

Mr. Geo. FISHER: Are the cases dovetailed, or nailed together?

Mr. SHEPHERD: Just nailed together with wire nails. They hold forty-nine apples in each layer—7 apples each way.

Mr. FISHER: Do you band these boxes with hoop iron?

Mr. SHEPHERD: We used to employ two and one-half inch wire nails, and drive those nails home through the pine boards, and it is very difficult to open a box that is well nailed up that way, but they will do it in London—and of all places in the world I think London is the worst for dealing with goods. I made a shipment of Wealthys early in September to the Army and Navy stores, but it was three weeks from the time the ship arrived till they got them in the stores, where my contract was to deliver them; and when they were delivered, ten per cent. of them were plundered, and the cases smashed up. Now to overcome that, I have had to put hoop iron about six inches around the corners. It is the corners they pry open, and the pine boards sometimes split.

Mr. BOULTER: How thick is this?—planed down to half an inch?

Mr. SHEPHERD: Yes, the covers are about half an inch. The ends are an inch. If you ship to London, make your packages very secure. I have had no complaints from any other port, either about plundering or delay in delivery. I understand that the ships have nothing to do with discharging the cargo in London. The moment they arrive they are taken charge of by the London Dock Co., and they discharge the cargo and deliver the goods.

The SECRETARY: What do you call No. 2 Fameuse?

Mr. SHEPHERD: What is not good enough for No. 1. (Laughter). I grade my apples very finely. The first quality I take out and put into boxes; then an eighth of an inch off an apple is an eighth of an inch too small to fit the square, so it goes as a No. 2, which is composed of imperfect fruit and smaller apples.

The SECRETARY: And yet those paid you for shipping, even this year?

Mr. SHEPHERD: I netted \$1.10 on those. We had no culls in the barrels.

Mr. CASTON: It is very surprising and gratifying to me to learn that Mr. Shepherd shipped Duchess in barrels and that they arrived in England in such condition as to net \$1.25 per barrel. I see the Fameuse quoted in London as the Snow apple. It is a thoroughly Canadian apple, and originated, I understand, on the Island of Montreal.

Mr. SHEPHERD: I think you had better keep to the name "Fameuse;" it takes better in London than "Snow." It is rather a distinguished name—the "Fameuse" (the Famous)—and then it shows its origin. There is no doubt the Fameuse originated from seed brought over from France by the early French settlers. The late Mr. Charles Gibb and myself traced that fact very clearly. There is no apple corresponding exactly with the Fameuse in France. We have a great many other relations to the Fameuse in the Province of Quebec, apples that are very nearly like it, but there is always some difference; a great many of them are sold for Fameuse.

Mr. HUGGARD: How do you like the Wealthy as a market apple for England?

Mr. SHEPHERD: In my experience the Wealthy does not take as well as Fameuse. They don't like the quality of the Wealthy—I have had several letters this year to that effect. It sells very well, though, and is a good-looking apple.

Mr. BOULTER: The Fameuse tree is very hardy with you down there?

Mr. SHEPHERD: No, the Fameuse tree is not as hardy as we like. It is what we call a half-hardy tree.

Mr. BOULTER: A long-lived tree?

Mr. SHEPHERD: Yes, but they don't live as long as we would like them to. They have orchards down there fifty or sixty years old.

Mr. B. had a good

Mr. S. on the 14th shed. I ha bruised, and quite crisp as each apple the apples w just come ev then nail th

Mr. J. and noticed head, and he be bruised c were shipped

Mr. W. ing. I boug first time I e

Mr. C. they usually and the bright year.

The time to stop planti

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