

The company at Muscatine, Iowa, which has patented this barrel and are manufacturing it, claim that it has the following advantages over the ordinary barrel:

It weighs from five to seven pounds less than the ordinary barrel, making a material saving in freight charges.

It is the only thoroughly ventilated barrel made, a very important point.

It is stronger and more durable than any other barrel.

It costs less than one-half for trimming, and does not require an experienced hand to cooper it.

Never varies in size, even to the extent of a quart.

The heads are warranted not to come out in transit, and no liners are required, altogether making it the cheapest and best barrel in the market.

crossing the ocean, too, it may prove the right package, because it would permit the fruit to receive all the benefits of the atmospheric blast of cool air which is made to pass through the compartments in which the apples are stored, on some of the steamship lines.

#### BRACING OF POSTS FOR FENCES AND FOR GRAPE VINE TRELLISES.

One of the chief objections to the wire fence is the difficulty in keeping the wire from sagging. The heaving and thawing of the posts with the winter frosts soon causes the whole fence to look untidy. A most thor-

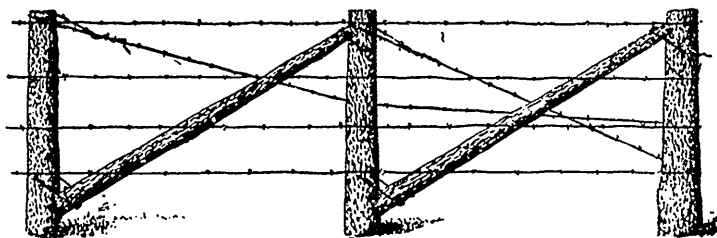


FIG. 54.—BRACING POSTS.

From an examination of the barrel, we have no doubt that these statements are correct, and we shall be glad to see it introduced into Canada, if only on the score of economy. It can be made in any size, and for shipping fancy apples and pears it seems to be admirably adapted, showing so well the color all down the sides.

Whether ventilated packages are best in all cases may perhaps be questioned, but, for the majority of cases, where a close barrel hastens the ripening process too much, ventilation is just what is wanted. In

ough mode of bracing is shown in the engraving, which explains itself, but it is rather clumsy looking, and perhaps no more lasting than a plan which we have adopted of late at Grimsby, in our vineyards. No wooden braces are used at all, but the last two posts at the end are made firm by wire stays, which pass diagonally from the top of each post to the ground, at an angle of about 45°, where each is fastened about a flat stone, buried nearly a foot below the surface. This is found to hold with great firmness, is out of the way, and looks quite tidy.