

When in long cases they should be packed in long, clean, dry straw, rye for preference. When sent in patent packing, the cardboard boxes should not be filled in with oat hulls or chopped straw. There should be no necessity for it. Oat hulls or chopped straw packing should not be used at all. It is objectionable, as in the case of a breakage of one egg this packing binds together the three or four surrounding eggs and spoils their appearance.

Eggs should be shipped as fresh as possible, and the more rapid the transit the better.

#### HINTS BY A PRACTICAL MAN.

The following information respecting the egg trade has been compiled by a practical agent who has during the last year visited Great Britain for the express purpose of establishing a permanent trade in eggs and poultry:—"France provides especially for the South of England, Portsmouth, Plymouth, and the Isle of Wight, and ships large quantities to London, Bristol and Birmingham. Eggs from the East of France are very large, weighing on an average 17 lbs. per 120, but the supply of this class is limited. These markets also take a large quantity of Danish, Russian, Hungarian and Italian eggs. I have found Liverpool by far the best port in England and Glasgow in Scotland for receiving and distributing Canadian eggs. Irish, Italian, Russian and Danish, are also competitors in these markets. In Liverpool the largest trade has been done, and the best price obtained, from thence I have this season introduced and made shipments of between two and three million dozens of Canadian eggs at remunerative prices to the principal cities and towns in the North, East and West of England.

"The stock has given universal satisfaction so that the trade is now well established.

"In reference to packing. Irish eggs are packed in large cases containing from fifteen to thirty hundred each, in straw, continentals in twelve hundred cases, also in straw, Danish pickles, same sized cases in long thin wood shavings which appeared to have been subjected to some process, chemical or otherwise. Canadians have been packed in various ways, twelve hundred cases being the most successful, packed in bright, dry, sweet oat straw, the cases being made 5ft. 9in. long, 20 inches wide and 10 inches deep,  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. pine for sides, top and bottom, with 1in. hardwood ends and centres, with a division in the middle formed by two boards, space being left of about half an inch between them to enable the case to be sawn in two for the convenience of shopkeepers requiring only half a case (6hd) for the retail trade. Others are packed in cut straw, some in oat hulls, and some in the ordinary Canadian style of fillers and cardboard, there is more enquiry, of late for this mode of packing.

The oat hulls have the effect of making eggs appear dull and resembling old stock, and are not generally approved. The reason long cases are preferred is that it requires two men to handle them, and they cannot be thrown around by one man as is often the case with smaller packages, consequently less eggs are broken.

"To ensure success, eggs should be shipped as fresh as possible, no small eggs or 'chats,' as they are called here, should be shipped to this market, but selected ones to make two grades to weigh 15lbs. and 17lbs. respectively per 120, this being in England and Scotland denominated the 'long hundred.' I do not think that limed or pickled eggs will pay the Canadian shipper, as continental pickles come in in great quantities at very low prices. These are usually contracted for by dealers in the spring season when eggs are plentiful, preserved on the continent, and shipped as required.

The usual terms upon which dealers here handle eggs and poultry, is on commission, varying from 3 to 5 per cent. I have, however, made other arrangements with some houses, in several instances gone into joint account, thus giving the dealer on this side an interest in the transaction, and have found this arrangement most satisfactory. I have also effected some sales C. I. F. and Ex. Quay cash against documents—others at prices F. O. B. Canada—when consigned to consignee will generally accept draft for from 60 to 75 per cent. value. I would strongly advise that eggs be not shipped to this country in hot weather unless in vessels fitted with refrigerators.

"There is abundance of cold storage accommodation in Liverpool for any produce requiring same.

"In conclusion I beg to state that after carefully examining the products of our competitors from the continent of Europe, both eggs and poultry, with their methods of packing, &c., I am of the opinion that if proper care and attention be paid by the shippers in the Dominion, there is not a doubt but that Canada can successfully compete in these trades, and an annually increasing trade can be done."

#### POULTRY.

On the subject of poultry, Mr. Dyke, Dominion Government agent at Liverpool, writes as follows:—

"With reference to the poultry trade, Canadian turkeys have this year netted at least two cents per lb. more than the prices mentioned in my annual report to the Minister of Agriculture for 1890, and they have met with such great favour throughout the country that a good demand will be felt next year and more extensive shipments will be necessary. Wholesale dealers here who have kept turkeys and