

Apple Exports of 1889-90.

An article on the export of apples from the United States and Canada appears in the Boston Cultivator. It says that the apple exports for the past season were not on nearly so large a scale as a year ago; they did not aggregate 50 per cent. of the total exports of last season. "This shows an unusually large decrease, although seasons of 1882-83 and 1883-84 showed even a larger difference. But when the conditions of the apple crop and market are considered, such a falling off the past winter can be accounted for. The United States apple crop was exceedingly small. The West was the only place that produced a really fair sized crop. Just the reverse was noted in New England. Most of the apples shipped were below the best quality, many being really poor. Then the market on the other side was liberally supplied, there being a very fair yield of apples all through Europe. The original cost of apples for export was about 100 per cent. more than last year." The opening prices in England were fair, and at close the price was 10s higher. Thus figures ruled high. The New York State apple crop was small, and but very few New York apples were shipped. But shipment of Canadian apples by way of New York was very large, making up fully that deficiency.

The total exports of apples from the United States and Canada in 1889-90 were 680,884 barrels, as against 1,401,382 barrels in 1888-89 and 608,688 barrels in 1887-88. The large shipment of 893,375 barrels was made in 1885-6, and about the same the next year; 787,785 barrels in 1884-85, but only 81,532 barrels in 1883-84. Boston shipped 132,293 barrels in all, 121,461 barrels to Liverpool, 9,712 barrels to Glasgow, 3,820 barrels to London, 300 to other ports; New York sent 167,304 barrels, half to Liverpool, 51,605 barrels to Glasgow, 18,818 barrels to London, 10,206 barrels to other ports; Montreal sent 162,526 barrels, 88,615 barrels to Liverpool, 55,371 barrels to Glasgow, 15,497 barrels to London; Portland shipped 122,739 barrels, all to Liverpool; Halifax sent 56,012 barrels, 345 barrels to Liverpool, 55,667 barrels to London; Annapolis sent 37,010 barrels, all to London. Of the entire country season's shipments, 419,835 barrels went to Liverpool, 116,683 barrels to Glasgow, 130,722 barrels to London, and 13,639 barrels to various other ports. Of the shipments from Portland to Liverpool, 76,819 barrels contained Maine apples and 45,926 barrels Canadian apples.

A Big Tree.

Preparations are being made to take out a section of a big redwood tree from Tulare County, California, for the purpose of exhibition at the Chicago World's Fair.

This will be the largest section of any big tree ever taken from California. The tree measures 99 feet in circumference, making it 33 feet in diameter. The section to be taken out will be nine feet in height and 60 feet in circumference. It will be divided into three cuts.

The first cut will be one foot in height by twenty feet in diameter. This cut will be split once across, making two half rounds. The next cut will be seven feet in height by twenty feet in diameter, and will be hollowed out, leaving the bark and sap and about four inches of the timber. The last cut will be the same as

the first, allowing all the timber to remain and only splitting once. All three cuts will be set up together when on exhibition.

The manner in which this tree will be gotten out will convince the most skeptical of people that this is not misrepresented, but the largest section of any big tree ever taken from California. The World's Fair Big Tree is to be taken from Mammoth Forest, Tulare County, California, which is located 52 miles east of Tulare City, at an altitude of 6,325 feet above the level of the sea.

The work of felling the tree has already begun. Ten skilled workmen have been engaged and are busy at work. The saw to be used in getting out these sections is 22 feet in length, and was made to order by the Pacific Saw Company of San Francisco. It is said to be the largest crosscut saw ever made of one piece of steel, and is supposed to require eight men to handle it. It will take a man at least two months to complete all the work to be done. Considerable time will be required for the timber to dry, as the weight of the green redwood is very considerable.

Everything will be in readiness long before the proper time arrives for shipment.

Three flat cars will be necessary for transportation, as the total weight will not be less than 65,000 pounds.—Mining and Scientific Press.

Warping of Wood.

As lumber is now sawn, every board but one will warp and curl up in the process of seasoning. The reason for this is plain. If the board be sawn from the side of a log, the grain rings of the wood lie in circles, which have a greater length upon one than upon the other side of the board. A board cut from the very centre of the log has grain circles of equal length upon each side, and will lie perfectly flat when seasoned.

When selecting the lumber for a tool chest or some other fine job, pick out boards which show that they came, as near as possible, from the centre of the log. A method is in use which compensates for this tendency to curl in seasoning. This is known as quarter sawing, and quartered oak, of which so much is said at present, is sawn by this process.

It consists in cutting out boards radically from the centre to the outside of the log. Suppose a log to be split into four pieces, each of these pieces is sawn diagonally so that the grain rings run through, instead of the circles running into, part way through, and out upon the same side of the board.

Quarter sawn lumber will not warp in drying, neither will it yield so readily to changes of weather. It has the disadvantage of being more expensive, as in sawing each quarter a narrow board is first taken off, then one a little wider. The boards increase in width, until the middle of the quarter is reached, making the widest board equal to the diameter of the tree. The narrow boards may be glued up into wide strips, but that shows considerable sap and they cannot be used in some kinds of work.

To prove that the circles or sap rings cause curling during the seasoning process, it is only necessary to take such curled boards and wet the concave side, or to apply heat to the convex side. If each or both be done, the boards will straighten out forthwith. This method is often taken advantage of by carpenters, in working twisted or warped boards. The seasoning process is also controlled by frequently turning boards over so that each side may receive just enough heat and air to keep the boards flat.—Woodworker.



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