

THE APPLE CROP.

There are so many contradictory reports afloat both with respect to the apple crop in Ontario and to the condition of the foreign markets, that buyers are very slow in making engagements. Indeed, in some sections of Ontario we find growers so totally discouraged that they have about decided to leave their apples ungathered in the orchards, because they fear they will not be worth enough to pay the expenses of handling. We believe this to be a mistaken notion, because, first, the quality of our fruit this year is exceptionally good secondly, the amount of apples that will be exported from Ontario this season will certainly be below the average of other years. This is not the bearing year with the orchards generally, and three-fourths of the trees are entirely devoid of fruit. From all present indications the year of 1892 will witness the greatest apple crop upon record. But, in our opinion, the outlook for the apple growers this season is, on the whole, rather encouraging.

The following are a few of the latest reports upon which we base our opinion concerning the state of the apple crop in Ontario :

STORMONT.—*Sir*,—Fall and winter apples are a good crop on high lands where the late spring frosts were not destructive, but on low lands not over a half crop. The quality, however, is very good.—W. S. TURNER, *Cornwall, Ont.*

CARLETON.—*Sir*,—Winter apples are probably an average crop about Ottawa and eastward. Fameuse generally a fair crop, of higher quality than has been harvested for the last three or four years.—JOHN CRAIG, *Ottawa*

FRONTENAC.—*Sir*,—Regarding the crop of winter apples, I can assure you that although the markets are glutted with fall fruit, the winter apples are much less than half a crop in this district.—D. NICOL, *Cataragui.*

PRINCE EDWARD.—*Sir*,—The crop of winter apples in this county is a full average, but as we proceed northward the crop gradually diminishes until there are none. On the whole, there is not more than one-quarter of a crop, but we have never had such fine samples.—P. C. DEMPSEY, *Trenton, Ont.*

YORK.—*Sir*,—As far as I can ascertain, the crop of winter apples in my agricultural district will be limited to nearly one-third, and, perhaps, even less than that. Fall apples have been a drug.—W. E. WELLINGTON, *Toronto, Ont.*

WENTWORTH.—*Sir*,—I think the apple crops below the average, although the quantity appears to surpass the expectations as the harvesting progresses.—M. PERTIT, *Winona, Ont.*

PERTH.—*Sir*,—From present observations and from information gleaned from buyers and packers, I would put the crop in this county at one-half. In some parts of Middlesex it is two-thirds, but, in other sections it is only one-half. The quality is uncommonly good, and the unusual size fills up fast in barreling.—T. H. RACE, *Mitchell, Ont.*

HURON.—*Sir*,—The apple crop of this section cannot be estimated at over one-half. All kinds are very clean and well colored and fairly free from moth.—A. McD. ALLAN, *Goderich, Ont.*

ESSEX.—*Sir*,—Winter apples will be a light crop in Essex county this year. I will estimate the yield at one-quarter of what it was in 1889, but the sample will be very good.—N. J. CLINTON, *Windsor.*

NORFOLK.—*Sir*,—The crop of winter apples has improved beyond most sanguine hopes. The canning and evaporating factories of Waterford have bought up over twenty thousand bushels of apples for use in their factories within the radius of a few miles I think on account of their fine size the crop of winter apples in my agricultural district will exceed the average.—J. K. McMICHAEI, *Waterford, Ont.*