

The loss sustained every season by Canada (mostly by Ontario), in this branch of industry, is very large. I have no means at hand wherewith I may compute the total, but some idea may be obtained by applying the average loss per barrel to the shipments from Montreal for one week ending November 7th, which amounted to 27,126 barrels. The preventable loss on this lot would be \$21,000, while the loss on the same quantity if shipped from Boston or New York, would hardly have exceeded \$6,500.

If this subject is thoroughly investigated by intelligent business persons who are practically acquainted with the apple buying and shipping business, I am convinced that this grievous loss to our people, can, to a great extent, be saved. Then, if the present English prices are maintained, the middlemen will secure for themselves a better because a more certain profit than at present, after paying to the growers from fifty to one hundred per cent. more than they have done of late years for our own winter apples.

Lindsay.

THOS. BEALL.

PLANTING APPLE TREES CLOSE TOGETHER.

Some time since a writer in your paper advised planting apple trees 35 to 45 ft. apart, as this will prevent rot, permit the apples to color up better, etc. In part he was right, but in my opinion he was on the whole wrong. In order to make an orchard profitable, it is necessary to have more trees on a given amount of land than when placed 35 to 45 ft. apart. If we can do this and not injure the lands, trees or fruit, I think we have made a fair start toward profitable commercial orcharding.

While a tree is young we get the best crops. The fruit is larger, more perfect, and less liable to rot. In this locality a tree begins to fruit at the age of five or six years from planting. The next 10 or 12 years the orchard is in its prime, and if during this time we can get one-third more trees and have one-third more fruit to market we are just that much better off. The accompanying plan shows my method of setting an orchard which will increase the number of trees one-third and still give ample room for hauling and gathering until the orchard is 17 or 18 years old. If they

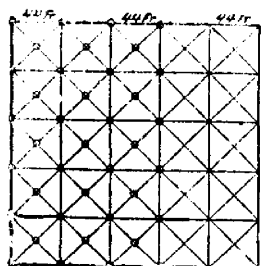


FIG. 935

then interlap, remove every other one and you will still have as many as by planting 45 apart in squares, and besides you will have had 12 years' use of the trees removed. I have given much observation to and had some experience in this matter, so if I were to plant 50 orchards I would follow the scheme above outlined. My advice to every young man is, plant in this manner, cultivate well for five or six years, branch the trees low, give them an annual topdressing and the orchard will pay, other things being equal.—American Agriculturist.