

sleighting during the winter was in February, six days with only sufficient snow to cover the ground. The spring began with March, and steadily advanced without a single break in the equable temperature. Vegetation and the blossoming of trees were a month earlier than usual, and there was no check from frost or drought. Gravensteins and a few Ribstons on the early land in Cornwallis were gathered early in September, and shipped in the *Ulunda*. They arrived in good condition and brought fancy prices. Later shipments of Ribstons, Kings, and Blenheims arrived unsound, and barely paid expenses. Ribstons especially rotted badly, and this is remarkable, as they have always kept perfectly sound until Xmas. Is the cause of the unsoundness last season, of this favorite and highest priced variety in London, known to us? The only reason which occurs to me is that the Ribston ripened so much earlier than usual, that it was gathered too late, and shipped when over-ripe, hence "the little pitted speck in garnered fruit, while slowly widening, ruined all." The Ribston drinks in the sunshine, ripens rapidly in the early autumn and is apt to fall. In an early season like the last, it needs watching, for—

"Lo! sweetened with the summer light,
The full-juiced apple, waxing over-mellow,
Drops in a silent autumn night."

There was an enormous crop of Baldwins, and the color and size were superior. A shipment of 25 barrels made by John A. Woodworth of Grand Prè, to Messrs. N. & L., netted \$3.87 and \$4, and one barrel of extras obtained the highest price ever paid for a barrel of Nova Scotia Baldwins—27/. The net price per barrel for the lot was nearly double the figures offered him by speculators. Why, then, do not fruit growers ship their own apples? Shipment is a very simple matter now, and any man who grows a hundred barrels of apples, or even fifty, would put money in his pocket if he would pack his apples carefully, stamp his name on the barrel, warrant them the same top, bottom, and middle, and ship them every year. He would soon establish a reputation for good fruit, honestly packed, which would sell his apples on sight. I do not wish to find fault with speculators. They have paid the people a large amount of money—and pocketed a goodly profit themselves. One speculator bought 50,000 barrels in the Valley; one of his agents paid \$15,000 to the growers from Port Williams to Windsor. Other buyers secured at least 50,000 barrels more, making a total of 100,000 sold to speculators. The profit on

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