

the present methods is an undoubted fact, especially so far as fish put up in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and parts of Nova Scotia are concerned. In consequence of the uncertainty of the out-turn of the goods from these districts, we may say that it is now customary here for buyers to inspect and sample a large proportion of each parcel before buying, necessitating considerable expense and loss of cans to the packers. The sample which Dr. Macphail submitted to us opened as near perfect as possible with regard to flavour and appearance, and if fishermen can be educated to pack lobsters on the basis of Dr. Macphail's investigations, the demand in this country for canned lobsters will be increased.

Prices now obtainable for the high-class goods packed on the south shore of Nova Scotia and in Newfoundland would no doubt also be paid for lobsters put up under this system in Prince Edward Island and other parts of Canada, where it has always been claimed that in consequence of the shallow water and muddy bottom, it has been impossible to can lobsters to the same perfection as in the districts referred to above.

We are, sir,

Your obedient servants,

HENRY W. PEARBODY & CO.

A. W. LATHAM & Co.

No. 17 PHILIP LANE,

LONDON, E.C., 12th January, 1897.

To the High Commissioner for Canada,
Victoria Chambers, Victoria St., S.W.

DEAR SIR, We have to-day had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Macphail, of whose visit you advised us by your letter of the 7th instant, and who has submitted to our judgment, a sample can of preserved lobsters, which he tells us were processed according to his own system, and we can but say that we are very pleased with the appearance of the fish, which has retained its brightness of colour, and freshness of flavour, and considering that he has used the poorest kind of lobster found in Prince Edward Island waters, we would say that provided the saltiness is got rid of, the result ought to be a very desirable article, when fish is used, caught on the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia or Newfoundland.

We think the Canadian Government has taken a step in the right direction, in commissioning these scientific gentlemen to investigate and improve on the present methods of canning, and thereby free the industry from many of its imperfect productions, and we, as interested parties, sincerely hope that they will see fit to continue these researches, and so help to make canned lobster, a sound, safe and wholesome article of food, which is at present by no means altogether the case.

We shall be glad to receive a copy of Dr. Macphail's printed report of the result of his experiments, and we remain,

Yours faithfully,

A. W. LATHAM & CO.

W. & D. HARVEST.

DOWGATE DOCK, UPPER THAMES STREET,
LONDON, E.C., 12th January, 1897.

To the Honourable
Sir DONALD A. SMITH, G.C.M.G.

DEAR SIR,—With further reference to your letter of the 7th inst., we have to-day seen Dr. Macphail, and after an exhaustive examination of his process of preserving canned lobster, and also of the results of such process, we have come to the conclusion that his experiments will result in great benefit to the packers, dealers and consumers of this, up to now, unprofitable article of commerce, and beg to remain.

Yours most respectfully,

W. & D. HARVEST.