

our trees are literally breaking down with their load of magnificently colored apples. They are free from those blemishes which sometimes disfigure them, here are no worm holes, and, indeed, scarcely any second-class fruit. Out of fifty barrels just packed, there are scarcely two barrels of second-class apples, a notable contrast to some years preceding when we had one-third to cull out for that grade. The evaporator this year is not of much use, for nearly all the fruit is fitted to pack in a fresh state and bring the top price. As far as quality is concerned, the same remarks may be made of most varieties, but, unfortunately, there are scarcely any Baldwins or Spys in bearing this year. Surely such apples as Ontario is producing this season will gain for her a name that will long be remembered in the foreign market; and if fruit of such quality does not bring us remunerative prices this year, how can we expect that it ever will?

THE YIELD.—Although only a few varieties are bearing a crop this season, and perhaps three-quarters of the trees in most orchards are entirely bare of fruit, yet the yield, from those trees which are in bearing, is astonishing. One tree of Greenings, that did not appear to be unusually loaded, turned out sixteen barrels of beautiful apples. This is nothing extraordinary for this variety: some years ago we picked twenty barrels off a tree that adjoined this one. Of late, however, owing to the feeble state of the trees, such a yield has been scarcely known. This year, the trees, are comparatively free from that fungus, and seem to be recovering their old vigor and consequent productiveness. The Cranberry Pippin, above mentioned, in an orchard about twelve years planted, is yielding about four barrels to the tree. The picking was inspiring; our men tried a picking race and two of them succeeded in filling a barrel each in four minutes, and another man in five minutes. Sometimes it is difficult to average a barrel an hour, where the fruit is scattered.

HARRIS' STEP LADDER.—We always feel inclined to encourage every new appliance which is invented for the benefit of the fruit grower. Anything new in the way of packages, ladders, packing benches, etc., is always welcome to a notice in these columns, whether the result is pecuniarily beneficial to the inventor or not. Mr. Thomas Harris, of Meaford, has recently invented a folding fruit ladder; a cut of which is here given. It is strongly built and very ingeniously arranged, so that it can be folded into a portable condition and easily set up. The price seems rather high, but when the amount of work upon it is considered, it is, no doubt, worth all that is asked for it. It is well adapted to the home garden, and particularly suitable for use in an orchard on rolling ground, because its three props can be so adjusted as to be perfectly safe upon any surface. This, in our opinion, is its great commendation; and the iron hook, for pulling down all limbs until they are within reach of the hand and the support for the basket, are all great conveniences for the home garden.