

Grapes. The quotations I have next are about Grapes.

From Mr. Grindley, Oct. 7 :

"I have cabled and written to you several times regarding the unsatisfactory condition in which the peaches and tomatoes are reaching here, and should advise the stoppage altogether of consignments of both peaches and tomatoes, and I might also add grapes, for although they arrive in fair condition, there is no demand for them owing to the flavor."

Then on October 18 :

"I noticed in Bristol one large fruit dealer was selling our grapes (card in window) as 'Choice California.' They told me nobody wanted 'Canadian Grapes,' but they sold some as Californians."

I am giving you the facts without being able to account for all the mysteries of English commerce and of the English palate. The varieties shipped were mostly Rogers Red, Rogers Black, Lindley and Niagara; and I think only a few Concords. I think the bulk of them were Rogers Red and Rogers Black. I think the grapes this year were representative of the best grapes in the Niagara Peninsula at the time the shipments were made.

Mr. GREGORY: Have you a statement of what the grapes sold for per pound?

Prof. ROBERTSON: Most of them fetched no price at all; they were nearly all given away. The four shipments from Mr. Linus Woolverton illustrate the rest. In the first shipment of grapes there were sent ten cases which netted twenty-three (23.9) cents a case at Grimsby; that would be about sixty (60) cents over there. The next netted 19½ at Grimsby; the next lot were a complete loss; and also the fourth a complete loss, leaving the freight and other expenses to be paid on the last two shipments, in addition to the loss of the fruit and the packages.

Mr. GREGORY: Was that in the same market?

Prof. ROBERTSON: The same market. After the first two shipments, they would not buy them. There was not any complaint as to the condition of the grapes. They were not mildewed or soft or out of condition by falling off the stems.

The next extract in regard to grapes is from Glasgow, in which the salesman says :

"Grapes--The demand for these were very slow on account of the peculiar flavor which they have and which is not relished as yet by our countrymen."

In these cases the grapes were Wilder, Agawam, Lindley and Niagara. They were sold all the way from five shillings and eightpence per case, the highest--(that is, \$1.36 per case over there)--down to eightpence per case (that is 16 cents per case over there). There were a few Wilder grapes sold for four shillings and eightpence--(that is \$1.12 over there). That would realize about 72 cents at Grimsby. Nine cases of Agawams were sold for three shillings and eightpence; Lindleys for two shillings and one shilling and threepence. Twenty-eight other cases of Lindleys were sold for four shillings and fourpence. Niagara grapes were sold for from two shillings down to eightpence per case. Thirteen boxes of Red Rogers were sold for four shillings and eightpence, and seven boxes of Black Rogers were sold for five shillings and eightpence. These were all sold in Glasgow. The grapes which were sent to Bristol in the last two shipments were simply given away.

Tomatoes. Another extract from Elder, Dempster & Co.'s letter :

"As we have previously told you the grapes and tomatoes are useless to us, and we are bound to claim from you any money which may be due for freight on them."

The next letter is from Mr. Grindley, the agent of the Department, dated November 10, in which he says :

"I examined tomatoes from Canary Islands packed in peat dust, and brought here as deck-loads, and they were in perfect condition."

That is where England gets most of its tomatoes from abroad. Then from the fruit salesman October 4.

"We are not satisfied by your putting these goods in cold storage, as the low temperature is detrimental to the shipment, especially for peaches and tomatoes."

"Tomatoes--These have deteriorated considerably, as have peaches, owing to their being in cold storage, and we have had continual complaint from our customers of them. When they have been placed