

per barrel, f.o.b., for fall apples, and \$2.50 for winter apples. Montreal men have also been in the field, and some of them have been contracting heavily, so that a lively competition is at work to bring up prices to an unusual scale. It is even stated that quite recently the sum of \$3.25 per barrel was paid for 1,000 barrels of winter fruit f.o.b.

We think, therefore, that there is every encouragement for those of us who have an apple crop to expect high prices for our stock right at home, and we do not advise great haste in selling, unless outside figures are to be had.

#### Prices of Pears.

If apples are bringing a surprisingly high price what shall we say of pears, which have sold during the latter part of September at a higher figure than was ever known in Canada? Bartlett pears went up to \$15 per barrel, and even \$20 has been paid for some of fine quality. Fine Flemish Beauty pears have been selling as high as \$6 to \$10 for No. 1 quality..

#### Great Britain.

SIR,—As usual at this season of the year, we beg to give you a summary of the most authentic reports we have been able to get, as to the crop of Apples in the United Kingdom. Up to date we have reports from 94 different parts, and these may be classified as follows:—Total failure, 13; very poor, or almost a failure, 38; very partial, or under average, 24; average, 17; above average, 2; Total 94.

There are some districts from which we have not yet received any special report, but we have no hesitation in placing above figures before you as representing the general crop of this country. If we should later on receive any advices that lead us to believe otherwise, we shall at once inform you.

From the above statistics it will be readily seen that the Home Supplies will be very small, and, therefore, the prospects for shipments from U.S.A. and Canada are correspondingly good. We, however, again call your attention to the advisability of not shipping small or common fruit, as if any

quantity of this class arrives, the result will certainly be unsatisfactory.

The crop in Belgium and Germany is reported good, but light in France.

We look for a good demand for fruit of good size and quality, but again advise our friends that they cannot be too careful in their packing. J. C. HOUGHTON & Co., Liverpool, 28th Aug., 1889.

SIR,—Messrs. J. C. Houghton & Co., Liverpool, cable that about 500 bbls. Apples ex "Umbria" met with a fair demand today and the following prices were realized: Kings, 25s. to 26s.; Baldwins, 12s. 6d., to 14s. 6d.; Greenings, 10s. 6d., to 13s. 3d.; Hubbardsons, 12s. 9d., to 15s.

Messrs. James Lindsay & Son, Glasgow and Edinburgh, cable that they have realized the following prices in their markets: Maiden's Blush, 21s. to 24s.; Cranberry Pippins, 16s. to 20s.; Kings, 21s. to 28s.; Baldwins, 15s. to 16s.

The shipments for the week ending September 7th amounted to 6,366 bbls. from all ports to all ports, including 1,700 bbls. from Halifax to London. OTTO G. MAYER & Co., PER JOSIAH RICH, New York, 11th Sept., 1889.

SIR,—The apple season of 1888-9, although resulting in the largest arrivals that have ever been received in this country, cannot be looked upon as a satisfactory one, as the low prices caused by the supply so much exceeding the demand, must have been very disastrous to shippers. The first shipments were received in August; the invariable results of these early shipments is always disastrous, and this season proved no exception to the rule. Fall fruits never arrive in a condition to command high prices and come into competition with arrivals here from Lisbon, Oporto, and France, and the bulk of our own growths, which are mostly of early varieties. By the time the Winter Fruit, arrive here these shipments cease, and the demand for American Apples fairly sets in; but during the past season they came in such quantities that the prices never ruled high, and the great rush made by Canadian shippers to get their stock here before the close of navigation—combined with large shipments from New York and Boston, caused such a congestion of apples on the market that prices dropped steadily, until they got to a point when there was very little margin over freight and charges, and the stock was not cleared away until after the Christmas holidays. From that out arrivals still continued heavy, but we were able to use them all at prices ranging from 10s. to 15s.