

clean from blemishes, so that every apple on a tree goes into the barrel. I intend top-grafting a number of trees in my orchard to the Blenheim."

APPLES ABOUT WALKERTON.

The general report was that a fair quantity of apples would be harvested, but that the quality was below the average. The Greenings were much spotted, and indeed most varieties would cull out badly. Buyers were offering \$1.00 a barrel for the apples picked ready for packing.

There are not many large apple orchards in the vicinity, most of the apples being grown by farmers in small orchard plots. Perhaps the largest was that of Mr. Shaw, of seventeen acres. "I have," said Mr. Sherrington, "been buying apples hereabout for nine years past and know the orchards well. One year I paid out \$4,000 for 22,000 barrels, which gives you a fair idea of our apple crop in this section."

CO-OPERATIVE ORCHARDING.

"We have formed at Walkerton what we call the Lake Huron Fruit Growers' Association," said Mr. Sherrington, "and I have great confidence in its success. We meet monthly for the discussion of methods, and for business plans. In a business way our scheme is to work together in buying packages and in shipping, leaving the details to a manager, to sell at the shipping point at a definite price f. o. b. Last year we put up 1,000 boxes of Duchess apples for export. Now we are receiving orders from the Northwest, and no doubt that will be our best market." Here Mr. Sherrington pulled from his pocket some letters, in which he showed orders from Portage la Prairie and other points for three carloads of the Lake Huron brand of winter apples.

"We have," continued he, "about forty members of our association, and are having applications for membership every day.

Each member packs his own apples according to the standard of the association; his own name goes on the packages; and, if they stand inspection they are shipped out under the association brand, otherwise they are rejected entirely."

OUR FRUIT EXPERIMENTER AT WALKERTON.

In Mr. A. E. Sherrington we have secured a painstaking careful experimenter, whose work is much appreciated in the Lake Huron district. This man has had a singular history, and his indomitable energy and wonderful perseverance have combined to enable him to overcome tremendous difficulties and attain success in his vocation. Born in a log house in Peel township in the County of Wellington, of the second white family that settled in that part, he says that in his early years he often saw no white face for six months at a time. It was a life of toil, with little opportunity for school; just a little in the winter months and then at work as soon as the snow went off. At the age of fourteen his father's death left the boy in full charge of the farm, and he did not shirk his duty or his responsibility, but himself did all the work and shouldered the whole management until he was twenty-six, when he left home and struck out for himself. First he hired with a good farmer near Berlin, then with another near Woodstock, when he rented a farm for himself near the latter place and remained on it three years. In 1883 he bought one hundred acres near Walkerton, but having an ambition for fruit farming he disposed of the farm, and about twelve years ago he bought seven acres near the town of Walkerton, on which he now resides. Recently, since he has taken up our experimental work he has added three acres to his plot, making about ten acres in all, which he keeps under excellent cultivation. His apple orchard is well pruned, cultivated, and thoroughly sprayed, and his experimental plots of rasp-