

weeks from Thornbury. Mr. C. C. James, Deputy of Agriculture of the Province, says: "There are those who would rather possess a plum orchard in Beaver Valley than an orange grove in California." The apple region of Lake Huron is well known to buyers who cater to the demands of the European markets. The handsome appearance and fine qualities of the fruit are duly recognized. This region produces from 300,000 to 500,000 barrels of apples per annum. The staple varieties of this region are Spy, Baldwin and Greening.

Travelling eastward along the north shore of Lake Erie, we come to another famous fruit growing region—the Niagara Peninsula. This is one of the oldest fruit growing sections of the country. Here, between 1780-90, the U. E. Loyalists received grants of land from King George, and sowed seeds of apples brought from their homes in the United States. Here, we are told, that John Smith, in the early part of this century, offered to sell his claim to 200 acres of land for a cow, but found no buyer. This land is now valued at \$300 to \$500 per acre. The improvement of native fruits by grafting and by the introduction of foreign varieties began about 1830. Since then the development has been amazingly rapid. Electric cars run every hour past the doors of the fruit growers between Hamilton and Grimsby; telephones connect their homes and bring daily market reports. During the shipping season, a fruit train leaving Niagara Falls daily and running to Hamilton, carries away such peaches, plums, cherries, grapes, pears and berries as are not shipped by boat from Hamilton or St. Catharines. A single firm paid \$3,000 for fruit baskets in 1894, these cost from \$3 to \$4 per hundred. Wine making is also an important industry. The old town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is the shipping point for a splendid peach section. In 1894 300,000 baskets, mainly peaches, were sent out from this port. It is worthy of mention that figs and black Hamburg grapes, both grown and ripened in the open