

# ↻ The Markets. ↻

## The British Apple Market.

Messrs. Jas. Adam, Son & Co., write:—

SIR—Arrivals from all ports show the enormous total of 70,000 barrels, a quantity never previously reported in any one week, so early in the season, and the result has been a complete collapse of the market. This is deeply to be regretted, as the losses to shippers must inevitably be considerable, but, with so much of the fruit being in faulty condition, and, even where sound, so tender as to call for immediate disposal, there has been no alternative but to force sales at best possible. Even as it is, dealers here complain bitterly of the unreliable character of the stock, and are so completely tired of the soft varieties that there is little chance of any improvement in the position of affairs until quality inspires more confidence, and shipments are considerably reduced.

Of course, winters must undoubtedly find a more ready outlet, but it will be necessary for shippers to pay particular attention to the selection and packing of fruit for export, as in such an abundant year, as this is proving itself to be, quality and condition must of necessity be good to command proper attention. As it is, quantity seems to have been the aim of many exporters, so much of the fruit being of a class totally unfit for shipment, and we would again remind all interested that the cost of transit and handling is identically the same on a good barrel as on a poor one.

We give at foot quotations for sound only, which in themselves offer strong evidence of the varied quality, and, from the outside prices paid for some varieties, it will be seen that even now the trade appreciates, and is open to take, good stock, at reasonable rates. Unfortunately, catalogues show still greater ranges than our quotations indicate, and, lamenting as we do the deplorable results, we hope, with due discretion and reasonable judgment, the season may not prove an altogether disappointing one. Abundance is always the forerunner of cheapness, and operators will do well to bear this in mind in their further negotiations.

Quotations: Canadian—Greenings, 6/3 to 10/9; Snows, 9/ to 13/; Colverts, 5/3 to 8/; Ribston Pippins, 6/6 to 10/9; Kings, 8/6 to 14/6.

Mr. M. H. Peterson, of Toronto, writes under date 16th October:

Jas. Adam Son & Co., Liverpool, this day cable: "Market active, prices very firm."

B. & S. H. Simons, Glasgow, this day cable: "For winter stock market has advanced."

Messrs. Woodall & Co., Liverpool, write under date Oct. 10th:—

SIR,—As shewn above, the week's receipts are 84,188 barrels, which for this early period is immense, and approaches the highest figures touched in the height of the previous heaviest season. It was expected that this week's arrivals would probably consist of good sound full sized winter stock, but this has been only very partially realized. The bulk was winter fruit, but generally small and unattractive, most of the Baldwins being wanting in color. Added to this, the condition, especially of New York shipments, has been unsatisfactory, which is very unusual at this early period, and can only be accounted for by being hurriedly packed and shipped in damp, warm weather, which corresponds with what has been experienced here during the past month.

Large quantities have been received from Boston, some of which were absolute rubbish, and should never have been sent, as however scarce apples may be, these never would fill requirements, or be worth the heavy freight and shipping expenses. There have, undoubtedly, been some few good parcels, notably from Canada, but taken as a whole, the fruit was disappointing, and, consequently, buyers of first-class fruit are not operating. The results of the week are disastrously low prices, but it cannot be said that the capacity of the market has yet been tested as to whether it can pay satisfactory prices for good sound fruit with receipts similar to the present.

Under date October of 21st:—

Jas Adam, Son & Co., Liverpool, this day cable:—"If the quality is fine, market better, with more enquiry and an upward tendency. Baldwins, 6/ to 10/; Greenings, 6/ to 10/; Spies, 8/ to 9/; Kings, 10/ to 12/."

B. & S. H. Simons, Glasgow, this day cable: "Spies, Baldwins, 9/ to 11/; Kings, 10/ to 12/; Cran Pippin, 20 oz., Gravenstein Snow, 8/ to 9/; Greening, Spitz, Seek, Can. Red, Ribston Pippins, 7/ to 9/; Russet Cohert, Talman Sweet, 6/ to 8/."

Duthort & Co., London, also cable: "Baldwin, Greening, 9/ to 10/; Spies, 10/ to 12/ Kings, 12/ to 14/."