

no fruit until it is out eight or ten years. There is also an advantage in the time they come into the market, viz: early in September, when apples are in demand and there is no glut to contend with. As it does not become so large a tree as the Fameuse, it may be planted closer; Mr. Shepherd would plant them 15 feet apart, and remove the alternates if it should become necessary.

He names the Duchess, Fameuse and Wealthy as the three best apples for profit, and to keep up a fair succession.

Reports from the most northern apple orchards in the province of Quebec agree with Mr. Shepherd in awarding the first place to the Duchess.

Mr. J. M. Fisk, of Abbotsford, P.Q. divides the apples best suited for that province into three classes, according to their degrees of hardiness thus:

- (1) Duchess, Tetofsky and Alexander.
- (2) Wealthy, Haas, Peach and Winter St. Lawrence.
- (3) Fameuse, Golden Russet, St. Lawrence and Canada Baldwin.

He says what is most wanted in the cold north is a winter apple of similar excellent characteristics to the Duchess, and suggests a cross between it and Northern Spy as being a possible success.

In Minnesota the Duchess is also placed at the top of the list and Mr. O. F. Brand says there is in that state a seedling of the Duchess, twenty years of age, and now fourteen years bearing, of which the fruit

is number one, and a Winter apple. It is called the "Peerless," and the tree bore nine bushels in 1884 and nearly eleven bushels in 1886. Since that time it has been so badly cut for scions that it has borne very little. He adds "Yes; the road to lasting success is along the line of the Duchess seedlings."

From northern Vermont we have the testimony of Dr. Hoskins of Newport, who says he finds the Duchess, Switzer and Tetofsky unharmed by the worst winters, while the Alexander, Wealthy and Red Astrachan are often seriously injured.

From Wisconsin we have the testimony of the report of the State Horticultural Society, in which we find a list of seven varieties best adapted to that state for hardiness, productiveness and quality, and the Duchess stands at the head.

The market value of this apple is also a great point in its favor. We, in southern Ontario, find that, as soon as the Duchess comes in, even the showy Red Astrachan must take a second place both in Toronto and Montreal markets, often bringing 75c. per basket; while in New York city it brings as high a price as the Gravenstein, an apple of better quality.

Dr. Hoskins finds that by gathering the finest colored Duchess of Oldenburgs, and keeping them a while on shelves in the cellar, they ripen much better than upon the trees, and are in prime condition for market.