

tien." Some half cases, containing about six dozen each, of this pear sent over on the steamer "Georgia," arrived in excellent condition, and sold about October 1st for \$2.30 per half case, or the equivalent of about \$15 per bbl. This is sufficient to prove the market for such goods, especially for well grown samples; while, on the other hand, it has been proved that a second grade cannot be exported without loss. The first shipments arrived in an over ripe condition. This was not the fault of the packing, for the fruits were gathered very green, carefully wrapped with paper and packed closely and firmly in shallow trays. In this way each fruit was separate, so that rot could not spread from one to another, and there was no chance for heating from bulk. Eight of these trays were put in a bushel case. The only fault in the package was that this bushel case was at first tightly covered at the top, which prevented a free circulation of the cold air, a fault that was remedied in the later shipments.

One cause of the failure of the first shipments was the temperature both in the cold storage warehouse at Grimsby and in transport, which was from 40° to 48°, with a still higher temperature, of course, inside the cases. This is altogether too high a temperature for the carrying of such tender fruits, without change of condition, and for this reason chiefly, added to the lack of free ventilation in the packages, the Crawford peaches and Bartlett pears arrived in the English market in an over-ripe and unsalable condition.

The first packages used were too large for peaches and pears, and too expensive, being bushel cases, each containing eight wooden trays, but towards the latter part of the season, a half case, holding about six dozen pears, was adopted, which proved much more satisfactory, for, while a case of Bartlett pears sold for 15s., a half case of the same, at the same sale, brought 9s. 7d. The temperature of the later shipments was held somewhat lower, averaging about 38°. If this can be still further reduced, perfect success must result.

The following are some extracts from the account of sales:

Fruit, ex.S.S. "Merrimac," sold in London, October 21st, 1897. 885 cases—loss £64.7.9.

Bartlett pears.....	30c. to	72c. per bushel case.
Clapp's Favourite pears.....	Nil to	\$2.07 " "
Tomatoes	78c. to	1.08 " "
Crawford peaches.....	Nil to	1.22 " "

The peaches and pears all arrived too ripe, and in a very wasty condition. Mr. Orandall expressed the opinion, when he saw it, that the fruit appeared to have been carried at too high a temperature. It was thought that the packers had put the fruit up too ripe, but this is not the case, for, on the other hand, it was shipped so green that many feared it would not ripen. The cause of the failure of this lot, therefore, was, in my opinion, entirely due to the high temperature at which it was carried.

*Fruit, ex.S.S. "Sardinian," sold in Glasgow, 27th Sept., 1897. 542 cases.
Net returns, £16.0.1.*

Crawford peaches..	44c. to	54c. per bushel case.
Bartlett pears.....	30 " "	\$1.22 " "
Moore's Early grapes.....	2 " "	30 " "
Tomatoes	26 " "	1.34 " "

Temperature 48° F. for most of the voyage.

Carried at such a temperature, nothing but failure could be expected, but the fault was with the engineer of the "Sardinian," who was instructed to keep the temperature at 38° F. His excuse was that there were eggs in the same compartment, which he was instructed to keep at 35°. As a matter of fact, the temperature in some parts of the hold must have been about 56°.

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Fruit, ex.

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Fruit, ex.

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Howell
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Grapes
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