

TETOFSKY APPLE.

BY A. BRIDGE, WEST BROOK, ONT.

I am acquainted with a man in this Township who is the owner of a fine young orchard, in which he has quite a number of the Tetofsky apple trees planted, and he regrets very much that he planted any of that variety. He has condemned it on the ground that the fruit is poor, and the tree is a slow grower. I think this cannot be said of the Tetofsky on all soils. His soil is a sandy loam, and most of his trees are doing remarkably well, but the Tetofsky refuses to grow to his liking. I know the Tetofsky is a slow grower on some soils, and I also know that it will grow as fast as the general run of apple trees if it is planted on a soil that suits it. I consider the fruit superior to the Red Astrachan.

In 1876 I planted four two year old Tetofsky trees, two and a half feet high, without a limb on one of them. I planted one of these trees on a hard clay knoll, with a hard clay subsoil. I planted it very shallow, and did not loosen the subsoil as is generally done, but set the tree on the hard ground, and put fine earth about the roots. The tree commenced to grow at once, and formed a good head the first season, and has made a good growth every season since. The tree is now a beauty to look upon, being a little over nine feet in height. It has made sixteen inches of new wood this season, making an average yearly growth of sixteen inches, and does not get any manure except a few wood ashes scattered on the surface once a year. This piece of clay ground was of no value to me until I planted it with apple trees. I formerly planted it yearly with potatoes, but it was so hard I never got a crop from it.

I planted a few other varieties on this clay knoll at the time the Tetofsky was planted, and it would do a person good to see them. They are the finest trees of their age I have ever seen, and were all planted on the surface soil, hilling up a little to get the roots covered, and the subsoil was not loosened. I dig up the ground with a fork once a year, and keep the weeds down with a hoe. There is no other crop raised on this piece of land. The trees are planted ten feet apart. The Tetofsky came into bearing in 1878, and in 1879 it bore half a bushel very fine apples. The apples grew all around the limbs, and