

PAN-AMERICAN HORTICULTURE—IV.

 THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY held its biennial sessions at the Epworth Hotel, Buffalo, near the Exposition grounds, on the 12th and 13th of September, and our visit that month was timed for that occasion. Many prominent members of our Association were in attendance and thus came in touch with the leading American horticulturists. Through the instrumentality of Mr. A. W. Taylor, the secretary, who has also been made a government official, plans are being made by the United States Department of Agriculture for extended experiments in the export of tender fruits in cold storage, and therefore the writer was asked to give some account of the work done in Canada in this direction.

He was followed by Mr. Geo. T. Powell, of Briarcliff Manor, who emphasized the the importance of sending forward only our very best. "The foreign markets," said he, "are no place on which to dump all kinds of stuff." He pointed out the importance of refrigeration, both at the packing house and in transportation, the importance of knowing just at what stage of ripeness fruit should be exported; the sizes that would qualify a fruit for the export trade; the quality of a fruit that would gain for it a permanent market, and the proper packages in which to put them up.

Senator Dunlap, Illinois, had just returned from England, and found not only the English but the French markets open for our best fruits; in winter time this latter market is comparatively bare of really fine apples, and he had seen them sold in March at thirty cents each, and peaches as high as \$1.40 each! As yet he had only heard of one cold storage house in France.

Mr. Charles Forster, New York, said the annual increase in the export of apples was very great, and during the past twenty

years the quantity exported had increased from 81,000 lbs. to 2,000,000 barrels per annum. In Liverpool they were sold most rapidly; in 1896 as many as 50,000 lbs. per day had been disposed of in the public auction room, two packages from each lot being brought in, one of which was dumped and one simply opened to show packing. In this way fraudulent packing was at once exposed. Last season 200,000 boxes of Newtown pippins were sent to Scotland from California, and netted the shipper \$1.00 per box, and this trade is constantly growing, and to encourage this kind of trade in the case we need small cold storage compartments to accommodate smaller consignments. The first real experimental shipment of Bartlett pears from the United States is now being forwarded from New York to London, the results of which will be made public.

Two years ago Mr. Forster had tried a private shipment at a loss, but two cars of Duchess netted him about \$1.43 per half bushel box.

Our foreign markets are unlimited—Germany wants our apples, China, Japan, Siberia, Phillipine Islands and other oriental countries want our fruits, and soon we will have them open to us.

Prof. Corbett, of Washington, commended the use of tobacco dust, strewn about the trees and over the roots to prevent attacks of aphis.

Prof. Craig, in treating of the University Extension course—horticulture and agriculture—pointed out that during the past twenty years the number of farm products had been multiplied by twenty; and the number of workers in proportion had been divided by two; wheat that once cost thirty hours a bushel now costs only about ten minutes; corn that once cost forty-one hours now costs only eleven and a half. This shows how important these branches are becoming, and