

been compared with the written description of Downing and others, and been verified or had the nomenclature corrected. Many have already been condemned as worthless. Some are to be tried for a few seasons longer, and a few may take rank with our standard sorts, while one or two will probably be valued among the long keepers. To those of our own growing is added a list of those grown by others, that have been known and proved. As far as possible the nomenclature recommended by the American Pomological Society has been adhered to, and the list divided into Summer, Autumn, Winter, and Spring, or long keepers. This is done for convenience, and must not be considered as an arbitrary adjustment, as the season of ripening of many sorts is varied considerably by the locality in which they are grown.

The commercial orchardist may not think it advisable to grow many early sorts for market, especially if he has to ship long distances, but every farmer should plant a few trees for use in his family, and he will seldom find much difficulty in disposing of the surplus at paying rates.

One thing should always be borne in mind, early apples should be picked as they ripen, making from two to four pickings from some trees, taking only the ripest each time. In this way we get the best results and the finest fruit. As a rule, early fruits require high cultivation to get the best results, as the time of growth is short, and during the hot, dry weather of mid-summer.

In the following lists the numbers refer to the page on which the description is found in Downing's *Fruit and Fruit Trees of America*, 2nd Revision, 1872. Written descriptions are appended only to new or native sorts not elsewhere described :

LIST OF SUMMER APPLES.

Early Harvest, 183.—One of the best early table apples. Needs strong soil and good cultivation. Fruit of late years has been much injured by black spot, ("Fusicladium Dentrificum,") especially on old trees.

Early Red.—An old apple of unknown origin. One of the best for family use, but rather tender fleshed for market. Commences to ripen early in August and continues good throughout the month. Should be eaten from the tree. Fruit small, roundish, conic ; skin smooth, bright red, with large bright dots ; stalk medium slender,