

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

of Canadian apples. It is a wooden box 10 x 18 x 12 inches, with four sets of card board divisions, so arranged that the whole case will hold twelve dozen apples. The same principle has previously been used by Mr. R. W. Shepherd, of Montreal, in the Cochrane case, which he has used in shipping tender summer apples to Great Britain. We gave cuts of the Cochrane case on p. 115, CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST for 1893. Such a package will insure uniformity of size, but the same object is secured by use of an apple grader, and the ordinary bushel box, 12 x 12 x 24, can then be used with results, in our opinion, quite as good.

PEARS IN LONDON.—So early as July 27th, French pears were coming into the London market, and Williams (our Bartlett) were making 6s. to 7s. per box of 48, and the California Williams 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per half case, and the Souvenir du Congres from 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d.

THE ALICE GRAPE is a new red variety, originated about ten years ago and now being placed on the market. The quality is excellent, and the season a little in advance of Concord. It is a good shipper and long keeper.

THE CARRIAGE OF OUR APPLES in transit to Great Britain, in the past, has certainly been extremely faulty, and has resulted in thousands of dollars loss to our Province. The agitation for honest packing and careful selecting and grading is a vain effort, unless the steamers are better fitted up so as to carry our apples in ventilated chambers instead of locking them in the oven like holds in which they have been stowed in the past. Mr. Robertson in his evidence on the "Apple Trade," given 16th of May, 1899, says :

"Taking the shipments on Canadian Apples last fall which are Ontario mainly, a few perhaps from Quebec, sold in Liverpool by two different sets of salesmen ; taking a quantity of 14,416 barrels going by 17 different steamships and sent forward, as near as I can make out from the brands, in about 185 different lots, the brand is sometimes so much like another brand that it may have been the same—but that is a very wide range you see of data from which to make a calculation. There were nearly 15,000 barrels on 17 steamships sent forward in 185 different lots. The account sales show this that out of the total quantity there were only 5,928 barrels sold as tights. There were 2,793 slacks, 2,446, slightly wet, 1,997 wet, and 1,252 wet and slack. That is to say rather more than one half of the apples shipped in these lots were sold as slack, slightly wet and wet. The difference in price realized by these apples is very great. The only way to get any fair information on this is to take a lot of apples sent by one ship and pick out the apples of the same class sold as tight, and the others of that variety sold as slacks or wet. Going over the list and taking out the apples of the same variety under these conditions the slacks on the average sold for two shillings and seven pence less than the tights. The slightly wets, for three shillings and eight pence less than the tights, the wets for seven shillings and three pence less than the tights, and the wet and slacks for nine shillings and eleven pence less or nearly ten shillings and of these wet and slacks there were 1,252 barrels."

We are promised by the Department at Ottawa, that a special inspector will be provided at the great shipping ports to see after the proper storage of our apples and shipboard, and we can there-