

## THE APPLE AND PEAR CROP.

Every month the prospect for a heavy yield of apples has become more gloomy. That terrible scourge, the apple scab, has so weakened the trees, that both leaves and fruit are inclined to drop, until very little is left to come to maturity. Not only in Southern Ontario is this the case, but also in Middle and Northern Ontario, where hitherto there has been much less damage from this fungus.

We append extracts from reports received up to the 26th ultimo.

### Southern Ontario.

W. M. ORR, Stoney Creek :—Apples, although promising a large crop in the spring, will prove almost a total failure. The superabundance of rain in May, followed by intense heat and drought in June and first half of July, with thermometer at times nearly 100 in the shade, was too much for the apple crop. The leaves have blighted badly, and most of the fruit has fallen. Winter fruit will be from 5 to 10 %, and Fall varieties from 10 to 15 of a full crop. Pear trees are well loaded, and promise a full crop, with very little blight.

A. M. SMITH, St. Catharines :—Since writing you before, apples have dropped badly, and there will not be more than one-tenth of a crop in this section. Pears are doing fairly and I think will be 50 %; plums about same; grapes are looking well and will go 75 to 80.

J. R. HOWELL, Brantford :—The apple crop will be poor this year, with the exception of Astracans and Duchess. Some trees have blighted badly. In a fifteen mile drive in our county the other day, there seemed to be hardly an apple in any of the orchards.

JOHN ARNOLD, Paris :—Our fruit prospects are not the brightest, pears in particular are dying with blight, so that in a very few years we shall have none. At one time I thought the Bartlett was the most subject to its attack, but now it seizes all kinds alike. Has the unusual hot weather lately been partly the cause of it? Allow me to congratulate you on the improvement of our paper; it is taking a foremost place in our county.

J. K. McMICHAEL, Waterford :—We have at present about 25% of an apple crop; with very badly diseased foliage, and the fruit still dropping. Pears will be about half a crop.

W. W. HILLBORN, Leamington :—So far as I can learn the apple crop in Essex is above an average crop, but it is badly affected by the apple scab, or fungi. Pears are a large crop, and now appear to be quite clean and if the weather should prove favorable we may expect a large crop of fine fruit.

A. McNEILL, Windsor :—Apples will be 50% of a crop in Essex County, but fungi and insect may render present indications deceptive. Pears 75, Bartletts full crop, Flemish Beauty 50, but scabby, Seckels 50.

E. WARDROPER, Pelee Island :—The grape is the only crop grown to any extent on this island and I find the prospects good for a fair crop from all. Concord and Ives at 75 and the Catawba somewhat better, no injury from frost or fungi at any time. All vineyards of any size are now sprayed here regularly. Last year not an inch of rain from 1st of June to September and I never saw finer grapes. It now looks as if we should have a repetition of the season. I notice young nut trees planted only three years ago have quite a sprinkling of fruit on this year; how is it with yours?

### Middle Ontario.

GEORGE NICOL, Cataraqui :—Apples in this district will not be more than 60% Snow well loaded and clean; Duchess, Astrachan, Transparent, 80, Russet, Ben Davis, Canada Red, and other late varieties are light and not more than 40. Very few pears planted in this county, crop light, probably 25.

R. McKNIGHT, Owen Sound :—The aggregate crop of apples in this section will be fairly satisfactory. The fruit set but sparingly, considering the great profusion of bloom