

Grade No. 1 shall consist of well-grown samples of the variety named, somewhat uniform in size, well shaped, of normal color, and free from scab, worm-hole, curculio, knot, etc.

Grade No. 2 shall consist of apples free from scab, worm-hole, but which, from lack of uniformity in size, and owing to deficiency in color or abnormal shape, are unfit to be graded No. 1.

These grades had the approval of our Association, but for some reason or other the Act as passed by the Dominion requires grades which cannot be conformed with. The Act is, therefore, impracticable, and should be changed. It will be found under the General Inspector's Act. The portion referred to reads as follows :—

Apples.

109. In the inspection of closed packages of apples, the inspector shall open not less than one package in five, and, if the manner of packing is found to be fraudulent or unfair, then he shall open all the packages put up by such shippers.

(2) Every package found to be fairly and properly packed, he shall brand as "No. 1 Inspected Canadian Apples," or "No. 2 Inspected Canadian Apples," as the case may be, if fit to be so branded.

(3) The inspector shall also examine the varieties of apples submitted for inspection, and correct the nomenclature if incorrectly marked, or, if the name of the variety is not marked, he shall cause it to be marked upon the package.

(4) The inspector may charge a fee of ten cents for each package inspected by him, said charge to cover the cost of opening and closing the package.

110. No. 1 inspected Canadian apples shall consist of perfect specimens of one variety, of uniform size, and, in case of a colored variety, fairly uniform color, and shall be free from scab, worm holes, knots or blemishes of any kind.

(2) No. 2 inspected Canadian apples shall consist of specimens of one variety, free from scab, worm holes, knots or blemishes of any kind, but not uniform in size or color.

The report of the committee of our Association on this subject will be found in our report for 1892, page 65. This committee, of which Mr. A. H. Pettit was chairman, advised that these grades be amended in accordance with the terms originally defined in the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, and this the Dominion Government, through Mr. J. F. Wood, promised to consider.

The desire for an inspector of apples is widespread, not only among fruit growers themselves, but also among apple merchants. In proof of this, here is an extract from the Fruit Trade Journal, published in New York :—

"Many Canadian merchants are complaining of the swindling operation of some packers, who top off barrels of apples with one or two good layers, and the balance with culls. There is talk of having the Legislature take up the matter and appoint an inspector. Leading fruit men of Ottawa have been interviewed by the Free Press as follows :—

"Mr. H. A. Brouse said :—'Yes, I certainly am in favor of a scheme of Government inspection. The loss is something terrible, but we have adopted a remedy for our financial loss, though the annoyance and trouble cannot be repaid. We buy our goods in a way that we deduct so much for loss or deteriorated quality, but even then the evil is not avoided. We are annoyed by mixed barrels and fraudulent branding. It is impossible, when getting in hundreds of barrels, to examine them all, and we often run against a badly packed barrel.'

"Bate & Co. said :—'Yes, we are certainly in favor of an inspector. It is a long standing complaint and a serious loss, and cannot be remedied too soon.'

"Kavanagh Bros. said :—'This bad packing of fruit is a perfect nuisance, and a matter of a great loss. Certainly, a fruit inspector should be appointed at once.'"