

which our climate is not favorable, but we have the finest apples in the world, apples famous for their rich, delicate quality. I believe that also below the City of Quebec, there are plums raised which are equal in quality to any raised elsewhere. They are not so large and fine looking, but in the matter of quality, in deliciousness, they surpass any other fruit in the world.

We have ample facilities also for raising small fruits of every kind, and though we cannot market them quite as early as people west and south of us can, still we have them of the finest possible quality and for just as long a season. What we should strive for is to obtain quality. I think quality far more important than quantity. If the quality of our productions is kept up, our reputation will be made, and our products will be in demand in the best markets in the world. (Applause). And while we may not be able to produce quite such a large variety of fine looking fruit as California and British Columbia and some of the more favoured southern countries, still, I am glad to know the quality of our fruit far exceeds theirs, and it is that we should aim at keeping as high as possible. At present the raising of fruit for export is receiving a great deal of attention. In this Province we have not yet turned our attention in this direction to any great extent, except in the neighborhood of Montreal. The export of fruit is a thing we must look forward to, and there is also a large market at home, in our own Province, which is not sufficiently supplied by our own people. It is certainly a matter for regret that this Province should have to send so much money out of it every year in order to pay for fruit that is eaten by our people. That is not right. When we can produce the fruit ourselves, there is no reason why we should not do so and keep this money which we spend on imported fruit circulating in our own midst, and use for other purposes what we have to send abroad. This question of producing fruit for export is rapidly engrossing the attention of fruit-growers in other parts of the country, and it may be of interest, perhaps, to this Association if I should say a word or two regarding what they look forward to. Last fall it was my good fortune to go down to Nova Scotia, and there I came into contact with the fruit-growers of the far-famed Annapolis Valley—a portion of the country, comparatively speaking, of small area, but rich and productive, and which grows and exports an enormous quantity of good apples. Of course the crop this year was quite abnormal, never equalled in the past, and not likely to be in the near future. From that little piece of country, the Annapolis Valley, not larger than the Counties of Chateauguay and Huntingdon, not less than 400,000 barrels of apples were exported last season. It is true that a good many of these did not bring any return in England, but that was because, unfortunately, they were not sent forward properly packed and with proper care, and the prices got were consequently comparatively small. Yet despite the fact that they sent out that enormous quantity of apples this year from the Annapolis Valley, not one-quarter of the land there available for apple culture is in orchard, so that they could easily multiply that export four or five times, provided the crop per acre were as great as it was this year. In the Province of Ontario, the Fruit-Growers' Association have been turning their attention to the export trade. Last year, 1895, they sent experimental shipments to Australia. The experiment was not successful; the whole thing was practically lost, but that was due to the fact that the shipping arrangements were not good. This last fall, however, they

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