

THE APPLE CROP.

UNITED STATES.

Messrs Duncan Bros., New York City, report concerning the U. S. apple crop as follows :

ONTARIO AND NOVA SCOTIA.—A full average crop, the quality been the best known for several years.

NEW ENGLAND STATES.—A light crop.

WESTERN NEW YORK AND HUDSON RIVER VALLEY.—More apples than last year, of good quality and consisting largely of Greenings.

MICHIGAN.—More than last year and of much better quality.

ARKANSAS, ILLINOIS, MISSOURI AND KANSAS.—From one-quarter to one-third of an average crop. Quality in some sections good, and in others only fair.

VIRGINIA.—A half crop of fair quality.

CALIFORNIA.—A larger crop than last year and of better quality.

These conditions indicate the necessity of great caution in buying this crop. Buyers should use great care in buying and packing and grading, exporting only fine clean fruit, carefully packed and at moderate first cost. The purchase of inferior and carelessly packed fruit, will almost surely be followed by unsatisfactory results.

The following estimate is given by Mr. Arthur P. Fowler, August 5th.

Arkansas	60%	New Jersey	75%
California	75 "	New York	40 "
Colorado	50 "	Nebraska	40 "
Illinois	45 "	Ohio	65 "
Iowa	50 "	Pennsylvania	45 "
Kansas	45 "	Virginia	65 "
Kentucky	25 "	West Virginia	60 "
Maryland	60 "	Wisconsin	35 "
Michigan	45 "	Washington	50 "
Missouri	40 "	Canada, Ont	65 "
New England	25 "	Nova Scotia	90 "

NEW YORK STATE.—The *Rural New Yorker* says :

The apple crop of western New York largely determines the price for that fruit in the eastern markets. The condition of the Baldwins decides the matter, for that variety is in an immense majority. Baldwin has had a hard season this year, and reports are all one way. Taken as a whole, the apple crop from this great section promises to be less than half, and the chief loss is in red apples. Greenings are in better condition, but few people appreciate them. Nature packed some of her richest sauce inside the skin of a Greening apple, but there is a craze for a red skin, and this fine fruit is often neglected. Early apples are promising, but buyers are likely to part with considerable money when they buy their late Fall and Winter fruit. Ben Davis may come to the front as usual, but reports indicate that even this hardy citizen feels the rheumatism in his twigs and branches, as the result of last winter's freeze.

PROPAGATION OF THE GOOSEBERRY.—Seeds for the raising of new varieties, says Professor Bailey, should be sown as soon as well cured in loamy or sandy soil ; or they may be stratified and sown together with the sand in the spring. Cuttings six to eight inches long, of the mature wood, inserted two-thirds their length, usually grow readily, especially if taken in August or September and stored during winter in the same way as currant cuttings. Single-eye cuttings may be used for rare kinds. Stronger plants are usually obtained by layers, and the English varieties are nearly

always layered in this country. Mound-layering is usually employed, the English varieties being allowed to remain in layerage two years, but the American varieties only one. Layered plants are usually set in nursery rows for a year after removal from the stools. Green-layering during summer is usually practiced for new or rare varieties. Strong plants may also be produced by tip-layering, as in the black raspberry. If it is desired to train the weaker gooseberries in tree form, they may be grafted upon the stronger growing varieties.