



FIG. 2545. A VIEW IN W. H. DEMPSEY'S BEN DAVIS ORCHARD.

Mr. Dempsey has had great satisfaction with Ontario. It comes into bearing so early, the fruit is so even in grade, and it will sell for Spy on the markets, it resembles that variety so closely in appearance, but it is inferior to it in quality.

"I have exported the Duchess," said Mr. Dempsey, "in barrels this season in ordinary storage, but did not meet with much encouragement; they only netted about three cents a barrel more than I got for those I sold in Montreal, and that was too small a margin for the increased risk."

THE BEN DAVIS.

"**N**OW, Mr. Dempsey, what do you think of Ben Davis; you have more of them in your commercial orchard than any other kind?"

"It always pays me well," said he, "but it has its own season in the market, and that is toward spring, after the Baldwin and Spy have been well cleared out. Nobody wants

to eat a Ben Davis in fall or early winter; it is not ready so early. My own family use more Ben Davis than Baldwin, because in Baldwin season they prefer to use Spy; but when these are over, say in April, then they call for Ben Davis, and by that time it is good for all purposes."

Mr. L. K. Shourds, of Wellington, Prince Edward County also championed the Ben Davis. "Why," he said, "in March, 1900, Pritchard, of Liverpool, authorized me to buy for him, and pay \$2.75 for Ben Davis, and only from \$2.25 to \$2.50 for other varieties. At that season the old Ben turned out in better and more salable condition than Baldwin or Spy."

"In Ottawa, only last week (about the middle of February)," said Alex. McNeill, of Ottawa, one of our fruit inspectors, "I saw Ben Davis sold at \$2.50 a barrel, when good Snow apples were only bringing \$2.00!"