

that our Province is, on the whole, well fitted for producing a large variety of apples.

Are the trees planted of inferior quality? Certainly not. Our local nurseries and others, supply good trees, in fact we have the same class of trees that are sold in Annapolis and Kings Counties, N. S.

Where then is our fault, and what our remedy? The information we want must come from practical men. A few months residence in the best apple districts of N. S. enables me to contrast our mode of apple culture, and its results, with theirs.

One or two common errors, prevalent in our Province, and their remedies, may be noticed.

First.—Too little attention has been given to apple culture, and other branches of agriculture have been more closely followed. The uncertainty of local markets, easily glutted at any time, afforded little stimulus to fruit raising; besides, while Ontario was the great wheat producing province, special attention was given to grain growing. But the condition of things is fast changing. We have a sure foreign market for good keeping apples. On the other hand the broad prairies of the North-West, rapidly filling up with a soil tilling population, may render wheat raising in Ontario much less profitable than at present, while this same influx of settlers opens up to us what may be called a home market for apples, as it is not likely that fruit will be largely grown in the North-West for years to come.

Second—Too many varieties of trees are found in our orchards, and a very large proportion of these apples are unfit for a foreign or any market. I cannot too strongly emphasize this point, which has been the bane of apple culture in Ontario. It is not uncommon to find in an orchard of one hundred trees from twenty to thirty varieties. If an orchard contain say twenty varieties, each of which has to be assorted into two or three classes, at the close of the sorting some thirty or forty barrels partly filled will be left. These will have to be disposed of at a disadvantage by mixing or some other way.

One of the most successful farmers in Annapolis County last year had nearly five hundred barrels of Nonpareils, and only two hundred barrels of other sorts. Instead of having a few trees of each variety, he would at once graft, or else set out three, four or five hundred Nonpareil, or whatever apple stood the highest in the English market. Such is the true policy. * * * *