a little care well into mid-winter. In size and quality, this sort is hard to beat. In any cultivated list, however small or large, it ought to have a foremost place.

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The *Beurre Clairgeau* is a pear gradually assuming a prominent place among pears. The size is very large and pyriform, with a very bright suncheek. The tree is very vigorous, and bears early and abundantly. For market purposes, we know few pears that can compete with this. After being gathered, it keeps sound for a very long period, a good characteristic recommending its cultivation to the market producer. The name of this variety, we believe, is pronounced "*clairso*."

The *Laurence* is the King of late autumn, or early winter fruit. At Christmas and New Year's day, it is all that can be desired. It graces the Christmas table, and is a *recherche* pear to the cultivated palate. Unlike the generality of early or late winter varieties, it is readily and easily ripened. The same authority, Mr. Ellwanger, of Rochester, says, it is "*one of the most valuable of all our early winter pears*." The tree is prolific, and this variety does well both on its own, and on the quince root. We have never known it to blight.

LATE WINTER PEARS.

Of this class, first comes the *Easter Beurre*, one of the most esteemed, and best known of winter pears. In France it is known as "*Doyenne D'Hiver*," and has been long and favourably known. The tree cannot be said to be a vigorous grower, but it is an abundant bearer. When properly handled and ripened up, the *Easter Beurre* is a grand pear. Before it is eaten, it requires to be on the dining-room buffet three or even five days. It mellows wonderfully in the heat after having been brought out of the cellar. On the quince it does splendidly, and in some soils attains to great size and excellence.

I have cultivated the *Beurre Gris D'Hiver Nonveau*, which is a large, melting, first class early winter pear. It bears prolifically.

The *Josephine de Malines* is a medium sized roundish fruit, of a beautiful pale straw colour, the flesh a tinted rose colour, melting and delicately perfumed, first rate in every respect. The fruit, strange to say, grows in clusters of three, five, seven, &c., &c. The older the tree the better the fruit. This is indeed one of the most delicious of our long keeping table pears.

Last, not least, is *Mount Vernon*, a good winter variety, gradually creeping into public favour. In the central districts of Ontario, it does well. P. C. Dempsey, the Honoured President of the 'Fruit

Growers' Association' of Ontario, grows some splendid samples of this variety on the Peninsula of Prince Edward County. It is a beautiful pear just to look at, and proves better than good looking on a nearer acquaintance. Of a taking cinnamon colour, and russeted, once seen the *Mount Vernon* can never be forgotten. It is *very attractive as a market fruit*, and few buyers would pass it, if they had the opportunity to purchase.

We have only further to add in the shape of a postscript, something like that of a lady's, which has a strong liking to communicate, that we have fruited *Audre Desportes*, a valuable early pear of great promise. *Bonne du Puits Ansault*, superior to the *Seckel*. *Brockworth Park*, greatly esteemed by Horticulturists in England. The *Duchesse Precoce*, a fine, juicy, melting, market variety. *Madame Audre' Leroy*, *Petite Marguerite*, *Pitmaston Duchesse*, and the *Souvenir du Congres* pear. A pear worthy of general cultivation, both for its excellence and prolificness is the *Gansels Bergamote*, ranked by Mr. Ellwanger, as the foremost of all pears. It is certainly a delicious pear to eat, and as a tree it is singularly free from the inroads of blight.

Beurre Hardy. and *Beurre D'Arenberg* as two good varieties, may well enable me to close this list, and to request the charitable corrections of the members of the Fruit Growers' Association of Nova Scotia, where they know better.

Deeply do I regret the sudden demise of my friend, Dr. C. C. Hamilton. His departure has cast a gloom around a culture, that is otherwise bright, beautiful, and genial. We are still left as fruit-bearing trees, he has been gathered into the great garner.

FRUIT GROWING CAPABILITIES OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The following extracts are taken from an Essay kindly presented to the Fruit Growers' Association by the executors of the late Rev. Alexander Forrester, D. D., of Truro, and entitled, "Agricultural Capabilities of Nova Scotia."

The Association would desire to publish the whole valuable paper, but as its present design is to direct attention chiefly to the culture of *Fruit* in the Province, only such portions as have reference to this subject have been selected.

In nothing does the excellence of our climate appear so conspicuous as in the growth of fruit. There is, perhaps, no country in the world, the States of the American Union not excepted, better fitted for the growth of apples and pears than three or four of the Western Counties. We believe there is scarcely a County in the Province that is not capable of producing good apples and pears, if they receive ordinary attention in propagating and fertilizing; but in the Counties referred to, namely, Hants, Kings, Annapolis and Digby, the fruit is unsurpassed, either for summer, fall, or winter use; for dessert or culinary purposes. Apples generally ripen, according to their sorts, from the beginning to the end of October, and both in size and flavor, when the season is at all favorable, are unsurpassed, if not unequalled, in the most celebrated fruit-growing countries. When it is stated that such apples as the *Nonpariel*, *Golden*, *Ribston*, and *Royal Pippins*, all ripen well on standards in the orchards, which they do not in Scotland, and only in some parts of England, without the aid of artificial means, such as espalier or wall, we surely possess the most indubitable evidence of the geniality of our climate.

Pears are not grown in such abundance as apples; but, wherever they are fairly tried, they thrive equally well; some of the finest American and French pears ripening without the assistance of either espalier or wall.

But the climate of Nova Scotia is equally well-adapted for stone fruit. Plums ripen as well on standards, in the open orchards, as they do any where in Scotland, on espaliers or walls. Peaches also

grow and ripen on standards in the open air ; they come to perfection from the first to the end of September, and weigh sometimes four to four and a half ounces. Grapes of various varieties ripen in the open air in ordinarily protected situations. All that is required is to protect them from the severity of the winter, by laying down the canes after the wood is well ripened, and then covering them over with a layer of common mould.

* * * * *

In the New Red Sandstone districts, embracing the Counties bordering the Bay of Fundy, some places on the northern shores of Hants, and more extensively in the valley of Cornwallis, and thence towards Annapolis, we have soil of a bright red color, varying from loams to sandy loams and light sands, the latter being sometimes of a whitish color. The red loams and sands abound in oxide of iron, lime, and gypsum, except when run out, but are deficient in phosphates and alkalis. Hence, whilst they are admirable for the culture of the apple, potatoe, turnip, and Indian corn, they are inferior as grain soils to the best soils of the Carboniferous and Silurian districts.

In the Trap districts, confined to the North Mountains of Kings and Annapolis, and its prolongation in Digby and a few isolated patches on the opposite side of the Bay, we have soil containing all the chemical elements of fertility, bearing a fine natural growth of timber, yielding good crops to the new settler, and admirably fitted for orchards of apples and pears, and in sheltered situations for all kinds of fruit suited to temperate climates.

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DESCRIPTION OF NINE PRINCIPAL KINDS OF APPLE GROWN IN NOVA SCOTIA.

The following descriptions of eight of the best market sorts of apples for general culture in Nova Scotia, was written in the fall of 1880, to accompany a collection of twelve of each of the named varieties, and exhibited at the Provincial Show at Kentville, for a special prize offered by T. H. Parker, Esq., of Berwick, under the express provision that the descriptions of the collection taking the prize be published in the reports of the Association. The writer has since, after mature consideration, decided to add a ninth variety to the list, believing it to be of more value than some of those already described, especially as it is a long keeper and well adapted for the English markets.

R. W. STARR.

GRAVENSTEIN.

This apple which, taking everything into consideration, has no superior in its season, is a native of Holstein, in North Germany, and was introduced into this Province about the year 1835, by the late Hon. Charles R. Prescott, of Cornwallis, who procured the scions from the gardens of the London Horticultural Society; and after having fruited it, generously gave scions to all applicants.

The tree is a thrifty, strong, robust grower, of good habit, making a handsome head; comes early into bearing and continues a reliable and heavy cropper.

The fruit, which in quality is unquestionably first rate, is from large to large medium, rather flattened and a little one-sided, obscurely sometimes distinctly ribbed; rather broadest at the base, cavity deep, frequently irregular, and furrowed; stalk short, strong; basin wide, deep, irregular; calyx large, closed; segments long, irregular, and reflexed; skin-light green at first, becomes yellow, splashed and tinted with light and dark red, shaded with orange, and sometimes in favorable localities, will become almost self-colored with brilliant red; flesh tender, crisp and juicy; flavor rich, brisk, aromatic sub-acid; season, October and November; and in a cool cellar will keep until mid-winter without loss of flavor. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

RIBSTON PIPPIN.

For this noted English apple, we are again indebted to Mr. Prescott, he having imported from London, in about the year 1814, the first tree of the sort ever planted in the Province. This tree, the parent of the many thousands scattered throughout the Counties of Annapolis, Kings, and Hants, which grew in the centre of a shrubbery or pleasure garden, in front of the mansion at "Acacia Grove" Town Plot, Cornwallis, is now dead. The fruit is highly valued in the London markets, if placed there in good order and condition.

Tree—hardy, spreading, rather irregular in growth, requires careful pruning to make a handsome head, easily distinguished by the leaf, which is small and thin, having a tendency to turn up and show the underside, giving the foliage, at a little distance a peculiar greyish appearance. On dry, sandy or gravelly soils it requires good cultivation, and the application of lime, ashes, or March mud, to prevent the fruit from falling before maturity; but on good loams, and all strong, well-drained soils, it is very reliable and profitable, bearing every year. Fruit—medium, roundish, conical, sometimes obscurely ribbed; skin greenish-yellow, russeted around the stalk, sometimes extending over a large portion of the surface. In the sun it has a brownish-red cheek, sometimes covering two-thirds to three-fourths of the fruit. Stalk short, slender, cavity rather wide and even; calyx small, closed; basin angular, sometimes wrinkled; flesh yellow, firm; flavor aromatic, rich, brisk, sub-acid; season, December to April. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

BLENHEIM PIPPIN.

This fine English apple, which originated at Blenheim Castle, the seat of the Duke of Marlboro, was first introduced in Nova Scotia by Mr. Prescott; and although not at first a favorite, is now rapidly gaining ground as a profitable market sort. Tree—very strong, vigorous, spreading, and when in full-bearing, make a round, drooping, handsome head. It does not come early into bearing; but when once established is very reliable, bearing heavy crops of fine, even-sized fruit with but little waste or refuse.

Fruit—large, roundish, flattened, regular; stalk usually short, slender, curved, frequently grows under a lip; cavity wide, somewhat deep, and russeted; calyx large, open, with reflexed segments; basin broad, deep, waved, or irregular; skin, dull greenish-yellow, becoming

orange in the shade—but in the sun covered with a rich bronze-red, sometimes dotted, streaked, and splashed with russet, and sprinkled with yellowish specks. Flesh—white, coarse grained, crisp, juicy; rich, brisk, aromatic, sub-acid flavour; core, small; quality very good. Season—December to March. Use—table, kitchen and market.

KING OF TOMPKINS COUNTY.

An American fruit of uncertain origin, which has been largely planted during the past fifteen years. It is a showy, and valuable market fruit, and a reliable and early bearer. Tree—very strong grower, but rather straggling in habit, making a large, spreading, irregular head; the young wood is very dark reddish-brown, and quite downy. Foliage—large and dark. Fruit—large, roundish, flattened, obscurely ribbed, or angular, slightly conical. Stalk—short, stout, frequently fleshy. Cavity—broad, shallow, irregular. Calyx—small, closed. Basin—medium, irregular, corrugated. Skin—firm, greenish-yellow, in the shade, mostly covered with two shades of red and sprinkled with numerous grey dots, which form depressions in the skin, that are quite apparent both to touch and sight. Flesh—quite yellow, coarse grained, juicy, tender. Flavour—rich, vinous, aromatic, slightly subacid. Season—January to April. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

BALDWIN,

This well known Massachusetts Apple, is probably more largely planted and grown in this province than any other sort. In seeking for a cause for this popularity we may consider it due to the combination of so many good qualities necessary for a first class commercial apple. It is hardy and vigorous, making a large handsome tree, comes quite early into bearing and gives heavy crops. The fruit is handsome, hangs well on the tree, and keeps well. Its firm skin and solid texture make it capable of standing more abuse in marketing, than almost any other sort; and if well ripened on the tree, and well sorted and put up, will always find purchasers at full average market rate.

Tree—upright, spreading, young wood, dull reddish brown. Fruit—large medium, roundish, slightly conical. Stalk—medium length, varying from slender, to fleshy, frequently clubbed, sometimes under a lip. Cavity—even, rather shallow. Calyx—closed. Basin—irre-

gular, pleated. Skin—smooth, firm, greenish-yellow, mostly covered with dark red, sprinkled with russet dots, sometimes showing broken lines and splashes of russet. Flesh—yellowish-white, crisp, firm, juicy. Flavor—rich, pleasant, sub-acid. Season—January to April or May. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

NONPARIEL.

An old standard variety in this province, very valuable for its long keeping and other good qualities. It is extensively grown in Kings and other adjoining counties, and is well known in the markets where it always brings good prices. Its origin is unknown, but it is supposed to have been introduced first by the late Col. John Burbidge, of Cornwallis, as *very old trees of this sort* are still growing on the farm formerly owned by him. At the Rectory of St. John's Church, there is a venerable old tree of the kind which is supposed to have been planted by Mr. B. over one hundred years ago, it is very large and flourishing, still bearing heavy crops.

Tree—vigorous, hardy, an irregular grower, very troublesome in the nursery, and is better to be top grafted. Fruit—medium, roundish, broadest at the base, narrowing toward eye. Stalk—slender, rather short. Cavity—shallow, broad, frequently one sided or irregular. Calyx—small, closed. Basin—shallow, broad, irregular or wrinkled. Skin—pale-yellowish green, turning yellow at maturity, with slight brownish blush in the sun, two-thirds or more covered with russett. Flesh—yellowish, firm, crisp, brisk, rich sub-acid flavour, Seldom bears excessively, but gives good crops every year, especially on good strong soils. Season—March to mid-summer. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

NORTHERN SPY.

This beautiful American fruit originated near Rochester, N. Y., and has been widely disseminated throughout the fruit growing districts of this continent, and with general success from California to Nova Scotia. The tree is hardy, and of upright, close growth when young, and requires careful pruning and thinning; does not come into bearing very early, but when it does commence is very reliable, and like all other heavy croppers, requires high cultivation to keep up the quality of the fruit. It blossoms very late in the Spring, thus frequently escaping injury by frost. Fruit—large, roundish, flattened

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conical. Skin—thin, smooth, greenish yellow in the shade, covered with two shades of red in the sun, and a thin whitish bloom. Stalk—long, rather slender. Cavity—wide, deep. Calyx—small, closed. Basin—narrow, irregular. Flesh—white, firm, juicy, crisp, pleasant, sub-acid. Core—large, open. Ripens at mid-winter, but will keep until June, without loss of flavour. When placed on the market in prime condition it has no superior, but it is very susceptible of abuse, and requires careful packing and handling to prevent rot. In this climate the fruit should hang on the trees until in danger of frost, or until fully coloured. Use—table, kitchen, and market.

YELLOW BELLEFLOWER, OR BISHOP'S PIPPIN.

This fine apple which is largely grown throughout the fruit districts of this Province, is said to have originated in New Jersey. It was first brought here from New York, by the first Bishop Inglis, and planted on his estate of "Clermont," in Aylesford. From thence it has been widely spread, and known as the Bishop's Pippin. Under this name it takes high rank in the markets of St. John and Halifax, It has not yet found much favour in the English market, objection being taken to the shape, and colour, also the large open core. The tree, although only moderately vigorous at first, grows to a very large size; spreading its branches over a great deal of land, and seems especially adapted to light sandy soils. Fruit—large, oblong, ribbed, tapering to the eye. Stalk—long, slender, sometimes clubbed, and grown under a lip. Cavity—rather deep, narrow, irregular. Calyx—closed. Basin—narrow, pleated, one sided. Skin—smooth, pale, greenish-yellow, frequently blushed in the sun. Seeds—large. Core—large, open. Flesh—tender, juicy, crisp. Flavour—sprightly, pleasant, sub-acid. Ripens in December and will keep until Spring. Use—table, kitchen, market. The trees require to be well cultivated and carefully pruned, to prevent black spot and mildew on the fruit, a tendency to which is the worst vice that we can charge against them.

GOLDEN RUSSETT OR GOLDEN RUSSETT OF WESTERN NEW YORK.

This valuable market variety has long been confounded with, or mistaken for, "Roxbury Russett," simply because it was first introduced by tree agents under that name. The "Roxbury Russett" may easily be confounded with "Nonpariel Russett," even by good pomologists, as there are many points of resemblance, both in fruit

and tree; but there should be no trouble to distinguish the Golden Russett from either of those sorts, as the form and characteristics of the fruit, and the habit of growth of tree, are distinct and totally different. The tree is a vigorous, upright grower when young, forming a spreading bushy, somewhat irregular, head when fully grown. Young shoots, slender, reddish-brown, sometimes downy, with numerous white dots, which give a decidedly speckled appearance. Fruit, medium or small medium in size, and very uniform, roundish or slightly flattened. Skin—rough, covered with dull yellow russett, frequently bronzed in the sun. Stalk—short, small. Cavity—variably from deep to quite shallow. Calyx closed; basin broad. Flesh sometimes greenish-white, generally a tinge of yellow, fine grained, firm, crisp, juicy, sprightly, sub-acid. Ranks as very good; keeps until spring, and bears handling and shipping very well, and is a favorite in the English markets.

PAPER UPON MARKETING APPLES,

READ BEFORE THE F. G. A. AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF 1881
BY C. R. H. S.

MR. PRESIDENT,—If I mistake not this is *the 18th annual meeting* of this Association, and, while we believe there are none present who were among those who organized this Society, we are glad to know there are many here who were first on its list of members, and these are the men to whom the Association owes its very existence *to-day*. Who, Sir, is there amongst us, on this occasion, prepared to estimate the work or the value of the work, done by this Society since its inception, or its influence upon the fruit growers of this Province? Can it be done? I answer most emphatically, no. Why, Sir, look at the Exhibition of to-day, or more particularly that of last September, held at Kentville, and contrast with the exhibitions of fifteen or twenty years ago, and what do you find? Is not the difference that you see sufficient proof that some mighty power has been at work among the fruit growers, until to-day we stand in the foremost ranks of apple growers on the continent, aye, and on the face of the earth. Now, we contend that our position is very largely owing to the exer-

tions of the Fruit Growers' Association, and feel sure that you all agree that a great share of the credit is due to our late lamented president, who has for so many years filled the chair with so much ability, and taken such an active part in the workings of the Association.

The valley of Kings or Annapolis need fear no competition from any fruit-growing district in the world. While apples grown in some of the interior districts of the continent may be of larger size, and perhaps more highly coloured, owing to the greater heat of both day and night, they will compare in firmness and keeping qualities with those of this valley. We are protected from the sea breezes and fog, yet near enough to the saltwater to have cool nights, and that peculiar salt atmosphere, if I may be allowed the expression, which checks the rapid maturity of our fruit, thus giving it a firmness and flavor unknown to fruit grown in the interior.

Many of you, no doubt, have heard expressions of fear emanating, in most instances, from the older members of the community, that at the rate young orchards are being planted, in a very few years apples will not be worth gathering. Now, with all due respect to the opinions of our fathers in this matter, let me assure you we need fear no such result. If apple trees in full bearing shaded every foot of land, from the basin of Minas to Annapolis Royal, the crop would not be a hand full, comparatively speaking, when placed upon the markets now being opened up to us in Europe.

The fact of the short crop in England this year has placed Canadian and American apples in many districts where they have never before found their way, and the general favor with which they have been received, will, doubtless, lead to a very large demand for them in the future, no matter what the English crop may be.

It is estimated that the crop of apples, the last season, throughout Canada and the United States, by far exceeded that of any previous season; and the quantity shipped across the Atlantic was more than double that of any previous year. Liverpool alone, from the 23rd of August, when the first arrivals commenced, up to the 31st of December, having received 584,476 barrels, or 395,778 barrels over last season, and 359,220 over the season before, during the same period, yet prices have varied little. It is true that many apples shipped to England did not pay first cost, and in some instances did not pay freight. In these cases the markets were not to blame, but the parties, shipping

in badly ventilated sailing vessels. The result of three cargoes, notably, was most disastrous, the fruit being entirely rotten on arrival.

Too much care cannot be exercised in the packing of apples for the English markets. There has been a vast improvement in this respect during the present season over that of previous ones, and here again may be seen the benefits arising from the Fruit Growers' Association, as well as from the Granges throughout the country, which have been doing good work towards this end. There is still room for further improvement, and with proper care and determination, we may yet undo the bad work and discredit brought upon us, by parties who have been shipping stock put up in a manner unfit for any market, and which, if persevered in, would ultimately ruin the credit of Nova Scotia fruit, instead of putting it in the first place to which it is so justly entitled.

A striking illustration of the above assertion came directly under my own observation a few weeks since. In a consignment to England of some three hundred barrels; there was a lot of about fifty barrels, put up according to the directions of one of our apple speculators, *i.e.*, numbers one and two together, and were shipped partly as an experiment. The nett result of one dollar less per barrel than others of the same variety, in the same consignment, shewed the folly of such a course, and proves conclusively the assertions made above and on previous occasions.

The result, so far, of our experiments with packages is decidedly in favor of the hardwood barrel, both on account of strength and size, and of the apples shrinking less than in softwood barrels, all of which tends to increase their value. We recommend, as the best method of packing, the use of these barrels, moderately tight as they are, thoroughly lined with white paper, and a then layer of excelsior, or other suitable material in each end, between the paper and the head, to prevent, as far as possible, any bruising. The practice of papering apples has been very satisfactory, but owing to the amount of labour in wrapping each apple separately in tissue, it cannot come into general favor. For tender varieties, such as the *Gravenstein*, our agents strongly advise the papering; but even this variety can, we think, if very great care be taken in other respects, be exported safely without this extra work. The experiments of packing apples in chaff, cut straw, &c., have all signally failed, and our agents tell us they cannot

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entertain the packing of apples in oats or other such material. The varieties most profitable for the English market is, in a measure, still an open question; but of the kinds chiefly grown here, the *Gravenstein*, *Ribston Pippin*, *Blenheim Pippin*, *Pomme Gris*, *Baldwin*, *Spitzenburg*, and *Russet*, are best suited to the requirements of the trade at present. Sample lots of *Bishop Pippins* have not been received with much favor, owing chiefly to their spotted appearance on arrival; the *Northern Spy* suffers in the same way. Both these last-named varieties are too tender skinned to stand the voyage. The *Newtown Pippin*, contrary to the expectation of many, continues to hold its position above everything else; but on account of the poor growth of this tree with us, it is not likely to become a favorite with the orchardists of this valley.

Shippers and growers alike, will do well to guard against having too many varieties or small lots of odd varieties, particularly if there be a possibility of their falling into the hands of auctioneers, of whom we shall speak presently.

What we most feel the want of this season, is direct steam communication with London, by means of boats especially adapted for the carrying of fruit, and that at a reasonable and established rate of freight throughout the season; but to be subjected to the arbitrary monopoly of one Line, who advance their freights from one to two shillings per barrel, as the demand for space increases, and that by boats sailing *via* ports in the United States, taking upwards of thirty days from the time of shipment at Halifax till their arrival in London, is an imposition rather greater than Bluenose blood is disposed to stand, without a protest at least. The requirements of this increasing trade demand, and must have, direct steamers to London—"The great market of the world."

It has been the general custom in London to sell apples at auction, but judging from three seasons' experience and personal observation, during a recent visit, we became convinced that this was not the most advantageous method of disposing of our fruit, and succeeded in establishing relations with an old and thoroughly reliable firm of upwards of forty years standing, having a very large first-class trade. This firm has undertaken to make a speciality of Nova Scotia apples, provided, that is, and with the express understanding, that we send them nothing but first-class stock, put up in such a manner as will meet with the requirements of their customers. Such agents as these, selling as

they do entirely at private sale, will doubtless prove an advantage to shippers, and a safeguard, in a great measure, against the annoyances and losses to which we have been subjected hitherto. Our relation with this firm, so far, have been of the most satisfactory nature. Their charges always a large item in England, have been less than those of any firm whose account of sales we have seen, while their average nett sales are somewhat larger, and although selling principally on thirty days or longer time, they make no charge of interest on prompt returns. But the utmost caution is necessary in order that we maintain the good character, in a measure, already established through this firm, that there may be at least one place in London with a reputation for first-class Nova Scotia fruit.

REPORTS UPON APPLES AND SMALL FRUITS.

This report is compiled from answers returned to the questions, issued by the Secretaries, R. W. Starr and A. H. Johnston, in the years 1875 (December), and 1882 (February), respectively.

To the former in 1876 there were thirteen replies—to the latter only four, as follows:—

1882.

Colchester—By A. J. WALKER, Truro.
Lunenburg, “ Judge M. B. DESBRISAY, Bridgewater.
Sydney, “ T. M. KING, Antigonish.
Yarmouth, “ CHARLES E. BROWN.

1876.

Annapolis, “ A. LONGLEY and B. STARRITT, Paradise.
Cape Breton “ JOHN ROSS, Little Bras D'Or.
Colchester, “ ROBERT ANDERSON, } New Annan.
“ “ ALEX. DUNCAN, }
Cumberland “ C. EDWIN ATKINSON, Maccan.
Digby, “ JOHN DAKIN.
Kings, } “ D. J. HARRIS, Horton.
“ “ LEANDER RAND, Cornwallis.

Lunenburg—By Judge M. B. DESBRISAY, Bridgewater.

Queens, “ CHARLES ALLISON, Kempt.

Shelburne, “ W. J. MCGILL.

Yarmouth, “ CHARLES E. BROWN.

A comparative progress during those years can only be obtained from three counties, viz : Colchester, Lunenburg and Yarmouth.

APPLES.

Question 1st.—The probable amount of Apples grown in your County this season, 1875, or in comparison with the amount grown in 1871, (year of the census) ?

ANNAPOLIS.—Probably an increase on 1871, which was 23,721 bbls.

CAPE BRETON.—About the same as '71, 3,926 barrels, but of poor quality.

COLCHESTER.—Not much increase on '71, viz : 1,522 barrels.

CUMBERLAND.—Not much in advance of '71, viz : 3,320 barrels.

DIGBY.—About same as '71, i. e., 3,044 barrels.

KINGS.—Many young orchards have been put out, and some are coming into bearing; there should be an increase on '71, which says 16,244 barrels.

LUNENBURG.—'75 was an extra year for apples, the yield being a quarter more than an average. But much fruit is inferior from want of better varieties and culture. Census of '71 says 4,847 barrels.

QUEENS.—'74 was uncommonly productive, but '75 was unfavorable for apples in this county; yield probably about same as '71, viz : 2,297 barrels.

SHELburne.—Not enough apples grown for home consumption; yield of '75 about same as '71, 514 barrels.

YARMOUTH.—May be assumed an increase of one quarter on '71, which was 1,204 barrels.

Question 2nd.—The probable increase of Orchards since the same date, and where the young trees are procured ?

ANNAPOLIS.—Probably twenty per cent.

CAPE BRETON.—Very little.

COLCHESTER.—Has been considerable; quite a stir about apples growing lately. From nursery of R. W. Starr, Kings. In the vicinity of Truro, from Ontario.

CUMBERLAND.—Fully twenty per cent. From Kings, Hants, N.S., Woodstock and Albert Co., N.B.; some young orchards are giving good satisfaction.

DIGBY.—About one-eighth. From United States, Ontario, Annapolis and Yarmouth; a few grown here.

KINGS.—Cornwallis, thirty to thirty-five per cent.; a large number grown here, but majority from United States. In Horton orchards are very much on the increase; a large number of trees from United States yearly.

LUNENBURG.—A considerable increase in orchards of good choice varieties—most from Provincial nurseries.

QUEENS.—About twenty-five per cent. From this locality, Kings, and State of Maine, U.S.

SHELburnE.—Has been small; disappointment in imported trees from United States the cause. Trees from Annapolis and Yarmouth do well in our soil.

YARMOUTH.—Doubled or trebled; chiefly from local nurseries; stocked with root-grafts procured from F. R. Phoenix, Illinois, U. S., which succeed remarkably well. *Keswick Codlin* fruited in three years, from setting as a root graft.

Question 3rd—The kinds mostly grown, and those that have proved best and most profitable?

ANNAPOLIS.—*Mostly grown*—Nonpariel, Yellow Bellefleur, Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening, Flushing, Spitzenburgh, Exopus-Spitzenburgh, Gravensteins. *Most profitable*—Nonpariel, Bellefleur, Gravenstein.

COLCHESTER.—*Mostly grown*—Ribston Pippin, Irish Codlin, Keswick Codlin, English Nonsuch, American Nonsuch, Early Sulian, Hawthornden, Winter Kerpenden, Summer Strawberry, Red Calville, White Moss, Sops of Wine, Emperor Alexander, William's Pippin, Rose of Cassia. *Most profitable*—Irish Codlin, Winter Kerpenden.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mostly grown*—Gravenstein, Bishop Pippin, Bellefleur, Baldwin, Swaar, Alexander, New Brunswick. *Most profitable*—Emperor Alexander and New Brunswick. This probably is the Duchess of Oldenburg.—*Ed.*

DIGBY.—*Mostly grown*—Nonpareil, Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening, Blue Pearmain, Early Bough, Gravenstein, Ribston, and that called here, Christmas Apple.

KINGS.—Useless to particularize the numerous kinds grown. *Most profitable*—Gravenstein, Baldwin, Nonpareil, Bellefleur, Rhode Island Greening, William's Early, Porter, Northern Spy, King of Tompkins' County.

LUNENBURG.—*Most profitable*—R. I. Greening, which bears every year more or less; Bellefleur, Gravenstein, Early Bough, Northern Spy, Early Golden Sweet, bears abundantly every other year.

QUEENS.—Original trees were natural fruit, some good, others worthless. Those planted within the last twenty years, and the most *profitable kinds*, are Greening, Baldwin, Nonpareil, Bellefleur, Golden Russet, Munson, Gravenstein, Porter, Sweet Bough, Early Harvest, Ribston.

SHELBURNE.—*Most profitable*—Greening and Pippins; these compare favorably with any seen.—Probably R. I. Greening and Bellefleur.—*Ed.*

YARMOUTH.—*Most profitable*—(near the coast within fog climate), are Duchess of Oldenburg, Gravenstein, Hubbardston's, Nonsuch, Keswick Codlin, Northern Spy, Primate and Wagner; for the interior add—Alexander, Bishop-Bourne, Canada, Chenango-Strawberry, Colvert, Early Harvest, Early Sweet Bough, Early Strawberry, Fall Jennetting, Faumese, Gloria Mundi, Grimes' Golden Pippin, King of Tompkins County, Munson Sweet, Pomme Grise, Red Astrachan, Ribston, Roxbury Russet, Andrews or Major Sweet, King Sweet; Gavel Pippin and Reynard are good varieties.

Question 4th—State principal drawbacks to general cultivation, (i. e.) whether due to Disease, Insects, Climatic influences, soil or want of skill and care in cultivation. The average of success or failure, with reasons?

ANNAPOLIS.—Want of skill and lack of attention are the main drawbacks and cause of failure; success almost invariably attends proper care and culture of orchard.

Climatic.—Early and late frosts, some years, do damage to blossoms or fruit. Insects have done but little damage for several years. In some previous years many trees were stripped of their foliage. Success is more general than failure.

CAPE BRETON.—It is generally allowed, whether true or not, that Cape Breton is unfavorable for fruit-growing. This, however, has not been proven by the actual experiment of any one man; but the impression is gained from *climatic* influence, the cold, wet springs, exposure to sea-air, and generally damp climate. Previous to 1864, tree peddlars from New York sold here a large number of trees, which for several years grew luxuriantly, but when fruited, with few exceptions, they were of the poorest quality; and those bearing the best apples are now dying away. This has given a severe blow to our ambition in this industry. Probably if our trees could be raised here by some enterprising person, we might be more successful.

COLCHESTER.—Want of care and skill are the chief cause of unsuccessful attempts. Some localities are decidedly uncongenial to apple growing; and the soil near Truro is thought by some to be unsuited. But lack of carefully fencing the orchard from cattle in some places, and the successful attempts of dishonest persons and boys at robbing orchards, is otherwise than stimulating in any endeavor to succeed in fruit culture.

Insects.—The "bark-louse" is very common and seriously injures young trees. *Remedy*—make a strong decoction of any strong smelling weed, and with it wash the tree, trunk and branches, about the 10th to 15th of June when the eggs are hatched, and the lice are seen moving about like fine dust. They seem to dislike the presence of foreign vegetable matter, or rubbing with a handful of chickweed is effectual. But the *most effective* is *mercury*. Bore a small hole in the trunk, and put in a "blue pill," then plug up the hole with wood. This cleans the tree.

NOTE.—We would advise caution in the use of Mercury, until further experimented with.—ED.

CUMBERLAND.—Want of skill and care; to this must be attributed the chief cause of trees dying prematurely. Altho' some localities are not well adapted to attain to much success.

DIGBY.—Apple trees usually grow and bear well, especially in sheltered places.

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Insects.—The “borer” in this locality is a great pest, destroying many young trees, and frequently even full-grown and valuable ones.

KINGS.—Soil not drained; lack of knowledge in pruning, and want of proper cultivation of the land. A few trees are lost by *climatic* influence.

Insects.—The “tent caterpillar,” and “canker-worm.” Have not heard of the “borer” being destructive here. Apple trees will do well on almost any soil in this county, except on the mountains. The loss of about fifteen per cent. of trees planted, is the carelessly allowing of cattle and sheep to destroy them.

LUNENBURG.—Of late years the high winds; want of care and skill—but of the latter there is prospect of change for the better.

QUEENS.—Climate and soil are as favorable to the growth of apples, as in any portion of the Province, excepting the Annapolis Valley. To want of care and skill is attributed any failure in successfully raising the crop.

SHELburne.—Careless importation of trees, they being much injured by rough handling; want of skill in transplanting; usually a small hole is dug, in which the tree is set regardless of the position of the roots. Then it is heavily manured, and left to sicken, and prematurely die.

YARMOUTH.—*Climatic.*—Absence of sunshine, and a low temperature in summer, owing to frequent fogs and cold ocean winds; although irremediable, are the chief difficulties to fruit-growing in this county. It possesses variety of soil and situation, and some careful growers; yet lack of heat deteriorates the quality of the fruit, in comparison with some more favored parts of the continent.

Before proceeding to the smaller fruits, reference is here made to *the returns of 1882.*

Question 1st—What interest is taken in fruit culture in your section?

COLCHESTER.—Very little until quite recently, and not much at present. B. F. Congdon purposes establishing three nurseries in different localities, in addition to the one he has.

LUNENBURG.—A greatly improved interest—many additional orchards are being established.

SYDNEY.—A growing interest, and good prospect of success.

YARMOUTH.—A rapidly growing interest; several thousand dollars worth of trees and plants are imported annually—chiefly from United States nurseries through agents.

Question 2nd—Are many young orchards being put out? What are the varieties most in demand?

COLCHESTER.—A good many; ranging from six to fifty trees. *Varieties*—Red Astrachan, Early Harvest, Duchess of Oldenburg, Ben Davis, Bellefleur, Famuese.

LUNENBURG.—Yes. *Varieties*—Nonpareil, Northern Spy, Bellefleur.

SYDNEY.—A large number of young orchards put out during the past year—one man put out a thousand root grafts last season for his orchard. *Varieties*—Walbridge, Wagener, Ben Davis, Canada Red, Blenheim, Gravenstein, Ribston, Baldwin, Red Astrachan, Duchess of Oldenburg, Early Harvest, &c.

YARMOUTH.—There are, varying in extent. Nearly one hundred *varieties* of apples are on trial, most of which have fruited.

Question 3d—From what source do you procure your trees?

COLCHESTER.—Ontario, Quebec, United States, New Brunswick. Fulton & Congdon, local nursery, have sold 30,000 inside three years.

LUNENBURG.—Canada nurseries, United States, Provincial nurseries, and local seedlings.

SYDNEY.—Mostly from local nursery, from which over 20,000 trees were sold within two years. Root-grafts are had from Illinois; trees also from this Province, New Brunswick, Ontario, and the United States, through agents.

YARMOUTH.—No agents of Nova Scotia nurseries ever seen here, so New Brunswick, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, Illinois, Ohio, and Winconsin, are patronised through agents.

Question 4th—Do Autumn or Winter varieties suit your district best?

COLCHESTER.—Several varieties of fall and winter apples suit well.

LUNENBURG.—Winter succeed best, and are the most profitable.

SYDNEY.—Both do well ; autumn kinds keeping until February, and winter kinds till last of June. Our fruit ripens here about two weeks later than in the Western section of the Province.

YARMOUTH.—On the coast, within range of fogs, and cold, salt, ocean breezes, *autumn varieties* succeed best. In the interior of the county many winter varieties apparently do well.

Question 5th—Name some of your best varieties for Spring use ?

COLCHESTER.—Ribston, Famuese, Bellefleur, Russets.

LUNENBURG.—Greening, Baldwin, Roxbury Russet, Nonpareil.

SYDNEY.—Greening, Baldwin, Northern Spy, Golden Russett, Good anticipations are cherished from Ben Davis, Walbridge, Canada Red, which have just been planted.

YARMOUTH.—Baldwin, Grimes' Golden, King of Tompkins, Minkler, Northern Spy, Ontario, Wagener, Golden Russet, Roxbury Russet, Easter Pippin,—syn. : Ironstone Pippin.

Question 6th—Name the six most prominent kinds, and the time of ripening ?

COLCHESTER.—Red Astrachan, Sept. 1st ; Emperor Alexander, Sept. 15th ; Fall Jenetting, Sept. 20th ; Famuese, Oct. 1st ; Bellefleur, Nov. 1st ; Ribston, Nov. 5th.

LUNENBURG.—Strawberry, last of September ; R. I. Greening and Bellefleur, middle October ; Northern Spy, end October or by November ; Roxbury Russet, Nonpareil, Nov. 5.

SYDNEY.—Duchess of Oldenburg, Sept 1st ; Gravenstein, Oct. 10th ; Greening, Northern Spy, Golden Russett, Baldwin, Oct. 20.

NOTE.—Do not preceding dates refer to time of gathering?—*Ed.*

YARMOUTH.—Keswick Codlin and Duchess of Oldenburg, September, November ; Fall Jenetting, October, February ; Gravenstein, October, March. The Red Astrachan, August, September, and Grimes Golden, January, April are only suitable for inland.

Question 7th—Was the Fruit Crop of last year an average one in quantity and quality ?

COLCHESTER.—Yes.

LUNENBURG.—Average in quantity, but inferior in quality.

SYDNEY.—Fully an average crop.

YARMOUTH.—Above, both in quantity and quality. Probable cause from young trees coming into bearing. At the Exhibition in October, of four collections of twenty-five kinds, and six of each shewn for prizes, three were grown here; one in Annapolis—the latter decidedly inferior to the poorest of the former.

RETURNS UPON PEARS, 1876.

Question 1st.—Whether much cultivated, and with what success?

ANNAPOLIS.—Not generally or largely cultivated; but wherever they have been properly, success has rewarded the culture. A large proportion of the trees are old, yet are productive, with very little attention as to cultivation. A Mr. Fullerton, at Rossette, has a young pear orchard of some two hundred trees, just coming into bearing, giving fair promise of future productiveness. This branch is just springing into life.

Question 2nd.—Varieties most in favor?

Windsor Belle, Bartlett, Louise Bonne de Jersey.

CAPE BRETON.—Pear trees are seldom attempted, but where tried, grow well, and look healthy, but produce no fruit.

COLCHESTER.—Not much cultivation; with medium success.

CUMBERLAND.—Some few have commenced to cultivate by way of experiment.

DIGBY.—Not much cultivated; grow well in sheltered places.

KINGS, 1st—Not extensively; succeed well on heavy soils. Evidence given of *superiority* over the American in Halifax market of the Louise Bonne de Jersey. 2nd.—Louise Bonne de Jersey; Clapp's Favorite.

Question 3rd.—Principal drawbacks to cultivation?

3rd.—Bark Louse, want of care; never see a caterpillar on a pear tree.

LUNENBURG, 1st.—Not much. 2nd.—Flemish Beauty, and others are raised successfully.

QUEENS, 1st.—Not much ; wherever set have produced well.

SHELburnE.—Few grown, but of fair size and good quality.

YARMOUTh.—Have been tried in all parts of the county ; but climatic influence being adverse, attain neither size nor maturity.

Thus far the returns from the various sections of the country.

It is evident from these statistics that the greatest spirit of enterprise exists in Yarmouth. May the spirit of emulation soon permeate the whole Province. It does seem to be springing up with vigorous growth in Sydney ; Colchester seems to have the lead of it, so there, there is most room for it to grow.

Let not Cape Breton feel she is altogether out in the cold. Although she has many adverse climatic influences to contend with, yet the report of 1882, of the F. G. A. delegate, to their Exhibition, is encouraging. Mr. T. E. Smith says,—“ With the right varieties and proper cultivation, Cape Breton may become a favoured fruit-growing district.” Let her learn from Yarmouth's experience, and not try *Winter* varieties, save in the more sheltered districts, but *Fall* Fruit, which ripening earlier may do well there.

The great preponderance of fruit grown in the Annapolis Valley, including Kings and Annapolis, speaks well both for its soil and climate, and its energy.

There is growing rapidly and extensively a conviction, that it will be more profitable to raise few, rather than so many varieties. What these should be, experience in the several localities will best teach. But *there*, where all kinds will grow, to confine them to those most suitable for transshipment to Foreign markets. *First*,—Long Keepers, viz. : Nonpareils and Golden Russets of Western New York. *Second*,—Ribstons, Blenheims, and King of Tompkins—to which may be added Gravensteins and the Bellefleur. But here again a knowledge of soil suited to the various kinds is needed, or failure in a paying product will ensue.

PLUMS.

Question 1st.—State of Plum culture with reference to former years amount of crop ?

ANNAPOLIS, 1st.—Moderate quantities of the common kinds are grown—not generally cultivated.

Question 2d.—Varieties most profitable?

The small green *frost plum* produces as sure a crop as any.

Question 3rd.—Remarks on diseases, insects, and remedies?

The *Curculio* destroys the fruit quite generally.

CAPE BRETON.—Imported plum trees do very well until they begin to bear, when they gradually die away.

COLCHESTER, 1st.—Not cultivated as much as formerly; climatic influence adverse of late years. 2nd—Only kind surviving north of Cobequid Mountains, is the Green Gage. In other parts the Blue Plum and Damson seem usually to yield well. 3rd—*Black-knot* is destructive; *cut it off and burn it.*

CUMBERLAND.—Not so much as formerly. 3rd—*Black knot* has destroyed most of the trees.

KINGS, 1st.—On the decrease. 2nd—Nectarine, Washington, Egg, Magnum Bonum, Sweet Water. 3rd—Where *Black-knot* does not quite destroy the tree, the *Curculio* does its best to make success a failure.

LUNENBURG, 1st.—Not generally grown. In Mahone Bay the yield is good. 3rd—*climate and insects are adverse.*

QUEENS, 1st.—Formerly were successfully cultivated. 2nd—The common Blue Plum most profitable now. 3rd—*Black-knot* has killed nearly all the trees.

SHELburne.—Some years ago were considered a sure crop; cause of declining not fully known; a large number were diseased by the strong blasting wind in August some years ago.

YARMOUTH, 1st.—Succeed better than any other fruit near the coast; on walls with a favorable exposure. Are productive, of fair size, and seeming good quality; ripen later than in fruit countries. In the interior succeed tolerably well anywhere; not grown to any extent. 2nd—Bradshaw, Columbia, Gages, Jefferson, Smith's Orleans, Washington, &c., &c.

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RETURNS UPON SMALL FRUITS, FOR 1876.

Question 1st.—Whether much grown? 2nd.—What kinds? and with what success?

ANNAPOLIS.—Not extensively grown. 2nd—Strawberries in moderate quantities; Gooseberries and Currant almost destroyed by the worms.

CAPE BRETON.—Seldom raised for market; only a few raised for home consumption.

COLCHESTER, 1st.—Not now. Ravages of Gooseberry and Currant worms have caused the neglect. 2nd—Black Currant with good success; Wild Strawberries, Raspberries, and Blackberries, are abundant.

CUMBERLAND, 1st.—Not much grown; climate and soil considered not genial. 2nd—Cherries are grown of the *old settler* kinds.

DIGBY, 2nd.—Cherries grow remarkably well; Strawberries will grow in most places; Currant and Gooseberry culture hindered by worms.

KINGS.—All kinds will succeed well, where they have proper treatment and care.

LUNENBURG.—For home consumption; want of a market prevents a more extensive cultivation.

QUEENS, 1st.—Not much. 2nd—Currants are generally raised; of late years the worms have been troublesome; the abundance of wild fruits precludes the necessity of cultivating the garden fruits.

SHELBURNE, 1st.—Soil and climate adapted to the growth of small fruit. 2nd—Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, are generally grown. A grub has been destructive these last two years. To destroy them, use one part Paris green with forty parts of dry earth; throw on when the bushes are wet with dew or rain.

YARMOUTH, 1st.—Climate well adapted to successful culture; altho' not largely cultivated for the market. 2nd—Strawberries profitably grown; Wilson's Albany; Jecunda, tho' larger, is not so hardy; these two are the most productive; others are grown. Gooseberries succeed well under proper treatment, both English and American. Best English is the Yellow Amber. Other varie-

ties are grown, *i. e.*, Crown Bob, George 4th, Great Britain, Green Walnut, Lancaster Lad, Whitesmith. Mildew a sometime visitor, retires upon mulching, manuring, pruning, and salt. In 1875 the Currant worm visited here, stripping many bushes; if there be not an universal battle fought with it, probably this county, with others, will succumb to this spoiler's ravages. White, Red, and Black Currants; Red and Yellow Raspberries. Blackberries in gardens by the coast do not ripen, but inland the wild ones are not excelled by any cultivated variety; wild Raspberries are also abundant.

RETURNS OF PEARS FOR 1881-2.

Question 8th.—What progress has been made in Pear culture? What kinds succeed best?

COLCHESTER.—Very little indeed.

LUNENBURG.—Some new trees are put out. Bartlett succeeds the best.

SYDNEY.—Not much done in Pears. The Seckel does well, Duchesse d'Angouleme, a very prolific bearer, good size and flavour.

YARMOUTH.—None, except to clear out the trees as useless; climatic influence is adverse here to growing pears; money and time are thrown away in the endeavor.

Question 9th.—What are the principal varieties of plums? Does the Black-knot prevail?

COLCHESTER.—Lombard, Yellow Egg, Green and Purple Gages. *Black-knot* prevails in the county generally.

LUNENBURG.—Damson, House Plum, White Gage. *Black-knot* prevails in all varieties, more or less.

SYDNEY.—Green Gage, Magnum Bonum; several darker varieties. *Black-knot* has destroyed most of the Plum Orchards.

YARMOUTH.—Not much grown near the coast; succeeding only on a wall. Bradshaw, Gages, Smith's Orleans, Washington, are among the kinds tried. *Black-knot*—ten years ago unknown—is now every where increasing rapidly.

Question 10th.—Quinces; are they grown for market to any extent.

COLCHESTER.—Not grown sufficiently to supply home demand.

LUNENBURG.—None for market—some for home use.

SYDNEY.—A few young trees, not yet in bearing.

YARMOUTH.—Have been tried but fail to bear fruit.

Question 10th.—Cherries. What kinds are grown? What variety is most profitable for market?

COLCHESTER.—Black Tartarian, Governor Wood, Early Richmond.

LUNENBURG.—Napoleon, White Heart, are most prolific. Black Tartarian, Governor Wood.

SYDNEY.—Very few grown; do not do well here.

YARMOUTH.—Do not succeed in any part of the county; trees grow well; fruit drops before ripening.

Question 12th.—What is doing in small fruits, Strawberries, Cranberries, &c.?

COLCHESTER.—A great many small patches of Strawberries; also Gooseberries and Currants, near and in Truro.

LUNENBURG.—The cultivation of Strawberries and other small fruit is increasing. Grapes and Peaches succeed well in the open air, and won much admiration at the Exhibition last fall. Isabella, Concord, Diana.

SYDNEY.—Very little in small fruits.

YARMOUTH.—Most gardens well stocked with sma'l fruit, all of which do well. Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Strawberries; of this last, quantities are shipped by steamer to Boston, at the end of July and August, realizing good prices then. Wilson's Albany, is the only kind grown to any extent.

It is manifest that the returns for the year 1881 cannot give an adequate idea of the *progress* of fruit culture throughout the Province, nor its *extent*. But this information may be gathered from other portions of the report. While the earlier returns of 1876 being more numerous, and extending over a wider Provincial range, will always serve as a *starting point*, from which we now, and in after

years, our children, may measure our several degrees of advancement, both in *Arboriculture* and *Horticulture*. These eventually leading to the cultivation of the sister science, *Floriculture*, which even now has many lovers and faithful adherents. But the discouraging facts of the late Springs, and early fall frosts of our climate, which curtail so decidedly the floral season, it is feared will prevent very many from ever attempting flower cultivation; and will always deprive others of that *fulness* of pleasure anticipated when the gardens are beautified by the genial warmth of the summer's sun.

QUESTIONS IN REFERENCE TO FRUIT CULTURE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

The following is an epitome of answers to questions proposed by Judge Weatherbe, in the spring of 1882, to a number of fruit-growers in Nova Scotia, upon the general subject of Orcharding.

The questions propounded may be classified as follows:—

- (1.) The best section or sections in Nova Scotia for apple growing.
- (2.) The best varieties of trees to plant.
- (3.) The adaptation of soils to particular kinds of fruit.
- (4.) The best time for planting.
- (5.) Underdraining.
- (6.) Manuring—quantity, quality, and kinds best for use.
- (7.) Location, in regard to exposure, shelter, &c.
- (8.) Time required for fruiting.
- (9.) Probable product at given intervals after planting.
- (10.) Picking, packing, and marketing; and net profit to be expected per annum.

Answers to questions from one to ten seriatim:

I. Some say, any place from Windsor to Annapolis Royal equally good; others say, Kings and Annapolis Counties to be preferred; others, again, the western part of Kings, and the eastern part of Annapolis.

2. Nonpareils, Golden Russets of Western New York, Ribston Pippins, Baldwins, Northern Spy, and Yellow Bellefleur, are chiefly recommended.

3. Sandy loam and clay loam are seemingly most in favour—the heavier soil for the hardier kinds, and the lighter soil for those of more delicate texture.

4. About the middle of May. In the case of a very dry season October may be considered preferable.

5. This is generally desirable, sometimes indispensable to success.

6. Barn-yard manure, ashes, lime, or mulch of almost any sort is good.

7. In a general way, a southern exposure deemed best; but when the season is unusually advanced, and afterwards recedes, the buds start too early, and on this account some say that a northern exposure is at least as good as a southern one. Shelter is always good, north and east especially.

8. Trees, under highly favorable conditions, may yield sparingly in five or six years from planting, but the product will be inconsiderable up to eight or ten years after setting. After this the yield perceptibly increases, and between twelve and fifteen years the product becomes considerable.

9. Upon this branch of the subject there is a greater divergence of opinion than upon any other in the whole list of questions propounded.

The following is a general estimate of production at given dates after planting:—

Average yield, per annum, per tree.

Years.	Quantity.	
6.	1 peck.	} This gentleman has an extensive orchard in Annapolis.
8.	2 "	
10.	2 "	
12.	1 bbl.	
15.	2 "	
20.	3 "	
25.	4 "	
6.	$\frac{1}{2}$ bushel.	} This estimate is by a gentleman of experience in Hants County.
8.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "	
10.	3 "	
12.	4 "	
15.	6 "	
20.	8 "	
25.	8 "	

Years.	Quantity.	
6.	1 bushel.	} Estimate by Orchardist in Annapolis County.
8.	1 barrel.	
10.	2 "	
12.	3 "	
15.	5 "	
20.	8 "	
25.	10 "	
6.	few.	} Name and place not given.
8.	"	
10.	$\frac{1}{2}$ barrel.	
12.	1 "	
15.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "	
20.	2 "	
25.	3 "	
6.	$\frac{1}{2}$ barrel.	} This estimate made by a Falmouth orchardist.
8.	1 "	
10.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "	
12.	2 "	
15.	3 "	
20.	4 "	
25.	5 "	
6.	barrels.	} Also by a Falmouth gentleman.
8.	"	
10.	2 "	
15.	3 "	
20.	4 "	
25.	9 "	

NOTE.—Probably there is scarcely one gentleman among the whole number who took the pains to furnish an estimate of production at intervals above stated, who would not on reconsideration, considerably modify his opinion in some particulars. Nearly all the estimates are too high; some of them in a very *noticeable degree*. Who, for instance, could hope to get 9,000 or 10,000 barrels of apples, per annum, from 1,000 trees at twenty-five years from planting, or at any subsequent date.—COMPILER.

10. Picking, packing, marketing.

These branches are somewhat expanded, and the answers extended, so that the value of the apples, per barrel, on the trees, the cost, per barrel, for picking, the best probable future market, &c., are also included. Different modes of packing are recommended. (1.) Pick-

ing from the trees carefully and putting up, and heading at once, making two or three sorts. (2.) Picking and putting into the barrels, promiscuously, removing into the packing-house, and after an interval of ten days, or thereabouts, repacking with care. (3.) Others, again, approve of picking from the trees, carefully turning the apples down on rugs, sorting and putting them into the barrels, remaining under cover, and after an interval of say a fortnight, pressing tightly and heading-up permanently.

NOTE.—There is something to be said in favor of each of these modes; but to retain freshness and bloom, and avoid bruising, putting into the barrels as the apples are picked from the tree, and heading-up immediately, is, perhaps, to be preferred.—COMPILER.

All agree that the apples should be so tightly packed as to avoid bruising, by rough handling, although there should be *no rough handling of apples either in or out of the barrel.*

The English market is looked to as our chief dependance for the future.

Some think the apples worth \$1.50, and some \$2, per barrel, put up, and some think them worth these prices on the trees. Some estimate the cost of picking at 25c., and some 50c. per barrel.

In respect to Nonpareils, Golden Russetts of Western New York, and Ribston Pippins, they are likely to range hereafter from \$2.50 to \$3.00, or even higher, properly put up for shipment.

THE following three papers were prepared, by request, for the Association, by T. E. Smith, Esq., of the Nova Scotia Nursery, Church Street, Cornwallis, April 1875:—

GRAPE CULTURE.

The cultivation of grapes, in the Province of Nova Scotia, has been but little undertaken, many supposing that they would not mature in our inhospitable climate.

After careful observation, and some experience, I have come to the conclusion that all the hardier varieties will mature a good quality of fruit in sections of nearly, if not quite, every County of the Province.

By careful and judicious pruning and training, I have ripened the *Isabella*, *Diana*, *Sweet Water*, and *Hartford Prolific*, to perfection, and with such fair prospect of marketing the fruit at paying prices, that I have been induced to plant more largely. The prices obtained have seldom been below twenty cents per lb., and frequently higher than that.

I have experimented with different sorts, and have, at the present time, some twenty varieties.

Black Cluster—Berries set too close together, which causes them to decay in the centre of the bunch unless thinned.

Concord—Strong, *hardy*, vigorous; forms a good substantial bunch.

Royal Muscadine.—Very fine, worthy of further trial.

Rodgers' No. 15 fruited well; very strong grower; berries large but rather loose; ripens well and has a good flavor.

Rodgers' No. 19.—I have young vines of this variety, but they shed their leaves before the fruit ripens.

Iona—Not thoroughly tested; late.

Salem—Promises well; late.

Delaware—Ripens well; berries small, but very sweet; abundant bearer.

All my vines are covered during the winter with spruce boughs or coarse litter, and lifted from the 1st to the 10th of May. I find that the *Concord* is perfectly hardy, and stands our winters without the least injury. It is the best variety to use by those who wish a hardy arbor grape, or for planting over door ways.

As fresh grapes are a wholesome luxury during the autumn and winter, it is a wonder that there is not more interest taken in their cultivation, as they can readily be produced on the sides of buildings, where nothing else will grow.

In thousands of families ripe grapes, even in their season, are unknown. It is an easy task to grow a family supply of this delightful fruit, as the work is light and clean, though the vines want frequent attention, and yet how few attempt to grow their own grapes; and of these many fail because they do not give the required attention at the proper time.

The introduction of new varieties, and the success attending the efforts of those who have attempted to cultivate grapes, in our Province, have awakened an interest in the minds of many, who, a short time ago, thought it impossible to grow such fruit successfully.

The *Delaware* and *Hartford* for early use, and the *Diana*, *Isabella*, *Concord*, *Catawba*, and *Rodgers' No. 15*, for late, will give a succession from September to March. All should be picked when fully dry and ripe, in order to have them keep well. By leaving a little piece of vine on the bunch, and dipping the ends in wax, or even the stem, and keeping in a dry, cool room, they can be kept for eight, or even ten months. Some pack in baked maple sawdust, &c.

SMALL FRUITS.

Previous to the year 1870, the cultivation of small fruits was almost untried in the central part of this Province. Since that time, owing to increased facilities for favorable marketing, this important branch of industry has made rapid strides, especially in the strawberry department. Railway charges of late being so high, has hindered many from shipping to Halifax and Boston. In such cases the fruit has found a ready market in the enterprising villages near which they are grown.

Every tiller of the soil in our fair Province might, with little difficulty, raise enough strawberries for family use, and thus help to instil into young minds *a love for home*, instead of a desire to wander away to questionable or vicious places of amusement, or making emigrants for the United States or North West. Any one can set a few hundred plants, which, by a little care, will give remunerative returns; and only those who enjoy an abundance of strawberries can fully understand what a luxury they are.

The prices at home and in Halifax have been from fifteen to forty cents per quart (not hulled). The general price in the Halifax market twenty cents to thirty cents.

Under ordinary circumstances the yield has been from two hundred to three hundred bushels per acre.

Wilson's Albany is generally cultivated for a reliable market variety. It grows well in shady situations.

Triomphe de Gand—Good, not quite as productive as *Wilson's Albany*, but later.

Jecunda—Berries very large; good flavour; productive.

Agriculturist—Good; think worthy of trial; apt to winter kill. So many new varieties now being introduced, will, no doubt revolutionize the varieties, if not the flavor, in a short time.

CULTIVATION.

It seems almost useless to describe the *modus operandi*, as every horticultural work gives the best modes in full, though somewhat varied.

One or two items of interest seem always to be omitted, however. We do not get answers to the questions. *When and how* are the best *time and manner* of applying fertilizers to strawberries?

I have not thoroughly formed an opinion to present to the public. Sufficient to say that I have found unleached wood ashes and swamp muck spread evenly over the beds in spring, before the leaves begin to push forward very advantageous. I place a hogshed in the cellar or wood-shed, in which I put ashes, muck and bones, as they are collected, in alternate layers, throwing upon the mixture a pail or two of soap suds, weekly, by which means I procure an excellent manure for strawberries.

"Does it pay to mulch in fall?" I have found that, in general, it does not pay, especially on land that is not liable to heave by frost.

I have not had much success in raising raspberries for market. Have tried *White Transparent* and consider it one of the best. *Red Antwerp*, inferior. *Hudson River Red Antwerp*, very large fruit; vigorous grower; season of fruiting quite lengthy; a good bearer.

Franconia—Early, good.

Lum's Everbearing has proved with me *Sham Neverbearing*; blossoms continuously, yielding a few very inferior berries.

Mammoth Cluster Blackcap—Very small fruit, covered with a heavy bloom, looking like mildew. In good soil canes die in early summer after growing about two feet—on young plants. Old plants quite hardy.

In blackberries I have found *Lawton* bears well; good.

Currants and gooseberries would be very productive but for the current worm. By frequent application of dissolved hellebore, they can be kept free from this common depredator. I think there are none of the small fruits that will give as good returns, especially for those who can most successfully fight this common enemy. Quite an interest has been manifested by those who have suitable places in growing cranberries, as the work is pleasant and the profits large.

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FLORICULTURE.

The cultivation of house and garden plants has been carefully attended to by not a small number of ladies, chiefly, for many years past in Kings' County. These plants were slipped and thus divided among neighbors till many of the more, delicate, tender varieties, which had found their way into the country from the Prescott Conservatory, and from other sources, had become extinct. There had come to be a little variety, and no competition. As the demand became apparent the want was supplied by a new green-house and nursery situated in the centre of the County, where plants, seeds, vines, small fruits, &c., can be purchased much cheaper than each one can raise their own.

The Exhibition of the Fruit Growers' Association, for the year 1874, was the first one at which prizes were offered for pot plants. The shew far exceeded all expectation; but as the prizes were small and limited, on account of the shortness of funds, they did not induce such sharp competition as would doubtless have been the case had the pecuniary inducements been greater. May we not look forward to future exhibitions with as much prospect of success as has attended the laudable striving for the first places which has been manifest by the cultivation of apples and pears, and which so largely assisted in placing various sections of Nova Scotia foremost (in raising their fruits) in the Dominion, if not in the world.

The mild climate and sunny skies of the Cornwallis and Annapolis Valley have been acknowledged to belong to the finest spot in the Province for the cultivation of plants.

Verbenas have, of late years, been destroyed by rust and the aphid; but choice *Petunias* and double *Portulaca*, &c., have nearly filled the vacancy. The old *Cinnamon Rose*, *Lilac*, and other coarse shrubs, are being supplanted by the more delicate varieties of roses, *Weigelia*, *Tartarian Honey Suckle*, &c.

The extremely hardy perennials, such as *Evening Primrose*, *Day Lily*, *Butter and Eggs*, coarse *Columbines*, *House Leek*, &c., with which we were so familiar in our childhood days, and which bloomed but for a short season, find their places occupied by choice *Geraniums*, which bloom during the entire season, and rich annuals of various kinds.

Dahlias have been greatly improved from the almost single flower of twenty-five years ago, to the perfect ball-shaped flower of the present day.

The common *Violet* has been more than replaced by choice English and French *Pansies*, while the dark-leaved *Acyranthos*, *Perilla nan Kanensis*, *Amaranthas*, &c., to the beautiful yellow of the *Golden Pyrethrum*, and the delicate blue of the *Lobelia*, give a combination of colors which cannot easily be described.

In conclusion, I would say, to the fathers and mothers of our fair and peaceful land, *by all means* cultivate fruit and flowers, thus forming in the minds of yourselves and your children, a love for the beautiful, as well as a *love for home*.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE have much pleasure in drawing the attention of members of the Association, and readers generally, to the very excellent portrait of the late Dr. HAMILTON in the front of this volume; also the following extract from President WILDER'S address, shewing the esteem in which our lamented President was held by his associates in the American Pomological Society; and the accompanying paper on Fruits and Fruit-Culture in Nova Scotia, which they have taken the liberty of reproducing from the reports of that Society:—

(From American Pomological Society's Report, 1881.)

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—HON. M. P. WILDER.—“NECROLOGY.”

“While we rejoice in the prosperity of our Society, and the presence of so many old friends who have been spared to this day, and extend fraternal greeting to all who have come up to aid us in the promotion of our noble work, we have to mourn the loss of several who held official relations with us, and of others who have been ardently devoted to our cause.”

“CHARLES COTNAM HAMILTON, M. D., Vice-President for our Society in Nova Scotia, died at his residence in Canard, King's Co.,

in the summer of 1880. Dr. Hamilton was a genial, gentle, and Christian man, and to no one in Nova Scotia are the public more indebted than to him, for the progress of agriculture, horticulture, the medical art, or whatever tends to promote the welfare of mankind. He was a man of progressive ideas, and the frequent exhibition of his knowledge and skill, gave strong evidence of natural greatness, which won for him the respect and love of all who knew him. He was President of the Fruit Growers' Association for Nova Scotia, from the day of its formation to his death. He has attended the sessions of our Society in various portions of our country; made many valuable reports; and his death was caused by exhaustion from visiting agricultural and horticultural exhibitions, which he had done for many successive weeks. He was President of the Provincial Medical Board at the time of his death, and held many other offices of honor and trust. He was born 13th October, 1813, graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1834, and continued in active practice as a physician over forty-six years.

(From *American Pomological Society's Report, 1875.*)

FRUITS AND FRUIT-CULTURE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

By C. C. HAMILTON, M.D., OF CORNWALLIS, NOVA SCOTIA.

The early history of the cultivation of the apple, and other fruits, in the Province of Nova Scotia, is enveloped in much obscurity.

Until within a comparatively short period, no organization of a horticultural nature existed, and consequently no record was kept of the efforts of individuals or societies, in the propagation and dissemination of the various fruits now and heretofore cultivated among us.

As early as the middle of the last century, the Acadian French, who then peopled the valley of Kings and Annapolis Counties, cultivated the apple and the pear. On the occupation of these lands by emigrants from Connecticut, in the year 1760, apple and pear trees were found, some of which still exist and bear fruit. The new-comers soon began to plant apple trees, and now numerous orchards of the olden times are still in existence, some of which have been grafted to the apples now most popular and useful, while many still remain as "*cider orchards*," disfiguring the locality with their unsightly growth and defective cultivation, and of little profit to their owners or benefit to the community.

The late Honorable Charles R. Prescott, of Starr's Point, Cornwallis, a gentleman of refined taste, and a lover of the beautiful in art and nature, removed from Halifax after a successful business career as a merchant, and commenced the cultivation of the apple, pear, plum, cherry, peach and grape, with smaller fruits and flowers, in a beautiful location at Starr's Point, and for over forty years was not only a successful cultivator of all these fruits, but his tastefully laid-out and well-kept place, "Acacia Grove," was the resort of his friends, and of strangers from all parts of the country, and from abroad. It is to be regretted that this once lovely spot is now cultivated only as a farm, the ornamental having given place to the strictly useful, and the buildings and orchards alone remaining.

The late Benjamin Woodworth, a gentleman residing in the immediate vicinity of Starr's Point, was also a very successful cultivator of the apple, pear, and plum, from whose nursery many of our best orchards in Cornwallis were stocked.

No one in particular is known to have taken the lead in fruit culture in the earlier years in Annapolis County, where there are numerous orchards, consisting largely of the *Nonpareil*, *Russet*, *Greening* and other old standard varieties. Suffice it to say, that in the extensive valleys of Cornwallis and Annapolis, the former styled the "Garden of Nova Scotia," orchards now exist by the thousand, and the demand for fruit-trees continues unabated. The orchards planted within the last quarter of a century are more extensive than formerly, and generally consist of the choicest fruit, well cultivated and in good bearing.

Nova Scotia proper is a peninsula, attached on its north-west extremity to the Province of New Brunswick, and almost surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Fundy. On the north the Straits of Northumberland separate it from Prince Edward's Island; north-west the Bay of Fundy lies between it and the mainland, and on the north-east the Strait of Canseau, about a mile wide, separates it from the Island of Cape Breton, which, politically, forms part of the Province of Nova Scotia. Nova Scotia, including Cape Breton, extends from $43\frac{1}{2}$ to 47 degrees in north latitude, and from 60 to 66 degrees west longitude, and is about three hundred and fifty miles long, from east to west, and about eighty broad.

In the Bay of Fundy the tides have a rise and fall of seventy feet at "spring tides," and pass through the "Gut" at the contraction

of the bay near Parrsborough, at the rate of nine miles an hour; and this extraordinary ebb and flow of tide undoubtedly has a very important influence and effect upon the climate.

The valley of Cornwallis, and Annapolis, lies on the south of the North Mountain range, composed of trap-rocks, resting upon sandstones, and ranging from four to six hundred feet high, and affording great protection from the cold north and west winds which sweep over New Brunswick and the State of Maine. This valley is over one hundred miles long, and its soil consists of sand, sandy and clayey loam, based on the sandstone formation, sandy loam predominating throughout. At its eastern extremity the enormous rise and fall of tide, and consequent rush of waters from time immemorial, have worn away soils and rocks, and produced those rich and extensive deposits constituting the present marshes and dyked lands; these produce, from year to year, hay, grain, and pasture, without any renovating substance or manure of any kind, and still continues productive even after the lapse of one hundred and fifty years; and the Grand Pré, made famous by Longfellow's poem, is still covered with abundant crops, and, in the autumn months, with numerous herds, as in the days of Gabriel and Evangeline.

On the south side of the valley, and distant six to eight miles from the North Range is the South Mountain; the valley between is comparatively level, and throughout its whole extent of one hundred miles, is of good soil easily cultivated, and well intersected with streams and rivers, and is the most fertile and productive belt of land in Nova Scotia. Here the apple, pear, plum, cherry, and even grapes and peaches, attain their greatest perfection.

Other parts of Nova Scotia, as Hants County, lying to the south and east of Annapolis and Kings, although more clayey and based on plaster and limestone, sub-strata, produce very fine apples and pears. The interior of Queens, Lunenburg, and Yarmouth Counties, on the southern coast of Nova Scotia, produce fair apples in certain localities when properly cultivated; so do Pictou, Cumberland, and Colchester; but in the last six counties the cultivation of the apple is very limited. It does not succeed when planted on the sea-coast, owing, in all probability, to the cold, damp fogs and winds which are so prevalent in the months of May and June, chilling and blighting the blossoms; but the plums and cherries grow and produce large crops near the sea-coast, where the sea breezes are daily felt.

The apple attains a large size in Nova Scotia, and in favorable seasons is of fine flavor, well-ripened and colored. This is owing largely to our beautiful autumn months of September and October—the heat of the sun and the warm, dry weather being almost peculiar to our climate at this season of the year. The recorded weight of several varieties exhibited at the shows of the Fruit Growers' Association, is as follows:—

	Dozen.	Single Specimen.
Gravenstein	7 lbs. 9 oz.	13½ oz.
Ribston Pippin	6 “ 14 “	9½ “
Yellow Bellefleur	7 “ 10 “	11 “
Baldwin	7 “ 10 “	11½ “
Gloria Mundi	10 “ 7 “	20 “
Chebucto Beauty	9 “ 7½ “	18½ “
Emperor Alexander	9 “ 3 “	18½ “
King of Tompkins County	6 “ 4 “	11 “
Northern Spy	8 “ 6 “	12 “

The apples for winter use and for commercial purposes are taken from the trees in the month of October, from the 5th to the 25th, and sometimes even later. The early sorts, such as *Red Astrachan*, *Early Harvest*, *Early Joe*, *Early Red*, *Bough*, and *Sutton's Early*, a native of Nova Scotia, ripen in August and September; then come *Porter*. *William's Early*, *Munson's Sweet*, and *Gravenstein*, in the month of September and early in October, the *Gravenstein* often attaining its greatest perfection when left on the tree as late as the 5th and 10th of October. The *Baldwin*, *Greening*, *Nonpareil*, *Russet*, *Northern Spy*, *King of Tompkins County*, *Blue Pearmain*, *Yellow Bellefleur*, *Ribston Pippin*, and other varieties do not attain their perfection till the 10th to the 25th of October.

Time and space forbid my entering upon a discussion of the temperature, moisture, and other peculiarities of our climate affecting the growth and cultivation of fruits, especially as I have not at my command the tables prepared, shewing the extremes of heat and cold, and the mean temperature of the summer months; I may say, however, that the thermometer frequently reached 85 to 90 degrees of Fahrenheit in the shade during the months of July and August, and falls as low as 50—the mean of the month of July being about 66 or 67; nor will I be able for similar reasons to allude more than incidentally to the diseases of fruits and fruit trees in Nova Scotia.

The apple is the most important fruit crop of Nova Scotia, estimated in 1870 at about 150,000 barrels, and now above 200,000 barrels. Kings and Annapolis furnishing more than two-thirds of the whole, Hants coming next, followed by Lunenburg and Pictou. Kings, however, produces the largest number of sorts of the most popular and recently introduced kinds, and no doubt excels in fine specimens, not only of the apple, but also of pears, plums, cherries, apricots, grapes, &c. In the other counties of the Province not mentioned above, most of the apples are of native sorts, and used as gathered, and for making cider or drying for winter.

The number of sorts grown in Nova Scotia is large, embracing most of the old standard varieties, English and American, as well as a large number of the new and popular kinds.

The following is a list of those for which the Fruit Growers' Association offers premiums at their annual exhibitions:—

Gravenstein, Yellow Bellefleur, Ribston Pippin, Baldwin, Nonpareil, King of Tompkins County, Blenheim Pippin, Northern Spy, R. I. Greening, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Blue Pearmain, Emperor Alexander, Esopus Spitzenburg, Westfield Seeknofurther, Calkin's Pippin, Chenango Strawberry, Porter, Duchess of Oldenburg, Pound Sweet, Gloria Mundi, Chebucto Beauty, Fall Jenneting, Cabashea or 20 oz., Pippin, Flushing Spitzenburg, Canada Reinette, Pomme Grise, Clyde Beauty, Broadwell, Fameuse or Snow, Golden Russet of Western New York, Drap d'Or, Colvert, Talman Sweet, Munson Sweet, Bishop Bourne, Keswick Codlin, Golden Sweet, Roxbury Russet, Morton's Red, St. Lawrence, Early Bough, Golden Pippin (old English), King of the Pippins, Yellow Newton Pippin, Calkin's Early, Mother, Delaware Harvey, Paradise Pippin, Golden Drop, Hawley, Golden Ball, William's Favorite, Yorkshire Greening.

CRAB APPLES.—Large Red Siberian, Transcendent, Hyslop, Montreal Beauty.

This list varies from time to time, as new sorts are introduced, and some of the old kinds are rejected. I may also mention that they are not arranged according to their popularity or market value; yet we consider for all purposes the first eight or ten kinds the best for Nova Scotia.

Of the early sorts of apples we have quite a variety, namely:—*Early Harvest, Early Joe, Sops of Wine, Early Sutton* (a native of

Cornwallis), *Early Bough*, *Early Calkins* (also a native), and *Red Astrachan*, which are cultivated more for domestic use than for commercial purposes. Some of these become fit for use about the middle of August, and continue until the *Gravenstein* and others take their place; the later varieties are, however, of most importance.

The *Gravenstein* deservedly stands at the head of the list for dessert, for the market, and for other uses. The trees are vigorous growers, and not more liable to disease than other sorts. They bear early and abundant crops, and in alternate years as a rule. This apple was introduced into Nova Scotia from England by the late Hon. C. R. Prescott as early as the year 1839 or 1840, and from his generosity in distributing scions, it soon spread throughout our country, and is now the most profitable and deservedly the most popular apple grown. As a market apple it averages one to two dollars a barrel higher than any other sort.

The *Porter* is cultivated to only a limited extent, as in no respect is it equal to the *Gravenstein* for dessert or market, and the trees are not as vigorous or healthy growers. There is quite a list of other autumn apples which are cultivated in Nova Scotia, such as *Fall Jen-netting*, *Autumn Sweet*, *Drap d'Or*, &c., &c.; but the limits of my paper will not allow me to enter into their habit of growth, value for market, or domestic use, &c.

Of early winter and long keepers we have quite a variety; but I must be content with enumerating a few of the most extensively cultivated for home purposes and shipment to England, and to domestic ports.

Perhaps there is no more popular apple in this class than the *Yellow Bellefleur*. It seems to flourish best on a rich, sandy loam; the tree is a rapid and vigorous grower, and produces more wood than any other, so that to obtain large and perfect specimens of fruit, the tree has to be kept well headed. Apples of this sort thus grown, do not keep so well, however, as when the trees are allowed to grow where the ground is not cultivated, nor the trees so closely trimmed.

The old *Ribston Pippin*, one of the best of dessert apples, is cultivated quite extensively in Kings, Annapolis, and Hants Counties, and on a clayey loam comes to good perfection. The tree is not a vigorous grower, and is rather a shy bearer, but bears more or less every year. The fruit is often in perfection in February and March. In the English market they rank equal to the famous *Newtown Pippin* of New York.

The *Greening*, while obtaining a fair growth of tree and bearing well, does not come to the perfection of size and flavor which it has in more southern latitudes. It is not extensively grown, but on rich, loamy soils, where it attains its greatest perfection, it ranks in price with the *Yellow Bellefleur*.

The *Baldwin* is a very popular apple for market purposes, and quite extensively cultivated in all the fruit-growing parts of Nova Scotia. The tree is a vigorous and healthy grower, and bears soon after being planted; and after it attains a fair size produces abundant crops every alternate year. Like the *Yellow Bellefleur*, it requires to be kept well headed to produce large, fine, and highly-colored apples. It does not keep as long as the *King of Tompkins County*, *Northern Spy*, or *Nonpareil Russet*, and others, often decaying at the core when the outer surface appears sound.

The *King of Tompkins County* is a large, fine apple, which is being pretty freely cultivated in many parts of our Province. It is not many years since it was first introduced among us, but it has been growing in favor with orchardists, and is now quite popular. Some do not like the habit of growth of this tree, as it is spreading and straggling; but a watchful care over the trees in the nursery, and after they are planted, will remedy this objection. It is said, too, that the apples are apt to fall from the tree before they are ripe, but this is not my experience. They keep well till February and March, and often bring higher prices than other sorts of the same time of maturing. I think it will be one of our leading and most popular apples.

The *Northern Spy*, like its bearing qualities, comes into favor gradually. Some persons planted them quite extensively, and after waiting for some years for fruit, and finding little or none, grafted them to other sorts. Those who had more patience are now rewarded with good crops of fine fruit, and it is considered by some as No. 1 for late use and marketing. The trees are peculiar in their habit of growth, having numerous slim branches and growing nearly upright; but I find that when they begin to bear, they spread and form a fine symmetrical top. They are good bearers after they begin, and the next best keeping apple to the *Nonpareil Russet*, and for late marketing one of the best apples grown.

The *Nonpareil Russet*, an old English variety, somewhat resembling the famous *Roxbury Russet*, is very extensively grown with us,

especially in the county of Annapolis, where probably one-half of the whole quantity produced is of this sort. It seems to require a strong clayey loam to bring it to perfection, and in Annapolis county thousands of trees are found growing in stiff soils and among rocks, where the land is seldom cultivated to root or grain crops, but good crops of fine apples are produced. The tree is not a vigorous grower, nor does it form as symmetrical a top as many others, often throwing out twigs and shoots, which, if not regulated at an early stage, will produce straggling branches, which will disfigure the tree. The wood is not strong and is easily broken; the trees bear early, and as a rule every year. This is the best keeping apple known to us. It does not come to perfection till March and April, and will often keep until early apples are fit for use. For shipping to England or to the West Indies it is very valuable.

The apples I have described are those which are most cultivated in Nova Scotia, and which are considered best for domestic use, and home and foreign market purposes. The following are also quite extensively cultivated, viz.: *Esopus Spitzenburg*, *Flushing Spitzenburg*, *Broadwell*, *Talman Sweet*, *Munson Sweet*, *Hubbardston*, *Nonsuch*, *Chenango Strawberry*, *Fall Jennetting*, *Fameuse*, *Pomme Grise*, &c.

PEARS.

The cultivation of the pear, although limited, when compared with that of the apple, has been practised for many years. It is said that there still exist some trees planted by the Acadian French, and many large trees are found on farms in the former Acadian villages, planted no doubt by the settlers from Connecticut, and which still bear abundant crops of fruit.

The pear seems to flourish best in deep, rich, loamy soils, and often does well in ground not much tilled. There are some native sorts grown in Nova Scotia, a few of which will compare favorably in flavor, richness, and other qualities with some of the most popular sorts at present cultivated; of which I may mention the *Curran*, *Burbidge*, *Pudsey*, *Burns' New Seedling*, and *Great Britain*. The principal sorts now cultivated are the *Bartlett*, *Flemish Beauty*, *Duchesse d'Angouleme*, *Howell*, *Seckel*, *Onondaga*, and *Louise Bonne of Jersey*, together with some other sorts introduced more recently by tree agents, but of which little is known yet.

From my own observation and the experience of others, I am of opinion that our seasons are not sufficiently warm, as a general rule, to produce good and perfect specimens of this fruit; but in Cornwallis, Horton, Windsor, and some other places, the pear often attains fair size, is of good flavor, ripens well, and is free from spots or cracking. The trees are not more subject to winter kill, fire blight, and other diseases, than the apple or plum; and the old centenarians still existing in a vigorous state are a proof of this.

Within a few years some persons have planted the dwarf pear quite extensively; but, while they give earlier returns, I do not think they will be in any other respect equal to the standards, as they are more liable to fire blight and winter kill, an important point in a climate such as ours.

The late Hon. C. R. Prescott cultivated the pear quite extensively, and introduced a large variety of sorts, but few of which, however, did well with him, owing in part, doubtless, to his having selected, for a portion of his orchard, a piece of ground with a cold, wet, subsoil; consequently many of his trees had but a limited existence; those more favorably situated, however, did well.

The pear with us finds a ready sale, and at remunerative prices; the *Bartlett* taking the lead, and the *Louise Bonne of Jersey* being also very popular. Some very fine specimens of *Clapp's Favorite* were for the first time on exhibition at our annual fruit show last year, and which for size, beauty, and flavor, well sustained the character of this new and popular variety. I may add that the cultivation of the pear is coming rapidly into favor with fruit culturists in our section of Nova Scotia.

GRAPES.

The out-door cultivation of the grape in Nova Scotia can never be successfully practised on a large scale, as the length and warmth of our seasons, as a general rule, are not sufficient to mature it in perfection. With favorable localities, however, intelligent cultivation, the annual renewal system and girdling, large and fine grapes of the earlier kinds, such as *Isabella*, *Hartford Prolific*, *Concord* and *Delaware*, are produced by some cultivators. But little is attempted at out-door culture of the grape, except in the valleys of Kings and Annapolis; and even there by but a few, who from experience and observation, adopting the system above-mentioned, succeed very well.

I know it is the opinion of very many well-known cultivators of this luscious fruit, that girdling, while it brings the grape to maturity somewhat earlier, yet does so at the expense of the flavor. I cannot coincide with this idea, as it must be admitted that it is through the medium of the leaf, abstracting oxygen from the air, and the retarded return of the sap, that the berries are perfected. I have vines of the *Hartford Prolific*, with a southern aspect, which ripen in the open air without either severe summer pruning, or girdling, while other vines, not more favorably located, but treated in the manner previously recommended, not only produce larger berries of the same grape, but ripen earlier and are of better flavor.

With the long and warm season of the south and of the Pacific slope of the United States, there is no question but that good grapes can be produced with little attention, and without the aids I have advocated; but such is not the case in Nova Scotia. There, with a southern exposure, and backed by walls or buildings, and protected in winter by a covering of earth or closely-packed spruce boughs, with girdling and summer pruning, we can do very well to a limited extent in grape culture; but the question is,—will it pay? I certainly would not advise the cultivation of the grape on a large scale; but a few vines of the earlier sorts can be grown for domestic purposes. But no one should undertake it unless in a favorable locality, with wall protection, and some knowledge of the nature and habits of the vine; otherwise, while he may grow a vigorous, large, healthy vine, he will in the fruit season gather but "sour grapes."

Mr. William Sutton, of Cornwallis, an Englishman by birth, has for years cultivated the grape with great success, adopting the renewal system and girdling, which I am convinced will alone ensure success with us.

As an experiment, I planted a vine of the *Black Hamburg*, having a northern and western protection (my office and dwelling), which has the full effect of the sun from early morning to the middle of the afternoon; and here, with the girdling and renewal system, I have produced large clusters of pretty well-ripened grapes; I do not succeed every year, however. I sent a cluster to Boston to the editor of *Tilton's Journal of Agriculture*, 1871, which was noticed by him in that magazine.

The most common kinds cultivated with us are the *Isabella*, *Concord*, *Hartford Prolific*, *Diana*, *Delaware*, *White Sweetwater*, *Royal*

Muscadine, and *Black Cluster*. Other and more recently introduced sorts are being grown, but with what result is not yet known. Mr. Sutton has fruited a seedling or two which bid fair to be successful. I have vines of the *Salem*, and the *Champion*, a new sort introduced by J. E. Stone, of Charlotte, New York, for which he claims many superior qualities not yet fruited with me, however.

The *Hartford Prolific* would seem to be the earliest grape grown here, but it does not happen to be as hardy or as vigorous a grower as the *Isabella* or *Diana*, and the clusters are very open, not well shouldered, and fall from the vines unless gathered at ripening. The *Concord* is fast coming into favor, will ripen before the *Isabella*, and is a better grape. The *Isabella* has been so long cultivated with us, that it has become acclimated, and stands our winter better than almost any other variety; but it requires severe pruning and girdling to produce fine grapes; it is a good bearer.

Hot-house grape culture is engaged in by several gentlemen in Halifax and other parts of the Province, and with good success. Besides the graperies of Messrs. George H. Starr, Hamilton, Black, Harris, and others, William Cunard, Esq., son of the late Sir Samuel Cunard, erected a large grapery at his former beautiful residence on the Northwest Arm, and upon the most approved plan; and the Hon. P. C. Hill, provincial secretary, who now resides there, produces annually tons of grapes of the best sorts. A cluster raised by Mr. Hill was sent to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in the autumn of 1874, in connection with a collection of apples and pears, and was noticed in their last *Journal*.

Plums are quite extensively grown throughout the Province, and the crop generally considered a paying one, especially since steam communication with large cities of the Atlantic seaboard has been perfected, and facilities exist for getting the crop to market. The kinds most generally cultivated are those that will bear transportation best; and many of them—such as *Magnum Bonum* or *Yellow Egg*, *Large Blue*, *Sweet Water* and *Damson*—are largely propagated by sprouts and suckers; they are also reproduced from seed and frequently show variations from the original types, some of which are improvements and have been preserved and propagated.

The list of kinds grown is large, and will embrace nearly all the "Gages" of any note—*Nectarine*, *Washington*, *Jefferson*, *McLaughlin*,

Lombard, Bradshaw, Goliath, Pond's Seedling, Smith's Orleans, Duane's Purple, Coe's Golden Drop, and many others.

There are, of course, some drawbacks, the worst is the "black-knot," which has destroyed whole plantations, but it is being better understood, and close pruning and horning of the afflicted branches before the fungus arrives at maturity, has been found the best method of combating the disease.

The "curculio" is common in some parts of the Province, but the injury done by them in large plum orchards is not as perceptible as where the trees are but few. In many instances a benefit is experienced from their work in thinning the overcrowded fruit; but still, I fancy that most persons will prefer to do their own thinning, and would banish the little Turk from the premises if possible.

Cherries have been grown from the first settling of the country, and usually give good crops. The old *Kentish*, used formerly to be grown by the roadside, and in the gardens of many of the farm-houses of the valleys of Kings and Annapolis, but most of those old trees have died out, and their places are filled by the *Dukes, Hearts*, and *Bigarreaus* of the present day. A section of country lying between the towns of Annapolis and Digby, on the south side of Digby Basin, seems remarkably adapted to the production of this fruit, large quantities being annually shipped from that locality to the different markets. The kind mostly cultivated seems to be peculiar to the place. It is a medium-sized *Black-heart* variety, which is propagated, I am informed, both from seed and from sprout. I am not aware how or where the variety originated; but if it has the property of reproducing itself from seed, as is asserted, it must be valuable, especially as the quality will rank from good to very good. Of the known sorts that are most common, I would mention—*May Duke, Early Purple Gwigne, Black-heart, Black Tartarian, Waterloo, Yellow Spanish, &c.* Many new sorts have been lately introduced with more or less success, among them is *Belle de Choisy*, which is very much liked by all who have fruited it. Quinces are successfully grown throughout the valley, but seem to do best in the vicinity of Annapolis town, many gardens there being fully stocked with trees and yielding good crops. The apple-shaped is mostly grown, but we have both the angers and the pear-shaped.

Currants used to be grown in quantities without much care or cultivation before the advent of the currant worm. Since then, as it is

found impossible to subdue the pests without clean cultivation and close pruning, many of the old bushes have been grubbed up and the quantities at present grown are not nearly as large as formerly. The kinds mostly cultivated are the *Red Dutch*, *White Dutch*, and *Black Naples*. Many of the newer sorts, as *Cherry*, *La Versailles*, *Victoria* and *White Grape*, have been tried and approved, but are not widely disseminated.

Gooseberries were more commonly grown some years ago than now, the mildew and the currant-worm having deterred many persons from planting, and the old bushes have died out. On the Atlantic coast of the province mildew is not as common, and most of the large English sorts can be grown to advantage, as the more humid atmosphere of the coast seems to suit the habit of the fruit better than the drier air and hot suns of the interior of the Province, where mildew is prevalent and the foliage often falls before the fruit is matured. In those situations, except with careful cultivation, the only sorts reliable are the American varieties, such as *Houghton's Seedling*, which are seldom so troubled.

Raspberries are not much cultivated except in the gardens of the wealthy; large quantities of the wild red-raspberry growing all over the Province, and yielding abundantly, supply the markets. Many of the cultivated varieties have from time to time been tried, and fully repay the cultivator for his time and trouble in bountiful crops of delicious fruit. The kinds most valued are the *Franconia*, *Fastolf*, *Hudson River*, *Red Antwerp*, *White Antwerp*, and *Brinckle's Orange*. The "Caps" have not found favor with our growers as yet, several sorts tried not having succeeded.

Blackberries are not much cultivated, and but few of the named sorts will stand our changeable winter without being killed to the snow line. Native varieties do best, one of which, called *Green Cane*, is well worthy of cultivation. It was first brought to notice by Mr. Sutton, of Cornwallis. The habit of growth is rather feeble, the canes bending over until the points sometimes touch the ground. The color of the cane is light-green, with occasional faint lines of red in the sun. Fruit—medium size, sweet, juicy, with small core; perfectly hardy and good bearer.

Strawberries are quite extensively cultivated, and after repeated trials of very many kinds, *Wilson's Albany* is taking the lead of all

others for a reliable crop. The next would be *Triumphe de Gand*, closely followed by *Jucunda*. Some new kinds are promising well, such as *President Wilder*, *Col. Cheney*, and *Kentucky*.

Having thus briefly alluded to some of the more important points connected with the history and cultivation of the fruits most generally grown in Nova Scotia, I may be permitted to say further, that within the last fifteen years fruit culture has advanced very rapidly with us, and now occupies a prominent position, mainly through the instrumentality of the Fruit Growers' Association.

While the Association is provincial, its operations are confined chiefly to the counties of Annapolis, Kings, and Hants, the three largest fruit-growing districts. The Legislature grants it yearly a small sum, which, together with the contributions of its members and other sources of income, creates a fund by which the Association is enabled to hold an annual exhibition of fruits and vegetables, at which quite a large amount is paid in premiums, besides providing for necessary incidental expenses.

The Association, by its exhibitions and the dissemination of information in various ways, has done much to bring the cultivation of the apple and other fruits into general favor, which are coming to be universally regarded as a necessity for domestic and other purposes.

I cannot close without again alluding to the fact, that in Nova Scotia the apple does not attain its greatest perfection unless left on the tree until sometimes as late as the 15th or 20th of October, and this has prevented our Province from being represented at this and similar exhibitions held at this early season. Therefore, to see our apples and other fruits in perfection, I would invite persons to visit Nova Scotia in the early part of October, and see our orchards burdened with the choicest fruit, or to attend one of our exhibitions. We hold one this autumn at the old town of Annapolis Royal, commencing on the 13th of October. Annapolis is only half a day's travel by steamer from St. John, N.B. Good judges from England, as well as from the United States, who have attended our exhibitions, have spoken in the highest terms of our apples, as to form, size, color and other qualities.

Nova Scotia apples have, on several occasions, been exhibited in London, G. B., at the shows of the Royal Horticultural Society; and I have the honor, as President of the Fruit Growers' Association, of

Nova Scotia, to hold four medals, two silver, one floral gilt, and one gold, granted by the Royal Society for exhibits. The gold medal was taken when Nova Scotia competed with all Her Majesty's colonies for the "best collection of fruits and vegetables." I also hold a silver medal granted to our Association by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for a collection of apples and pears sent to them in the autumn of 1874.

What I have advanced, however imperfectly put together and expressed, owing to my numerous professional and other engagements, will shew that, although Nova Scotia is pretty well to the north, and very far indeed "down east," we nevertheless have soil and climate adapted to the cultivation of staple fruits; and I trust also to have left the impression that we are not wanting in the enterprise, taste, and intellectual culture necessary to the successful and intelligent cultivation of whatever nature, not so kind to us as to more favored regions, has nevertheless placed within our reach. And I feel that such re-unions as this cannot but exercise a beneficial influence in many ways; among others, in making us better acquainted with each other; and we may flatter ourselves that as horticulturists know each other better, they will have cause to respect one another better the more. It will be our aim, Mr. President, to prove ourselves not unworthy of association in the great brotherhood of American horticulturists, so worthily represented in Chicago on the present interesting occasion.

We have pleasure in directing attention to the excellent likeness of DR. HAMILTON, which appears as a frontispiece to this report.