

OUR TENDER FRUITS FOR ENGLAND.



FIG. 1140.—HON. SIDNEY FISHER, M.P.
Minister of Agriculture for the Dom. of Canada.

WE take pleasure in giving prominence in our pages to the Hon. Sidney Fisher, because he has made himself interested in the fruit export trade of Canada. Our report for 1896 gives a verbatim report of his addresses at our Kingston meeting last December, in which he promised to do all in his power to encourage an export trade in our tender fruits, by means of a chain of cold storage service right from the grower in Canada to the consumer in Britain.

This promise is being faithfully carried out, and already the refrigerator cars are beginning to give regular service on the great railway lines. At Grimsby a cold storage warehouse has been erected by the Department of Agriculture, to hold about a carload and a half, as shown in accompanying engraving. It is a small building, and nearly two-thirds of the

interior is filled with ice, but large enough to make a thorough test, and that is the object in view.

The ice room is on the ground floor in the rear, and is stored with about seventy five tons of ice, and there are openings in the bottom of the partition to let the currents of cold air into the store room, and flues at the ceiling for carrying the heated air back to the rear of the ice room.

It is the intention to send forward a car-load a week of such fruit as summer apples, tomatoes, pears, peaches and grapes, and the results will be made public as quickly as possible, in order that the whole country may share in the advantage.

Special packages will be used for this trade, and the committee at Grimsby has adopted a convenient form, designed by Mr. John H. Grout, which may be generally adopted. It consists of a case containing two cubic feet outside measure, in which trays are fitted to suit the various fruits. Fig. 1142 shows case and two trays differing in depth,

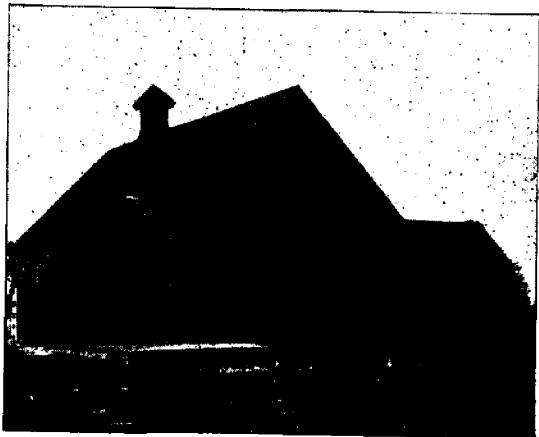


FIG. 1141.—EXPERIMENTAL COLD STORAGE FOR FRUIT,
AT GRIMSBY, ONT.