

THE London *Gardener's Chronicle*, the leading Horticultural and Pomological journal of the world, says, in reference to the London Show at Chiswick, (20th October):—

"The Exhibition has been enriched by a remarkably fine and interesting collection of Apples sent by Mr. G. R. H. Starr, of Port Williams, Nova Scotia, whose London agents, Messrs. Nothard & Lowe, have admirably set up and further increased the value of the collection by indicating those sorts which are generally sent from Nova Scotia to the English Market. These are the Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening, Cooper's Russet, Blue Pearmain, Talman's Sweet, Gravenstein, Flushing Spitzenberg, King of the Pippins, Willoughby, Golden Russet, King of Tompkins County, Sweet Russet, Pomme Gris, Golden Pippin, Ribston Pippin, and Mammoth Russet. Most of these are of medium size, and several of them highly coloured, but all, by comparison with home-grown samples, are of low specific gravity. As regards handsome appearance, these Nova Scotian Apples compare most favourably with the best of our own, but contain much less water and sugar. Such varieties as the Emperor Alexander, Fall Pippin, Chebucto Beauty, Dutch Collin and Cat's Head are finely represented."

In the succeeding number of the *Gardener's Chronicle*, (27th October) we have the following —

"We omitted last week, in mentioning the collection of Apples received at Chiswick from Nova Scotia, to refer to the simple and admirable system of packing adopted by the importers, and which constitutes one of the secrets of the great success which attends foreign Apple importation. Many thousands of barrels come over from Nova Scotia yearly, thus making an important article of commerce, and when we note the singularly bright and unbruised condition of the samples put up at Chiswick, and assume that these are but samples further of the ordinary condition in which imported Apples come to the market, it is not possible to wonder why these foreign fruits meet with such a ready sale. Apart from their fine size, and in many cases rich colouring, there is the fact that even in the result of handling and packing alone they seem to excel our market samples, although the former have come thousands of miles. Why is it so? The obvious reason is that more care is shown in packing and picking, and, not least, in sizing, so that the sample throughout is an even and a sound one. The lot at Chiswick (as do all other imported kinds from our North American colony) came packed in a neat barrel resembling an ordinary flour barrel. This was lined with soft paper, and into it were placed the fruits as evenly as possible, having regard to the fact that in this case, the fruits being of many sorts, were of various sizes. A piece of thin paper divided each kind, and when the barrel was filled a little packing before the head was put in served to keep all tight. When quantities of fruits of one kind are sent the samples in the tubs are even throughout, and hence the very best packing material proves to be the Apples themselves. Perhaps the Nova Scotia fruit may be of firmer flesh than ours, but it is obvious that the rough-and-tumble treatment our market

Apples get is not bestowed upon these beautiful imported fruits."

SEVERAL experiments have lately been made in England, with unexpected success, on the Jensonian method of Potato Culture, a plan by which the potatoes are preserved from disease by earthing up to a great height with fine earth so that the spores of the fungus may not reach the potatoes. Some people doubt Mr. Jenson's theory, but no one doubts the fact that earthing up lessens the number of diseased tubers. Moreover, Mr. Plowright, one of the most reliable of English Mycologists says, in *Gardeners' Chronicle* of December, that actual observation during the past year has convinced him that potatoes become diseased, not by the fungus (*Peronospora*) travelling down the stalk of the potato vine to the tubers, but that the spores pierce the skin of the tubers, and thus directly infect them. This view is certainly strengthened by the fact so well known in Nova Scotia, that thick skinned potatoes are less liable to disease than others. It is very desirable that our farmers should try the high earthing up plan, known as the Jensonian Culture. The district about Shubenacadie, the soil being very fine and friable, is admirably adapted for the experiment, and so also many farms in the Potato Paradise of King's County.

At a meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society on 12th December, the Earl of Rosslyn presiding, attention was called to the extraordinary yields of butter recorded from Jersey cows in America, and, it having been stated that these yields were weighed by troy, or old apothecaries' weight, instead of avoirdupois, the Secretary was requested to ask for a set of pound and ounce weights by which such yields were tested and recorded.

THIS season's crop of Indian Corn in the United States is estimated at 1600 millions of bushels, only about 17 millions less than last year. Wheat, however, is about 100 millions bushels less; oats, barley and roots, more abundant; hay nearly the same, autumn grass considerably in excess. Three fourths of the meat now consumed in Eastern cities comes from the west in refrigerator cars. A. B. Allen, *Agricultural Gazette*.

WHY DO ANIMALS NEED SALT?—Prof. James E. Johnson, of Scotland, says:—"Upwards of half the saline matter of blood (fifty-seven per cent.) consists of common salt, and this is partly discharged every day through the skin and kidneys. The necessity of continued supplies of it to the healthy body becomes sufficiently obvious. The bile also contains soda (one of the ingredients of salt) as a special

and indispensable constituent, and so do all the cartilages of the body. Stint the supply of salt, therefore, and neither will the bile be able properly to assist digestion, nor the cartilage to build up again as fast as it naturally wastes. It is better to place salt where stock can have free access to it than to give it occasionally in large quantities. They will help themselves to what they need if allowed to do so at pleasure; otherwise, when they become 'salt hungry,' they may take more than is whole-ome."—*Empire State Agriculturist*.

A PHILADELPHIA paper, after congratulating its readers upon the Republican successes, says:

One incident of this handsome victory has some local interest here, where the subject of it is well known as formerly one of Philadelphia's highly-esteemed citizens. The town of Litchfield is one of the strongholds of the Democracy. Last year, a place was conceded on the ticket to F. Hatchford Starr, Esq., who filled his place in the Legislature with so much acceptance that this year, although a full Democratic ticket was run against him he has been handsomely re-elected. The tribute to a gentleman of straight-out Republicanism in a bitterly strong Democratic district was paid not only to good legislative work, but to the great service done by Mr. Starr, to his neighborhood in the prosecution of his large operations in connection with his famous Echo Farm.

Advertisements.

Resolution of Provincial Board of Agriculture,
3rd March, 1882.

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