

trees till later in the season. The New York Pippins (Cleopatras) were a nice line. Although apparently an early shipment of this variety, it is one that will stand shipping on the green side. All the other varieties were in good condition for shipment.

The fruit on the whole was well graded. Part of the shipment was branded "large" and "medium," while the balance was marked in sizes, uniformity in this respect being desirable. The fruit was shipped by Messrs. E. Buxton and Co., of Nelson, and the bulk of it was packed by their expert Tasmanian packers, of whom they now have four in their employ. The balance was packed by the Moutere Asso-



SCENE ON THE MOTUEKA WHARF.

ciation's packers. Excepting a case or two a little on the loose side, the packing was excellent. This season the principle has been initiated of packing all the fruit at a central packing-shed, a store at the wharf being used for this purpose. The fruit is carted in loose and graded and packed there, saving a great loss of time in going from orchard to orchard, and also enabling the work of inspection to be carried out more thoroughly.

The cases supplied by growers for the export trade leave a great deal to be desired, some of them being old and stained, besides being badly made, with the boards overlapping the ends and with only two nails in each end instead of three, thus incurring great risk of ullage. In only one instance was there any attempt made to trim the cases,