

## CANADIAN PACKERS.

The quarterly meeting of the Canadian Packers' Association was held in the Walker House, in this city, on the 17th inst., when a full attendance of the members was present.

Topics relating to the welfare of the association were fully discussed, and some interesting statistical reports were received by the secretary. The 1886 season was less favorable than was expected; fruits in most localities turned out a short crop, the weather being unfavorable, throughout September, for maturing tomatoes, particularly. No house packing quantity is expected; in some other lines the state of matters was proven favorable—but as a very large portion of the goods packed are yet unsold, and even those which are already sold are as yet in the wholesale houses, and not passing the consumer as quickly as was expected. This leaves the prospects of early sales, as was expected, in doubt, and discouraging.

Looking towards another season's operations it is considered by those present that the capacity of the present packers' establishments is fully equal to the requirements of the present demand for Canadian consumption and could be increased should the demand for canned goods improve. The meeting closed harmoniously to re-assemble at the annual meeting in January, when a full statistical report of the year's proceedings, will, we are told, be ready.

## ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

H.D.C., HALIFAX, writes:—"Will you kindly answer the following question on storage? A. stores for B. 100 bbls. of flour, and after a certain time delivers 50. Can the remaining 50 bbls. be held for storage on the lot?" [We reply that a warehouseman has an implied lien on goods in his possession for his general balance of account and can only be compelled to give them up on tender of satisfaction for the debt which has created the lien. But this right is one entirely dependent on usage and it has been judicially said that as usages differ in different localities, a suitor should always be prepared with evidence of such a custom in his own particular locality.]

D.W.; KIPPEN.—The lecture will doubtless appear in print; would suggest your applying to the author, Mr. Clarkson, at 26 Wellington St. east, this city, or to the secretary of the Institute of Accountants for Ontario.

C.H.E.; Guelph.—Haytian coffee does not come to this market. As to logwood, Campeachy is preferred, that from Hayti is, we believe, also used here. Apply to Burns &

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McCormack, of Brookville, who import the log and chip it. We cannot give quotations.

C.A.S.; HALIFAX.—Yours received. Glad to hear from you. No apologies necessary when so busy.

## VACANT LANDS AROUND WINNIPEG.

The question of devising means for the settlement of the vacant lands about the city, says the *Winnipeg Sun*, continues to occupy a large measure of public attention. "A comprehensive scheme is proposed by Senator Schultz, which is worth of consideration. There is abundance of employment in this work for all the agencies that we can desire." Referring to the company whose object we described some weeks ago, it appears that the proper steps have been taken for the increase of its capital to one million dollars, and the change of its name to "The Manitoba Lands Colonization and Improvement Company."

We had, says Dr. Schultz, offers of thousands of acres of excellent land, and we had ascertained that the improvements contemplated would cost at least thirty per cent. lower than any individual land holder had contemplated; for instance a quantity of four inch breaking was done at a cost of \$8.25 per acre. It was ascertained that a settler's house of three boards thickness, and built so as to be sufficiently warm for winter occupation, could be delivered at Winnipeg for \$120, and the average cost transporting it to its destination, and putting it up, about \$20 more. It was found also that in the case of parties purchasing land from the company early in the spring or through the winter the company might safely undertake to plant for the new-coming settler ten acres of oats, \$50; ten acres of rye or peas \$30; and five of potatoes, \$30, and by putting these improvements where four quarter sections join, a little group of four persons would start with all the material for mixed farming, and this little group would be at no greater distance from their nearest neighbor than one mile.

I am of the belief that if there are a sufficient number sincerely anxious to combine their holdings offer in land not only will the company be in a position to this winter and ensuing spring farms to the immigrant of even a better class of land than can be found in the North-West, but at the same time place themselves immediately within the reach of schools, churches and the advantages of being in the neighborhood of a large city and considerable village.

Q. "Would it be the policy of the company to charge large prices for the land to settlers?"

A. "Decidedly not. These lands would be sold, in my opinion, to the actual settler, at

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the very lowest price, who would be given from six to ten years to pay, and we should in fact encourage these groups of settlements of four by low prices, adding only the actual cost, for instance, of the buildings and of putting in grain, fencing and other matters, and we should only seek for profit on those portions of land which intervene between the settlements which I have described."

—Steps are being taken for the establishment of a free library at Richmond. The project of erecting a new Methodist Church is on the tapis.

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