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Notes by the Way.

Apples.—The editor of the Maine Farmer, Mr. J. A. Gilbert, attributes the low price of American apples in spite of the demand for them in England, to the enormous crop of the fruit in Nova-Scotia. "But," Dr Hoskins has the pluck to remark in the Vt. Advocate, "the skillful orchardists of that province know how to suit the English market. 'Slack packing,'

even worse than those usually met with in America. But in England, in France, in Germany, and in Switzerland, everywhere one goes, the excellence of the roads is a constant source of surprise to one visiting those countries. During the last summer it was my fortune to take a long drive in the Alps. The party was made up of six persons. A coach was employed for the whole trip. We were thirty-three days in the coach, and during that time we went over four of the great passes and traveled nearly a thousand miles. But the matter of chief significance to those interested in good roads is the fact that, although we drove from twenty-five to fifty miles day for more than a month in these mountainous regions, the whole trip was done with one team of horses. No change was made, and none was need-

with the bed in which they are to repose, as thus: dig a hole, a foot square and a foot deep; fill the hole with good earth and well rotted dung and set the plant in it; plant a stake, 4 feet out of the ground, and tie the plant to it when about a foot high; pinch off all the laterals as fast as they show themselves, and when four or five branches of flowers are formed, pinch of the top of the plant. The best off the fruit forms on the lowest bunch, and should be gathered as soon as fit, even if they are not wanted for use. The cut—from a photograph taken at Sorel in 1886—will show the plan. Some of the best plants therein bore, and ripened thoroughly, upwards of six dozen large tomatoes.

Potash.—We would warn our readers, for about the twentieth time, not



TOMATOES. (Sorel, 1886.)

and too often dishonest, or very careless sorting, is what is killing the American apple trade in England, and it might be said to a large extent also right here at home. The appointment of inspectors—skilled men, whose brand would give confidence to buyers—seems to be emphatically demanded. Rogues and incompetents have altogether too much swing in every branch of American trade. There is fall as much complaint about the packing of cotton in the South, as of apples in the North."

Roads in England.—How THEY IMPRESSED PRESIDENT ADAMS OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY.—To an American visiting Europe there is nothing more impressive than the general excellence of the roads. Their climate is more rainy than ours, and their roads, under the same conditions, would probably be

ed. More than that, it was our opinion that the horses were in better condition at the end of August than they had been at the beginning of the trip, a little after the middle of July. Could there be any more significant commentary on the quality of the roads? What would be the condition of a team of horses in midsummer in America which had been driven over mountain roads at the rate of twenty-five to fifty miles a day for six days in a week?—C. K. Adams, President of Cornell University.

Tomatoes are not, as yet, so well grown as they might be. Our own are still invariably grown on the "single stem" system, and not only do they yield largely, but they all ripen: there are no green ones to pickle! Tomatoes can be grown on a high-road, or any where else, if proper pains are taken

to place any dependence on potash, in any form, unless it be applied in the fall. Kainit, especially should always be sown at that season.

Basic Slag.—The soils most suitable to this form of phosphoric acid are sour, wet lands, soils rich in organic matters, such as bogs, fens, etc., sandy soils, and all those poor in lime. As in the case of kainit, the earlier the slag is applied, the better will be the returns.

Wiltshire potato experiments.—The report of the Wiltshire potato experiments does not present the same astonishing accounts of yield this year as excited so much remark in 1893. One variety, Sirius, is credited with 18 tons 13 cwt per acre, the range of other varieties being from 9 tons 1 cwt. to 16 tons 4 cwt. On 22 out of 24 plots a