

## ADVICE TO FRUIT GROWERS AND SHIPPERS.

**A**S the fruit season is now at hand we think it would not be amiss to drop you a few lines regarding the putting up and shipping of fruit, for insertion in your valuable Journal.

As Strawberries are about the first fruit to make their appearance, we would recommend that the fruit be carefully and cleanly packed and the baskets well filled. Baskets require to be well filled because they get a good deal of handling and shaking before they reach market, and if this is not done they will show up slack, and will not sell as rapidly or at as good a price as otherwise. Use the twenty-four quart basket crate in shipping.

This package is coming more into favor every season, and we believe that it will eventually entirely supersede all other packages for the shipment of this fruit. It is of a nice suitable size, and comes nearer to meeting the requirements of the grower, the carriers, the commission men and the public generally, than any other package we have yet seen, and we trust that it will not be long before all growers adopt it. This package is not returnable and this therefore does away with all the trouble and annoyance experienced in past seasons on that account. Raspberries, Blackcaps and Kittatinny's should also be shipped in this package. Other small garden fruit, such as Cherries, Currants, Gooseberries, etc., are preferred in the twelve-quart basket and sell most rapidly when shipped in that shape. Plums and Peaches are best shipped in the twelve-quart basket, and Grapes in the sixteen-quart basket. In all instances carefully observe to fill all packages well. Cover baskets nicely and securely with cardinal or blue leno, whichever is the most suitable to the fruit you are shipping, then attach your shipping labels securely to each basket, and write your full name

and post office address plainly and distinctly on each label, and thus avoid loss and confusion when they reach market. Apples and Pears can be profitably shipped in the twelve-quart basket when they first commence to come in and are of choice varieties; but as soon as they commence to come in freely, they do better properly packed in barrels and shipped by freight; it will cost less to put them up and ship in that way than to put them in baskets and ship by express.

Avoid shipping on holidays when possible, as mostly all places of business are closed up, and as a rule arrivals have to be held over until next day or closed out to pedlars at very low figures. Also avoid shipping on late trains as the early closing movement is in operation here, and all grocers are compelled to close at seven o'clock, p.m. Fruit arriving on the morning or early afternoon trains meets with the best and quickest sale, while anything by evening trains generally gets left over until the following day.

We noticed last season that a great deal of fruit was shipped from the Griesby section by freight, and when shipped that way it would as a rule reach our market in time for the morning trade, but it frequently arrived in very bad order, possibly, caused by want of proper conveyances by the cartage agents or indifferent handling by the Railway Company. We would like to see the fruit coming by freight as a general thing, providing these difficulties could be overcome.

Growers are no doubt all aware of the trouble they have had in past seasons, when shipping by express for want of sufficient accommodation. Trains will not stop at the stations long enough to enable the express people to load it properly, and the consequence is that it is thrown on in any way and