

apples; that any one that wanted to buy an apple it was not so much the quality as the amount of apple for the penny that would catch the buyer.

The SECRETARY.—What about the Snow apple?

The PRESIDENT.—I never did much with it in the American markets, but the Snow apple is an apple there is money in provided you can grow it clean and a good colour. The Snow apple in the old country markets will command high prices if you get it there in good condition; and I am quite satisfied that the Snow apple or any other apple worthy of export can be shipped in good condition if we could only get over those points I mentioned in the address,—that is, the better handling of our packages by the employees of railways and steamship companies; and if steamship companies would introduce a cold draft—cold blast I call it—through the apartment where the apples are stored, and it could be easily done. The expense would be a mere trifle, and it would encourage shippers very largely. It would be a splendid thing for all concerned,—I know it would,—and by the introduction of such we could ship such varieties as we don't ship now—earlier varieties; and I found a great many of them arrived there last year in very bad order, but that was more on account of the fungus spotting than anything else; I think this year they are so clean that they will ship well. As to Snows, I got quite a large lot from Montreal, and they arrived in really very fine order—beautiful order; I realised an average of 23 shillings a barrel for Snows; they never varied very much.

Mr. PATTISON.—Taking one year with another, what is about the average freight on a barrel of apples sent from here to one of those great markets—Liverpool, London or Glasgow?

The PRESIDENT.—About a dollar a barrel.

Mr. PATTISON.—Is it possible to ship a single barrel from, say, Hamilton to one of those markets at the same rate that you can ship a number of barrels?

The PRESIDENT.—No.

Mr. PATTISON.—What is the lowest number of barrels that can be shipped at the rate you mention?

The PRESIDENT.—They are supposed to go in car-loads; about 150 barrels would be an average car-load. They will take as high as 200 or 210 barrels, but about 150 barrels is a car-load; and you can make your shipping arrangements, in lots that way, at about a dollar a barrel. It is less this year. We are getting freights to Liverpool and London for 90 and 95 cents; and some of the steamship lines where they work very hard for a freight, I have known to work it down and give a rebate at the end of the season, on the general freights.

Mr. CROIL.—Does that 90 cents a barrel mean from Hamilton or from Montreal?

The PRESIDENT.—That means from Goderich to Liverpool or London. It should be a little less from Hamilton, I should say, though it does not make much difference in distances by rail.

Mr. DEMPSEY.—It is the same from Belleville as from Goderich.

The PRESIDENT.—I suppose we get about as low a freight as any one gets.

The SECRETARY.—Do you think we will ever be able to ship overland to India by the Canadian Pacific.

The PRESIDENT.—I think so; that is a matter that will be under test. I have tried to make arrangements this year. I have written to Mr. Van Horne, and he has the matter under consideration just now as to freights. Whether that will come to anything or not I cannot yet say; but if arrangements can be made I am going to send some two or three shipments this fall to India by the Canadian Pacific Railway to Vancouver, and then across the Pacific Ocean direct; but I look upon that as one of the possibilities of the future. (Hear, hear). I don't think it is safe for us to look upon anything now-a-days of that description as impossible. We overcome a great many difficulties in fruit culture, and in the way of finding markets for our fruits—difficulties that we looked upon a few years ago as such that we could never surmount; but I look upon a market in India as a certainty now; I think we can get that market and reach that market, and I don't think we will have much difficulty. I think our best carrying varieties will carry just as well to India as they will to Liverpool; I don't see