

by shipping in boxes. The apples should be sent in refrigerator cars or the cars iced before loading, because, although the railroads agree to do this, and you have to pay for it, sometimes the bunkers are not well filled. Your apples become heated, and the car which might have brought you a good profit entails a heavy loss.

The demand from Montreal and smaller towns for these apples is limited. I sold 200 baskets, 12 to the barrel, in Montreal last summer at 40 cents, netting about 30 cents, which paid well. The next week, however, prices were down to 25 cents, which did not pay.

When Duchess trees are overloaded, as they often are, it is a good plan to pick and ship some of the best in baskets about the first of August. Those left on the trees will grow much faster and be ready to ship in two or three weeks.

A GOOD VARIETY.

The Alexander, I consider, one of the best, if not the best money maker we have in Quebec. If I was setting out an orchard I would set a good proportion of Alexanders. Ontario apple growers and probably some of the Quebec growers may dispute me a little, but the Ontario men must understand that the Quebec Alexander is altogether a better apple in many ways than its Ontario brother, especially in its carrying qualities. It is also more even in size and of better color.

The Alexander tree is perfectly hardy, a good bearer, and the fruit is 75 per

cent. to 90 per cent. No. 1. It is never affected by scab, and very little by worms. When picked in time and picked properly these apples always land in the Old Country in good condition. They brought the highest price of any apples sold in the Old Country last fall. One carload of 40-pound boxes, four to the barrel, brought \$1.25 net, f. o. b. Montreal. Another carload, in barrels, made a net of \$3.85. All the Alexanders shipped in proper time brought paying prices, even in last year's poor market.

I would strongly advise shipping all Alexanders in boxes. It is almost impossible, on account of their large size, to pack them in barrels, ship them any distance, and prevent them from becoming slack. Pack them in layers in boxes and tighten with a little excelsior. I would recommend Glasgow as the best market, although they also do well in Winnipeg and the west when landed in good condition.

One of the best points of this apple is the large proportion of No. 1 apples. A farmer in Hemmingford last fall sold his Alexanders for 90 cents a barrel on the trees. From eight young trees he had 30 barrels of No. 1, two barrels of No. 2, and only one barrel of culls. A neighbor of his had 46 barrels of No. 1 and three barrels of No. 2. I never heard of this being equalled in any season by any other variety of apples. These apples should always be shipped in cold storage and in refrigerator cars.

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It is my opinion that if cooperative associations will keep their grades up to the standard, buyers will soon hunt for their brands. Buyers are anxious to obtain good brands and will naturally go to the houses that have the best name for good packing and high-class goods. The box is certainly the fruit package of the future.—(H. W. Dawson, commission merchant, Toronto.

"There is considerable difference of opinion with reference to the robin in the Eastern States," said Mr. A. N. Brown, of Delaware, to a Horticulturist representative. "An anti-robin bill was defeated in New Jersey by the women and children of the state, who secured large numbers of signatures to petitions against the bill. I expect, however, to see it pass yet."