

Sixpence per barrel to the consignee, sixpence per barrel to the auctioneers, to which they add cartage, dock and labour dues, postage, bill stamps, cables, etc., etc., which together make another sixpence. So it costs generally 1s. 6d. to sell a barrel after it is landed, to which we would have to add 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per barrel freight. As a rule, we have to pay more freight from Montreal than our neighbours have to do from New York, Boston, or Philadelphia. Why is this so? Some of our worthy steamship friends will no doubt explain, but we hope soon to see a 2s. 6d. freight from Montreal to Liverpool. Another drawback in Britain is the law, which allows a buyer to refuse any number of barrels (out of any purchase in the sale room), which he calls slack. Almost any barrel can be made to give somewhat after the way they are piled on their docks, two and three high, on their ends; also, after a rainy night or heavy fog any barrel showing the slightest moisture is called damp and wet, and sells from 2s. to 10s. per barrel less than dry tight barrels. The Canadians who have made money by consigning apples can be easily counted; those who have lost money by the same practice, their name is legion. Our railway companies have done considerable for us by supplying better cars, in greater quantity, and granting through bills of lading; but still greater care could be taken in the loading and unloading. They should not be unloaded until the day the steamship company is ready to load, for frequently we have seen thousands of barrels on our wharves, some inside and often outside of the sheds, to be wet, pilfered and generally disfigured, sometimes frozen, which, of course, means a heavy loss to the shippers. Our steamship companies could also assist shippers in making profits by more careful handling and judicious stowing; many a thousand barrels of apples have been ruined by being misplaced in a steamer. Wherever possible, the steamers should be ventilated, and apples should have the coolest and driest compartment on the ship, because they require it; also, because they pay a first-class freight rate. We are not complaining of our steamer friends; they have improved greatly during the past few years, and are still willing to do all in their power to meet the wants of our ever-growing trade; but we demand better positions, better ventilation and lower rates, and I believe we will secure them. There is a British law against American apples being shipped under Canadian marks and names, but last fall thousands of barrels of Michigan apples were shipped and sold as Canadian apples. This ought to be stopped. Some Maine apples, shipped this winter in the same manner, were detained in Liverpool, and thereby a loss made. Next season this ought to be looked after and prevented. Let all fruit be shipped and sold under true colors. If so, our apples will command more money.

Our friends in Nova Scotia have grand apples and unsurpassed facilities for shipping. We think if they used a more modern, better barrel, their fine fruit would bring still higher prices. Their apples, as a rule, are shipped by local speculators and growers to London and Boston, to be sold on commission.

Regarding when to sell or ship apples, we would recommend, after a successful experience: sell as soon as apples are ready for shipment, or, if convenient, ship as soon as packed, and regularly. The first to market of all fruit makes most money, not the last. Then, if we wait until the close of navigation, and forward by Portland or Boston, there is great danger of frost. It is almost impossible to ship in winter without doing some damage to the apples. A frosted or heated apple will never make any money, either here or in other markets.

The Tariff on Fruits.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—Fruits are very delicious, and when used ripe and as nearly as possible in their natural condition are beneficial to the health. The country to the south of us produces them earlier than we can, and we might indulge more freely in their use early in the season were it not for the restrictions put upon their importation.

Last April our Government decided upon the following tariff in reference to the importation of these fruits: Apples, 40c. per bus.; strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, and blackberries, 30c. per pound; cranberries, quinces, and plums, 30c. per bus.; peaches, 2c. per pound; grapes, 1c. per pound. These fruits formerly entered free of duty. The avowed object of this legislation is to protect the interests of our fruit-growers. That it

will accomplish this end is of course true, but while doing so it presses hard on the consumers of fruit, which vastly outnumber the producers. It may be the proper thing to legislate in this way, but if so the writer has not studied political economy on correct principles. It would be about as correct a thing for Great Britain to impose duties on agricultural produce entering that island for the protection of her farmers.

The articles enumerated above were formerly on the free list in both countries. The following enumeration gives the amount of the imports of the green fruits named which were brought in from the United States for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1889:

| | QUANTITY | VALUE |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| Apples, | 70,921 bbls. | \$121,782 |
| Cherries, | 92,863 qts. | \$9,333 |
| Peaches, | 3,327,317 lbs. | \$138,270 |
| Blackberries, Cranberries, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, | 1,741,507 lbs. | \$ 9,459 |

During the same period we exported to the United States, of fruits, free of duty:

| | QUANTITY | VALUE |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Apples, | 144,618 bbls. | \$230,108 |
| Berries of all kinds, | | \$75,285 |

Total, \$305,393

We thus see that the barter in these products was not very far from equal, so that neither party had serious ground of complaint. However, now that the step is taken, we will not complain if our fruit growers will set vigorously to work and give an abundant supply of fruits to the dwellers in the northern cities of this great Dominion, and in all places where fruits will grow well. If we are not to have any more of the 3,327,317 pounds of the American peaches, give us an equal amount at live and live prices, and we will try and be content.

FRUIT CONSUMER.

The Apiary.

FOR THE CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

Destroying Bees in the Fall.

A good deal is being said by a writer in the *Canadian Bee Journal* about destroying bees in the fall, and the writer argues that it pays best to destroy bees in the fall, and purchase fresh colonies in the spring, thus saving the stores consumed by the bees during winter. That such a plan is not practicable it is not difficult to see; there would be a great accumulation of combs and hives from year to year unless the number of colonies kept would be doubled each year. Then many of our best bee-keepers have colonies they would not part with for three times the price of ordinary colonies, as they breed carefully for desirable qualities in bees. Again, if everyone would practise the destruction of their bees in the fall, the bee-keeping industry would soon be at an end.

The destruction of such colonies as are liable to perish during the winter is advisable. All colonies not in good condition are destroyed by me, as under such circumstances I consider it will not pay to run the risk of the bees consuming \$2 to \$3 worth of stores only to perish. In this direction we can to advantage turn our thoughts and prevent a considerable percentage of winter losses. Instead of introducing a queen late in the fall to a queenless colony, I destroy it.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Jottings.

Sugar Beets or Corn.—The Ohio Experimental Station, after conducting an experiment to determine the relative worth of sugar beets and corn ensilage for feeding purposes, advances this conclusion: In respect to milk flow the results of this experiment confirm those of the one made a year ago, in indicating that beets are more favourable to milk production than corn ensilage.

Provincial Fat Stock Show.—At a recent meeting of the officials of the association controlling this event, the following judges were appointed: Cattle—Ald. Frankland, Toronto; John Hope, Now Park, Brantford; Jos. Dingle, Hamilton; John Dunn, Toronto. Sheep—Henry Arkell, Arkell; W. G. Gow, Fergus; Wm. Thompson, Elora. Pigs—John McHardy, Guelph; John Allison, Galt; Jas. Laidlaw, sr., Guelph. Poultry—Jas. Guldie, Geo. Muston, and Geo. Tolton, Guelph.

Knabe Pianos.—Eugen D'Albert to William Knabe & Co. (Translated from the German.) During my sojourn here I had

frequent opportunities to make myself acquainted with the Knabe pianos, and from fullest conviction I declare them to be the best instruments of America. Should I return here for artistic purposes—which may be the case very soon—I shall most certainly use the pianos of this celebrated make. I give this testimonial with pleasure, voluntarily, and entirely unsolicited for by the house of Knabe.

EUGEN D'ALBERT.

New York, May 16th, 1890.

Canadian Cattle in Scotland.—Several lots of Canadian store cattle were sold in Scotland the last week in September. Prices were not so good as they had been during the summer, and much of the stock offered was of inferior quality. At Inverness, two hundred head were sold at an average of \$55.80. At Haddington 250 were sold at prices ranging from \$50 to \$75. At Dundee there were 660 offered. The trade here was dull, and prices lower than at any former sale. The average was for the better bred animals from \$60 to \$70. Inferior sold as low as \$37. Heifers from \$40 to \$63. A large number of this lot were bought for England.

Canadian Sheep at Dundee.—The *North British Agriculturist* informs us that the first consignment of Canadian sheep to be brought to Dundee were disposed of on Thursday, September 25th. The attendance was not large. The sheep brought from 25s. each for the poorer quality to 46s. for the better class, or an average of 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; or in our currency about \$6.25 per head for the inferior sheep, and \$12.50 for the highest quality, or 17 to 18½c. per pound. Considering that these were the first to be introduced, and likely of an inferior quality, the prices may be looked upon as encouraging. If more attention were given in Canada to the supplying sheep of the mutton type and quality, there is no limit to the development that might be made, and the revenue that it would yield to Canadian farmers.

Sheep Farming Profitable.—The days of importing mutton into the Canadian North-west are, according to the *Canadian Gazette*, practically at an end. The number of sheep imported last season was comparatively small, and these even met with a very slow sale. This year, though the season has been a very unfavorable one for stock, owing to the long winter, late spring, and scarcity of feed, the market has been entirely supplied with native Manitoba mutton, and the *Commercial*, of Winnipeg, assures us that there is expectation of a surplus for export next year. How profitable sheep raising in Manitoba really is, if managed in a businesslike way, is evidenced by such instances as these. Last winter a farmer at Manitou invested \$600 in a flock of 100 sheep. This summer he sold the wool for \$65, and sixty-five lambs at \$4 to \$5 per head, thus realizing over one-half the first cost of the sheep within a few months, and he still has the sheep. Another farmer told a city wool-dealer, when disposing of his wool at Winnipeg recently, that he had realized \$6 per head from his sheep in the sale of wool and lambs this spring. This represented \$5.25 per head clear profit for the year, as he reckoned the cost of wintering at 75c. per head, and in the summer he did not count that they cost him anything. Even the cost of wintering did not represent a cash outlay, but was merely his time and expense in putting up hay.

Stock Notes.

Horses.

Hackneys are in demand, as evidenced by the sales that have been held in Norfolk. Warlock, by Confidence, 158, brought about \$725, another stallion by the same sire went for \$575, and a third for \$525. The young stallion Rising Confidence, by Confidence also, sold for \$1,000. A yearling colt by Confidence brought \$475. At another sale the whole forty head averaged \$340.

H. H. SPENCER, Dorset Farm, Brooklin, Ont., writes: "On account of my ill health we have only exhibited at one show, Ontario Durham Exhibition. In Clydesdales we made five entries, and won and on yearling stallion; 1st for mare and three of her progeny. In the Durham class we showed four cows and heifers and a bull calf, out of which we captured two firsts, two seconds, and a third, also the prize offered by the McLaughlin Cattle Co., Oshawa, namely, one of their best road carts, which was awarded to the best four females and one bull. This was all our exhibit. In Berkshires we have 64 in number (21 were sold to go to Montreal this week), 33 of which are fall pigs, all from registered sows. Sheep doing well, not many on hand."

MR. JOHN KERR, Red Hall, Wigton, Cumberland, shipped three well-bred Clydesdale stallions last Saturday to the order of Mr. J. C. Ross, Jarvis, Ontario. One of them is a three-year-old, got by the prize horse St. Gatten, 3988, which gained the Buchan Club premium two years ago, and stood in the short list at Glasgow Stallion Show when a three-year-old. The other two are two-year-olds. One of them is out of Mr. Kerr's well-known prize mare Kate Macgregor, or the celebrated Macgregor; and the other is by the grand breeding horse Lord Lothian, a son of the famed Top-Gallant. These three horses are powerfully built and well coloured, and are likely to command a ready sale in Canada. *North British Agriculturist.*

By the Donaldson liner *Civet*, which sailed on Friday last Mr. S. M. Kay, Sainsfield, Ont., shipped one two-year-old stallion and three fillies purchased from Mr. Walter S. Park, Hatton Bishopton. The stallion, Sir Erskine, was bred by Mr. Craig, Ryesholm, Dairy, and was got by the famous breeding horse Lord Erskine, out of a mare by the well-known Darnley prize horse Sir Michael. He carried fifth prize at the Glasgow Spring Stallion Show third at Maryhill, third at Paisley, and first at Bishopton this year, competing with the best colts of the season, and was not excelled by any stallion of his year for weight of bone and soundness of feet and legs. With his substance and strength, combined with excellent quality of bone, he should be a very popular horse in Canada, and the combination of Lord Erskine and Darnley blood that meets in his veins should render him invaluable as a breeding horse. One of the fillies was a