

which they had left at home, soon began to plant orchards, and thus lay the foundation of wealth and prosperity, the fruits of which, in some instances, are being gathered and enjoyed to this day by their descendants. This is notably the case in the fine large old orchard of Stephen E. Bent of Bentville, County Councillor, and descendant of David Bent, one of the three Commissioners sent out in 1758 by the Governor of the Province of Massachusetts, to examine and report upon the abandoned French farms. This farm in some seasons produces 1,000 barrels of merchantable apples. Some of these old trees are of immense size and produce a great quantity of apples.

A MARVELLOUS ADVANCE

has been made within the last thirty years. About that time American tree peddlers began to infest the country, and though they are a fraud and a deception in many cases, yet on the whole they have been a benefit to the country. Many of the trees which they sold proved untrue to name and produced worthless fruit; yet they introduced some new and valuable varieties, and incited the farmers to increased activity, and the setting out of new orchards, and with the improved cultivation of the old ones, grafting out the old and worthless sorts, and replacing with improved and well tried kinds. At that time

APPLES WERE PUT UP IN OLD FLOUR BARRELS

and sold for about \$1 per barrel. The principal grafted varieties were Nonpareil and Greenings, but a larger proportion of the fruit was of the natural sorts and fit only for cider, of which a large quantity was made. Cider mills and cider making were great institutions in those days; they ranked with husking parties and apple bees, all mostly abandoned in these modern times. Very little cider is made. Advanced farmers raise nothing but grafted fruit, the small, wormy and bruised apples are fed to the cattle, in the belief that it pays better than to make into cider. Cider usually sells for \$2 per barrel. The barrel costs 50 cents., 50 cents more for making, leaving \$1 for the juice, a pretty small balance. Formerly

FARMERS HAD A WEAKNESS

for sifting out and grafting a great variety of kinds. Greenings, Vandeveres, Spitzenbergs, Pound Sweets, Bough Apples, Concord Pearmaines, Mammoth Russets, Bishop Pippins, and many other