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THE WEALTHY APPLE.



ALTHOUGH a comparatively new apple, the Wealthy, on account of its beauty, productiveness and hardiness, has become quite famous. In 1874, according to the Report of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society of that year, it was a question in its native State whether this then new variety should be recommended for general cultivation or not, and probably very little was known about the apple, save by a few fruit-growers living about Excelsior; now it is widely distributed, and in the catalogue of the American Pomological Society it is double starred, as being commended for special excellence, by the Province of New Brunswick, and the States of Minnesota, Dakota, Iowa and Colorado.

The honor of originating this apple belongs to Peter Gideon, of Excelsior, Minnesota, who grew it from seeds of the Siberian Crab carried there by him from the State of Maine.

Our colored plate of this apple is claimed by the artists to be an exact

representation of a carefully selected specimen grown in Pennsylvania; but fearing that it was an exaggeration, we had rejected the plate, until we had secured samples of the Wealthy from various parts of Ontario. Particularly fine specimens were sent us by Mr. A. M. Smith of St. Catharines, and by Mr. A. A. Wright, of Renfrew. Of these the former were the best in color, but only medium in size; while the latter, though grown so far north, were much the largest; one of them measuring about twelve inches in circumference, and so nearly the size of the one portrayed in this plate that we have concluded to use it. No doubt it is better, as a rule, to represent fruits according to their average size, instead of choosing out the very finest samples, and that course will be generally pursued by this journal, as our interests are wholly on the side of the fruit-growers; and yet by seeing the possibilities in our line, we may be led to inquire the reason of our own failures to produce the same, and be stimulated into greater diligence in