

Read Appendix B for history of Association. This is an first official report
P. 200

THE
OFFICIAL REPORT

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W. T. M.
Horticulturist
OF THE
ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

Fruit Growers' Association

OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

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(PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION.)



CHARLOTTETOWN:

PRINTED AT THE EXAMINER OFFICE, QUEEN STREET.

1899

OFFICERS FOR 1899

PATRON.

His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Howlan.

PRESIDENT.

H. A. Stewart—Hamilton, Lot 18.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

D. A. Sharpe—Summerside.

SECRETARY.

Peter McCourt—Charlottetown.

TREASURER.

Joseph Wise, M. L. A.—North Milton.

DIRECTORS.

PRINCE COUNTY—Rev. A. E. Burke, Alberton; C. R. Dickie, Muddy Creek; Robert Carruthers, Carleton, Lot 27.

QUEEN'S COUNTY—John Johnstone, Long River; John H. Gill, Little York; Peter McCallum, Charlottetown Royalty.

KING'S COUNTY—John Robertson, (Inkerman) New Perth; Geo. E. Goff, Woodville, Lot 54; D. J. Stewart, Aitken's Ferry.

AUDITORS.

J. H. Gill, C. R. Dickie.

COMMITTEE NEW FRUITS.

Rev. A. E. Burke, D. P. Irving, (Vernon River Bridge); H. A. Stewart, President.

NOMINATIONS.

By President—Peter Robertson, J. H. Gill. By meeting—Rev. A. E. Burke, F. G. Boyer, H. A. Stewart.

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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Fruit Growers' Association
OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

*To His Honor, George W. Howlan, Lieutenant-Governor of Prince
Edward Island, &c., &c., &c. :*

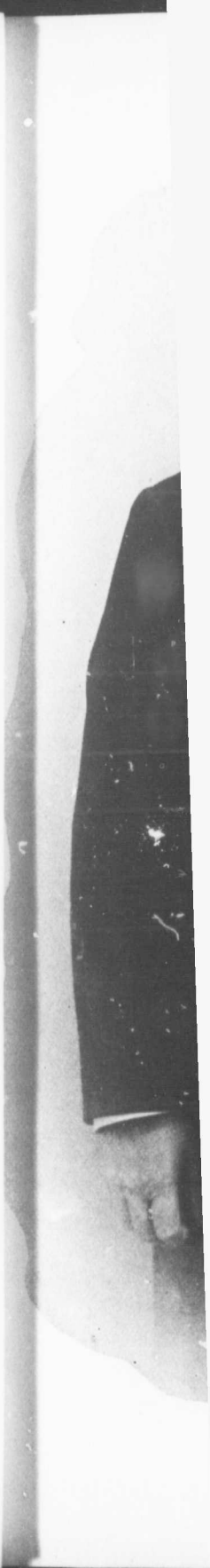
SIR : I have the honor to submit to you the first official report of the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island, together with a short appendix on the organization and subsequent meetings of the Association, of which no official report has been published. This report contains a full account of the President's address and report, the Treasurer's report, full reports of the papers read at the meeting, and a summary of the address on "Cranberry Culture," by C. R. Dickie, Esq., and speeches delivered at each session.

I remain, sir,

Your obedient servant,

PETER McCOURT,
Secretary.

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HON. G. W. HOWLAN
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THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1899.

The Annual Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island was held in the City of Charlottetown on Tuesday, the 21st of March, 1899.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Edward Bayfield, Esq. Q. C., President of the Association, occupied the chair and delivered the following address :

GENTLEMEN;—

According to the order of business of this meeting the time has now arrived for the President to make his annual address. It will only be a few words, however, as to our past doings during the previous year, with perhaps a few observations as to our future work. The Association has some important work before it, and I shall ask your attention for only a very short time.

Now, you all know that since our last annual meeting we have succeeded in demonstrating and proving to the whole Province, by actual shipment, the most important fact that Island-grown apples can take their place in the front rank of that market of the world, Great Britain. Our Association is to be congratulated indeed, upon this satisfactory result of its labours. But in taking credit to ourselves for being instrumental in achieving this great work, a work which I believe will be the argument which shall convince our people that a new industry is waiting to be developed, which can bring hundreds of thousands of dollars of profit to them and their children, I say we must not forget to recognize the labours of fruit-growers who for many years have been working on quietly year after year learning from all they could read, learning from that sometimes rather severe teacher, "experience," how to plant, cultivate, spray, what kinds to plant for profit and how to fight the numerous enemies which assail plant growth. These patient horticulturists deserve and should have the thanks of every individual in this Island for being the means, through the efforts of this Society, of bringing to light the truth that we possess a fruit-growing country, which, so far as apple culture is concerned, is second to none.

And, gentlemen, I must say it, we have been very stupid not to have found it out long ago, with such an object lesson as our friends in Nova Scotia have been giving us for so many years. The climate in Nova Scotia is as vigorous as our own, the land in the favored valleys where they grow their apples is no better, as far as fertility goes, than the general run of our farm lands, and for many years we have known of their great orchards, of the large profits made by their owners in selling in both home and foreign markets, and to most of us it never occurred

that we might do the same only on a much larger scale, but went on blindly, and as each season came purchased our own supplies of fruit and helped to swell the profits of our fellow Canadians. At last our eyes have been opened, and it lies now with our farmers themselves to take advantage of the new opening for their intelligence and work. But that intelligence, no matter how bright it may be, must be directed. How, then, should any one proceed who wishes to become an horticulturist? First, join this Association. Our object is to promote the industry of fruit growing on this Island, and in our meetings we discuss and talk over our successes and failures, answer questions, ask questions, and generally exchange knowledge upon our subject one with the other, knowledge that we have acquired by reading, observation and experience—can any better way be suggested of gaining the information we require? Then read all you can get hold of upon the subject. A good book upon fruit culture contains the results of many years of experience and hard work put in comprehensible language, and is invaluable. And last but not least, learn from actual experience yourself, select your trees, plant your orchard, cultivate, spray, prune and fertilize the young trees; and in a few years,—you will be astonished how quickly they will pass,—you will possess a thing of beauty as well as source of profit.

To return to the work of the Association. During the past year, you will agree with me that several other good steps in a forward direction have been taken. We have become an Incorporated Society by Act of Parliament; we have amalgamated with the Western Fruit-Growers' Association; we have been fortunate enough to obtain a small grant from the Provincial Government, and the number of our members has considerably increased.

Still, though we may comfort ourselves with the thought that "well begun is half done," there remains much for us to do, and it appears to me that in the "order of business" for this meeting there is no more important item than the question, "what varieties of apple trees to plant?" Much money and valuable time has been given in planting kinds of apples that are of no use whatever for commercial purposes. It has, perhaps, been necessary that this should be so in order to find out what apples would thrive in this province. Now, however, we are beginning to know a little, and intending apple-growers should be advised by our Association what kinds to plant as well as how many kinds to plant.

You will also note, in the "order of business," that we are called upon at this meeting to discuss the question of inspection and branding of fruit at the shipping ports, and you have already heard by the Directors' report that our Society has received a communication from the Secretary of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association on this subject. This matter seems to me to be a most important one, as if inferior fruit is sent by our growers to the English market our fruit industry is certainly doomed to failure. Then, too we have to decide to what purposes the balance of our grant "shall be devoted," and I would like to suggest, that part of it, at least, would be well spent in sending qualified persons, one for each county in the proper season, to graft the growing apple trees with scions of varieties which we now know are profitable for commercial purposes. By top

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grafting much time is saved, and sometimes better and a larger quantity of fruit can be obtained.

And, gentlemen, although our society has increased since its formation, like all other undertakings of a like nature, it has done so rather slowly, and as I think we all believe that we have engaged ourselves in a great and good work for the benefit of all persons on this Island, we must not forget to further the interests of our Association by every means in our power. We should never lose an opportunity of talking "fruit" when we can find listeners, or putting before others who have not realized the facts as to apple culture on this Island as we have, all we know of the subject. It ought not to be difficult to convince anyone that if on the same quantity of land twenty cents worth of potatoes can be grown and a dollars worth of apples, it is five times more profitable to grow the latter. Yet it is, and I suppose the reason is our farmers know all about potatoes, and, as general rule, little about fruit. So I say we should try our best to induce everyone to join our Society, to attend our meetings, to help us to push on our work to that degree of success when it shall be said that Prince Edward Island is not only the garden but also the orchard of Canada. Gentlemen, I shall not take up any more of your time, as we have some important matters to talk over and decide upon.

EDWARD BAYFIELD,
President F. G. A.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. Joseph Wise, Treasurer, submitted his report, viz :

Mr. President and Gentlemen :

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my first report as Treasurer of the Prince Edward Island Fruit Growers' Association, which I trust the auditors will find correct. The account stands as follows :

RECEIPTS.

1898, April 19th, Balance on hand	\$ 7 44
" July " Legislative Grant	150 00
" Oct. 4, Membership fees	17 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 174 44

EXPENDITURE—1898.

Horticultural Periodicals.....	\$ 16 00
Printing.....	15 90
Rent.....	14 00
Miscellaneous.....	49 17
Book and Postage	58
	<hr/>
	\$ 95 65
Balance on Hand	\$ 78 79

JOSEPH WISE, Treasurer.

TRIAL SHIPMENT OF APPLES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

STATEMENT.

Amounts realized, &c., on 73 bbls apples shipped to Liverpool per SS.
Winnipeg:—

PACKED BY JOHN ROBERTSON, ESQ.

	Per bl net
15 bbls Alexanders, sold for \$4.86 per bbl, less 5 per cent auctioneer's commission \$4.61, less freight, &c., \$3.81, less charges here	\$3 05
10 bbls. Wealthys, sold for \$3.83 per bbl., less 5 per cent. as above, \$3.63, less freight and charges \$2.83, less charges here	2 07
1 sample bbl. at \$3.16, less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.00, less freight and charges \$2.20, less charges here	1 50

PACKED BY D. A. SHARPE, ESQ.

	Per bl net
5 bbls. viz., Wolf River, Bethel, St. Lawrence, Fameuse and Nonpariel sold for \$3.46, less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.28, less freight, &c., \$2.48, less charges here	\$1 72
12 bbls. Alexanders, sold for \$4.86 per bbl., less 5 per cent., as above, \$4.61, less freight, &c., \$3.81, less charges here	3 05
5 bbls. Ribstons, sold for \$3.83 per bbl., less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.63, less freight \$2.83, less charges here	2 07
2 bbls., viz., 1 Spy and 1 Ribston, sold for \$3.34 per bbl, less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.17, less freight, &c., \$2.37, less charges here	1 61
1 Wealthy, No. 2, sold for \$2.92, less 5 per cent., as above, \$2.77, less freight, &c., \$1.97, less charge here	1 22
20 Wealthys, sold for \$3.83 per bbl., less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.63, less freight, &c., 2.83, less charges here	2 07
2 samples at \$3.16, less 5 per cent., as above, \$3.00, less freight, &c., 2.20, less charges here	1 50
Amount paid John Robertson, Esq. by check	
	\$.69 14
Amount paid D. A. Sharpe, Esq., by check	
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EDWARD BAYFIELD,
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SOME THINGS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS IN FRUIT GROWING.

Mr. H. A. Stewart, Hamilton, read a paper bearing upon the question under discussion. After a few introductory remarks he said :

What are some of the essentials underlying the successful growing of fruit ? The first, I would say, is the proper preparation of the soil. This is a foundation necessary to the orchard as one of stone to our dwellings. It is so necessary, that I would say, " Don't order your trees until the land is properly prepared." Too many have the habit of ordering trees at haphazard, trees which they had no intention of buying when they awoke in the morning, but were persuaded into doing so by some oily-tongued tree agent, who, perchance had come from abroad to sell his wares, irrespective of their adaptation to our climate, and then go probably never to return. The soil should receive a thorough cultivation the year previous to the setting out of the tree. I think it is a good plan not to grow any mature crop. Plough and cultivate the land several times during the first part of the summer, each time going deeper. This will cause the weed seeds to germinate and save much labor in after years. About the middle of July, buckwheat can be sown thickly and when it comes into blossom, turn it under. This will leave the soil in excellent tilth for the next spring's planting. When swamp muck is available, it is well at the same time to work a considerable quantity into the soil, as this adds humus and also helps the soil mechanically. Having properly prepared our land, we can proceed to plant with the consciousness of duty done. The soil prepared, the next essential is the suitable selection of varieties. Here a difficulty confronts us. A mistake made here, will affect, not one, but many years. For a commercial orchard, we must plant, not only what will succeed here, but also what will suit the taste of the English buyer.

Do not pay much attention to the beautiful pictures shown by the tree agent, but look around and select those kinds which do best in your vicinity, under similar conditions, as regards soil and exposure. At the same time get all the information you can from the officers and reports of the experimental station, not forgetting to become a member of the Fruit Growers' Association, and attend its meetings. Even this, in our present condition as an apple growing country, is not sufficient. The apples grown by our limited number of growers may not be the best ; and those recommended by the Central Farm and that of Nappan, because of their adaptability to those places, may not succeed here.

I have had an instance in my experience with the Gideon, an apple highly recommended by Professor Craig of the Central Farm. While it is a fine showy apple and a good bearer, our soil does not seem to suit it, as it becomes watery in the heart, which destroys its keeping qualities. Upon asking Professor Craig, when here some two or three years ago, as to the cause of this he said, " that, while at Ottawa and many other places it was a success, in other soils it was not. " I would say, from my experience, and from that of others, don't plant the Gideon.

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I have been planting the Wealthy and I think a good deal of it. It is a showy apple and a prolific bearer, which may be one of its faults, but this can be overcome by judicious thinning. Another fault claimed for it is, that it prematurely falls owing to the length of its stems; but I have not been troubled with it in this way. In Ontario it is classed as a fall apple but in our climate it may be placed as a winter one. Of the Alexander I have only a few trees and find them somewhat shy bearers, although in other orchards I have seen this tree well loaded with fruit. There seems to be no apple, at the present time to take the place of the much abused Ben Davis. It is true that, as a dessert or cooking apple, it is not of the best, but its bearing and keeping qualities will class A 1. It is a vigorous, upright grower, and the fruit will color well in our climate. The Spy and King are better apples; but what is the use of planting if you never expect to reap? And even if you do, it will be after many years of waiting and then with very small returns. For early apples, I think we have no better than the Duchess, Yellow Transparent, and Red Astrachan. This question of variety brings before us an interesting subject for discussion. How are we going to decide which is the best? True, we can experiment. All who grow fruit can, to a certain extent. But experiments in fruit take many years. I believe that those which are carried on for the public good should be at the public expense. Seeing that the fruit industry is, as yet, in its infancy, and a very large majority of our farmers did not know what to plant, the government should come to the front and establish a fruit experimental station or stations. Stations similar to those in Ontario could be cheaply worked, and would be a great boon to our farmers.

The intending fruit-grower having, after very careful consideration, decided as to varieties, the third essential to success will be the proper planting and after-care of the young orchard. As an observant fruit-grower travels through the country he will notice that but few trees are properly planted. They are set as delivered from the nursery, without any attention to pruning. In many cases they are planted, one might say, with the understanding that they were to take care of themselves. As to distance apart, there is quite a difference in opinion, but I think that they should be at least from twenty-four to thirty feet each way, according to variety.

I planted a small orchard in 1890—18 feet each way, which is entirely too close, as some of the branches are already almost touching. Since that time I have planted 24 feet each way. I have trees which were planted twenty-six years ago at 24 feet, with the branches interlacing. In the discussion, this afternoon, I would like to hear the opinion on this subject of the fruit-growers present. The orchard should be kept cultivated at least for six or eight years after planting, some growers advocating the cultivation for even many more years. This can only be done when the trees are planted a good distance apart. After the orchard comes into bearing, fertilizers must be applied, to take the place of those exhausted in fruit production.

The ploughing under of soiling crops will help to add humus to the soil. The grower will find that it is useless to try to raise fruit without several sprayings each season. The formula and time for doing this can be had by referring

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to the Experimental Farm Reports. I have jotted down these few rambling thoughts, not for the purpose of imparting information, for I am well aware that I am addressing men who are well up in the fruit business, but for the purpose of opening up a discussion, believing that, in considering those matters much information will be communicated to the society. In conclusion, permit me to say, that there are reasons, other than the money consideration, which should lead us to plant orchards. They tend to beautify our homesteads. Nothing tends to make our homes more attractive than trees or flowers. Early associations have an influence in moulding character. As our young people leave the parental home to make one for themselves, perhaps in some distant land, their memory will often revert to the old apple tree under which they played as children.

FRUIT GROWING IN KING'S COUNTY.

(Paper read by Mr. F. G. Boyer, Georgetown, before the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island, March 21, 1892.)

Mr. President :—Having received from your painstaking and capable secretary, Mr. McCourt, an intimation that a few words from me in respect to fruit growing in King's County would be acceptable, I confess to responding to that invitation with great pleasure, as I think that district to be the banner county of Prince Edward Island in producing fruit. I think it a privilege to be allowed to assist in placing its claims to that distinction before you.

One of the first settlers in Lower Montague, in the last century, was George Aitken, Esq., the founder of the numerous and influential connection of that name in the eastern part of the province, and numbering among its members some of the most respectable and successful citizens of Charlottetown. That gentleman lost no time, after clearing away the forest, before making a beginning in setting out an apple orchard, which he continued to enlarge until it covered several acres. It was a notable success, yielding large crops of good apples, many of which found their way to various parts of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Thus when Charlottetown was importing apples from beyond the seas, King's County was shipping its surplus crop to other parts. Mr. Aitken's orchard continued to give profitable crops for many years. A few years after Mr. Aitken had demonstrated the capabilities of the soil and climate to produce profitable crops of apples, his neighbor, Roger Westaway, Esq., the ancestor of that family of successful farmers and ship owners, set out a large number of trees. His orchard was also an abundant producer and also famous for both apples and their product, cider. The example of those first settlers had a beneficial effect. Among others who concluded from the success of the old Aitken and Westaway orchards that there was a future for fruit growing in this province was Mr. John Robertson, Inkerman Farm, who, a comparatively recent

date bought that property, which is near Montague. Mr. Robertson may now truthfully be styled "the fruit king of this province." He has the largest and most valuable apple orchard, the largest and most productive plantation of plums and small fruit, and also the most extensive and well managed nursery of young fruit trees, apples, plums, pears, and other kinds both large and small, to be found in this province. Although Mr. Robertson is a capable and well trained horticulturist, he was not satisfied with his great experience and large stores of horticultural lore, so he, a few years ago, sent his son Percy to the Nova Scotia Horticultural School at Wolfville, to take a regular course of training at that institution, where he displayed such marked ability and aptitude for horticultural pursuits that he was offered a permanent situation on the staff of instructors. But Mr. Robertson, Jr., had seen enough of Nova Scotia fruit growing to conclude that there was a more promising field for his energies in his native province than Nova Scotia could offer. Mr. Robertson's orchard furnished a preponderating proportion of the apple shipments to the British markets last fall, besides an enormous quantity sold for Island use and some to the Newfoundland trade. But Mr. Robertson's orchard was not the only one in King's to help swell the volume of shipments to Britain. Senator Ferguson's consignment by the Gaspesia was largely made up of Ben Davis apples grown in that County.

It will be many years before we have had sufficient data for deciding what varieties of fruit are likely to be the best for us to plant. The outlook for a tremendous increase in fruit production points to the need of great discretion in our choice. The coarser and more cheaply grown sorts may soon be almost unsaleable, so it will probably pay best to invest in varieties of fine appearance, good quality and long keeping character. I am inclined to think the Golden Russet as sure a tree as can be set out, if good land, good care and abundance of manure be provided. It is hardy, healthy, is not subject to blight or black spots, so will not need the Bordeaux mixture. Its fruit will keep well, and sell when no other apple is wanted.

Now that we have proved that we can grow apples which are wanted in Great Britain, a little fostering encouragement by the Government can stimulate fruit and tree planting, and after-care, can be made to greatly hasten our development into a great fruit exporting country. There are several ways by which this encouragement can be given. Many years ago there flourished in this province a Royal Agricultural Society, which received a small sum from the legislature, to be used for promoting agriculture. Part of this sum was offered by the society in prizes in each of the counties for the best acre plots of Swede turnips. First, second, third and fourth prizes were offered; the competition was keenly contested and resulted in a greatly increased acreage of that root being sown, and improved methods of cultivation introduced. Now, if the Government can devote perhaps one hundred dollars in prizes to each county, or more if it can be got, I think fruit tree planting would be much more fashionable and our people would find their way out of the old rut of planting half a dozen trees in some obscure corner, and liberal fields measured by the acre and situated on the driest, best and most sunny portion of the farm, be the site selected.

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laid great stress on the advantages the farmers and other property-holders of this province would get from the spread of education. But the results are disappointing. The direction of the teaching has been modeled to please clergymen, lawyers and doctors; the whole tendency of our schools is to educate the most promising pupils in lines that totally unfit them for anything but one of the falsely so-called learned professions. Pupils who are not endowed with the talents necessary to enable them to be clever learners of the languages and other branches of a literary nature are constantly informed that they are only fit to be drawers of water and hewers of wood. This insulting phrase is aimed at the intelligent, free and independent farmer, mechanic or mariner. But it is borrowed from an old book in which it was used as a curse on a most degraded, cowardly tribe, who voluntarily sold themselves into slavery. Thus the men who receive over half of the income paid by the farmers, citizens and sea-faring men, insult those who support them and train the minds of the youth of this country in modes of thought which cause them to look with scorn on their Island home and its grand supply of undeveloped resources.

I have great sympathy with the gentlemen who lately interviewed the Government and asked for the appointment of an agricultural professor in the Prince of Wales College. But they have not finished their work. It is too well known that the atmosphere of that college is most unfavorable to agriculture and every sort of handicraft. Two capable agricultural professors were placed there; each was glad to get away. One department at that college is conducted in a style that resembles pandemonium. Another department has nothing but praise for the bright students, and constant abuse and unfeeling degradation for the dull and slow learner.

Besides, the first thought of that department should be, where is the money to come from? The time is near when the farmers and all other real estate owners will discover the fact that they have allowed themselves to be robbed for the purpose of teaching the rising generation Latin and Greek, French and German, while neglecting instruction in the grand and mind-inspiring facts of Nature. When that time comes they will see to it that aspirants to the emoluments and honors of law, medicine and divinity pay for their own education. When that day comes we shall see a much lessened expenditure for education and much greater effectiveness.

CRANBERRY CULTURE.

The following is a summary report of the able address on Cranberry Culture, delivered by C. R. Dickie, Esq., Muddy Creek:

He said that about twenty years ago, when clearing a piece of land, he noticed on one spot a little plot of cranberry vines. The land had been occupied by stunted spruce. Its surface was covered with a few inches of black mud, moss, etc., under which was a white sandy loam. After clearing, he ploughed

it and sowed oats. The next autumn he found that the cranberry vines were spreading and seemed to be thrifty and strong. He ploughed the land again, and sowed it down; but still the vines came up. Hay was cut the following year. Seeing, then, that the cranberries were worth picking, he had the plot upon which they grew fenced in. The vines spread and flourished. Three years later, nineteen quarts of cranberries were picked. The following year there were two bushels, and the next year seven bushels. Soon he obtained twenty bushels. He showed his cranberries at the exhibition in Summerside and Charlottetown, and obtained prizes. They are of the Bell and Cherry varieties. He enlarged his cranberry borders, ploughing and harrowing the land and planting the vines. On the old bed, in one year, he picked sixty bushels, which were sold at \$2.50 per bushel. Since then he has obtained from the enlarged plot 160 bushels in one year. In 1893 he began shipping to England. There was much difficulty in making the shipments, and the conditions on board the steamers were such that they could not reach the market in good condition. Still they have sold in England at 2s more than those of Cape Cod, and 7s more than those of Holland. It has thus been proved that we grow in P. E. Island, cranberries of extra good quality. A few years ago a doctor from Massachusetts, greatly interested in cranberry culture, came to see his plants. On approaching the plot, he enquired "Where's the bog." When he saw where the cranberries were growing and what crop there was, he could hardly believe the evidence of his senses, and exclaimed "You've knocked out all my theories." On three square yards a half bushel of cranberries had been picked. This was at the rate of 808 bushels to the acre; and Mr. Dickie did not think it impossible that an acre would produce that quantity. The point is, for our farmers to utilize the land at the bottom of valleys, at the edge of brooks, in the cultivation of cranberries. Such low, swampy land is of the best quality for cranberry culture. Have the land cleared, prepared and sanded so as to level it up. The brook may be straightened and a dam thrown across it so as to raise the water high enough to cover the plants well in the winter. It would be well to regulate the dam so that the height of the water may be regulated as required. The next point is to plant the vines. As many as 42,000 vines may be planted on an acre. They should be planted 1ft by 2ft apart; for if so planted they will bear longer. The next point is to raise the water to a height of about two feet above the surface until about the tenth of May. Then let the water off and the plants will grow. If the weather should be hot in summer the water should be raised a little and it will do the plants good. They will yield nicely in four or five years. As an illustration of the extent to which cranberries are cultivated in the States he might say that Mr. J. J. White grew last year, 15,000 bushels, which, at \$2, came to the tidy sum of \$30,000. Other individuals had grown 20,000 bushels. In the States there were grown about 800,000 bushels a year off 43,000 acres of land. If we would but put all our waste swamp under cranberries, a considerable amount would be obtained for those engaged in the work and for the province at large. He had taken \$300 net off two acres of land; and the greatest trouble was to see that the fence was all right.

The President asked, "how about weeds?"

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Mr. Dickie replied that there was no need to bother about them. Moss is injurious; but sanding will kill the moss.

As to prices, the quotations were in November, 10s, 11s, 13s per bushel. The berries are put up in one bushel boxes. The freight and charges per box amount to 70 cents.

Mr. Geo. Goff—How much sand is used in dressing?

Mr. Dickie—Three, four or five inches.

Mr. J. A. Ferguson—Is shore sand good?

Mr. Dickie—Shore sand is best.

The President—When do you begin to pick?

Mr. Dickie—About the 20th of September.

Question—When do you set out the plants?

Mr. Dickie—We begin setting out in the spring; and they may be set out in the fall. Cranberries may be propagated from the seed. But it is better to get vines and plant carefully.

After some further conversation Mr. Dickie took his seat amid applause.

SECRETARY'S NOTES OF MEETING.

Mr. F. G. Bovyer, on behalf of Hon. Senator Ferguson, who was absent at Ottawa, asked permission to read Mr. Ferguson's report on his packing, &c., of the trial shipment. After some discussion leave to read report was granted. On motion of Rev. A. E. Burke, seconded by H. A. Stewart, it was ordered to lie on the table.

The President read a communication from L. Woolverton, Secretary of the Ontario Fruit Growing Association respecting the storage and inspection of shipments of apples by ocean steamers, and asking for the co-operation of the P. E. I. Association. Moved by Rev. A. E. Burke, seconded by Mr. John Robertson:

Whereas, recent investigation has discovered the fact that the steamship accommodation at present afforded for the trans-Atlantic carriage of fruits is altogether unsuitable, lack of ventilation in the holds of vessels and other serious defects connected with shipment resulting in immense losses to the fruit growers of the Dominion annually.

Therefore Resolved, that the Department of Agriculture be requested by the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island, to take steps to remedy these serious defects by the appointment of inspectors, by requiring proper facilities for the shipment of fruit on steamships offering for such consignments, and instituting a system of registration of temperature in holds which will meet the necessities of the case.

On being put to the meeting this resolution was adopted.

BEST VARIETIES

Mr. John Robertson, who was the first speaker, said the English buyers don't mind the kind if they are sound, dry, and packed well. The Spy, Jenetting, Alexander, Ben Davis, Canadian Baldwin, Gravenstein are all good. He

thought they should be encouraged. People should not top-graft them. The King of Tompkins has the English market. Kings is a fine apple, although you only get half as many as other trees bear you get double the price. Roxbury Russet he said was not very well known.

He read the following statement: Shipment of 25 barrels of apples on November 5th, 1898, with 1 ventilated barrel. Got the barrels October 13th.

15 Alexander sold for 20s	\$ 4 86
10 Wealthy " " 15s 9d	3 83
1 " " 13s	3 16

I could not get any from the farmers to ship on their own account.

JOHN ROBERTSON,
Inkerman.

Mr. Wise then gave the following quotations from the English market, on Feb. 19:—

Golden Russet	No 1	25s
Baldwin	" 1	19s
"	" 2	15s
Greenings	" 1	20s
"	" 2	16s
Spy	" 1	19s
"	" 2	15s
Ben Davis	" 1	18s
"	" 2	15s
Nonpariel	" 1	20s
"	" 2	16s

Mr. John Robertson was not an admirer of American Golden Russets. He would have saved lots of money if he had cut down the Fameuse fifteen years ago. Pewaukee bears well. Pewaukee is hardy, so is Mann. Wagner is a very good apple. Duchess of Oldenburg and Gravenstein should be named.

Lt.-Governor Howlan read a statement showing that 16 kinds of apples shipped from Oshawa, Ont., brought an average of 18s. They included Golden Russet, 20s, Baldwin, 20s, Greening, 19s 9d, Spy 20s, &c.

Mr. E. W. Taylor remarked that Ribstons should be included. He had made a small shipment and for No. 2 Ribstons he received 18s per bbl. Had not the No. 1 been damaged, it would have brought at least 22s.

Mr. F. B. McRae exhibited fine specimens of Kings and strongly recommended them.

Mr. J. A. Ferguson remarked that he had grafted Ribstons and received good results.

Mr. Walter Simpson had a like experience.

Mr. John Robertson regarded the Ribston Pippin as a very poor bearer. He

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had to wait a long time and then they bore very lightly. They want potash and bone. Perhaps he had neglected this variety.

Mr. C. R. Dickie asked if any person had tested the Newton Pippin? Up to the present time King's has taken the lead, realizing as high as 32s. Mr. Dickie held it was not our choice, but the English buyer's. We should grow with a view to shipping to the British market. Those shy bearers must want something in the soil to cause them to bear. He had on one occasion put about a foot of soil around a shy bearer and next year it bore well. Another man had irrigated with good results. It is this year's work that tells next year.

Mr. R. Carruthers, Cape Traverse, recommended Ben Davis.

Mr. J. Robertson in reply to Mr. Peter Robertson, considered Williams' Favorite a good kind, but the trouble with these soft varieties is they cannot be packed without bruising them.

Mr. F. G. Boyver thought we should get kinds which do not require spraying, Golden Russets for instance.

Mackintosh Red, Mr. Bayfield said, next to Fameuse, was liable to scab. He said it could be kept clean by spraying it four or five times a year.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock.

NIGHT SESSION.

The business of the meeting was resumed at 8 o'clock, p. m.

GOVERNMENT AID.

Mr. H. A. Stewart, Hamilton, brought up the matter of obtaining aid from the Government. He considered we should have small experimental stations such as have been established in Ontario. These stations only cost a few hundred dollars a year.

Hon. D. Farquharson said that the Government was in sympathy with the Association, and desired to assist its efforts towards the improvement of fruit-growing throughout the province. He thought that if some of our young men were to learn grafting, etc., and were sent among the farmers to give object lessons to those who were not acquainted with the best methods, good would be done. The sooner our people began orcharding with a view to shipment to the British markets, the better for them and the province at large.

Mr. F. G. Boyver did not believe in experimental stations. They had not done much for Canada. He had studied them closely and except the chemical reports of the professors there was very little benefit derived from them. Our cheese industry had been established by the Government sending one man here to instruct the farmers and show them how to carry on the business. If the money spent were given through this association there would be thousands of orchards all over the country as object lessons for others.

Mr. Bayfield thought we never could gather reliable information from the

multitude, as they treated the trees differently. He thought it necessary to have one man to experiment carefully, say on Government Farm.

Mr. Dickie believed the better way would be to have a part of Government Farm laid off and raise grafts and scatter them all over the country to enable the people to raise them in their orchards.

Mr. Robertson could not see how this could be done. It would be impossible to get men to attend to them properly.

Mr. Geo. E. Goff thought we ought to have one experimental station with one good man in charge. The Government might take hold of it.

Mr. Robertson pointed to the Government Farm being run by good men, who could not make it pay.

Mr. J. A. Ferguson did not believe in the Government conducting these industries. It would be like the Stock Farm, a white elephant on their hands. How many farmers would see a station on Government farm or send for a report. If experimental stations were in different parts of the country they would be seen by almost everybody. He believed in sending men around to graft the trees and teach the public.

Mr. Dickie thought if there was a good orchard on Government Farm it would not be run at a loss.

Mr. Simpson believed in more than one illustration station. Our farmers only want to see if orcharding will pay, then they will engage in it. They did so in the dairy business.

Mr. Bovyer said if there is any one thing that makes a man ashamed of being a farmer it is this running after the Government for assistance. The farmers should be able to teach the politicians, and not be looking to them for information. Any man who goes into farming with intelligence and industry need not be looking for stations and all that humbug.

Mr. J. A. Ferguson thought it would be a long time before we could learn horticulture from Government Farm. It has not a fruit tree on it. Those present would be very little good when they would learn anything about horticulture from Government Farm.

Mr. John Robertson favored sending men around to graft.

REPORT ON BEST VARIETIES.

The Committee on Varieties recommended the following as the best apple trees to plant in this Province :—

FOR HOME MARKET.

Autumn Varieties—Gravenstein and Duchess.
Winter and late keepers—Wealthy, Baldwin and Ben Davis.

FOR EXPORT.

Alexander, Ben Davis, Wealthy, King, Golden Russet, Ribston Pippin, Non-pariel, Mann.

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Mr. C. R. Dickie spoke for something that takes the eye of the English buyer at present. We want what suits the English market, then we will get the price.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Moved by Rev. A. E. Burke, seconded by F. G. Bovyer, Esq., that the balance of the legislative grant be expended in the three counties, in paying experts to top-graft orchards where required, on payment of a small fee by those requiring the grafts.

Mr. Bovyer spoke in favor of a Horticultural exhibition next fall.

Mr. H. A. Stewart suggested holding meetings in different parts of the country to discuss fruit growing, the expense of such meetings to be paid by the Association.

Mr. F. B. McRae said we must creep before we walk. We want the trees and fruit. The Association had done a splendid service in making a trial shipment, and the best use we can now apply the balance of the grant to is in top-grafting trees.

A hearty vote of thanks was then tendered Edward Bayfield, Esq., the retiring president, for his very valuable services during the past year, to which he responded in appropriate terms.

On motion of Walter Simpson, Esq., seconded by E. W. Taylor, Esq., the thanks of the Association were tendered to H. A. Stewart, Esq., Hamilton, and Fred Bovyer, Esq., Georgetown, for their valuable papers, and C. R. Dickey, Esq., Muddy Creek, for his splendid address on Cranberry Culture.

The meeting then closed.



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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION.

Art. I. This Association shall be called the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island.

Art. II. Its object shall be the advancement of the science and art of fruit culture, by holding meetings for the exhibition of fruit and for the discussion of all questions relative to fruit culture, by collecting, arranging and disseminating useful information, and by such other means as may from time to time seem advisable.

Art. III. The annual meeting of the Association shall be held at such time and place as shall be designated by the Association.

Art. IV. The officers of the Association shall be composed of a President, Vice-President, a Secretary, or Secretary-Treasurer, and nine Directors.

Art. V. Any person may become a member by an annual payment of one dollar, and a payment of ten dollars shall constitute a member for life.

Art. VI. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of the majority of the members present at any regular meeting, notice of the proposed amendments having been given at the previous meeting.

Art. VII. The said Officers and Directors shall prepare and present at the annual meeting of the Association, a report of their proceedings during the year, in which shall be stated the names of all the members of the Association, the places of meeting during the year, and such information as the Association shall have been able to obtain on the subject of fruit culture in the Province during the year. There shall also be presented at the said annual meeting a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Association during the year, which report and statement shall be entered in the journal and signed by the President as being a correct copy; and a true copy thereof, certified by the Secretary for the time being, shall be sent to the government within forty days after the holding of such annual meeting.

Art. VIII. The Association shall have power to make, alter and amend By-laws for prescribing the mode of admission of new members, the election of officers, and otherwise regulating the administration of its affairs and property.

BY-LAWS.

1. The President, Vice-President and Secretary, or Secretary-Treasurer, shall be *ex-officio* members of all committees.

2. The Directors may offer premiums to any person originating or introducing any new fruit adapted to the climate of the Province which shall possess such distinctive excellence as shall, in their opinion, render the same of special value; also

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3. The Secretary shall prepare an annual report containing the minutes of the proceedings of meetings during the year; a detailed statement of receipts and expenditure, the reports upon fruits received from different localities, and all essays to which prizes have been awarded, and such other information in regard to fruit culture as may have been received during the year, and submit the same to the Directors or any Committee of Directors appointed for this purpose, and, with their sanction, after presenting the same at the annual meeting, cause the same to be printed by and through the Publication Committee, and send a copy thereof to each member of the Association and to the government.

4. Five Directors shall constitute a quorum, and if at any meeting of Directors there shall not be a quorum, the members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall be obtained.

5. The annual subscription shall be due in advance at the annual meeting.

6. The President, (or in case of his disability, the Vice-President), may convene special meetings at such times and places as he may deem advisable; and he shall convene such special meetings as shall be requested in writing by five members.

7. The President may deliver an address on some subject relating to the objects of the Association.

8. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the Association, keep a correct account thereof and submit the same to the Directors at any legal meeting of such Directors, five days' notice having been previously given for that purpose.

9. The Directors shall audit and pass all accounts, which when approved of by the President's signature, shall be submitted to and paid by the Treasurer.

10. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Association, conduct the correspondence, give not less than ten days' notice of all meetings to the members, and specify the business of special meetings.

11. The Directors, touching the conduct of the Association, shall at all times have absolute power and control of the funds and property of the Association, subject however to the meaning and construction of the Constitution.

12. At special meetings no business shall be transacted except that stated in the Secretary's circular.

13. The order of business shall be: (1) Reading of the minutes; (2) Reading of the Director's Report; (3) Reading of the Treasurer's Report; (4) Reading of the prize essays; (5) President's Address; (6) Election of Officers, and (7) Miscellaneous business.

14. These By-laws may be amended at any general meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

15. Each member of the Fruit Committee shall be charged with the duty of accumulating information touching the state of the fruit crop, the introduction of new varieties, the market value of fruits in his particular section of the country, together with such other general and useful information touching fruit interests as may be desirable, and report in writing to the Secretary of the Association on or before the fifteenth day of September in each year.

APPENDIX A.

HON. SENATOR FERGUSON'S REPORT

To the President and Members of the Fruit Growers' Association of P. E. Island.

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, having undertaken, in connection with Messrs. Robertson and Sharpe, at the instance of the Association, at the meeting held on the Fourth of October last, the duty of selecting, packing and otherwise managing a trial shipment of apples to be made to England by the steamer "Lake Winnipeg," has the honor to report as follows :—

The difficulty of obtaining apples of the different varieties was found at first to be very great, and when it was ascertained that the "Lake Winnipeg" would not make her departure from Charlottetown until three weeks later than the date announced at the meeting of the Association, and that she was not fitted for carrying apples in cold storage, grave doubts were felt by the undersigned and others as to the prudence of including in the shipment any of what are usually known as the soft varieties. Doubts on this point were greatly strengthened by the opinions of Professor Robertson and the Messrs. Starr of Wolfville, N. S., to whom the undersigned had applied for advice on matters relating generally to the shipment. The lateness of the "Lake Winnipeg's" departure had, however, this compensation, that it suggested the desirability of including other varieties which were considered to be too late in coming to maturity for an October shipment. The general result of this trial shipment shows that, while it is undoubtedly safer to ship all varieties in their accredited season, yet it is plain that Prince Edward Island fruit can, with proper care in preservation and shipment, be placed on the English market at later dates than apples of the same varieties grown in the other Canadian Provinces or the United States. This knowledge shows how great are the possibilities of apple growing for commercial purposes in Prince Edward Island.

Another difficulty was found in inducing the owners of desirable fruit to take the risk of shipment. Much time was spent in efforts in that direction, but without success, until the undersigned put an option before the fruit growers of taking their apples and shipping them on their own account or paying them fair market prices and relieving them of any risk whatever. This proposition had in most cases the desired effect and resulted in 78 barrels being furnished on owners' account, and 55 barrels being purchased by the undersigned at prices ranging according to quality and variety from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per barrel.

It being understood at the October meeting that all matters relating to the

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shipment would be left to the Packing Committee, the undersigned at the request of the other members, contracted with Mr. Full for the manufacture of barrels, and had them and other material requisite for packing distributed as required.

The undersigned attended personally to the packing of all the apples selected by him, which took up a good deal of time and involved much travelling and laborious attention to details.

The undersigned, acting on the advice of men of great experience in the apple trade of Nova Scotia, opened communications for the sale of all the apples with Messrs. J. C. Houghton & Co., of Liverpool, and Messrs. Nothard and Lowe, of London, explaining fully to them the nature of the experiment which was being made by the Association. * * * The 35 barrels referred to were consigned to Messrs. Garcia & Jacobs, of Covent Garden, London, a firm of standing, with whom, or their Canadian agent the undersigned had no previous communication. The other 98 barrels were consigned to Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, of Tooley St. London, and consisted of 12 barrels Spys, 19 Ben Davis, 37 Pewaukees, 7 Baldwins, 9 Talmans, 4 Swaars, 5 Golden Russets and 5 Ribstons. In this way the apples packed by the other members of the Committee were, on the undersigned's suggestion, given the advantage of the arrangements he had made with J. C. Houghton & Co., of Liverpool, for the sale of a portion of the fruit in that market. This seemed to be the most desirable arrangement as the apples packed by the undersigned were of late varieties and could better withstand the effects of the extra handling involved in going to London.

The undersigned made application to the Beaver Line, through their Charlottetown agent, Mr. N. Rattenbury, for suitable space on the "Lake Winnipeg" and on the arrival of that boat in Charlottetown secured the services of Capt. McMillan, Chief Engineer of the "Stanley" to assist in selecting well ventilated space for the entire apple shipment of the Association—the steamer not being fitted with proper cold storage. Through these efforts a most desirable position was obtained for these apples right beneath the large ventilating shafts in the aft part of the ship. The removal of the entire apple shipment from Peake's No. 2 Wharf, on which they were stored, to Poole & Lewis' Wharf was necessitated at the last moment. The undersigned attended personally to the removal and overlooked the loading and storing until near midnight, of the day previous to the departure of the Steamer, when the last barrel and box were put in their places on board the ship. No rough handling was permitted on this side of the Atlantic.

The apples were shipped on through Bills of Lading to London at 3 shillings and 10 pence per barrel to go from Liverpool to London by sea. As explained in the letter of Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, that firm ordered their carriage from Liverpool to London by rail, being, as they say, the more advantageous way. The additional cost was one shilling per barrel, making the entire freight four shillings and ten pence.

Herewith attached are the Return Sales * received from both firms, already mentioned, with the statements in detail of the expenses incurred on this side of the Ocean, the amount paid for the purchase of apples and barrels, the amount

paid to the fruit growers who furnished apples to be shipped on their own account, and the net prices received for each variety. Ribstons and Russets sold by Nothard & Lowe, netted \$3.44 per barrel. Russets sold by Garcia, Jacobs & Co. netted \$2.98. Ribstons sold by Garcia, Jacobs & Co. netted \$2.06. Kings all sold by Garcia, Jacobs & Co. netted \$2.76. Spys to both firms netted \$2 52. Ben Davis all of which were entrusted to Nothard & Lowe, netted \$2.52. Baldwins sold by Nothard & Lowe, netted \$2.52. Baldwins sold by Garcia, Jacobs & Co., netted \$2.18. Pewaukees, all of which were entrusted to Nothard & Lowe netted \$2.18. The Talmans and Swaars, both of which varieties were consigned to Nothard & Lowe, realized net \$1.83 and \$1.57 respectively. The commission charged by both firms was the same, being 5 per cent. The petty charges in London were about eight pence per barrel and the freight as already stated four shillings and ten pence.

The expenses on this side are entirely made up of cash paid out by the undersigned, and no charge is made for his personal services of any kind. The total amount paid for apples purchased was \$124 34. Returns in cash to persons who shipped on their own account amounted to \$176.37, expenses on this side to \$44 78. In all \$346 09. The returns from the British Merchants was \$352 67, leaving a balance of \$6 58 in favor of the transaction for which the undersigned's cheque has been presented to the funds of the Association.

It is pleasing to find that despite drawbacks and disadvantages arising from want of experience this trial shipment has proved entirely successful, and that Prince Edward Island apples have merited such favorable comments from the British Merchants who handled them. The undersigned has no hesitation in recording his conviction, arising from pretty wide examination of the product of our apple trees, that with careful attention to planting, fertilizing, pruning, spraying and grafting, fruit growing will become in the near future one of our best industries. There is no cause for discounting the capabilities of our soil and climate. All the best varieties, suitable to temperate climates, thrive well, under good treatment, in Prince Edward Island.

Herewith is attached a list of the names of all the fruit growers who furnished apples for this trial shipment and it is suggested that their names be preserved on the records of the Association. To all those persons thanks is due for cordial and in many cases enthusiastic co-operation. The undersigned also desires to thank our Secretary, Mr. McCourt, for his kindness in writing to the consignees, recommending these shipments in the name of the Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. FERGUSON.

Tulloch Avenue, Dec. 17, 1898.

* It is necessary to state here that the account of sales of apples shipped by Hon. Senator Ferguson, on his own account, the names of the varieties, and names of growers of same, are not included in this report, but kept in the records of the Association.

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

Account sales of 35 barrels of Apples, ex "Lake Winnipeg," sold by order and for account of the Hon. Senator Ferguson:—

Association—

		£	s	d
5 barrels	Kings, 19s	-	-	4 15
4 "	Spys, 18s	-	-	3 12
3 "	Golden Russett, 20s	-	-	3
17 "	Ribstons, 16s	-	-	13 12
5 "	Baldwins, 16s 6d	-	-	4 2 6
1 "	Ben Davis, slack, 13s 6d	-	-	13 6
				£29 15 0

* CHARGES.

	£	s	d
Telegram : Entries, 2s 6d ; insurance, 5s	-	-	7 6
Freight	-	-	8 9 6
Market dues, receiving and delivering	-	-	11 8
Brokerage and delcredere	-	-	1 9 9
			10 18 5
Net proceeds	-	-	£18 16 7

GARCIA, JACOBS & CO.

E. E. London, Nov. 30, 1898.

*The expenses of this shipment when on board in Charlottetown, amounted to $59\frac{2}{3}$ cents per barrel— $33\frac{2}{3}$ cents for miscellaneous charges, and 26 cents for each barrel.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

D. Ferguson, in account with Apple Shipment per "Lake Winnipeg."

Dec. 15, 1898—To amt. of draft from Nothard & Lowe	-	-	\$ 261 92
" " " " " " " " Garcia, Jacobs & Co	-	-	90 75
			\$ 352 67

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By amt expended in buying apples	-	-	\$ 124 34
" paid for apples shipped owners acc't	-	-	134 04
" net proceeds of own apples	-	-	42 93
" expenses paid in P. E. I.	-	-	44 78
" balance per cheque paid Treasurer	-	-	6 58
			\$ 352 67

Tulloch Avenue, Dec. 17th, 1898.

Your audit committee finds the above report as stated.

JOHN H. GILL,
C. R. DICKIE.

Ch'town, March 21, 1899.

Auditors.

APPENDIX B.

SKETCH OF THE ASSOCIATION BY SECRETARY.

This being the first official report of the Fruit Growers' Association of Prince Edward Island, it seemed to me that it would be incomplete without a brief sketch of the organization and subsequent annual meetings of the Association, reports of which have not been published officially. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of supplying this information for two reasons. 1. I consider it important that a record of those meetings should be placed within easy reach of those who, in after years, will have charge of this Association, and might wish to know who was instrumental in starting it. 2. Because I have this information at my hand and can supply it briefly without great inconvenience.

Shortly after his appointment to the Gubernatorial chair of this Province, in 1894, His Honor Lieutenant Governor Howlan endeavored on every suitable occasion to impress upon the Government and people of the Province the advisability of taking up horticulture, with a view to shipping our apples to the British Market. He gave the subject careful study, and arrived at the conclusion that horticulture could be made one of the most profitable industries in the Province. But his advocacy of the enterprise was checked for a time by the fact that our own market was supplied by the orchardists of Nova Scotia, while scarcely any person could be induced to purchase our own apples. This did not deter His Honor, however; in fact it only made him more determined to accomplish his object, as the following reply to a letter written by him shows clearly:

Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, Jan. 6, 1896.

*Hon. G. W. Howlan, Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown,
P. E. I.*

Dear Mr. Howlan:—Knowing the great interest you take in all matters pertaining to the Island, and especially to the advancement of Fruit Culture, I beg to advise you that, under instructions of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, I have arranged for a series of meetings to be held in Prince Edward Island, for the discussion of this subject, and am arranging for our horticulturist, Mr. Craig, to attend and give addresses on these occasions. A meeting will be held at Charlottetown, on Tuesday Jan. 26th, at 2 p. m.; one at Cardigan, on Wednesday the 29th, at 2 p. m.; one at Alberton, on Friday the 31st, at 2 p. m.; one at Summerside, on Saturday Feb. 1st, at 2 p. m. Mr. Craig will be prepared to discuss fruit matters generally, with the people, and I hope his visit will result in stimulating the fruit industry throughout the Island.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM SAUNDERS, Director.

At those meetings, several of which were presided over by His Honor, delegates were appointed to meet in Charlottetown and organize a Fruit Growers' Association. Those delegates met accordingly on the 30th March, 1896, and

elected the
Dewar, Vice-
—J. H. Gill
A. Sharpe,
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lected the following officers : John Robertson, Inkerman, President ; Alfred E. Dewar, Vice President ; Richard Burke, Sec.-Treas. ; Directors for Queen's Co.—J. H. Gill, Alfred Dewar, Richard Burke ; Prince Co.—Rev. A. E. Burke, D. A. Sharpe, John Johnstone ; King's Co.—John Robertson, D. J. Stewart, G. E. Goff.

His Honor, Lieutenant-Governor Howlan was appointed an Honorary Member of the Association, and received hearty congratulations and very warm praise for his disinterested and untiring efforts to advance horticultural interests in this Province. At this meeting the by-laws and constitution of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario were unanimously adopted.

The first annual meeting of the Association was held in the Market Building, in Charlottetown, on March 26, 1897, when the following staff of officers were elected : Hon. President—Lt.-Governor Howlan ; President—F. B. McRae ; Vice-President—Edward Bayfield ; Sec.-Treas.—D. J. Stewart ; Directors, Queen's—J. H. Gill, R. Burke, Jos. Wise ; King's—John Robertson, D. J. Stewart, Geo. E. Goff ; Prince—Rev. A. E. Burke, A. K. Henry, D. A. Sharpe.

The second annual meeting was held in Charlottetown on April 19th, 1898. There was but a small attendance of members ; but those present were not thereby disheartened. It was evident that the organization was retrograding and required energetic action. It was therefore moved by Rev. A. E. Burke, seconded by Mr. Richard Burke, that an Act of Incorporation be secured at once. Mr. E. Bayfield and Mr. Jos. Wise, M. L. A., were appointed a committee to draft same, and have it passed, and it is worthy of mention here that through their efforts it was enacted without cost to the Association. At this meeting the following officers were elected :

Patron—Lt.-Governor Howlan ; President—Edward Bayfield ; Vice President—John Robertson ; Secy.—Peter McCourt ; Treas.—Joseph Wise ; Directors, Queens—R. Burke, J. H. Gill, Peter McCallum ; Prince—Rev. A. E. Burke, D. A. Sharpe, John Johnstone ; King's—F. G. Bovyer, D. J. Stewart, Geo. E. Goff.

On July 5th, 1898, a meeting of the Western Fruit Growers' Association was held at Summerside, which was attended by several of the members, also by Lt. Governor Howlan, Edward Bayfield, President, and Peter McCourt, Secretary. After a very cordial and satisfactory exchange of views, the Western Association was by a unanimous vote amalgamated with the Fruit Growers' Association of P. E. Island.

This brief sketch of the infant days of the Association may not be of special interest to a great many Islanders at the present time, but when Fruit Growing becomes one of the staple industries of this Province, as it is destined to do, and newspaper files pass out of reach, it may be of some service to those who shall have occasion to refer to it.

S, Director.

His Honor,
Fruit Growers'
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