

trains run on passenger time on the American roads, to their great cities, and why should we not have a similar consideration?

#### GLUTTED MARKETS.

The glut of summer apples and early peaches during this season of 1891 has somewhat discouraged our high hopes with regard to the profits of growing them. Between two and three thousand baskets of magnificent Red Astrachans seemed prospectively to be a mine of wealth, but when beautiful fancy apples came to our Canadian cities in car loads from the Hudson River district and other fruit growing centres of the United States, our markets were so completely blocked that it was difficult to find a profitable sale for even extra fine stock.

Notwithstanding this, the Red Astrachan, in our opinion, cannot be surpassed as a summer market apple. If each specimen is gathered just at its highest state of perfection, surely no apple can surpass it for beauty, and, handling it in this way, we were able to dispose of the crop at fair prices, even during such an unfavorable season as this one.

The Niagara District Fruit Growers are helping the fruit business of Ontario by opening up trade with Winnipeg, and, through an arrangement with the Canadian Pacific Railway, have shipped car loads of summer apples and other stock to that city, where they are selling at remunerative prices. The great North-West may yet prove to be a fine market for our early fruits.

Good use may be made of the second-class grade of early apples, which are never fit for the market, in the way of food for stock. A few quarts of them may be cut in pieces and fed daily to each cow. She will relish them highly and her flow of milk will be much increased thereby. The horses, too, will enjoy them as an addition to the daily ration and will eat their other food with greater relish. The pigs which are shut up in small yards should by all means have a share, and if the sheep and hogs have the run of the orchard to pick up the fallen fruit—which is almost always unfit for sale—the result, in flesh, will be highly satisfactory.

What shall we say of the early peaches, such as Early Canada, Alexander, Hale's Early, etc., which, notwithstanding their fair exterior, never seem to ripen perfectly and so soon begin to decay? No wonder the prices fell to forty cents a basket, a figure very little above that which was being paid us for extra fancy Red Astrachans. The lesson seems to be to plant no early peach in any quantity, unless it be the Early Rivers, which is truly a first-class peach and meets with much favor in our markets.

The Petite Marguerite Pear has borne with us this year for the first time and commends itself as worthy of some attention from growers. It is a delicious dessert pear of medium size, greenish yellow skin with brownish red cheek; ripening about the end of August, just in advance of the Bartlett. The flesh is fine, melting, juicy and of the highest quality. Its color, however, is not the best to make it a fancy market pear.