

aimed to reduce the standard of Canadian apples so as to conform with practices which unfortunately some of our shippers have resorted to. The aim of the Act as it now stands is to compel packers to raise their standard.

There is nothing in the Fruit Marks Act, 1901, which provides for any inspection in Canada except an examination for detective purposes, therefore, I cannot understand your meaning when you say: "Now by these sections a grower might contract with a buyer in England for a certain number of barrels of apples of grade No. 1 Canadian, a grade well defined, making the packages subject to inspection, and the buyer could with confidence make such purchase without seeing the goods."

Surely it is not claimed that sections 6 and 7, if enacted, would make apples hold up against bad conditions on shipboard so as to stand inspection in Great Britain.

That all the amendments made by the Senate to the Bill in question were promptly accepted by the House of Commons with the concurrence of the Government is pretty good evidence of the correctness of the lines on which the Senate acted.

Tulloch Avenue, I am yours,  
Charlottetown, P. E. I. D. FERGUSON.  
July 22nd, 1901.

#### NOTE BY EDITOR.

Since "half a loaf is better than no bread," and the bill is settled for the present, we wait to see its workings before criticising farther the omission of those important clauses, No. 6 and 7. We have no doubt that the Honorable D. Ferguson is as anxious for the advancement of the interest of the fruit growers of the Dominion as we are, and we only hope the bill as amended through his instrumentality will tend to raise

the standard of Canadian apples in foreign markets.

On first thought it does seem too much freedom to make allowance for even a small percentage of defective fruit in a barrel, but if our honorable friend were an apple packer he would know how difficult *absolute perfection* is, and how easy, when pushing the packing with hired help, it is for one apple in ten to pass unobserved into the barrel, though aiming at perfect samples only. This 80 or 90 per cent. perfect would be a very high standard compared with Canadian apples as usually packed by speculators, in which 80 or 90 per cent. are blemished and the 10 or 20 per cent. of perfect apples used to face up the ends of the barrels.

Our honorable friend claims that these clauses would not give any confidence to a buyer in England when bargaining with a grower or packer in Canada for a shipment of apples, which were to be A No. 1 Canadian, of a certain specified minimum diameter, because they would not necessarily be inspected, but only subject to inspection. On this we beg to differ from him; we believe the fact of a few travelling inspectors being appointed, with power to impose heavy penalties upon any shipper found selling apples marked with the Dominion grade marks, would prevent any one using those marks unless his goods warranted their use, and this fact would give confidence to the buyer.

However we are thankful for small favors, and hope some future day we may yet have the satisfaction of having certain defined grades which will form a basis of sale to foreign buyers.

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## Our Affiliated Societies.

COBourg.—The Society here issued a circular about April the 20th, giving with other information, the following full list of premiums for each member: *Peonia nivensis*, *Iris Germanica*. *Iris Kœmpferi*, Kelway's English Gaillardias, Phlox,

*Doronicum excelsum*, *Spiraea*, *Japonica Bumalda*, Baker's Extra Early Potato, New Triumph Celery, Kendall's Early Giant Sweet Corn, New Dwarf Telephone Pea, White Pearl Radish.