

* * FEBRUURY * *

APPLES OF CANADIAN ORIGIN.



IEN we speak of apples of Canadian origin we touch upon a field of study most inviting to the pomologist and of work heavy with possibilities for the hybridist.

It is now well proven that the fruits of one continent, though of the most exceptional merit, are by no means those best adapted for out of door cultivation in another. The grapes of the Continent of Europe, though of fine size and quality, do not ripen well in Canada, and in our climate are sadly subject to mildew; the apples of Russia, from which so much was expected, are unsuited to our country with a few exceptions, and of the apples of England only a half dozen or so are counted valuable Even the old Ribston, so highly valued in England, lacks vigor in Canada and will soon be omitted from desirable varieties in Canadian catalogues.

But we are fortunate in having some varieties of apples, as well as other fruits, which have originated on Canadian soil and which show the possibilities before us. Among these we may mention the Ontario,

which originated at Paris, Ontario, and bids fair to be placed among the best export varieties; the Crimson Pippin, which originated near Prescott, and though the orchard of this variety, planted by the originator, Mr. Harold Jones, is almost the only case in which it has been tested, the result is certainly highly in its favor as a dessert apple for any market; the McIntosh Red and the Princess Louise.

McIntosh, as we may call it for brevity's sake, has been prominently before us for some years. The wonderful beauty and fine quality of this apple at once gave this variety a claim to the front rank as a dessert apple. Its season is about the same as the Fameuse, it is larger and more showy, and on account of its thick skin an excellent shipper. Surely, thought everyone in 1892, this is the dessert apple above all others for us to grow in Canada. Mr. R. A. Shepherd, of Montreal, wrote us that year that the McIntosh Red was the most beautiful as well as the most delicious apple he had seen offered for sale that season. He had tried it eight years and believed it could be grown as suc-