

# HORTICULTURE

This Department is Edited by Prof. R. S. Northrop, State Agricultural College.

## THE JONATHAN APPLE.

Robt. S. Northrop.

One of the leading apples in the West today is the Jonathan. Its attractive color and high quality has won it a place on the market which commands a high figure. This fact coupled with its early maturity and productiveness make it a great favorite with the grower and in consequence it is being more largely planted each year.

Since it is so extensively grown throughout the entire Rocky Mountain country, it may be of interest, to the many men who are growing it as well as to the many others who delight in eating this fine apple, to know something of its history and relationships:—In "The Apples of New York," a book published by the New York State Experiment Station and written by Prof. S. A. Beach, I find the following reference to it: "The first

published account which we find of the Jonathan is that given by Judge J. Bael, of Albany, in 1826, in an article on "Observation on the Utility of a Descriptive Catalogue of Garden and Orchard Fruit," addressed to the members of the New York Horticultural Society, in which he presents "A Descriptive Catalogue of some of the most valuable apples propagated in the nurseries of this State." In this catalog the Jonathan is listed as the Esopus Spitzenberg (New) with the synonym Ulster Seedling. In 1829 Judge Bael sent specimens of the fruit to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society with the statement that it was "An Esopus Seedling and sometimes called the New Spitzenberg. It originated on the farm of Mr. Philip Rich of Woodstock, Ulster County, New York. According to Downey the original tree was still alive in 1845. It was at first disseminated under various names, all of which were soon superseded by the name Jonathan which was assigned to it by Judge Bael in honor of Jonathan Hasbrouck, by whom his attention was first called to the variety. It has been widely disseminated throughout

the apple growing regions of New York, but in none of them is it grown extensively. It is extensively planted in regions farther West and South where it is recognized in many localities as one of the leading commercial varieties."

From this we see that while the Jonathan is a native of New York State, it finds western climates and soils more congenial and here develops into a stronger and more vigorous tree, bearing a larger, handsomer and more uniform fruit and one which is sought after by the buyers.

## UTAH'S FRUIT POSSIBILITIES.

Mr. Howard G. Fletcher, who for eight years has been associated with the Grand Junction Fruit Growers' Association left on the R. G. W. last night for Grand Junction, after having visited the principal fruit growing districts around Provo, Salt Lake, Davis County, Ogden, and Brigham City. This is Mr. Fletcher's first visit to the state, and he expressed himself as being very much surprised at the possibilities there were in Utah along horticultural lines. He said, "In my opinion the state of Utah has the greatest possibilities of any

section of the United States for fruit raising, as far as soil, climate, and water are concerned. I am also surprised to find so many commercial orchards being planted in the state, and to find these commercial orchards generally well cared for. Of course I noted a good many of the old orchards were not profitable, and consequently were not being given the attention they should have, but these will be eliminated in time."

The secret of success in orcharding is the care trees are given, and the system by which the fruit is marketed. The trees must be profitable if labor and energy are expended on them, but properly handled there is more money in the fruit crop than any other of the farm crops. I can see the need of good fruit growers' organizations in Utah to see that the growers get every dollar there is in the fruit. This will stimulate planting and with the greater bulk of fruit the unite of cost for handling is cut down, consequently more profit reverts to the grower.

Mr. Fletcher expressed himself as being agreeably pleased with Salt Lake, mentioning particularly the clean broad streets, and the general tone of prosperity along building and manufacturing lines which seem to prevail.

Mr. Fletcher will be back again about the first of September to assist in moving the peach crop.

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