

THE DOMINION CONVENTION OF FRUIT GROWERS.—III.

BEST APPLES FOR EXPORT—RUSSIAN VARIETIES—FORESTRY.

THE export of winter apples was taken up by Mr. J. T. McBride, of Montreal. He thought that the Spy and the Greening would do better sold in our home markets than exported. As a general rule he had found that the earlier shipments made more money than the later ones. One thing he protested against, and that was the bringing in of Russian apples to Montreal and the re-branding them as Canadian before exporting them, because Canadian apples were in the best demand. On the whole he was of the opinion that more money was lost than was made in shipping apples, and that the number of shippers who had become rich by the exportation of apples, could be counted upon the fingers of one hand.

Mr. Shepherd, of Montreal, had experimented with the Cochrane fruit case, which was illustrated in the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, Vol. XI, pages 115, 116, and had great success with it in exporting tender apples. For instance, the Wealthy was a tender apple, and he had tried shipping it to the British market, each apple being packed in a separate compartment in this case, somewhat in the way in which eggs were sometimes packed for shipment. The report of the consignee was that the Wealthy was a "superb apple." In such a package he believed that the Wealthy and other such tender apples could be shipped with perfect success.

Mr. C. R. W. Starr, of Nova Scotia, speaking of the great apple of his Province, the Gravenstein, said that it had become popular in England, and was wanted in regular shipments to keep up the demand which had been created for it. Last year the crop of this apple had failed in Nova Scotia, and German Gravensteins had been imported, and these might henceforth prove to be strong competitors. Formerly it had been very profitable to ship Nova Scotia Nonpareils to England in the month of May, but now that Australian fruit had begun to come to the English market in the middle of April, it was found necessary to get the Nonpareils in before those began to arrive. He thought that apples ought to be sold in the British market by private sale, as is done with potatoes. An effort had been made in this direction in the interest of Nova Scotia fruit, and to some extent had proved successful. With regard to the ventilated barrel, his experience so far was unfavorable, on account of the foul air on shipboard, but possibly with well ventilated compartments, this would be obviated. For railway transit this barrel no doubt would have advantages, except in cold weather. Mr. Starr had tried the Cox's Orange Pippin as an export apple, but it was a poor grower and consequently paid less profit than some other varieties. The Newtown Pippin was less and less grown on account of its being so very subject to the scab, which made it unprofitable.