

ties; peas, from \$1 to \$1.50 the bushel: oats from 60 cents and 75 cents, and even \$1 the bushel.

The reason we sell our products so well, and what explains perhaps our never having enough of them, is that we have numerous lumber shanties in the neighborhood of the settlement, and the lumbermen buy them, and that we are far from large centres of production. I believe that we will have this good market for at least 20 or 30 years.

The climate of the district is one of the most salubrious in the world; in fact, there has never been any epidemic, and as a rule the population is robust and rejoices in good health. I have, indeed, noticed that many people have come here weak and ill, and after a relatively short stay, they became well.

We attribute this good sanitary condition to three principal causes: 1st, Pure and dry air; 2nd, The odor of the pine forests which surround us; 3rd, The good water we drink, and the absence of marsh and stagnant water in the settlement."

EXPORTING APPLES.

The production of apples in Canada is limited only by the markets. The apple crop of 1896 was unusually large, but through the limitation of consumption, brought but scant returns to apple growers. The United Kingdom is the centre to which Canadian apple exporters devote their best efforts, and it should occasion little surprise that the markets become glutted and shippers suffer severe losses when the orchards of Canada and the United States give an unusual yield. The *Bradford Observer* in a recent issue says:

"The season to date will be memorable and one of bitter experience to most. The stupendous receipts have completely dwarfed any previous record, being 1,159,791 barrels, against 279,036 barrels for the same period last year. The previous largest season was in 1891, when 596,003 barrels were received. These figures refer to Liverpool alone, and usually represent the bulk of the shipments to Great Britain; but this is not the case to the same extent this year, as the total receipts are over 2,200,000 barrels. London, which previously was comparatively an insignificant receiver, has had nearly 500,000 barrels, while Glasgow has taken about 355,000 barrels, and shipments have been made to other ports where it was thought possible an outlet might be found. The Liverpool figures are, of course, immensely over any other port, and represent, from the 1st of September to the 31st of December, a supply of over 9,000 barrels daily. The largest was in the week ended 24th of October, when 107,782 barrels arrived, and the supply during that month was over 12,000 barrels daily. The previous largest total import recorded was in 1891-92, when 1,450,000 barrels were received, so that in the first half of the season the imports to Great Britain are an excess of over 500,000 barrels above the total imports of any other previous entire season."

The apple exporters of the United States have attempted to create a market for their fruit in Germany. The *Pomological Monthly*, usually a good authority, is credited with the statement that during the past season 6,000,000 double centners of American apples—more than twenty times the import of any previous year—have been landed at German ports. There is apparently only one serious difficulty in the way of the exportation of Canadian or American apples to Germany, and this lies in the method of packing. Canadian apples are not well packed, although considerable improvement has been made within recent years. The United States consul at Frankfort reports that "Germany has for many years imported apples in large quantities from the Austrian Tyrol, and the contrast between the manner in which such fruit and American apples are prepared for shipment and the condition in which they respectively arrive and keep after arrival, offers a striking and suggestive lesson. Tyrolese apples, when intended for export, are carefully picked by hand when dry, or if damp when gathered, are dried and are then laid by hand closely in barrels lined with heavy manila paper. At the bottom and top of the cask is placed a thick layer of 'wood wool,' or dry, soft straw, and the barrel head being pressed down over this and fastened, the fruit is held firmly by the pressure of these two elastic cushions so as to prevent the loose rattling of one apple against another while in

transit and the consequent bruising that entails decay. Finally, holes are bored through the sides and both heads of the cask to admit air, and in this condition apples from the Alpine slopes are brought hundreds of miles by rail so free from injury that they keep throughout the winter without being unpacked or opened. They are beautiful to the eye, fair, rosy cheeked and firm of tissue, and although distinctly inferior to the best American apples in juiciness, flavor, and tenderness of pulp, they retail to-day in Frankfort at higher prices than the Spitzenberg, Baldwins, and Greenings from beyond the sea."

—The *Acadian Recorder*, of Halifax, says that the Exhibition Commission concluded their labors last Saturday, and the prize list will be submitted the Governor-in-Council for approval. There is about \$17,500 offered in premiums, including in round numbers \$3,500 for horses, \$6,800 for cattle, \$1,800 for sheep, \$900

for swine, \$450 for poultry, \$200 for dogs, \$300 dairy products, vegetables \$650, ladies' department \$400, children's department \$80, fish \$400, fruit \$1,300, plant and flowers \$375, fine arts \$250.

—A step in the right direction has been taken by the Ontario Government, says a mining paper, in deciding to open an office in Rat Portage to facilitate the development of our mineral resources. The sum of \$2,250 appears in the estimates for this purpose. Such an agent will greatly facilitate the taking up of the provincial mining lands in this district. He is to be a surveyor and draftsman, with a clerk, and will have facilities for giving information as to what lands are open for entry and what are taken.

—"I dunno which is de wust o' de two," said Uncle Eben, "de man dat t'inks he's too good ter be in politics, er de man dat's so bad he has ter be put out."—*Washington Star*.

The Ladies'



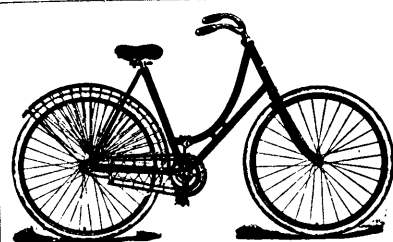
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"Garden City"
"Dominion"

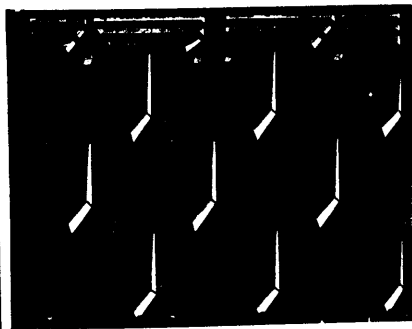
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