

very slow. It is a common practice in some parts of Annapolis to pack bones in ashes, just moistening them.

The discussion was continued at some further length.

MR. R. W. STARR moved the following resolution :

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association a government subsidy to only one line of freight steamers to London is prejudicial to the best interests of the shippers of apples to Britain.”

MR. B. STARRATT said that at one time we had two lines of steamers to London, and freights were as low as 70 or 75 cents. But the subsidized Furness line drove the Anchor line out of the competition. Freights went up above one dollar per barrel, and have not since been below that figure.

MR. JOHN STARR thought that the general rise in freights might to some extent account for the increase in steamer rates.

The resolution moved by R. W. Starr was put and carried after some further discussion.

The SECRETARY then read the following question for discussion :—
“Do the bills of lading in general use by steamship companies afford a fair share of protection to shippers of fruit?”

He presented three bills of lading—one of the Dominion line, one of the Furness line, and the third a combined bill of the Windsor and Annapolis Railway and the Furness line. The two most objectionable clauses were, one binding the shipper to pay freight whether the cargo were lost or not ; the other binding the shipper to pay a certain amount of expenses of discharging. Mr. Starr also stated that efforts had been made to compel the companies to pay damages for broken barrels, but after getting advice from a high legal authority these efforts were abandoned, there being no hope of compensation. At present there was really nothing but a receipt given the shipper. The company might only land a few staves and hoops in place of a barrel of apples and the shipper had no redress.

Several members of the Association spoke concurring in the view of the Secretary, that the bills of lading at present in use were unsatisfactory, and did not afford a proper protection to shippers of fruit.

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