

in badly ventilated sailing vessels. The result of three cargoes, notably, was most disastrous, the fruit being entirely rotten on arrival.

Too much care cannot be exercised in the packing of apples for the English markets. There has been a vast improvement in this respect during the present season over that of previous ones, and here again may be seen the benefits arising from the Fruit Growers' Association, as well as from the Granges throughout the country, which have been doing good work towards this end. There is still room for further improvement, and with proper care and determination, we may yet undo the bad work and discredit brought upon us, by parties who have been shipping stock put up in a manner unfit for any market, and which, if persevered in, would ultimately ruin the credit of Nova Scotia fruit, instead of putting it in the first place to which it is so justly entitled.

A striking illustration of the above assertion came directly under my own observation a few weeks since. In a consignment to England of some three hundred barrels; there was a lot of about fifty barrels, put up according to the directions of one of our apple speculators, i.e., numbers one and two together, and were shipped partly as an experiment. The nett result of one dollar less per barrel than others of the same variety, in the same consignment, shewed the folly of such a course, and proves conclusively the assertions made above and on previous occasions.

The result, so far, of our experiments with packages is decidedly in favor of the hardwood barrel, both on account of strength and size, and of the apples shrinking less than in softwood barrels, all of which tends to increase their value. We recommend, as the best method of packing, the use of these barrels, moderately tight as they are, thoroughly lined with white paper, and a then layer of excelsior, or other suitable material in each end, between the paper and the head, to prevent, as far as possible, any bruising. The practice of papering apples has been very satisfactory, but owing to the amount of labour in wrapping each apple separately in tissue, it cannot come into general favor. For tender varieties, such as the *Gravenstein*, our agents strongly advise the papering; but even this variety can, we think, if very great care be taken in other respects, be exported safely without this extra work. The experiments of packing apples in chaff, cut straw, &c., have all signally failed, and our agents tell us they cannot

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