

AFRICAN APPLES VERSUS CANADIAN.

THE Cape of Good Hope bids fair to be a strong competitor with Canada in the English fruit market.

The *Fruit Grower*, London, Eng., of May 4th, says :

The arrival of new apples from the Cape has produced a perfect sensation in the fruit trade. The samples are very pretty and fine and are sure to create an immediate demand. In the early months of the year the public has to depend principally upon apples from California, Canada, and the Eastern States of America, and these fruits after January, through having been kept in cold storage, lose their freshness and aroma, and are thus in no way comparable to the new, fresh fruit. It seems then, if developed, that future Cape apple shipments will completely revolutionise the trade, for with the exception of the Australasian samples, there are no new apples obtainable at

this time of the year, which have not been rendered insipid through months of cold storage. It is believed that the opening up of new markets, and the successional arrival of new apples from various outside centres, will, in time, render cold storage unnecessary, compelling apple growers at least to market their stocks when the fruits are new, or, at least, fairly fresh. By this development the public will undoubtedly be the gainers, for all fruit is at its best when marketed in fresh condition. We learn that if the present shipments prove a success the Cape fruit shippers will send over a plentiful supply next year. The fruit will be put up in a very artistic manner, on the lines adopted by the Paris packers of choice new fruits. The retail fruiterers, particularly those at the West End, will welcome these fruits, as they will come in at a time when fresh apples are much appreciated.

GRADING AND INSPECTION OF APPLES.

THE Executive Committee of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association has prepared a resolution asking for some provisions of the grading and inspection of apples, and has submitted the same to the local affiliated societies in Ontario, and also to the various provincial societies, for their support. The following is the resolution :

To the Honorable Minister of Agriculture :

Whereas it is well known that fraudulent packing of apples for export is a very prevalent evil which is yearly bringing discredit upon the name of our Dominion, and ruining the English market for our Canadian apples, and

Whereas, as a matter of fact, Canadian apples are the finest in the world, and will bring the very highest prices in the English markets if confidence in the packing can be sustained.

Therefore, Resolved, that this Society do humbly pray that you will provide some remedy for the same.

We would suggest that certain marks or numbers be adopted to indicate certain grades and sizes of apples, and that it be made a misdemeanor for any one to stamp these marks or numbers upon the outside of his packages unless the contents of the packages are in accordance therewith ; that the name and address of the owner and shipper be always required on the inside or outside of closed packages intended for export ; and that an inspector be appointed with power to open packages, and, if found fraudulent to have the grade marks removed and to expose the offender ; and we further suggest that the terms used for grading be "No. 1" and "A. No. 1," "No. 1" to include sound apples reasonably free from worm holes, scabs or other blemishes, and to be not less than 2½ inches in diameter, and the grade "A. No. 1" the same with apples not less than 2¾ inches in diameter.