

VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE APPLE CROP.

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The value and importance of the Apple Crop of the Annapolis Valley is now pretty well understood, but there are some features connected therewith which demand some special notice, as they relate, not only to the present, but reach far into the future.

The length of this rich and beautiful valley is about eighty-five miles, with a breadth varying from three to eight miles—average breadth, five miles, perhaps. It is traversed its entire length by the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, offering a ready means of transit to market.

The Apple Crop of this valley probably now reaches one hundred thousand barrels annually; worth, taking one year with another, two dollars per barrel; equal in value to \$200,000 per annum. This product may be divided between the three Counties of Annapolis, Kings and Hants in the following proportions:—Annapolis 50,000 bbls.; Kings 30,000 bbls.; Hants 20,000 bbls.

This quantity is rapidly increasing, and in ten years from this time there is likely to be an addition of fifty per cent. to the present yield.

Already our markets are glutted, and it is quite clear that for the future we must send much of our Fruit to foreign markets, or obtain but small prices for it at home. Before we can send it to a foreign market, however, there are certain conditions to be met, which may be classed as follows:

- (1) The quality of the fruit.
- (2) The best varieties.
- (3) Uniformity of size, and perfection of form. colouring, &c.
- (4) The mode of picking and packing.
- (5) The size and style of the barrel.
- (6) The marketing of the fruit.

It is quite obvious that the fruit sent by us to foreign markets should be large, symmetrical in form, fine flavoured, and well coloured, as the cost of exportation on such would be no more than on inferior