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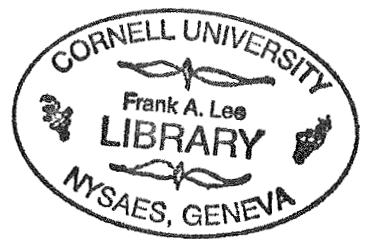
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THE TABLET ERECTED THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF
JOHN T. ROBERTS
ON THE SITE OF THE ORIGINAL PRIMATE APPLE TREE,
CAMILLUS, N. Y.

THE HISTORY
OF
THE APPLE IN NEW YORK STATE.

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* THESIS. *
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PRESENTED TO THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY

for

THE DEGREE

of

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

by

CHARLES SCOON WILSON, A. B.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

JUNE 1905.

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THE HISTORY
OF
THE APPLE IN NEW YORK STATE.*

- * -

INTRODUCTION.

This work was begun during the year 1903 - 1904. The first thought, however, was not that of a major thesis but merely a short problem in historical research. As the work progressed, considerable material was found in the old horticultural magazines and it was suggested that a more thorough search be made. The work, therefore, was resumed in the year 1904 - 1905 with the aim in view of making it a monograph of the History of the Apple in New York State.

In addition to a history of the apple with the origin and history of the different varieties, an attempt was also made to discover how different varieties adapt themselves to the different sections. The Baldwin, for instance, when grown near the Hudson River may not possess the same form and qualities as when grown in the

* Being a contribution to the papers of the Dept. of Horticulture for the degree of Master of Science in Agriculture.

western part of the state. A good example of this is found in the Newtown Pippin, the native home of which is in New York State. The same variety is grown in Virginia under the name of Albemarle Pippin. Yet when this variety is taken to Virginia and grown there the form and quality of the fruit is not exactly the same. In Virginia the apple has taken on modifications, adapting itself to the locality. So one variety may assume a different form when grown in a different section of the same state. An attempt was made to see whether or not this was true and to what extent it occurred. But as no definite and reliable data were obtained the effort was abandoned.

During the fall of 1904, over three hundred letters were sent out to the leading fruit-growers and nurseryman of the state, asking them for information regarding the introduction and history of the apple in their section. The following are the questions asked:-

1. Please state what you can in regard to the introduction of fruit in general into your section. From whence were they introduced ?

2. Give data, actual or approximate, of the introduction of apples in your neighborhood. What varieties were introduced ? From whence did they come ?

3. When, where and by whom was the first apple orchard planted in your section ? What varieties were planted ?

4. Where was your orchard planted and what varieties does it contain ?

5. Have any varieties of apples of note originated in your neighborhood ? If so, please give names and history.

6. Can you refer me to any one who is well posted on this subject ?

The writer wishes to thank those fruit-growers who have responded so willingly to his inquiries. From these answers alone the information regarding the early Indian orchards and also the introduction of the apple in general into this state was obtained. After the answers were grouped, they made quite a complete history of the apple in New York state.

Besides the above-mentioned method, recourse has been made to the books on horticulture, the horticultural magazines and histories of both state and county.

CHAPTER I.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE APPLE INTO AMERICA.

The only native apple is the crab, which the settlers found growing wild in the forest at the time of the discovery of the country. The cultivated varieties are not indigenous to America and without a doubt were introduced by the early settlers. It is recorded that they brought with them the seeds of farm and garden crops, including the seeds of the apple.

(a) Plymouth Colony.

We find the earliest records of the apple in the history of the Plymouth Colony. Peregrine White, the first Englishman born in New England, planted an apple tree at Marshfield about 1648. This tree stood as a representative of his early orchard as long as the land remained in the hands of his descendants. About the middle of the last century, the land was sold and the tree cut down by the purchaser. In Russell's Guide to Plymouth, published in 1846, the tree is described as measuring 17 feet in height, and the old trunk, then mostly decayed, six feet in length and four and one-half feet in circumference, and as still bear-

ing fruit. There are records of many other trees and orchards which the settlers planted before the year 1700. These trees were strong growers but the quality of fruit was inferior. The records of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society *¹ show that large trees of the Hightop Sweetings, of very ancient date, as well as other varieties of apples were still standing in the Old Colony in the year 1880. A row of Hightop Sweetings in Marshfield is reputed to have been planted before 1680. All the trees known of this variety were grafted trees.

(b) Massachusetts Colony.

The farm of Governor Endicott of the Massachusetts colony was known by the name of Orchard as early as 1643.*² Governor Endicott appears to have been quite extensively engaged in fruit growing at an early date. In 1648, he exchanged five hundred apple trees of three years growth with William Trask for two hundred and fifty acres of land.*³ Writing to Winthrop, April 22nd., 1644, he says, " I humblie and heartilie thanck you for your last lettre of newes and for the trees you sent me . . .

*1 - History of Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Pg. 3.

*2 - Memoir of John Endicott by C.M. Endicott, Page 72.

*3 - Memoir of John Endicott by C.M. Endicott, Page 80.

" I have not sent you any trees because I heard not from you, but I have trees for you if you please to accept of them whensoever you shall send. I thinck it is to late to sett or remoue. I could wish you to remoue in the latter end of the yeare your trees, & I pray you to send mee what you want & I will supply what I can. My children burnt mee at least 500 trees this spring by setting the ground on fire neere them."^{*4}

" Tradition exists of the Indians having planted on the peninsula of Boston, clearing away the wood,
as was their custom, by burning.^{*5} William Blackstone, the first settler, cultivated six acres of land around his residence, which was near what is now the corner of Beacon and Charles streets. A part of this was planted as a garden, where he raised apple trees, which continued to bear fruit as late as 1765. After his removal to Rhode Island, he planted at Study Hill, near Pawtucket, the first orchard that ever bore apples in that state. ' He had the first apples of the sort called Yellow Sweetings that ever were in the world.'^{*6}

" In April 1632, Conants Island in Boston harbour

*4 - Mass. Horticultural Society, Fourth Series, Vol. VI. Pages 146 - 147.

*5 - Drake's Old Landmarks of Boston, Page 10.

*6 - Snow's History of Boston, Page 52.

" was granted to Governor Winthrop for forty shillings and a yearly rent of twelve pence, provided he promise to plant a vineyard and an orchard, of which the fifth part of the fruits were to be paid yearly to the governor for the time being forever. The name of the island was thenceforth to be 'The Governor's Garden.' On the fourth of March, 1634 -1635, the General Court changed the rent to 'a hogshead of the best wine that shall grow there, to be paid yearly, after the death of the said John Winthrop and noething before.' The grape culture, if ever seriously undertaken, undoubtedly proved a failure; for in 1640, the rent was again changed to 'two bushells of apples every yeare, one bushell to the Governor and another to the Generall Court, - in winter, - the same to bee of the best apples there growing.' Accordingly we find in the records of the General Court held at Boston, the seventh day of the eighth month, 1640, formal mention that, 'Mr. Winthrop, Senior, paid in his bushell of apples.'^{*7} Josselyn mentions, that when ready to sail from Boston, the 11th. of October, 1639, 'Mr. Luxon, our master, having been ashore upon the Governour's Island gave me half a score very fair Pippins which he brought from thence.'^{*8}

*7 - Mass. Records, Vol.I., Pages 94, 139, 293, 301.

*8 - First Voyage, Page 29.

" Among the incidental proofs of the attention given to horticulture is the enactment in 1646 by the court of the Colony of Massachusetts, that the person who should be known to rob any orchard or garden, or who should injure or steal any graft or fruit tree, should forfeit treble damages to the owner. *9

" From notes made 1646 - 1648 in an interleaved almanac belonging to S. Danforth, then probably a resident of Cambridge, we find the dates of gathering several varieties of apples, the Long apples, Blackton's, Tankerd, Kreton Pippin, Long Red apples, Russetin, and Pearman's. The Blackston may be the Yellow Sweeting mentioned above as originated by William Blackstone. *10 They were all ripe in August and September.

" The correspondence of John Winthrop, Jr., shows that he, as well as his father, was interested in the cultivation of fruit trees. Edward Howes wrote,

' From our new house in Lincolnes Inn feilds near Prince's Streete,' the 18th. of April 1634,' As for the Quodling apple slipps, I spake to Mr. Humfries once or twice about it and he sayd he would see for some. I hope he will bring some over with him, and yet I doubt it. because it is soe forward in the yeare.'" *11

*9 - Mass. Records, Vol.II., Page 180.

*10- Savage's Winthrop, Vol.II, Page 332.

*11- Mass. Hist. Coll., Fourth Series, Vol.VI., Page 499.

(c) Connecticut Colony.

" George Tenwick of Saybrook, Connecticut wrote May 6, 1641, 'I haue receaued the trees yow sent me, for which I hartily thanke yow. If I had any thing heare that could pleasure yow, yow should frely command it. I am pretty well storred with cherrie & peach trees & I did hope I had had a good nurserie of aples, of the aples yow sent me last yeare, but the wormes haue in a manner destroyed them all as they came up. I pray informe me if yow know any way to preunt the like mischiefe for the future.'

*12

" John Mason, writing from Saybrook, January 28, 1654, prayed the governor to 'forget not to prouide for the planting some trees at spring.'

*13

March 5, 1656, he wrote to Mrs. Elizabeth Winthrop, ' I haue sent ten apple trees by Goodman Stolyon to your selfe. I suppose they will, most of them, be planted in the north end of your orchard. I would haue sent more if I had thought there were a place to receiue them. I haue also sent to Thomas Bayley thirty grafted trees, as hee desired mee. They are in Goodman Stolyon's

*12 - Mass. Historical Society, Fourth Series, Vol. VI., Page 499.

*13 - Mass. Hist. Coll., Fourth Series, Vol. VII., Page 419.

" boate. I would entreat you to acquaint him with it. Hee told mee hee would put it to Mr. Winthrop's account. *14 They came to thirty shillings.'

" The fruit of an apple tree, which together with an acre of land was given to the apostle Eliot by the Indians, was exhibited before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1833. This tree stood near the meeting-house in Natick. It was called the Orange Sweeting and was a favorite with the Indians. It will be remembered that Eliot died in 1690. Another apple tree, imported from England and planted in the garden of the Wyllis family in Hartford, Connecticut, before the middle of the seventeenth century, produced on a few weak limbs at the top of the tree some dozen of apples in 1822. It was of the Pearmain variety." *15

" Other interesting relics of the early apple industry are the row of trees of the Hunt Russet apple on the old Hunt farm in Concord, Mass., believed to be much over two hundred years old, *16 and the four healthy trees still remaining of an apple orchard, *17 planted probably as early as 1770, on the Bacon farm in

*14 - Mass. Hist. Coll., Fourth Series, Vol. VII., Pg. 421.

*15 - Letter of Hon. John Welles to Hon. John Lowell in Mass. Agricultural Repository, Vol. VIII., Pages 280 - 281.

*16 - Trans. Mass. Hort. Society, Part I., 1875, Page 63.

*17 - Michigan Farmer, Nov. 14, 1876.

" Richmond, Massachusetts." *18

Paul Dudley, F.R.S., Chief-justice of Massachusetts, wrote in the Philosophical Transactions, *19 the following concerning apple culture in 1726, "(Our people of late Years, have run so much upon Orchards, that in a village near Boston, consisting of about ⁴⁰¹³⁰⁰⁰ ₇₀₀₀₀ forty Families, they made near three Thousand Barrels of Cyder. This was in the year 1721. And in another ₃₀₀₀₀ town, of two hundred families, in the same year, I am credibly informed, they made near ten Thousand Barrels.) Some of our Apple Trees will make six, some have made seven barrels of Cyder, but this is not common; and the Apples will yeild from seven to nine Bushels for a barrel of Cyder. A good Apple Tree, with us, will measure from six to ten Foot in Girt. I have seen a fine Pearmain, at a Foot from the Ground, measure ten Feet, and four inches, round. This tree in one year has borne thirty eight bushels of as fine Pearnains as I ever saw in England. A Kentish Pippin at three foot from the ground, seven feet in girt; a Golden Rossetin, six foot round. The largest Apple Tree that I could find was ten foot, and six inches round, but this was no graft."

*18 - History of Mass. Hort. Soc., Pages 13,14,15.

*19 - Philosophical Transactions, Abridgement, Vol.VI. Part II., Page 341.

(d) Maine Colony.

" The name of Old Orchard Beach, in Saco, Maine, arose from a growth of apple trees planted there at a very early period, some of which remained as late as 1770. A hundred years later the trunks of two apple trees, very much decayed, but one of them still bearing fruit, remained at the sight of the ancient ' Agamenticus' or 'Gorgeana' in York. This bearing tree stood on land which was originally the homestead of Thomas Gorges, an early mayor of Gorgeana and governor of the Province, who established himself there about 1641. Tradition avers that this tree had been brought over from England in a tub, and planted where it then stood, more than two hundred years ago. The house of Walter Phillips, who was a noted gardener, and a public officer in the present towns of Newcastle and Edgecomb, was surrounded by apple orchards." *20

This short and fragmentary sketch will give some idea of the introduction and early history of the apple in the New World. Fragmentary it must necessarily be since very little actual history of the apple culture was kept at that time. The early settler struggled hard to found a new country and many were the hardships

they endured. We need not wonder then that so little attention was given to keeping the records of the less important industries, as that of the apple must have been.

CHAPTER II.

THE EARLY BOTANIC GARDENS.

Several botanic gardens established during the early history of America had considerable influence upon the introduction and the dissemination of apples throughout the country. These gardens were started mostly by private individuals, natural born horticulturalists, so to speak, who were deeply interested in the horticultural development of the new country. Productions from the Old World were constantly received by them, tested and disseminated throughout the New. In this way they played an important part in the distribution of fruit in general, apples of course sharing with the rest.

(a) The Bartram Garden.

The Bartram Garden, near the city of Philadelphia, was the first of this kind in America. It was begun in 1728 by John Bartram, whom Linnaeus said was the best natural botanist known. Bartram collected all kinds of trees and plants in the new country, i.e., such parts of the country as were known at that time, from Lake Ontario in the north to the source of the St. John's River in Florida.

Bartram was a member of the Royal Societies of
 London and Stockholm,^{*21} and his correspondence extended to the most distinguished botanists of Europe. He sent the productions of the New World to Linnaeus, Gronovius, Fothergill, and many others. In turn he received from them the productions of the Old World.

From a collection of his letters we learn that American apples were exported to England early in the history of the country. Michael Collenson speaks of the "great quantities" exported in 1773. He writes that their flavor was superior to any thing that could be produced in England and even to that of the apples
^{*22}
 of Italy.

(b) The Marshall Garden.

The next botanic garden in respect to time was established by Humphrey Marshall at West Bradford, Chester County, Penn. in 1773. Humphry Marshall was a cousin of Bartram, and like Bartram, corresponded and exchanged with European cultivators. From a letter written to him by Dr. Thomas Parke, Scotland, we learn that as early as 1795 there existed in this country a

*21 - London's Gardener's Magazine, Vol. VII., Page 666.

*22 - Darlington's Memorials, Pages 383 - 388.

sufficient number of American varieties of apples, pears and peaches to make an assortment of considerable size. *23

(c) The Prince Garden.

About the middle of the eighteenth century, William Prince founded the Linnaean Botanic Garden at Flushing, Long Island. Probably more history has been made in the apple industry of New York State through the efforts of Mr. Prince than through the efforts of either Mr. Bartram or Mr. Marshall above mentioned. For many years this was the most extensive nursery in the country. Mr. Prince put forth every endeavor to procure all foreign and native plants. In 1827 the nurseries contained more than a hundred species of Australian plants. William Robert Prince, of the third generation, was at the head of the establishment for many years. He was widely known in the horticultural world as a man of remarkable enterprise, indefatigable in his exertions for the introduction of new plants, and as a man of extensive reading and a forcible writer.

These three gardens - others existed, but these are the principal ones in the early days - mark an epoch of their own in the history of fruit culture and, directly,

*23 - Darlington's Memorials, Pages 22, 531.

apple growing in America. That they introduced and disseminated many varieties we cannot doubt, and yet, history gives us no direct knowledge as to what varieties they disseminated nor to the extent of their dissemination. We are left to imagine their influence.

CHAPTER III.

THE INTRODUCTION AND EARLY HISTORY
OF
THE APPLE IN NEW YORK STATE.

We have seen how the early settlers brought the apple with them when they came to the New World. The plan which they commonly followed and which was the less expensive and troublesome was that of bringing seeds and planting them about their new homes in America. As the tide of emigration moved westward, the pioneers carried with them the fruit of their primitive home. Thus the apple moved westward with emigration to take up its life along the frontier of civilization. Not alone did it keep pace with the progress of civilization. Fruit and seed fell into the hands of the Indians and by them were carried far into the wilderness beyond the outermost white settlement. So fast was its westward spread in the hands of the Indians that General Sullivan in his raid into western New York in 1779, found apple orchards regularly laid out and bending with fruit.

In a general way we may say that the above accounts for the introduction and early history of the apple in New York State. It is very interesting, however,

to take up separately the different factors whose influences have been particularly marked and see what and how each has contributed its particular part. The main factors are two:-

1. The Influence of the Indians.
2. The Influence of the Early Settlers and Important Pioneer Nurserymen.

The Influence of the Indians
and
The Early Indian Orchards.

As above mentioned, fruit and seeds of apples from the orchards of the early settlers fell into the hands of the Indians and by them were carried far westward into the forest. In this way, the apple came into the possession of the Seneca and Cayuga Indians in western New York. Why Indian orchards were found here and not elsewhere is difficult to explain. In all probability there were a few apple orchards which were set out by the Indians, scattered here and there throughout the entire state, but of these there is no actual data. However there is abundant data concerning the Indian orchards in the region of Seneca and Cayuga Lakes. As a plausible explanation of this, the following may suffice;- first, this section is particularly adapted

to the growing of apples, and second, the Indians who lived there were the most highly civilized Indians in America. They lived in houses, had their separate farms, fields of grain and orchards of fruit.

General Sullivan in his campaign against the Indians here in 1779 found seventy apple trees at the Indian village of Kendaia or Appleton, near Seneca Lake, in the west part of the town of Romulus, Seneca County. At this time the trees appeared to be fifty years old, which would make the date of planting as early as 1730.

The village of Kendaia was originally known as Apple Town from the large Indian orchards found there. Edward Van Vleet, one of the oldest residents of Kendaia, who now lives at Ovid, told W.A.Bassett^{*24} that he remembers seeing stumps of the apple trees which were felled by Sullivan, that measured nearly four feet across. From these stumps, sprouts grew up and bore apples for many years. He mentioned a beautiful red apple that had a red flesh but when cooked was white as snow. Although it received no name and has since disappeared, he said it could not be excelled by any variety of our day. Mr. Van Vleet's farm was long known

*24 - W.A.Bassett, Interlaken, N. Y. Dec. 1904.

as " Apple Tree Farm."

" The Lake Country," a little book of John Corbett, published by the Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester, N.Y., records that Sullivan, in his march through Seneca County in 1779, felled apple trees that numbered into thousands. Orchards of peach and plum were found and destroyed. A chronicler, writing in the year 1665, declared the region of the lakes of central New York, " capable of bearing all the fruits of Provence & Touraine."

An Indian orchard, containing several trees stood half a mile east of the village of Levanna on Cayuga Lake. The trees had evidently stood there many years. One of them yielded fruit so good in quality that the settlers in the early part of the present century, who were attempting to provide fruit for their new homes, came miles to cut grafts of this accidentally good variety. Most of the Indian trees bore poor fruit, but one early autumn apple, known and widely cultivated half a century ago under the name of " Toole's Indian Rareripe," is supposed to have originated among them. It was a handsome apple, a good culinary sort, but being a rather poor bearer, has now passed out of general cultivation. Chas. Downing states in the later edition of his works

*25
that its origin was unknown.

As the Indian relics are rare and very interesting, I mention here an old Indian peach orchard which stood half a mile south of the small village known as Pumpkin Hook in the town of Farmington, Ontario County. One of these trees was measured in the spring of 1831 when it was a foot in diameter. It must have been many years old, yet it appeared quite healthy at the time. The "yellows" had not reached that part of the country although introduced fifty miles eastward. The trees were, of course, all seedlings, of a variety known as the "Indian peach" of rather poor quality. *26

There was also an Indian orchard in the north-east corner of the present town of Romulus. *27 Another original Indian orchard which is now standing is near the south line of the town of Seneca Falls.

In Cleveland's History of Yates County, we find that at the time of Sullivan's invasion into that county, there were fields of corn and fine orchards planted and cared for by the Indian squaws. *28

The first orchard planted in the region of Oswego was planted by the Indians. It stood on the east bank

*25 - Country Gentleman, 1892, Page 48.

*26 - Country Gentleman, 1892, Page 48.

*27 - Journal Gen. Sullivan's Ind. Campaign, 1779; Pub. by N.Y. State in 1887, Pages 48, 106, 364.

*28 - Letter of E. Waldron, Gage, N.Y.

of the Oswego River eight miles south of Oswego. The early settlers bought the land and orchard from the Indians in 1795. It was then in bearing and probably thirty or forty years old. For a number of years the Indians would return in the autumn to gather the apples and carry them away with them. Whenever the owner remonstrated, the Indians replied, " We sold the land but not the apples." The apples of this orchard were what we term " natural fruit."^{*29}

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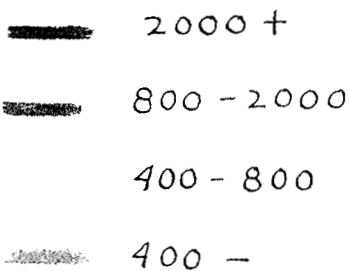
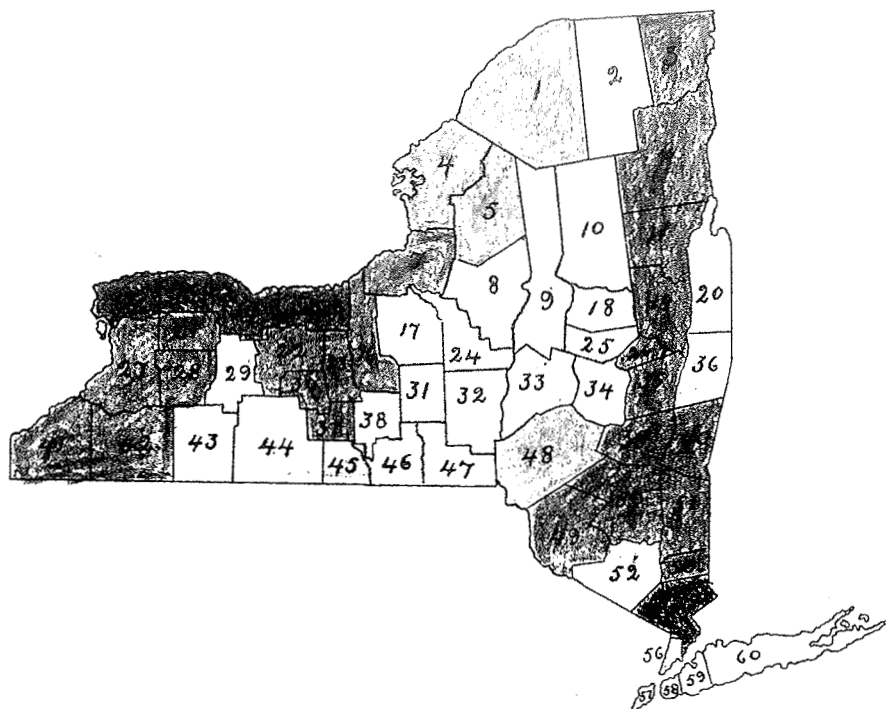
The Influence of the Early Settlers
and
Important Pioneer Nurserymen.

The accompanying map may help us to get a clearer idea of the early apple industry of the state. Although made from recent statistics, the census of 1900, and showing the ~~the~~ intensity of the industry in different sections at the present time, nevertheless the proportions have not materially changed and we may use it as a basis for division both in the early days and the present. The color scheme is based on the number of apples

*29 - Letter of D.D.Stone, Oswego, N. Y.

NEW YORK.

Albany	35
Allegany	43
Broome	47
Cattaraugus	42
Cayuga	16
Chautauqua	41
Chemung	45
Chenango	32
Clinton	3
Columbia	40
Cortland	31
Delaware	48
Dutchess	51
Erie	27
Essex	6
Franklin	2
Fulton	18
Genesee	21
Greene	39
Hamilton	10
Herkimer	9
Jefferson	4
Kings	58
Lewis	5
Livingston	29
Madison	24
Mourne	14
Montgomery	25
New York	56
Niagara	12
Oneida	8
Onondaga	17
Ontario	22
Orange	52
Orleans	13
Oswego	7
Otsego	33
Putnam	53
Queens	59
Rensselaer	36
Richmond	57
Rockland	54
Saint Lawrence	1
Saratoga	19
Schenectady	26
Schoharie	34
Schuyler	37
Seneca	23
Steuben	44
Suffolk	60
Sullivan	49
Tioga	46
Tompkins	38
Ulster	50
Warren	11
Washington	20
Wayne	15
Westchester	55
Wyoming	28
Yates	30



The above figures represent
the number of trees per
1000 acres, improved land.

trees per thousand acres of improved land, the unit of area being the county. From the map, we see at once that the important apple growing sections of the state are two:-

1. The Eastern part, or Hudson River Valley section.
2. The Western part, or the Lake section.

In considering the introduction and growth of the apple industry as influenced by the settlers we shall treat these two sections separately.

The Hudson River Valley Section,
Including Long Island.

The first ^{hear} ~~apple~~ tree in New York State of which we have any record was that planted by Governor Stuyvesant on Manhattan Island in 1647. The tree was brought from Holland and was planted on what is now the corner of Third Avenue and 13th. Street, New York City. The trunk remained standing until 1866 when it was broken down by a dray. Curiously enough this tree was also the earliest recorded grafted tree brought from Europe to America. The variety was the Summer Bonchretien. Thus New York State, although it cannot boast of having the first apple tree in this country, can pride itself on having the first grafted tree.

The earliest apple orchard in the State dates back to the Dutch and from the data available one may say that the beginning of the apple industry in New York was made by the Dutch. A little further up the Hudson at Kinderhook apples were planted by the Dutch over two hundred years ago, shortly after the country was settled.^{*30} The majority of these apples were natural fruit and were used for making cider. Then the farmer generally considered his winter supplies incomplete unless there were several barrels of cider stored in the cellar. The apple did not come into use for eating, cooking and drying purposes until about 1830 - 1840.

Settlements were made on Long Island near Flushing as early as 1640-1650 by the colonists from New England. Reliable information leads us to believe that apples were set out by these early settlers as early as 1698.^{*31} J.W. Hand affirms this, and his statement agrees with the statement of Mr. Hallock^{*32} who speaks of apple orchards which were planted near Flushing as early as 1700. Several years ago these trees were three feet in diameter and in fairly good condition. They bore every year, mostly natural fruit, but some of it was very good.

*30 - Corr. Edward Van Alstyne, Kinderhook, N.Y. Dec. 1904.

*31 - Corr. J.W. Hand, East Hampton, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

*32 - Corr. N. Hallock, Milton, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

These early trees were set for the most part in small clearings in the woods some two or three miles back from the sea coast.

Later in 1735 at this same section the settlers planted orchards of Yellow Sweetings, Greenings, Russetts and Pippins. In all probability the trees came from New England, since the Yellow Sweetings at this time was grown there and we have no record of it elsewhere in America. Also the only connection these settlers then had with the outside world was the New England states by way of Long Island Sound. Mr. Hand believes the trees came from New England.

Small orchards were planted by the English settlers up along the Hudson about 1750. Although we have no actual data to show whence these trees came, it is quite probable that they were brought up the Hudson by the settlers from Long Island. We are led to believe this from the fact that the first barrel of Newtown Pippins ever seen in England was grown by Robert Youngstown^{*33} near Kinderhook in 1767. Now we know the Newtown Pippin^{*34} originated in Newtown, Long Island. It is evident therefore that this variety was introduced into

*33 - Corr. Edw. Van Alstyne, Kinderhook, N.Y. Dec. 1904.

*34 - See Under Newton Pippins in Origin and History of Varieties.

the Hudson River section from Long Island and it is reasonable to assume that many of the others were. There is a possibility that they were brought over from Connecticut and Massachusetts by the early settlers; they moved westward into the interior of the country. Most of these settlers, however, went directly to the western part of the state, whereas many of the people from Long Island settled along the Hudson.

About 1770, Mr. Laurence Shuler settled near Amsterdam, New York. Whether he came from Connecticut or New York is uncertain. He brought with him apple seeds which he planted and from which grew the first apple trees in that section. *35

A little later, about 1780, Thomas McClumphia settled at what is now Scotch Bush, a little village just across the Mohawk River south of Amsterdam. He brought with him seeds and planted an orchard on what to-day is the D.P. Luke farm. *36

Soon after this the apple was introduced a little further west along the Mohawk River near Clinton and New Hartford. Settlers came here from Farmington, about 1790. The land at that time was unbroken for

*35 - Corr. F. Shuler, Amsterdam, N. Y. Mar. 1905.

*36 - Corr. A. G. Luke, Scotch Bush, N. Y.; Jan. 1905.

They made clearings in the forest, built their houses and about these houses planted apple seeds which they had brought with them. The trees at first were all seedlings, but later were grafted to the improved varieties. The grafting was all top work and the scions were set high, eight to twelve feet from the ground. *37

Near Clinton, an apple orchard was planted by D.S.Kirkland in 1792 & 1793 from a nursery which he grew from seed sown in 1790 & 1791. The seed for this nursery was brought from Connecticut. The original trees were seedlings which in 1820 were grafted to the improved varieties. *38

Coming down nearer the present time and to the source of the more recent orchards in the Hudson River Valley district, we find that about 1840 a small nursery was started near Athens, Greene County, N. Y., on the west side of the Hudson and a little later another near Hudson in Columbia County. From these nurseries, it is quite probable that commercial apple growing along the Hudson was developed. Many farmers obtained trees from them and set out apple orchards. *39 Improved varieties were being extensively grown at this time. The

*37 - Corr. E. C. Porter, New Hartford, N.Y. Dec. 1905.

*38 - Corr. E.P.Powell, Clinton, N. Y. April 1905.

*39 - Corr. G.T.Powell, Ghent, N. Y. Nov. 1905.

purpose of production too had changed. Instead of being used mostly for the production of cider, as formerly, they were used for the purpose of dessert, cooking and shipping. The time was at hand when they began to be a staple farm crop.

The Work of Andrew J. and Chas. Downing.

The most important factor in influencing the fruit industry of the Hudson Valley region was probably the Downings' nursery at Newburgh and the untiring labors of A.J. Downing and his brother Charles. At what time the Downing nursery was started I am unable to say. We know, however, that it was before 1815 since it is recorded that Charles Downing, who was born in 1802, worked in his father's nursery at the age of thirteen. Probably the nursery was started not many years before this. Numerous apple orchards in that section must have been planted from the trees of this nursery. In the early 40's, A.J. Downing worked with the common fruits with the purpose in view of giving a description of all varieties. Consequently new varieties were sent to him for identification or introduction. In 1845 appeared his "Fruits and Fruit Trees of America." A.J. Downing died in 1852. Although the Downing brothers did not continue in the nursery business later than 1850, Charles Downing devoted himself to a life study of the varieties of fruits on which subject he was the leading authority until his death in 1885. One can readily see that the work of the father and the two sons would greatly influence the apple industry in the Hudson Valley region.

The Western Part or Lake Section.

The letters received from the fruit-growers of western New York were of great value in tracing out the history of the apple in this section. The different answers when grouped make quite a complete history. Moreover they agree in every particular regarding the time and source of introduction and whence introduced. Nearly every letter upon early history mentions the ^{that} fact, the early settlers planted the seeds in favorable spots in clearings. These seeds, of course, produced seedlings or natural fruit which, about 1830 when grafting was introduced, were grafted to the improved varieties.

The earliest record of the apple in western New York is in Onondaga County. Asa Danforth came from Worcester, Massachusetts and settled in Onondaga Valley in 1748. He brought apple seeds with him. These he planted, establishing, so to speak, a small nursery. He sold the trees from this nursery and did much to disseminate the fruit. One apple called the Danforth Sweet, which had a place in that section as late as 1870 but which is now unknown, was probably a production of his. Another of his varieties was the Stump. *40

*40 - Corr. J.T.Roberts, Syracuse, N.Y. Jan.1905.

Another orchard was planted in Onondaga County in 1798 by Gideon Seely, a surveyor employed by the state to lay out military tracts. The orchard was planted on what is now the farm of Grant Hatchings near Syracuse, New York. The trees were laid out in straight lines, north and south, and east and west. Many of them are in good condition and bearing still. Mr. Hatchings picked thirty bushels from some of the trees during the past season. Originally the trees grew up from seed but later were grafted over to the improved varieties. By the enlarged growth of wood which is about three feet from the ground, one can readily distinguish where the union of the graft with the stock occurred.

Probably the first apple trees planted in Seneca County were planted by Dr. Alexander Coventry, upon his large farm of 900 acres in the north-west corner of the town of Fayette, opposite Geneva. In his Journal, Dr. Coventry mentions that on March 28, 1792, he planted 20 apple trees and that on Dec. 10, 1793, he
*41
planted peach and plum stones.

In the year 1792, Dr. Silas Halsey made an expedition from Long Island to Seneca County, settling at Ovid,

*41. - Corr. Diedrich Willers, Fayette, N. Y. Mar. 1905.

New York. The same year he procured a quart of apple seed from an Indian orchard near Cooley's Point, now known as Lodi Landing, and planted the seeds with great care, thus starting a small nursery. This account is authoritative, as it was obtained from his great-grandson,
 *42
 Rev. Lewis Halscy.

An orchard was planted at Ovid, New York, ^{in 1792} by Joseph Wilson. About the same time Col. Rynear Covert planted one at Farmerville, now Interlaken. Some of the original trees of these orchards are still standing. They were seedlings or natural fruit at first, cider being the principal object in view. As better varieties were originated or introduced, these old trees were nearly all grafted over, a fact which accounts for the extreme
 *43
 height of some of them.

Mention has been made of the fact that General Sullivan, on his raid in 1779, cut down the Indian orchards which he found in the lake counties. Tradition states that four miles west of Geneva, on the farm of Nathan White, a small nursery of sprouts was established in 1792 among the stumps of an old Indian orchard. On this site and from these sprouts an orchard grew. Mr. C.C. Whitney owned the farm 1843 - 1884, and at the

*42 - Corr. W.A. Bassett, Interlaken, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

*43 - Ibid.

latter date, the orchard was still profitable.^{*44}

General Sullivan cut and burned another orchard belonging to the Indians just west of Geneva. A number of the trees sprouted and bore fruit, seedlings of course. These trees were in bearing about the year 1800. About this time also the first settlers came from New England. They brought seeds and scions with them and in all probability, some of the scions were inserted in trees which grew from these sprouts. They planted the seeds which they brought and later grafted the trees to the improved varieties.^{*45}

Near Seneca Castle, near Geneva, the Indians had planted a small orchard which General Sullivan did not destroy. Whether he did not find it on his raid or whether he left it intentionally one cannot assert. Being a small orchard, it may have escaped his notice. It was called the Indian Castle orchard. Most of the orchards of the early settlers in this section were grown from seeds taken from this old Indian orchard. Mr. Thos. Tallman was one of the early settlers who planted seeds from the Indian orchard. One of his seedling trees proved of sufficient value to propagate and put on the market. This is the apple which to-day we know as the

*44 - Corr. C. C. Whitney, Clifton Spa., N.Y. April 1905.

*45 - Corr. F.C. Maxwell, Geneva, N. Y., Nov. 1904.

Tallman sweet. This was probably about 1800. *46

An orchard standing near where the New York State Experimental Station is located is said to have been set out by the Indians as early as 1817. History speaks of their guarding these as their burial grounds years after they had been driven off by the whites. The lot contained the mound where the chief was laid. This orchard was in full bearing up to the year 1867 when it was removed to plant a nursery. *47

The first orchard near Hall's Corners was planted on the farm of Edward Burrell about 1801. The seed from which these trees grew was supposed to have been taken from the natural fruit found growing wild in the woods. Probably these natural fruit trees grew from seeds scattered by the Indians. *48 In the orchard of T.B.Wilsons, Hall's Corners, there is standing to-day an apple tree said to have been planted by the Indians. Parts of the tree have ^{BEEN} grafted to different varieties and each year it bears four or five kinds of apples. One limb still bears the natural fruit which was small with red stripes and almost tasteless. In 1896, it bore 16 barrels of apples. (See Illustration.)

*46 - Corr. C.T.Ottley, Seneca Castle, N.Y. Jan. 1905.

*47 - Corr. M.F. Pierson, Stanley, N.Y. Jan. 1905.

*48 - Corr. Wm. Burrell, Hall's Corners, N.Y. April 190



AN OLD INDIAN APPLE TREE PLANTED BY THE INDIANS
AND NOW STANDING IN THE ORCHARD OF
T. B. WILSON, HALL'S CORNERS, N.Y.

The first apple orchards near Waterloo were set about the year 1800. The early settlers from Pennsylvania found orchards and scattering trees which the Indians had planted. From the seeds of these apples and from the seeds and scions brought with them from Pennsylvania they started their first orchards. *49

Cleveland's "History of Yates County" records that a man by the name of Bartleson Sherman in 1794 planted a cluster of apple trees before the surrounding forest had been cut down. These seeds from which these trees grew were brought by Mary Bartleson from Pennsylvania. About this time Samuel Castner also planted an orchard on his claim a little east of Penn Yan. These people were among the first to enjoy the luxury of fine fruit, for which they became quite noted. *50

Although Tompkins County does not stand among the leading counties in the apple industry to-day, it has played an important rôle in the early history of the apple. In about the year 1800, Nathaniel King, who lived at Trumansburg, returned to Dutchess County on horseback to get apple seeds. He brought back a quantity, sufficient to start a large nursery. From the trees grown by him, about twenty orchards ranging from

*49 - Corr. J. G. Pearson, Waterloo, N.Y. Feb. 1905.

*50 - Corr. E. Waldron, Gage, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

forty to seventy-five trees each were set out in the neighborhood. The trees were seedlings and most of the fruit was at first used for cider. Some of the natural fruit was good and was used for eating and for cooking purposes. Twenty to fifty years later after grafting had been introduced, the trees were grafted to the improved varieties such as Greening, Romanite, Sweet Bough and King. It will be remembered that the King originated in this section about 1806.^{*51} Mr. Mat-tison's nursery started a little later at Jacksonville is still kept as such in a small way.

Some time during the 50's a Mr. Deckerman started a nursery near Frog Point, now Frontenac Beach, Cayuga Lake, budding the trees mostly to Kings, Greenings and Baldwins. These trees were distributed throughout the county in small numbers. The last trees of this nursery were bought and set out as a large orchard near Trumansburg. The orchard to-day is one of the best in the section. But with one or two exceptions^{*52} no large orchards have been set here since.

Abraham Lapham planted the first orchard in Wayne County about 1795. Mr. Lapham was among the early settlers who, coming from New England, located in this section

*51 - See under King. p. 65

*52 - Corr. T.H.King, Trumansburg, N. Y. Nov. 1904.

prior to 1800. Apples were the first fruits planted.^{*53}

Probably the first orchard in Monroe County was planted near Fairport between 1790 - 1795. Glover Perrin was among the first settlers of the county and he planted an orchard on his place soon after he came. The original trees were seedlings which were later grafted to the improved varieties. The orchard has^{*54} since disappeared.

Apples seem to have been introduced into Orleans County a little later than into the counties immediately bordering on the east. The first apple of which we have record in Orleans County was planted at the mouth of Johnson's Creek by a young girl, Rachel Lovell. The exact date of the planting is not known although it must have been in the later 90's. Wood of this tree is now^{*55} preserved by the Pioneer Society of Orleans County.

About 1800 two men name Kuck and Brown came from New England to what is now the town of Carlton in the northern part of Orleans County, each taking up a farm, Mr. Kuck locating at what is now known as Kuckville and Mr. Brown locating at Carlton. Mr. Kuck set out an orchard on the bank of Johnson's Creek in 1807. The or-

*53 - Corr. J. E. Baker, Macedon, N.Y. Dec. 1904.

*54 - Corr G.F. Wilcox, Fairport, N.Y. April 1908.

*55 - Corr. J.A. Kuck, Kuckville, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

chard is still standing and has borne many fine crops of apples. The trees stand about thirty-five feet apart and are now healthy and strong.

Mr. Brown set out an orchard on the bank of Oak Orchard Creek about 1808. Most of this orchard has disappeared. The trees were set close and grew so high that picking was made impracticable.^{*56} Fruit trees were set near Holley about 1820. Tradition asserts that a stranger sold Cornell Darrow two fruit trees in 1820, one Greening and one Russett. Evidently these trees came from Long Island as this was the home of these varieties and probably the only place at this time where trees of the variety were grown.^{*57}

Near Barker, Niagara County, about 1810, apple seeds were planted by the early settlers in favorable spots in the clearing. These trees were afterwards grafted to the improved varieties. In all probability these scions or grafts were obtained from the former homes of these pioneers in eastern New York and New England. The older orchards rarely contained more than an acre and were usually planted on some sandy knoll and without regard to the location of buildings.

*56 - Corr. I.N.Stebbins, Albion, N.Y. Jan. 1905.

*57 - Corr. W. E. Howard, Holley, N. Y. Apr. 1905.

Later, after the Erie Canal became a popular highway for transportation, the apple became an article of commerce and larger orchards were planted. *58

Philemon Nettleton planted the first orchard in Genesee County in 1800. It stood about two and one-half miles east of LeRoy village on the north side of what was called the Albany Road. Mr. Nettleton brought the seed with him from Connecticut. In 1802 another settler from Connecticut started the first nursery by planting the apple seeds which he had brought with him in his pockets. From his nursery, most of the early orchards of this vicinity were planted. The trees were seedlings which about 1830 were grafted to the improved varieties. *59

The early settlers about Dansville, Livingston County originally came from the Wyoming Valley, Pennsylvania. All, or nearly all, of them brought apple seeds since all the farms which were settled then have old apple trees growing on them. The seeds which they brought were planted in 1796. G.A.Sweet writes, " I can remember many such orchards in about 1850 when the trees were of immense size and some of them dying of apparently old age. A large proportion of them

*58 - Corr. W.T.Mann, Barker, N.Y. Nov. 1905.

*59 - Corr. R.S.Selden, Le Roy, N. Y. March 1905.

" were ' cider apples ' but many trees bore several kinds of fruit, as they had been top-grafted." *60

Other apple orchards were planted in the region of Batavia about 1804. These trees were grown from seeds brought by the early settlers most of whom came from the New England States. *61

The early settlers ~~from~~ about Batavia came from the New England States about 1800 and brought seedling apple trees with them. This is the only record I have found of the early settlers bringing seedling trees with them, instead of the seed. These seedling trees were set out in orchards. One on the farm now owned by J. C. Jacks was planted in 1801. These trees were patronized by the soldiers during the War of 1812. Some, since grafted to Baldwins, are still standing. The trunks are three feet in diameter and the trees nearly forty feet high. *62

Apple growing in Chautauqua County began in 1805. Judge Zatter Cushing who was born at Plymouth, Mass., first moved to Paris Hill in central New York. Later in 1805 he moved to Fredonia and brought with him one-half bushel of apple seed. These he planted and from

*60 - Corr. G.A.Sweet, Dansville, N. Y. Dec. 1904.

*61 - Corr. Nelson Boyne, Batavia, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

*62 - Corr. J. C. Jacks, Batavia, N. Y. Dec. 1904

them raised trees enough to set a twenty acre orchard, containing 999 trees. He was superstitious, believing in luck in odd numbers and would not set 1000 trees. These were mostly common fruit.

Soon afterwards in 1807 Elijah Risley, Sr. came to Fredonia from Hartford, Conn. He brought apple seeds with him and planted them. The trees, of course, were seedlings. One proved itself worthy and was called the Risley apple by which name it was afterwards known in that vicinity. It was introduced to the public and about forty years later was known as the Orance apple. *63

In the north central part of the state, very little attention is given to apple growing. In Lewis County the first apple trees were planted about 1805. The early settlers brought apple seeds from their old homes in Massachusetts and Connecticut. These trees grown from these seeds produced practically all the apples in this section before 1850. About that time and for many years after large amounts of trees from the nurseries of western New York were planted, but very few survived. The St. Lawrence and Tallman Sweet are about all that are left of these plantings. *64

*63 - Corr. D.W. White. Fredonia, N. Y.

*64 - Corr. J. M. Lewis, Copenhagen, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

The Work of Patrick Barry.

Up to the present time we have touched only that phase of the apple in western New York which was made by the early settlers. Their efforts were individual and scattered not collective and systematic. About the middle of the nineteenth century, through the influence primarily of Patrick Barry of Rochester, apple growing in western New York began a new epoch. It was the time when the scattered efforts were systemized, the individual struggles made collective and apple growing began its new career on a commercial scale.

Patrick Barry was born at Belfast, Ireland, in 1816. He came to America at the age of twenty and ^{after} four years of service with the Prince's at Flushing, Long Island, founded in 1840 with George Ellwanger at Rochester, N.Y., the Mount Hope Nurseries. Ellwanger and Barry introduced fruit growing into western New York at a time when there were no railroad or telegraphic facilities, nor any fast ocean steamers to bring over their importations from Europe. Mr. Barry did much to make Rochester a city of nurseries and western New York a famous fruit growing region. The Western New York Horticultural Society of which he was president for more than thirty years and until his death has long exercised more than sectional

influence. The work of Mr. Barry was truly national and
essentially that of a pioneer.
*65

CHAPTER V.

THE INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY
OF
THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF APPLES
OF
NEW YORK STATE.

This includes, together with the varieties which have originated in New York state, those varieties which are commonly grown here but whose place of origin has been outside the state.

Bailey Spice:-

The Bailey Spice originated on the farm of Captain Nathaniel Platt near Plattsburgh, N. Y. It sprang from a seedling tree which Mr. Platt planted about 1800. In 1850, the tree was still alive, a good bearer, and as Mr. J. W. Bailey, the grandson of Mr. Platt and the owner of the farm at that time, says, " the apples were invariably fair and perfect. *66

Baldwin:-

An apple such as the Baldwin, which has done so much for man, deserves a high place among its fellows.

*66 - Horticultural Magazine. Vol. XVI. Page 543.

No other apple has moulded the fortunes of fruit-growers as has the Baldwin. Since it may be called the king of apples, I give in full the literature I have found regarding its origin and introduction. Rufus Kettred-ge of Portsmouth, Mass. writes the following in the Horticultural Magazine in 1835:- " Mr. Kenrick, in the Orchardist says it is a Massachusetts apple, and Mr. Fessenden in the American Gardener says it originated in the county of Middlesex, Mass. Both are right. The original tree grew on the farm of my grandfather, Mr. John Ball, formerly of Tewksbury. The farm was situated one and one-half miles south of the Merrimac river, and three miles south-east of Lowell. Mr. Ball purchased the land then in a state of nature about the year 1740. He cleared up a small lot on which he erected the buildings. This tree came up not long after in the lane leading from the house to the barn. My father, the late Dr. Benjamin Kettredge of Tewksbury, who was born in the year 1742, within a quarter of a mile of the tree and resided there until his death in 1822, said it was a large tree when he was a lad; that it was not engrafted, as no person at that time in Tewksbury was acquainted with grafting; that it was, to use his expresseion, 'the mother of them all'. It is now more than forty years

" since scions were taken from this tree and set on trees growing on my father's farm. This apple was confined to that neighborhood for many years when the late Colonel Baldwin of Woburn became acquainted with it. He at once perceived its great excellence and brought it into general notice. From him it received its present name. We called it the Red Graft, as it was then the only engrafted fruit we had on our farm; and it still retains that name in our family. The original tree tree was alive when I removed to this place in the summer of 1817. In 1832, being at Tewksbury, I visited the spot where it had once stood but found it had disappeared. It was a very high tree, by far the highest apple tree I have ever seen, but not large in circumference, the limbs growing upright. The trunk too was unusually large for a Baldwin, but had begun to decay when I last saw it."

The Country Gentleman, May 27, 1880, gives the following interesting account of its origin:- " Mr. Chas. Brooks, in his history of the town of Medford, Mass., gives a more circumstantial history of the apple than is to be found in any other work. He says the first tree,

*67 - History of the Town of Medford, Mass. 1855, Pages 19-20

" producing ' this delicious fruit, grew on the hillside within two rods of the former Woburn line, and about ten rods east of the road leading from West Medford to Woburn. It was on the farm of Mrs. Thompson. At the request of Governor Brooks, I made a visit to the tree in 1813 and climbed it. It was very old and partly decayed, but bore fruit abundantly. Around its trunk, the woodpecker had drilled circles of holes, and from this peculiarity, the apples were called Woodpecker apples, which was afterwards shortened to Peckers, and during my youth they were seldom called by any other name.' He then relates how they came to be called Baldwins: Young Baldwin of Woburn, afterwards a colonel, was an intimate friend of Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford. Twice a week they walked to Cambridge to attend the lectures of Prof. Winthrop on natural philosophy. One day on passing the Woodpecker tree, they were attracted by the fine appearance of the tempting red apples, which on eating both pronounced the finest they had ever eaten. Years afterwards, Colonel Baldwin took some of the scions from the tree to a public nursery for propagation, from which circumstance, they received his name. The original tree was destroyed in a violent gale in September 1815."

*68

A later issue of the same magazine, 'says, " Surveyor

" Thompson was attracted to the tree by a large number of woodpeckers he saw at work on it. Examination of the fruit showed that it was likely to prove a new variety, and liking the taste of the apple, Mr. Thompson and his brother Abijah took from it a number of scions and grafted a number of the trees in their own orchard. By them it was distributed among the neighbors and in time it was largely sent to other parts of the country. It was then called the Pecker apple for the woodpeckers that had led to its discovery. Colonel Loammi Baldwin of Woburn became highly interested in the apple and having a large average and many trees, soon had them nearly all grafted to Peckers. He had a wide acquaintance among fruit culturists and they helped him to spread the fame of the apple, and gradually it came to be known as the Baldwin."

The Rumford Historical Association of Woburn, Mass, erected a granite shaft on the spot where the Baldwin apple was discovered over one hundred years ago. The Society purchased a small tract of land in the town of Wilmington, Mass., adjoining the farm of George L. Taylor, which includes the historic site, thus making certain that the monument will always stand. The shaft is seven feet high and surmounted by a carved representation of a Baldwin. The inscription is as follows:- " This pillar

"erected in 1895, by the Rumford Historical Association, marks the estate where in 1793, Samuel Thompson, Esq., while locating the line of the Middlesex canal, discovered the first Pecker apple, later named the Baldwin. Exact spot 250 feet west 10° degrees north."

Bell-flower:-

The original tree stood on a farm near Crosswicks, Burlington County, New Jersey. In 1817 the tree was still standing but was very large and old. It has long since perished. A peculiarity of this apple is that it thrives exceedingly well in the sandy soil of that state.

It is called the Belle-fleur by some authorities, but we see no propriety in giving a French name to an American apple, since we have so many fruits and flowers of foreign origin which we are compelled to call by foreign names, much to the annoyance of cultivators. *68.

Belmont:-

The Belmont apple originated in Lancaster county, Penn., the parent tree standing at the gate in the garden of Mrs. Beam, and hence one of its synonyms is the Gate. It was at one time confounded with the Waxen apple, a Virginian variety which it somewhat resembles. From Pennsylvania it was taken to Belmont county, Ohio, where it

was improved in character, and becoming widely known, the name Belmont has been generally adopted for it. *69

Benoni:-

The Benoni is a native variety and was first brought to the notice of cultivators about 1835 by Mr. E. M. Richards, of Dedham, Mass., a zealous amateur, who has devoted much attention to apples and introduced several varieties of merit. Mr. Richards gave a brief account of this apple in the Magazine of Horticulture for 1835. *70 He there states that it originated in Dedham, Mass., upwards of 75 years ago, where the original tree in 1856 was still growing, and that it first came into bearing in 1831 or 1832.

Its merits soon became known and, since that time, its cultivation has gradually extended, until it is now found in many of the best collections of apples. Mr. Richards has repeatedly shown very fine specimens of the Benoni and pomologists are indebted to him for his endeavors to bring this and other native seedlings into more general cultivation. *71

*69 - Country Gentleman, 1879, Page 184.

*70 - Magazine of Horticulture; 1835; Vol. I. Page 343.

*71 - Hovey, " The Fruits of America."

Canada Red:-

It is supposed that the Canada Red originated near Toronto, Canada. Scions were taken from Canada to Massachusetts by Hall Colby, early in the 19th century, ^{*72} I have found no record of their introduction into New York State. It is quite probable that scions were brought from Canada in the '30's or '40's.

Clark Apple:-

The Clark apple originated on the farm of J. W. Clark, Naples, Ontario Co., N.Y. The variety was found in a number of seedling trees purchased by Mr. Clark in the spring of 1857 to replace some mice-girdled ones in a young orchard. One of these seedlings, not being budded or grafted, produced the fruit to which ^{*73} the above name has been given.

Cogswell:-

Mr. J. A. Kendricks, nurseryman of Newtown, Mass., first exhibited this variety before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1849. It was described in the Magazine of Horticulture at the time, but no information of its origin or trace of its original source could be found. Mr. Kendricks could give no other account of it than that the scions which he grafted into an old tree

*72 - Magazine of Horticulture, Vol. XIII.

*73 - Rural New Yorker, Vol. XIX. 1868, Page 375.

were given him by a friend who said that he obtained them from Attleboro, Mass. or vicinity. This was 70 years ago. But since then and about 1850, we have learned that the Cogswell is a well-known apple in the vicinity of Brooklyn, Conn. and that some very old trees were growing there in 1850, which produced abundantly. *74

Downing says, " This excellent apple originated in the town of Griswold, near Norwich, Conn., on a farm which came into the possession of William Cogswell about the year 1798. The original tree was then about forty or fifty years old. *75

Congress:-

Whether the Congress apple is local to Cayuga County, N. Y. or whether it is what we know throughout the state as the Twenty Ounce, I am unable to say. As far as I am able to ascertain, the Twenty Ounce originated in Cayuga County. Mr. Asahel Foote of Williamstown, Mass. says the Congress apple is probably the apple described by Downing as the Twenty Ounce.

Custard:-

This is a local apple of Monroe County, especially in the vicinity of Greece. It had its origin on the farm of L. B. Langworthy, of the above mentioned town. Its history and the manner in which it was dis-

*74 - Hovey's Fruits of America.

*75 - Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America, Pg. 130.

covered are as follows:- On the farm are a few, scattering natural apple trees, some 80 or 100 rods from the house. These trees were on the place when he bought the farm. The fruit being wild and unattractive, he made no account of them. Having his attention called one day to a pretty well-beaten path that led to this tree, made by the help on the farm, it raised his curiosity to know what the quality of this wild apple was. Greatly to his surprise and delight, it was found to be one of the most mellow and agreeable-flavored little apples he had ever tasted. This remarkably fine eating apple is not attractive in its general appearance, being rather small, green skin, and but little red on the sunny side. Mr. H. M. Langworthy, brother of L. B. Langworthy, has propagated it from the wild tree. The resulting fruit was much larger than the original but the flavor was the same. Mr. Langworthy regards it as a providential gift for the gratification of the family.

*76

Detroit - Red Detroit:-

The name Red Detroit is often given to this variety to distinguish it from another and poorer apple, called the Black Detroit, which is common in western New York and Michigan. This apple originated near Detroit. It is supposed that the early French settlers,

the Jesuit missionaries, brought the seed with them from their home country. From the region of Detroit it has been disseminated throughout the eastern part of our country. It is not grown as a commercial variety. *77

Doctor:-

The Doctor apple is receiving some attention by fruit-growers to-day. It originated near Philadelphia. The original tree was grown by a physician of Germantown; hence the name Doctor. Downing says of this apple, " The tree is rather an indifferent grower and bearer. The fruit is medium, roundish, oblate, yellow striped, and washed with two or three shades of red, with a few darker spots. The flesh is tender, juicy, breaking, slightly aromatic and subacid. A good apple; season October to January."

Dutchess County Sweeting:-

This is a sweet apple shaped very much like the Rhode Island Greening only a little larger in size. It originated in Dutchess County, New York and is called by some " Sweet Ox" but it has not the shape or qualities of the "Ox" apple. Mr. Snyder of Rhinebeck, N. Y. thinks a more appropriate name is the Dutchess County Sweeting. He cultivates it in his nursery and sends it out under the latter name. *78

*77 - Rural New Yorker, 1858, Page 111.
 *78 - Rural New Yorker, 1857, Page 343;

Early Joe:-

The Early Joe originated on the farm of Herman Chapin, East Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y. Its name is derived from the circumstance of its discovery. Mr. Chapin had working for him a German boy named Joe, who first discovered the apple and made a practice of going to the tree very early each morning, picking off all apples which were ripening and hiding them in the hay-mow to be eaten later in the day. His practice was finally discovered and his habit was coupled with his name in giving a name to the apple, Early Joe. *79

Downing classes the quality of Early Joe as "best". He says, " The fruit is below medium oblate, very slightly conic, smooth, yellowish, shaded and striped with red, and thickly sprinkled with greenish spots. The flesh is whitish, tender, juicy, and possesses a very agreeable vinous flavor." *80

Esopus Spitzenburg:-

This apple originated at Esopus on the Hudson. I am unable to give the date of its origin, although it must have been in the early part of the 19th century, as this apple was commonly planted in the early orchards. It is now generally grown throughout the Middle and

*79 - Corr. H. G. Chapin, E. Bloomfield, N. Y. Dec. 1903.
 *80 - Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America. Pg. 154.

western states . It seems to be running out somewhat
 in the orchards of the eastern states. *81

This variety was essentially an early settlers apple and was found among the earliest grafted stocks. From thirty to fifty years ago it was quite generally found in the orchards throughout New York state. It is not, however, grown commercially now. The weakness of the tree, susceptibility to disease, and its fickle bearing have been barriers against it.

Fallawater:-

The Fallawater originated in Bucks County, Pa. For a long time it was known as the Fallenwalder because it "sprang up in the woods and was left standing after the other trees were down." Hence the name, Fallenwalder, or Apple of the Cut-down Woods. Another source and one quite reliable, says that it took its name from Mr. Fallwald by whom it was originated. Which of these statements is correct, I am unable to say. *82

Fameuse or Snow Apple:-

The history of the Fameuse is obscure and probably never will be cleared up satisfactorily. Fruit-growers disagree as to its origin and the whole question centers about the point as to whether it is of French or

*81 - Magazine of Horticulture ; Vol. XVI.

*82 - Horticultural Magazine, Vol. XXII. Page 557.

American origin. The discussions, however, as we have them, are exceedingly interesting and I shall give them below.

Hovey in his American Fruits says, " Mr. Kendricks in his Orchardist appears to have been the first to call the attention of cultivators to the Fameuse apple. His description and account brought it into notice. The Fameuse has always been supposed by our pomologists to be an American apple and one of our authors speaks of it as ' a celebrated Canadian fruit.' But the early notice of it by Forsythe, as well as its history so far as has been traced, affords no proof of this. On the contrary, the evidence is that it is a foreign apple, and in all probability originated in France. It is known to have been planted by the French settlers on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain, at Ogdensburg, and Detroit, one hundred fifty years ago. It is scarcely possible that at that time a native variety should have been so well known as to have been disseminated over such a large tract of country."

In the Horticultural Magazine we find the following statement:- " The Fameuse is a native of Canada and takes its name from the place where it was originally found, but of the truth of this there is some doubt. We are rather inclined to think it derived ^{its name} from the French word,

"Fameuse, meaning famous or renowned, from its well-known excellence in comparison with the majority of apples which were probably introduced into Canada by the French. Its synonym, Pomme de Neige, or Snow apple, has been given it on the account of the whiteness of its flesh. "

Mr. Goodrich in another volume writes, " All American writers call it a Canadian apple. Of this, I think there is no proof. One hundred and twenty years hence, the French planted this variety on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain opposite Fort Frederick on Crown Point at a place called Chimney Point, more than fifty years before any permanent settlement. From these old trees, scions have been scattered throughout Vermont and called the Chimney apple. A very intelligent and highly educated French Seigneur, residing on an old seignory eighty miles below Quebec, informed me that this was one of the first varieties of apples planted on the place; that the trees were very old and were brought from France. The early French settlers planted the same variety at Ogdensburg, Detroit and other places on Lakes Erie and Ontario, where it has been known as the Snow apple; also at Kaskaskia, Illinois, more than one hundred and fifty years since, where the old trees are still productive, and apples from them sent to St. Louis. The same apple may be found in the markets in France and in London of the growth of France."

The following editorial comment sums up the discussion admirably:- " It is hardly to be supposed that a seedling apple was produced in Canada at so early a day as to be distributed more than 1000 miles in every settlement made by the French 150 years since, and until our Canadian friends can give us some history of it at an older date, I cannot admit their claim to it."

Flower of Genesee:-

The history of this apple is as follows: -

Among the very early settlers of Alexander, Genesee Co., was a Mr. De Mary who came from one of the eastern states. He brought with him some apple seeds which he planted and one tree from these seeds produced a very fair eating and cooking apple which matured in the early fall. The apple was good size, greenish, with creamy flakes, something like the Pound Sweet. This apple was first disseminated by a Mr. Hawkins of Alexander who made a specialty of grafting trees in the spring. He thought well of it, naming it the Hawkins Pippin, and desired to introduce it as much as possible.

When it came into the hands of the nurserymen, and they began propagating it, some of them sold it under the name Pride of Genesee, others the Flower of Genesee. It is also spoken of by some Station people as the Genesee Flower. Nelson Boyne affirms that this account is accu-

rate in every particular, as he has seen the original tree, picked fruit from it, and raised a great many trees in his nursery.
*83.

Gilliflower - Red:-

The Red Gilliflower is grown extensively in Western New York. In all probability, this was the region of its origin, although no definite data are at hand. Occasionally it is found in the orchards of New England.
*84

Gravenstein:-

The origin of the Gravenstein remains in some doubt. It is said to have been originally found in the Duke of Augustinberg's garden at Gravenstein in Holstein and that the original tree was growing there in the middle of the last century. Another statement is that it derived its name from being found in the garden of the Castle of Gräfenstein, in Sleswick. Diel says that it was supposed by some to have been introduced from Italy. Be it as it may, it is a common apple throughout Germany and Sweden and was received from thence into the English collections. It is undoubtedly of similar origin with the Red Astrachan and Duchess of Oldenburg, possessing the peculiar habit of growth, form of foliage and texture of the fruit which distinguish the German apples.

*83 - Corr. Nelson Boyne, Batavia, N. Y. Jan. 1905.

*84 - Horticultural Magazine, Vol XVI; Page 65.

At what time it was first introduced into our gardens, we are not aware. But as neither Coxe nor Thatcher describe or name it, we suppose it was some time subsequent to the account given of it in the Transactions of the London Horticultural Society in 1822. *85

The following interesting discussion concerning the introduction of the Gravenstein into America will be of interest to fruit-growers:- Captain John De Wolfe of Dorchester, Mass., while at Copenhagen in the fall of 1825, noticed some crafts of apples, Gravenstein among them. Pleased and delighted with it, he ordered two trees which he took to Boston with him. He presented Gen. Dearborn with one and planted one himself. A year afterwards, Capt. De Wolfe moved to Bristol, Rhode Island, and took his tree with him. There it bore fruit.

In looking over the old New England Farmer, we find a letter from Judge Buel to Mr. S. Downer, containing a list of apple trees presented through him to the Massachusetts Historical Society. This letter is dated Oct. 11, 1829, four years subsequent to Capt. De Wolfe's visit to Copenhagen. In this letter, among other apples, he enumerates the Gravenstein and remarks that this and other German sorts were imported by Mr. C. Knudson, a German nurseryman, probably near Albany. Judge Buel

particularly states that the Gravenstein is " known to be a superior fruit." This is all we can find relative to its introduction into the vicinity of Boston.

From this it would appear that the Gravenstein was imported previous to 1826 at which time Capt. De Wolfe gave his tree to Gen. Dearborn, as trees could hardly have been propagated and sent from Albany as early as 1829 if not imported before 1826. Still the trees sent by Judge Buel may have been very young, perhaps only one year old, through probably not less than two.

We have concluded that Capt. De Wolfe was not the first to bring the Gravenstein to this country, though we have only supposition to the contrary from the letter of Judge Buel. But that he first introduced it here, there is not the least doubt, and probably it has been mostly disseminated in the neighborhood of Boston, through his efforts. What became of the trees sent to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, we do not know, but we believe they were distributed to Mr. Downer and other prominent members who are interested in the culture of fruits.

*86

Hawley or Dows :-

This fine apple was introduced to notice by

Gen. E. W. Leavenworth of Syracuse, N. Y. In the fall of 1846, he sent some remarkably fine specimens of the fruit with an account of its origin to Mr. Hovey, the pomologist. From his letter it appears that about a century and a half ago, Mr. Matthew Hawley removed from Milford, Conn. to New Canaan, Columbia Co., N. Y., and as usual with every settler at that time, took with him a lot of apple seeds from which he raised and planted an orchard of seedling trees on his farm in that place. The Hawley was one of these seedling trees. The farm afterwards passed into the hands of his son, Daniel, and was in 1846 owned by Thomas Hawley, the son of Daniel. For about one hundred years it has been known and cultivated in the neighborhood of its origin as well as by eminent orchardists in Onondaga and Cayuga Counties. The original tree has been dead about seventy years. Scions were obtained from it by the uncle of Mr. Leavenworth, through whom he became acquainted with this apple and generally made known its excellence. Mr. Leavenworth states that Hawley and Dows were the names of the men from whom these scions were obtained and it is from the fact that Mr. Dow's farm on which it was considerably cultivated, was near that of Mr. Hawley's that it was called by some the Dow apple.

*87 - Hovey - Fruits of America.

Hubbardston Nonsuch:-

This fine apple was introduced to notice by Capt. Hyde of Newton, Mass., one of the oldest nursery-men upwards of eighty years ago, who procured scions and distributed a great number of trees from his nursery long before its merits were generally known. It originated in the town of Hubbardston, Mass. and was first described by Mr. Kendrick in the first edition of the American Orchardist, about seventy years ago. It is now quite extensively disseminated and as it becomes better known, it will undoubtedly occupy a prominent place in every good orchard.

*88

The Hubbardston Nonsuch is quite extensively grown in western New York where the fruit growers hold it up in high esteem as a commercial variety. It was brought from Canada into that section by an agent who travelled through Ontario County setting scions of the variety for the different fruit-growers. Those set in the orchard of T.B. Wilson, Hall's Corners, were among the first.

Jonathan:-

The Jonathan originated on the farm of Mr. Philip Rich of Woodstock, Ulster Co., N. Y. In 1850, the

original tree was still growing. It was named in honor of Jonathan Harbranch from whom Judge Buel first received the fruit.
*89

The tree is hardy, moderately vigorous, forming an upright, spreading, round head. The Jonathan is a very beautiful dessert apple, and its great beauty and good flavor unite to recommend it to orchard planters. It is not particularly adapted to eastern soil but in the Central states, especially south-western Iowa and Illinois, it has become a standard variety.

King of Tompkins County:-

The Tompkins County King originated in Mr. Harrison's orchard in Essex County, N. J., and was named by Mr. Letts the King apple.

Mr. Letts removed to Tompkins County in the year 1800. In February 1806, he returned to New Jersey on business, when he procured some scions from his favorite tree which was then on the decay. He brought them home and set two of them for Mr. Jacob Wyckoff in Jacksonville, town of Ulysses, and the remainder for himself. One of those he set for Mr. Wyckoff lived; those set for himself, all died. When Mr. Letts returned to New Jersey the next year, the original tree was dead and no one had

*89 - Horticultural Magazine, Vol. XVI.

grafted from the tree but Mr. Letts. Thus, one graft, only was left to fill the world with one of the most beautiful and best apples now known. *90

Kingsley:-

This is a small apple of only fair quality but a long keeper. It originated on the farm of a Mr. Kingsley in Pittsford, Monroe Co., N. Y. The apple was a great favorite of an old citizen of Rochester, now dead, Dr. Long, who in addition to his medical practice did something at the nursery business. The doctor called it "The Apple of Apples of the World" but it has not generally been deemed worthy of cultivation. *91

Lady Sweet:-

The Ladies' Sweeting, according to Mr. Downing, originated in the vicinity of Newburg, N. Y., and for a long time previous to his account of it in the "Fruits and Fruit Trees of America," had only a local reputation confined to the banks of the Hudson. The trees were first disseminated from the nurseries of Messrs. Downing, over fifty years ago, but owing to their moderate growth, it is only within the latter part of the century that they have come into bearing beyond their native locality.

*90 - Country Gentleman; 1854, Vol. III. Page 234.

*91 - Rural New Yorker, 1860. Page 79.

This apple is not generally known, and where grown we find only a few trees in the orchard, the fruit of which is retained for home use or for the local market. *92

Tucker:-

In the Journal of the New York Agricultural Society we find the following item:- " The Tucker apple received from T.C.Young, Saratoga Springs, grown at Canandaigua, was tested by the committee and pronounced a very fine apple, new variety."

Mr. Manley says that there has been an apple of that name in Monroe County for 25 or 30 years past and was first brought to his notice by Gideon Ramsdale of Perinton, who has grown it for a quarter of a century. It is a very desirable apple and the only objection to its general cultivation is that on old bearing trees, it is undersized. *93

Mabie's Sweet:-

This is an old and much esteemed variety in Rockland County. The original tree stood on the farm of Mr. Mabie. One old tree which was living in 1878 was between 70 and 80 years old.

The growth is slender and crooked, the trees hardy and healthy, and profuse bearers, the fruit often breaking the branches if not thinned. In general character,

*92 - Hovey - Fruits of America.

*93 - Rural New Yorker 1854, Page 79.

the apple somewhat resembles Bailey's Sweet. Mr. Bell, who lives in the vicinity of its growth, believes it a valuable sweet autumn variety worthy of further attention.
*94

Maiden Blush:-

The yellow ground, with bright red cheeks, suggested the name, Maiden Blush. This name was given it by Samuel Allinson, late of Burlington, N. J., who first brought it into notice. The original tree must have been grown in that section.
*95

Mann:-

The Mann apple is a local seedling which originated in the west part of Somerset, Niagara County, N. Y. about 1835. It was named in honor of Thompson Mann, who settled in that section in the early '30's. W. T. Mann says that he recollects several trees of this variety on his grandfather's farm.
*96.

McIntosh:-

" This variety originated on the McIntosh homestead in Matilda township, Ontario. It was first propagated and distributed about thirty years ago by Mr. Allan McIntosh, whose father discovered the original tree when clearing away some second growth on the farm, then new."
*97

*94 - Country Gentleman; 1878, Page 649.

*95 - Cox's, Page 106.

*96 - Corr. W.T.Mann, Barker, N.Y. Nov. 1904.

*97 - Vt. Exp.Sta.Bull., #83, by F. A. Waugh, Page 91.

Norton's Melon:--

This variety originated with the Northern Spy in the orchard of Mr. Chapman of East Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y. and for many years its culture was confined to a few orchards in the vicinity of its origin. It was first brought to the notice of pomologists by Reuben Norton of East Bloomfield and first described in the Agricultural and Horticultural journals about 1845. Although the fruit is excellent, it is not very generally cultivated, as the tree being a delicate grower, is somewhat difficult to propagate and the stock of trees has been very limited. Then too, as it grows slowly, those who select large, fine-looking trees at the nursery would not be very likely to select the Melon, and we have no doubt many tree planters have blamed the nurserymen for sending them small, crooked trees, when they should have thanked them for sending trees of the Melon of any size or form. This apple has never been grown very generally for market, as it is too tender to bear much handling or jolting about in carriages, and the tree is not sufficiently vigorous in growth for profitable culture. It should have a place in every family orchard and fruit garden and will be found the finest of all winter dessert apples.

*98

Newtown Pippin:-

Much doubt exists as to the origin and history of this famous apple. Downing believes that it originated at Newtown, L. I., but gives nothing further. A writer in the Brooklyn Eagle makes it a native of the Hudson River Valley. The article states that nearly a hundred years ago, a member of the Pell family visited friends in Newtown, L.I. and took home seeds of an apple he found growing there, presumably a seedling. Mr. Pell was a large landed proprietor at Ulster, Dutchess County, where the seeds were planted and grew into trees, which, when they came into bearing, were known as Newtown Pippin. The estate descended to Robert Livingston Pell, who, it is said, had 20,000 of these trees in bearing. The apples were selected and packed with great care, the bulk being shipped to England where they brought high prices.*

The Editor of the Country Gentleman believes this a doubtful story, as the original fruit would not be reproduced by seed, nor would the seedlings produce a fruit in common that could be called Newtown Pippin or anything else. The history of this apple seems quite obscure, notwithstanding its local surroundings, and old files of

*99 - Country Gentleman, 1893; Page 425.

horticultural journals fail to clear up the history of this variety satisfactorily.

The following paragraph from the Rural New Yorker throws considerable light on the subject:- " The original tree of the Newtown Pippin was a seedling which grew near a swamp in Newtown, L.I. about 1700, on the estate of Gersham Moore, and the fruit was called the Gersham Moore Pippin for a long time. The tree lasted over a hundred years and finally died from excessive cutting, it having been much resorted to for scions to graft with." *100

The Newtown Pippin is of very high quality as a dessert apple and is becoming more and more popular as its use extends. It also represents a type which is sufficiently elastic to adapt itself to wide differences of climate. For instance, the same apple when grown in Virginia varies somewhat from its form in New York state and is known as the Albemarle Pippin. In Australia, it varies slightly from both these forms and is known as the Five Crowned Pippin.

Northern Spy:-

The Northern Spy originated on the farm of Heman Chapin, in the town of East Bloomfield. He settled upon the land about the year 1800 and brought with him

from Connecticut apple seeds from which he raised trees to set an orchard. Many of the trees when they came into bearing, were grafted to standard varieties and some of them, perhaps one-fourth, still remain in bearing. In this orchard the Northern Spy originated but the tree is now gone. Ellwanger and Barry, nurserymen at Rochester, procured buds, and through them the apple was first disseminated. *101

This beautiful American fruit is one of the most delicious, fragrant and sprightly of all late dessert apples. It ripens in January, keeps until June and always commands the highest market price. The flesh is white, fine grained, tender, slightly subacid, with a peculiar fresh and delicious flavor. The quality is best. *102

Porter:-

The Porter originated in Sherburne, Mass. on the grounds of the Rev. Samuel Porter, about 100 years ago, and remained unnoticed for some years. A neighbor passing through his orchard one day had his attention accidentally attracted to the tree from some very beautiful specimens which fell off. He soon afterwards called

*101 - Corr. H. G. Chapin, East Bloomfield, N. Y. Jan. '04.

*102 - Downing's Fruit and Fruit Trees of America. Page 238.

upon the owner and apprized him of the valuable fruit he had upon his place, and requested that he might be permitted to cut a few scions. Mr. Porter, then somewhat advanced in life, and not seeming to be aware of its excellence, or of the importance of disseminating superior fruit, replied, "that he might have the whole tree if he wished." This, however, was not desired, but content to possess the scions, his neighbor grafted them into trees in his own garden, and from that period, the Porter grew rapidly in favor. As an early fall apple it has no superior and few equals. *103

Pomme Grise:-

A great deal of discussion seems to have arisen regarding the origin of this apple. The result is that we are more in the dark than had we nothing of its origin. Our guess naturally would be that it came from France, as the name suggests, and Patrick Barry believes it was brought over here by the Jesuits. Mr. Goodsell whose authority bears considerable weight, asserts that it is of English origin. Forsythe, Loudon, Downing and Thomas believe it originated in Canada. Mr. Donnellan, Greece, N. Y., thinks Canada its native home. He says, "I maintain that the Grise was largely cultivated in Montreal before the conquest, therefore it cannot be a

" British apple.

" I arrived in Montreal forty years ago - (written in 1850) - where I found many old orchards of the Grise, some of them going to decay, which would make them at least sixty years old at that time, making them now - (1850) - a hundred years in that country.

" Again, if it is a British apple, it is strange her own colonies - now the United States - should know nothing about so famous a fruit. And finally, if England claims it, it must be on the same principle she claims the Kerry Pippin as a British apple - ' because her Majesty rules that country.'"
*104

Primate:-

The Primate apple originated in the town of Camillus, Onondaga County, about 1850 - 1855. The original tree which has disappeared long ago, was found by Calvin Bingham on his farm. The apple was introduced and propagated about 1858 by Charles P. Cowles, a nurseryman of that vicinity.
*105. On the 11th of September, 1903, John T. Roberts, Syracuse, N. Y., caused a bronze tablet to be erected where the original tree stood. On the tablet is the following inscription:-

" On this farm, Calvin D. Bingham, about 1840, pro-

*104 - Rural New Yorker; 1850, Page 91.

*105 - Corr. John T. Roberts, Syracuse, N.Y. Dec. 1904.

"duced the marvelous -

Primate Apple

Named by Charles P. Cowles.

'God's earth is full of love to man.'

See Frontispiece

The ceremony called together a goodly company of people. It was a beautiful thing thus to commemorate an apple that is famous throughout central New York state.

Rambo:-

Col. William Fitzhugh brought scions of this variety from Maryland and grew them on his farm at, or near, Genesee, New York. Mr. Fitzhugh was particularly interested in the propagation of different varieties of apples and grew many of them on his farm. The Rambo is an excellent dessert apple.

*106

Red Astrachan:-

This apple was first introduced into England, from Sweden, about the year 1816, and fruited in the garden of Mr. Atkinson, of Grove End, near London, England in 1820, at which period it was exhibited before the London Horticultural Society, and noticed in their

" Transactions." *106-a

Its beauty as well as its excellence commended it to the notice of cultivators, and it was generally disseminated. At what time it was introduced into this country, we have no precise information. *106-b

Rhode Island Greening:-

Very little data, regarding the origin of the Rhode Island Greening appears to be available.

*107
Bailey A says that it originated in the town of Foster, Rhode Island. The original tree, though very old, was still standing in 1900. Regarding its origin, Downing makes no mention.

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- * 106-a - Volume XIV.
 - *106-b - Hovey - Fruits of America.
 - * 107 - Bailey's Encyclopedia of American Horticulture.

Rome Beauty:-

The Country Gentleman gives the following very interesting account of the history of the Rome Beauty:-

"In 1816, some accounts say 1818, Israel Putnam, grandson of the celebrated wolf-slayer, established a nursery on the Muskengum near Marietta. It contained 23 varieties that are recorded and doubtless others that are not recorded. The scions of these 23 varieties were all brought from New England across the mountains in saddle bags, packed in beeswax. Which one of them originated the variety here described is not known.

A Mr. Joel Gillette was in the employ of Mr. Putnam and when he left him, he bought of the latter a number of grafted trees; for which he paid 25¢ apiece. Mr. Putnam also gave him some seedling trees. In the fall of 1818, the date generally given, all these trees were dug up in the Putnam nursery, and in the following spring, they were carried by Mr. Gillette to his new home in Lawrence County. In setting them out, Mr. Gillette found a tree which had a sprout grown up from the root. This he cut off and threw to his son, with the remark - he was himself a strong Whig - 'Here, Alanson, is a democrat; you may have it.' Alanson set it out and that was the original Rome Beauty tree. It derived its name from the township of Lawrence County in which it

" originated and from its beautiful red color.

" Mr. Solomon Churchill took the first grafts off the trees and raised five trees which he set on his farm below Haskellville, now owned by J.L.Anderson. The next grafts, seventeen in number, were set out on Mr. Sidney Gillette's farm near Rome. About this time, Mr. F. N. Gillette and Thomas Gardner began propagating from the original tree, and both of them went into the nursery business extensively. From these nurseries, thousands of Rome Beauty apple trees have gone out over the country, to Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Kansas, Texas and even to far California." *108

Rose Red:-

The original tree grew on the farm formerly owned by Gideon Ramsdell, Egypt, Monroe County, N.Y. Being a favorite in the neighborhood, it was propagated by the Loud Brothers in their nursery. *109

Roxbury Russet:-

The origin of the Roxbury Russet from the data available is a very simple story. Nothing in detail regarding its origin and history has been found. Downing says that the Roxbury Russet originated in Roxbury,

*108 - Country Gentleman; 1887; Page 59.

*109 - Rural New Yorker; 1871; Page 108.

Massachusetts, and is one of the most popular market fruits in the country. It is of excellent quality, a prodigious bearer and keeps late in the spring wherever the soil and climate suit it. Further facts regarding its origin, I have been unable to find.

Schuyler's Sweet:-

This apple originated on the land of Rensselaer Schuyler, Seneca Falls, N. Y. It is a large, showy
*110
apple ripening in October.

Scott:-

The following regarding the origin of this apple is from the pen of Mr. C. Pratt, Utica, N. Y.:-
" It is supposed to be a seedling from the old fashioned Gilliflower. The original tree was found in the forest and planted in a garden by Mr. Scott. Hence the apple is known as the Scott or Forest apple."

The editor of the Country Gentleman considers the Scott a much better apple than the Gilliflower, not having the objectionable dryness of flesh characteristic
*111
of the Gilliflower.

Seek-no-further:-

The old Seek-no-further, also called the West-field Seek-no-further, had its origin in Connecticut.

*110 - Rural New Yorker; 1871; Page 108.

*111 - Country Gentleman; 1874; Page 297.

There is another Seek-no-further called the Autumn or Fall Seek-no-further which appears to be quite generally known in New York. Some fruit-growers think this variety originated in the west, Indiana or Illinois. William Cone of Troy, Michigan, however, believes it of eastern origin. He says, "I am satisfied it is not a western fruit. I saw apples of this variety forty years ago -(written in 1861)- on the farm of Judge Sprague in East Bloomfield, Ontario County, N. Y. The judge was from western Massachusetts and probably got his scions from there. As his orchard was one of the oldest in Ontario County, he could not have got scions in that vicinity at that time. I think the tree where the apples grew must have been grafted more than fifty years ago." "It is a different apple from the West-field Seek-no-further, ripening in October. It is a flatter apple and possesses splendid eating qualities.

Seneca Favorite:-

The Seneca Favorite is a local apple quite generally known in Ontario County. It originated on the farm of Marcus Ansley about five miles south-west of Geneva, nearly one hundred years ago. Specimens resembling this apple very closely have been received by the department from Batavia with the request to identify them. It may be that this variety has extended as far west as

Batavia. The apple is an excellent eating apple, ripening in the late fall or early winter. It belongs to the same group as the Swaar, which apple it resembles very closely, except that it is larger, and more crisp in texture. For market it has one drawback, viz:- its color which is yellow. The writer believes this a desirable variety and worthy of cultivation in every orchard.

Sheep Nose or Bullock's Pippin:-

This apple is a native of Burlington County, New Jersey. It derives one of its names from the family of Bullock, but it is more generally known by the name of Sheep Nose, from a supposed resemblance between the form of the apple and that part of a sheep. *112

Smoke-house:-

The Smoke-house apple originated in the neighborhood of Lampeter township, Lancaster County, Pa., on the farm of William Gibbons. It grew near his smoke-house and from this fact derives its name. It was introduced into notice about 1836 or 1837. *113

Stump:-

The above name suggests the idea that the original sprout or seedling must have been found somewhere in the vicinity of a stump. Col. Green of Steuben County says that the tree was first found in Washington County.

*112 - Cox.

*113 - Horticulturalist; Vol.III. Page 332.

*114.

in the hollow of a stump; - hence its name.

Suffolk Beauty:-

The Suffolk is an accidental seedling found in a hedge in the town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County and propagated by H. A. and E. L. Brown. Downing says of it: -" The tree is a free grower and an abundant bearer. The fruit is medium, roundish oblate, yellowish white with a few dark green dots and a little russet near the stalk, which is slender. The calyx is small; the flesh white and agreeably subacid; season August and September."

Sutton Beauty:-

Very little datum is obtainable regarding the origin of the Sutton Beauty. In the Horticultural Magazine is the following sentence:-"The Sutton Beauty originated in the town of Sutton -(Massachusetts) - and as yet has been but little disseminated." *115 This was written in 1849. Of late years the Sutton Beauty is quite extensively grown and fruit-growers consider it a very promising apple.

Swaar:-

This is one of the noble American varieties

*114 - Corr. W. Tappen., Baldwinsville, N.Y. In Rural New Yorker; 1851, Page 347.

*115 - Horticultural Magazine; Vol. XV. Page 249.

which the Dutch settlers on the Hud^son gave us. It originated at Esopus on the Hudson and was so named because of its unusual weight, this word, in the low Dutch, meaning 'heavy'.

It requires a deep, rich, sandy loam to bring it to perfection and in its native soil has grown twelve inches in circumference and is of a deep golden yellow color. It is one of the finest flavored apples in America, and deserves extensive cultivation in all favorable positions, though it does not succeed well in damp or cold soils. *116

Tolman Sweet:-

The Tolman Sweet originated on the farm of Thomas Tallman a few miles west of Geneva, about 1800. It was grown from seeds taken from the Indian Castle orchard which was supposed to have been planted by the Indians. In all probability the account is correct as the Indians set out several orchards in this section. *117

Downing says that the Talman's Sweet is a native of Rhode Island. From the data on hand, I am unable to draw any positive conclusion.

Vandevere:-

I have been able to obtain very little data

*116 - Rural New Yorker; 1858; Page 399.

*117 - Corr. C. T. Ottley, Seneca Castle, Ny. Jan. 1905.

regarding the origin of the Vandevere. The only mention of it was found in the Horticultural Magazine where it says, " The Vandevere originated in Delaware near Wilmington and is there much celebrated." *118

Wagener:-

The Wagener is a seedling of the Northern Spy. The original tree stood on a spot which is now about the center of the village of Penn Yan. The exact site is just a little west of the Knapp House on land owned formerly by a man named Wagener. The original tree has disappeared. *119 The variety is a very old one and wherever known is held in high esteem.

Belonging to the same group as the Northern Spy^{and Wagener} and a cross between them is the Ontario, a fine apple which originated in Canada. These three apples so closely related, stand among the leading varieties in America.

Wealthy:-

The Wealthy apple originated on the farm of Peter M. Gideon, Minnesota. Mr. Gideon planted many apple seeds and watched the seedling trees develop. Most of the young plants succumbed to the severe Minnesota winters. One plant stood out prominently as being

*118 - Horticultural Magazine; Page 539.

*119 - Corr. E. Waldron, Gage, N.Y. Jan. 1905.

very hardy and as the years passed, it grew to a fruit-
ful tree. Its fruit was fine in appearance and of
superior quality. Mr. Gideon grafted some of the scions
on other trees and others he grafted on seedling roots,
making independent trees. True to the nature of the
apple tree, all these scions grew and bore fruit,
like that of the seedling plant. Mr. Gideon gave
trees to his horticultural friends and being a nursery-
man, sold many to his customers. This variety of apple
now stands as a testimonial to Mr. Gideon's usefulness. *120

*120- Plant Breeding; W.M.Hays; Bull.29, Page 13.
Div. Veg. Phy. and Path; U. S. Dept. of Agr.

A list of New York state apples, giving place and date of origin. This list does not include those whose place of origin was outside the state.

Name.	Place of Origin.	Date.
Bailey Apple	Flattsburgh, N.Y.	1800
Clark	Maples, N.Y.	1857
Congress (50 Oz.)	Cayuga County.	?
Custard	Greece, N.Y.	?
Duchess St. Sweeting	Duchess Co.	?
✓ Early Joe	East Bloomfield, N.Y.	1800
Esopus Spitzenburg	Esopus, N.Y.	?
Flower of Genesee	Alexander, Genesee Co., N.Y.	?
Gilliflower, Red	Western, N.Y.	?
Hawley or Down	New Canaan, N.Y.	1750
Jonathan	Woodstock, N.Y.	1820 (?)
Kingsling	Pittsford, N.Y.	?
Lady Isabel	Newbury, N.Y.	?
Lucken	Portinton, N.Y. (?)	1820 (?)
Mable's Sweet	Rockland Co.	1800
Mane	Somerset, N.Y.	1835
Morton's Melon	East Bloomfield, N.Y.	1825 (?)
Northern Spy	" " "	1800
Principe	Camillus, N.Y.	?
Rose Red	Egypt, N. Y.	?
Schuyler's Sweet	Seneca Falls, N.Y.	?
Scott	Utica, N. Y.	?
Seneca Favorite	Geneva, N.Y.	1800
Suffolk Beauty	Brookhaven, N.Y.	?
Swan	Esopus, N.Y.	(Very early)
Talman Sweet	Geneva, N.Y.	1800
Warren	Berm Yan, N.Y.	?