

The notes by consulting botanist J. H. Maiden "On Colonial Timber for Carriage-Building" are of much practical value, describing as they do the physical properties of many of the native woods, and giving their chief lines of usefulness. It is somewhat surprising to see the Gums (*Eucalyptus*) classed among hard woods, and recommended for cart and wheelwright's work, with the statement, that for such purposes there is "no timber to approach them." J. CRAIG.

WINTER MEETINGS.

The Soirée committee has almost completed the preparation of a programme for the course of evening meetings to be held during the winter, and it is promised that the Soirées will be exceptionally interesting. There will be a return in some measure to the procedure of the earlier years of the Club, and the course will be devoted entirely to natural history subjects. On December 6th it is proposed to hold a conversazione, when Dr. Dawson will deliver a brief inaugural address; the remainder of the evening being devoted to some interesting zoological subject. Then once a fortnight there will be evenings devoted respectively to Geology, Botany, Entomology, Conchology, Ornithology and Zoology. On each evening there will be two brief papers (not exceeding fifteen minutes) and the report of the leaders of the branch, with short notes which may be sent in by any member. Specimens will be exhibited to illustrate the proceedings, or when they are of exceptional interest. The committee again invites any member who may wish to contribute notes, or who desires to exhibit specimens, or otherwise assist in the meetings to communicate with Dr. Ellis as soon as possible. A complete programme will issue in good time. Ed.

JUMPING BEANS.

The Ottawa newspapers have recently had several notices of the arrival in the city of specimens of the so called "Mexican Jumping Seeds," and it may be of interest to give a brief description of what they really are. You all know the Codling Moth of the Apple, whose caterpillar injures and destroys so much fruit by making it wormy. Well the exact name of the appleworm is *Carpocapsa salitans*. The