


* Our Markets. *

THE APPLE MARKETS.

 NTARIO fruit growers who have been digging out their apple orchards by the roots, and beginning over with planting pears or plums, and waiting some years without a crop for the young trees to grow, will feel chagrined this season at the high prices for this king of fruits.

We can easily see the sense in top-grafting an orchard with those varieties most wanted in the great markets of the world; but we cannot sympathise with those who get discouraged with the business on account of one or two seasons of low prices.

That apples will prove a bonanza this season where quality, size and color is right, is evident from reports from all the markets. Even the Trade Bulletin of Montreal, which is always so guarded in its statements in the interests of the buyers and shippers rather than of growers says in its issue of October 7th:

"There will unquestionably be a good demand for Canadian apples in Great Britain during the coming season, as the English crop is very poor, some going as far as to characterize it the worst within the past ten years, and cable reports state that it is nearly all marketed. The Continent, it seems, is nearly as badly off as England, and will have to import considerable, and Germany has already been buying in Belgium. We notice that the large importations of fall fruit into Liverpool, as we anticipated, is having its effect, as Monday's market there showed a considerable decline. On the other hand, Glasgow, which was not ever-supplied, made some good sales of Canadian fruit, which should be satisfactory to shippers. Sales were made in Liverpool last week which netted shippers in the West \$1.85 to \$2, and \$2.10 per barrel. Monday's sales, however, will not turn out such good nets. Every one seems to have a good opinion of winter fruit, and those who hold them say they are confident of a profitable market on the other side.

Of course we write in the interests

of growers, being ourselves one of the most extensive apple growers in Canada, and perhaps we may at times be too sanguine, but when buyers are paying as high as \$2 a barrel for the fruit it is evident that good prices are well assured. Here for example is another extract from the Trade Bulletin of the same date.

"As stated in these columns last week, a large proportion of the winter apples has passed into second hands, and it has since been reported to us on pretty reliable authority that it is known that 150,000 to 200,000 bbls. have been contracted by six or seven different firms. As high as \$2 has been paid for the fruit, which would bring up the price to \$2.50 and \$2.55 per barrel on board cars, which is considered quite high enough. The general range, however, has been from \$1.80 to \$2.05 free on cars. The exports of apples from this port last week were 30,502 barrels against 23,435 barrels for the week previous, and from all ports 42,017 barrels, against 23,435 barrels for the week previous, and 22,786 barrels for the corresponding week last year."

W. N. White & Co., London, England, write in September Trade Journal, the following report on apple crops in Europe and America, which goes to confirm what we have said:

"We say, England has a much worse crop than last year; taken generally, the worst for ten years, and in a fortnight there will be no English fruit left, except a few apples. The pear crop is almost a complete failure. Late plums, owing to the extreme dry weather, are very small, and will be finished next week.

Belgium, the greatest continental exporting country to England, had scarcely any apples at the commencement of the season, and the few now there will be wanted for home consumption. In the districts bordering on Holland, which is their principal early apple country, the bulk of the fruit has gone to Germany.

Holland has the worst crop known for many years.

France, in the south, has some apples, but in the north, owing to dry weather, her crop is almost a total failure, all she has to export,