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19TH
TO THE
20TH

CENTURY

62 89

THE GIFT OF THE OLD
THE HERITAGE OF THE NEW

OPALESCENT

THE NEW CENTURY

THOROUGHLY
UP TO DATE

APPLE

HIGHEST ATTAINMENT
OF THE
DEVELOPING AGES



W. T. HOOD & CO.

Old Dominion Nurseries,
RICHMOND, VA.

That similar of a portion of the official descriptions of the Opalescent made from five specimens by the U.S. Pomologist and on file in his office at Washington, D.C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
DIVISION OF POMOLOGY.

Season, *winter* Class, *III* Order, *II* Section, *2* Sub-section, *1 or 2*

Form General, *roundish* vert. sect., *roundish* c. oss. sect., *roundish, ribbed*

Size, *large* dimensions, *3 1/2, 3 2/3, 2 3/8* slope, *gradual* markings, *green, punct*

Cavity, Form, *regular* size, *large* depth, *deep* form, *slender, curved*

Stem Length, *5 to 7* form, *slender, curved*

Basin or apex Form, *regular* size, *medium* depth, *medium* slope, *about* markings, *rusty hair cracking*

Calyx External characteristics, *segments medium, converging 2, reflexed 2, crack pointed*

Eye, *medium* factually *oblong*

Surface *moderately smooth, some fine, rusted blatter, cracking*

Color *yellow, washed over entire surface with bright crimson and a few indistinct*

Dots *irregular, yellow, many indistinct* Skin, *medium, tenacious* glossiness of dark crimson

Bloom *none only* Fungous or insect damage, *soft brown rot on one side of specimen*

Flesh Color, *yellowish, slightly tinged pec* texture, *medium coarse, tender, moderately juicy*

Core Form, *roundish* shape, *oblong* size, *medium* structure, *open*

Axial diameter *1 1/8* Calyx tube, *7/8*

Seeds: Form, *plump* size, *large* color, *brown* number, *10*

Flavor, *mild subacid*

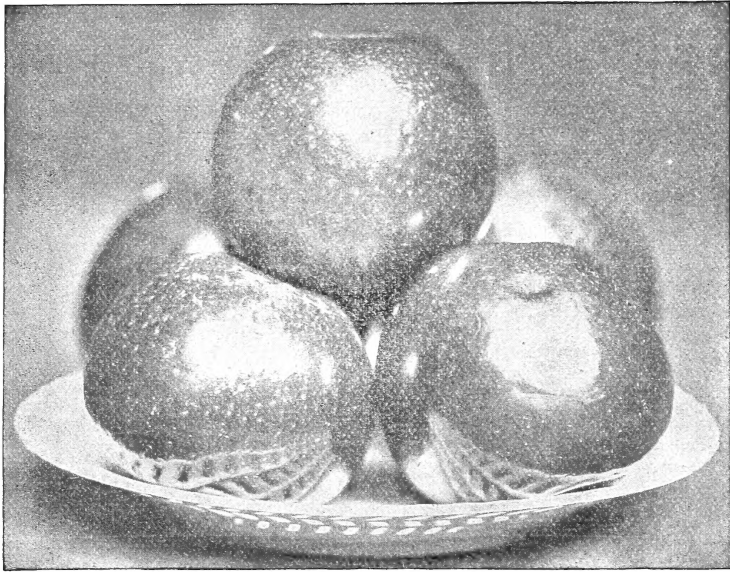
Quality, *good*

How illustrated, *herald*

THE OPALESCENT.



Several years ago a number of apple seedlings were found growing by an oak stump in an orchard, presumably from cores or apples thrown there. When four to five feet high they were grubbed out and thrown away. Prompted by an afterthought one of them was picked up and used to fill a vacancy in a row near by with a purpose to top-graft it when of sufficient size. Before this was done how-



THE "OPALESCEMENT."

The high polish to which this apple is susceptible reflects the plate on which they are placed.

ever, it bore a few apples which at once attracted attention as being quite unlike and superior to anything in the orchard. This original tree never fails entirely, and usually bears from a moderate to a full crop of superior fruit. Size, beauty and quality most happily unite in this remarkable apple. All who have examined the Opalescent regard it as the handsomest apple grown. It is not only highly colored but susceptible of a very high polish, reflecting objects near it like a mirror. This feature makes it a highly prized sort for fruit stands. The flesh is yellowish, tender juicy and good, size large to very large, and color light, shading to very dark crimson. Season, December to March. Sold only under Copyright label, duly registered in the Patent office at Washington.

“WHAT THEY SAY.”

Extracts From Testimonials,

Referring to samples sent out in February, 1899. It will be remembered that the apple crop of 1898 was a failure throughout the Middle and Western States, nevertheless the OPALESCENT produced a full crop.

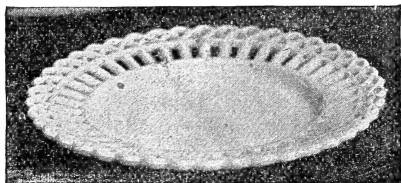
(Extracts only, space not permitting testimonials in full.)

Pomologist Brackett's opinion.

“It is an apple of considerable merit, especially for market purposes. The quality is very good and the high color will make it desirable for market purposes.”—*G. B. Brackett, Pomologist, Agricultural Dept. Washington, D. C.*

A Recognized Authority in all things Horticultural.

“Will say freely that it was one of the finest apples I ever saw, both in size and appearance and the quality is something superb.”—*R. Morrill, Pres. Mich. State Horticultural Society.*



The plate reflected in surface of the Opalescent as shown in previous cut.

“As good as a “Winesap,” is good enough for anyone.”

“The size is good, the color is beautiful and I pronounce the flavor as good as a well grown Winesap.”—*A. Nelson, Pres. Mo. State Horticultural Society.*

An Eminent Entomologists Critical Opinion.

“I have tested the apple which you sent and can say without hesitation, that it possesses most superior qualities as an apple. In its general make-up, it is one of the finest specimens I have ever seen. The color and form of the apple are those which appeal to the eye, (as well as the palate) and I might say its external appearance in no way belies its eating qualities, for it is certainly a fine tasting apple. It seems you have in this apple one that should meet with popular favor and I should like very much to know something more about it.”—*Prof. W. G. Johnson, Maryland State Entomologist.*

Secretary Bryant is a recognized authority.

“I was very favorably impressed with the appearance of “Opalescent.” The specimen received was large, of regular shape, deep red color, and very attractive in appearance.”—*L. R. Bryant, Secretary Illinois State Horticultural Society.*



REGISTERED LABEL. (U. S. PATENT OFFICE No. 8132.) USED ON ALL OPALESCENT TREES. NONE GENUINE WITHOUT IT.

Judge Miller, renders a decision.

“Its beauty would be hard to surpass, its size large, and quality just about as good as anyone could desire. Its present condition shows that it is a late keeper.”—*Samuel Miller, Vice Pres. Mo. State Horticultural Society.*

An Ohio Authority on the Opalescent.

“In appearance it is a very beautiful apple, and the quality is first rate.”—*Prof. W. J. Green, Prof. of Horticulture of Ohio Experiment Station.*

Unsatisfactory? Ah! here is trouble!

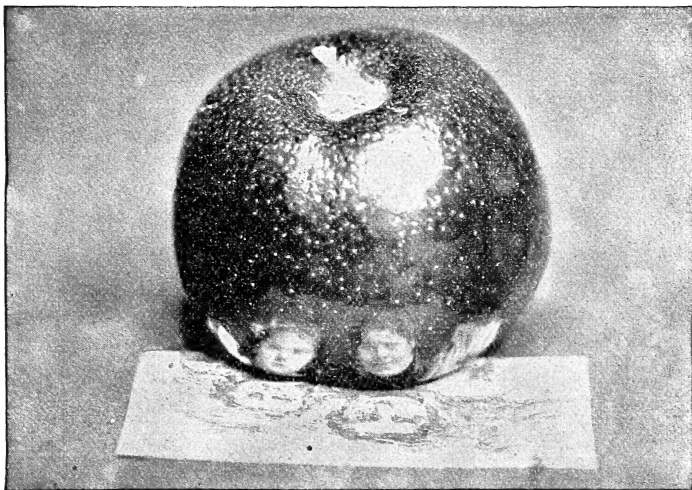
"Your sample apple has been received and eaten and proved to be very unsatisfactory. First: Because it was too handsome to make me willing to part with it and second. Because it was too good to make me willing to keep it, so you see it was an uncomfortable thing to have around. It was certainly a splendid specimen of fruit and I congratulate you on its introduction."—*Geo. A. Sweet, Nurseyman, Dansville, N. Y.*

The Race—Opalescent "away ahead."

"It certainly, for beauty and color, is away ahead of any apple we have ever seen raised, in fact do not know as we ever saw a handsomer specimen."—*The Storrs & Harrison Co., Painesville, Ohio.*

An Authority's Opinion from the North.

"The specimen I have is of most brilliant red color, though varying to darker shades on the sunny side. The size is large, the flesh is tender and of most pleasing flavor. To my taste it is superior in quality to any other long keeper."—*Edwy C. Reid, Secy. Mich. State Horticultural Society.*



"THE OPALESCENT."
A Photograph Reflected on its Polished Surface

It will "have a shine" anytime with added luster and beauty.

"The apple is very attractive in color, and as you suggest "shines up" in a very satisfactory way. This is important as an ornament to a fruit stand."—*Chas. W. Garfield, Grand Rapids, Mich.*

Prof. Bailey.

"It is certainly a beautiful thing—large, high colored and shapely. It is also very aromatic."—*Prof. L. H. Bailey, Prof. of Horticulture, Cornell University.*

Quite so sir, very doubtful.

"It is doubtful if there is another apple in cultivation having such a combination of good qualities as the "Opalescent."—*Lake Shore Nurseries, Erie, Pa.*

One of the leading nurserymen in the west.

"It is a large, fine, showy apple, and will undoubtedly be a great acquisition as a market variety."—*D. S. Lake, Shenandoah, Iowa.*

The well-known plum specialist of Maryland.

"The apple is a beauty, much brighter and more attractive in color than the Paragon, Mommoth Black Twig, or Arkansas—whichever its name may be; large enough to meet the desire of the ardent expansionist of the commercial apple growers. It was mildly subacid with flesh white, tender and wholly devoid of the characteristic sponginess or toughness of the Ben Davis."—*J. W. Kerr, Denton, Md.*

An Ohio man's opinion.

"The color is fine and size all that could be desired. The flavor is also very fine and distinct from any variety known."—*A. B. French, Clyde, O.*

Everyone notes the leading characteristics—"size, beauty and quality."

"It is large, considerable above medium, of a bright red color and of good quality."—*H. M. Dunlap, Pres. Ill. State Horticultural Society.*

A jury trial and the verdict.

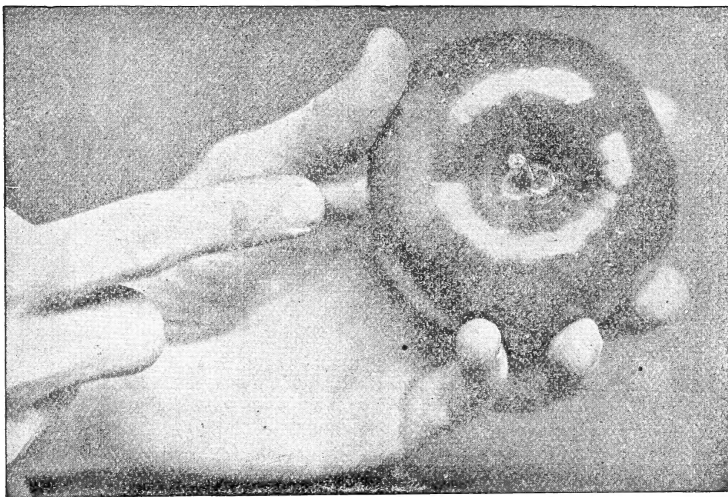
"Your letter and apple duly received. I took them to our local society meeting; the letter was read, and the apple viewed and sampled by a large number, making allowance for its over ripeness, your claims were generally accepted by those who saw and tested the apple."—*C. J. Monroe, Propr. the Monroe Orchards, South Haven, Mich.*

The grape man's opinion.

"It is a very showy apple and has kept well. It has a pleasant taste and the quality seems to be good."—*T. S. Hubbard Co., Fredonia, N. Y.*

It hath much honor in its own country.

"It is certainly one of the largest, handsomest and best apples I ever saw at this season of the year. Its size and color, (a beautiful shining red) cannot but make it a first-class market apple, one that will command the highest price."—*N. Ohmer, Pres. (for 33 years) Montgomery Co., Ohio Horticultural Society.*



One of the Distinguishing Characteristics of the Opalescent.

Frosted but still beautiful.

"Sample apple which was beautiful in appearance reached me so frosted that I can form no opinion as to its quality."—*S. D. Willerd, Geneva, N. Y.*

"Glossy," the fruit stand man's delight.

"We were at once impressed with its fine size, regular form, and beautiful color. The skin takes a fancy glossy polish so requisite to a commercial apple."—*F. S. Phoenix, Bloomington, Illinois.*

The close observations of an eastern authority.

"It was of large size, 11 inches in circumference and of a beautiful red color all over it. Its size and the dark red of the sunny side and light red of the shady side make it very attractive in appearance. It was of rich high quality, superior to the Baldwin."—*N. S. Platt, Pomologist, Conn. State Board of Agriculture.*

Testimony from Indiana.

"It is certainly a very desirable variety and undoubtedly its quality is all right when kept under proper conditions. Its size and color make it a very desirable market apple."—*Prof. J. Troop, Secy. Ind. State Horticultural Society.*

It seems to suit Mr. Black. He modestly asked for a barrell of samples!

"It is a fine apple and in every way we have yet seen, cannot be beaten. For size it is all right, being large to very large, in color it is unexcelled, in shape it is simply perfection, its appearance after polishing is very nice."—*Jos. H. Black & Son, Hightstown, N. J.*

For Quality Winesap is Good Company.

"I was very much pleased with the size, color and general appearance. The flavor is excellent and fully up to that of the Winesap."—*W. H. Boaz, Vice Pres. Va. State Horticultural Society.*

An Ohio Man—He's President Too.

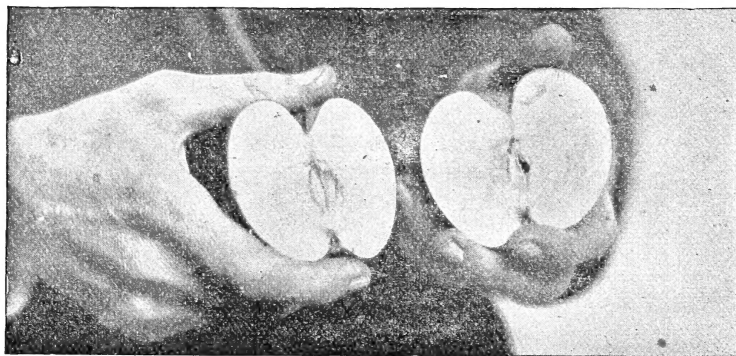
"The size, color and tough skin of the Opalescent apple, other things being equal, make it a desirable market variety."—*E. H. Cushman, Pres. Ohio State Horticultural Society.*

Kansas Heard From.

"In size and color we regard it as all that can be desired. Large, beautiful glowing red, and quality fine and rich."—*A. C. Griesa & Bro., Lawrence, Kansas.*

Everything About it is Desirable.

"The fruit is everything to be desired as regards size and the skin possesses a most beautiful color."—*H. I. Budd, Secy. N. J. State Horticultural Society.*



It Is All Right Inside Too.

An Indiana Connoisseur Speaks.

"I am very much pleased with the apple. It is of large size; its covering of bright and dark red makes it very attractive."—*C. M. Hobbs, Pres. Ind. State Horticultural Society.*

A Winner.

"The apple is decidedly a winner in appearance and of exceptionally fine quality for so large a fruit."—*I. E. Ilgenfritz & Sous, Monroe, Mich.*

A "Golden" Opinion from Conn.

"It has a fine dark red color, with small light brown spots which exist on many of our choicest apples. It was an exceedingly beautiful apple in size, shape and color. In color rarely equalled any samples I have ever seen."—*F. S. Gold, Secy. Conn. State Board of Agriculture.*

Good Authority.

"It is large, very handsome and of good quality."—*Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y.*

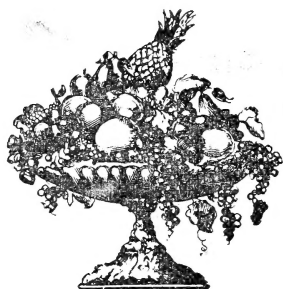
Another President's Opinion.

"I find it delicious in flavor, fine in appearance and it seems to be a valuable variety."—*Chas F. Gardner, Pres. Iowa State Horticultural Society.*

There were not many apples to be seen of the crop of '98.

"It is the finest in appearance of any apple I have seen of the crop of 1898, measuring three and three quarter inches in diameter. Its beautiful shape, its smooth, glossy dark red color with its little white dots, makes it a very showy apple, with a flavor equal to the best."—*Pres. James S. Harris, Coleman, Md.*

There are more, but no room to follow



N. OHMER,

HORTICULTURIST

OHMER PARK

Dayton, O July 9 1899

Dear Sir,

In answer to yours of the 5th asking my opinion of the Epaloescent Apple shown at the meeting of our Montgomery County Horticultural Society last Wednesday, will say

that it is certainly one of the largest, handsomest and best apples I ever saw at this season of the year. Its size and colour, (a beautiful shining red) can not but make it a first class market apple. One that will command the highest price and, if a good bearer will be exceedingly valuable profitable.

N. Ohmer,