

hence, our apple-orchards, in many cases, are ruined for want of a little attention, and our small fruit patches choked with weeds and vermin.

It is always desirable to purchase nursery stock from trustworthy neighbouring nurseryman, as he will know, and grow, only that which is suitable to the district.

You may as well try to grow a banana as an apple of a variety unsuited to your soil and climate.

Never apply manure to hardy trees or bushes late in the summer. Applied at that time, it stimulates growth at the wrong season, and induces the formation of succulent shoots, which have not time to ripen before frost and are consequently winter killed; and the injury does not end there, but the whole tree is weakened constitutionally.

THE FRUIT TRADE OF 1900

To the Editor of the "Journal of Agriculture."

Dear Sir,—In notes of mine re the state of the crops in September, I had occasion to challenge the statement of an apple dealer of Toronto, Eben James, as to the quantity of fruit available for shipment during last autumn. I said I thought he was either misinformed, or he was trying to depress the market; and that time would tell whether his expectations or mine would be fulfilled. My statement was that the crop of 1900 would not be anywhere in comparison with 1896—or 1898. The shipments for the past 4 years from the port of Montreal are before me. I am somewhat surprised at the small shipments for last year, only a few hundred barrels more than 1899, and as far as the money returns for the two years, there is a vast difference in favour of the latter year. I can account somewhat for part of the small shipments: the price being so low that many people did not sell their full crop as it did not pay to go to the expense of paying a higher price than usual for barrels—and not to be sure

of getting very much for the fruit, so they thought there was very little chance of clearing themselves or, in fact of getting pay for their time and trouble, not to speak of the apples at all: while in 1899 the prices of apples were high and people gathered up everything, wind falls and all, in some sections and shipped them across the water.

There were hundreds of barrels went over that should not have left Canada under any consideration—slacks, rotten apples everything in fact, were thought to be good enough to fill a contract—I know what I am saying, as I was in Montreal for some two months during the busiest of the season, and was somewhat surprised at what was going on. If the people here in Canada want to get a name for their fruit they will have to change the system of sending fruit in this haphazard way.

The Hon. Sydney Fisher and Prof Robertson have been trying to make a change and suggest a remedy but these apple kings are very much put out, they think they know it all, and are very wrathful at times. One of the suggestions of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture is a uniform barrel or package and some sort of inspection of the fruit before leaving Canada, and what is not first class to be kept here and not injure the market for good fruit. His efforts have not been successful in either case. When the bill comes up in Parliament there are enough members against it because their constituents have to be consulted and the bill is killed usually in committee; that is, it never comes before the house for a division. Nevertheless, I do hope something will be done before our good name gets too badly tarnished; just now, everything from Canada goes like wild-fire, but great care must be taken that too great liberty be not taken with the English people, or our articles of commerce may become a drug on the market and a reproach to our good name. Packers should endeavor as far as possible to put only one quality of fruit in the same barrel, and only one kind also. Do not put first class fruit at either