

doubtful. Other apples will not pay for transportation. Had our apple merchants made even a half-hearted effort to enter this market in 1896 they would now be beset with orders. So serious is the situation here, because of the dullness in grain markets, and so decided is the downward tendency of profits in the Empire's wheat production, that farmers are turning to fruit to eke out an existence. The General Union of Agricultural Societies has set itself the task to bring about better methods of handling fruits. Germans, as a rule have gone in for quantity rather than quality, letting their fruit trees run to wood rather than to fruit."

DEMAND FOR DOVETAILING MACHINES IN FRANCE.

The United States Consul at Nantes, France, writes:—

"One of the leading business men' of Nantes informs me that certain American woodworking machines used in dovetailing lumber for packing cases would find a market here. The gentleman was unable to give the name of the manufacturer, or the exact name of the machine; but said he saw them working in England, and that they did their work neatly and rapidly. An immense amount of lumber is constantly used here in making the cases in which small sardine boxes and packages of conserves are packed for shipment. Not only could the machine be used in Nantes in dovetailing lumber for boxes, but also at Brest, Lorient, and Concarneau, where other large sardine factories are located, and at Samur, where quantities of fine wines are packed for shipment. Thousands of cases are also used by the extensive biscuit factories of Nantes. Manufacturers wishing to place the machines on the market in this part of France, will do well by corresponding with Mr. Edward Kerr, 3 rue Gresset, Nantes."

Here is an opening for Canadian manufacturers of woodworking machines.

RIVETING PLANTS WANTED IN RUSSIA.

Messrs. Wossidlo & Company, St. Petersburg, Russia, inquires for riveting machines as follows:—

By one of our friends we were asked to give him some detailed particulars about electro-hydraulic riveting plants. He has read about this new invention in one of the technical papers (he does not recollect any more which particular one it was), and finds that the new system would perfectly answer his purpose. It is much cheaper than the old rivet installations, as the heavy and expensive pressing plant, which is necessary for hydraulic and pneumatic riveters, is quite omitted here. Instead of those in electro-hydraulic plants is