

EVENING SESSION.

R. W. STARR moved the following resolution, which was seconded by A. McN. Patterson :

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association the government subsidy to only one line of steamers is very prejudicial to the best interests of exporters of apples."

J. E. STARR asked if it were not possible that the increased rate charged by the steamers for apples was owing entirely to increased business and general increase in rates for freight.

A. McN. PATTERSON said that the subsidy did not fix a rate, and the withdrawal of the subsidy would again start competition.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The next question discussed was as follows :—"Do the bills of lading in general use by steamship companies afford a fair share of protection to shippers of fruit?"

The SECRETARY stated that he had had some correspondence on this subject, and would submit it to the views of the Association. He placed on the desk three bills of lading. One of these was called in London the American or "Yankee" bill of lading. Under the "Yankee" bill of lading the freight was payable "*ship lost or not lost*." A further objection to this form of bill of lading was that by it there was a tax of one shilling and sixpence per ton on the apples being delivered in the docks. The joint bill of lading of the W. & A. Railway and Furness line is on the whole more favorable than the others, but none of them gave any security whatever, and were scarcely worth more to the exporter than a mere receipt. In the "Ulunda," on a trip last autumn, out of 308 barrels there were over 100 barrels damaged and broken open. Our London agents made a claim for that damage, and the reply was as follows :—

LONDON, 34 Leadenhall St., E. C., Dec. 4th, 1889.

MESSRS. NOTHARD & LOWE,
43 Tooley Street.

Dear Sirs,—Yours of 30th ult. is to hand. We have carefully reconsidered the matter you put before us, and after investigation cannot trace any negligence whatever on the part of the steamer, and although we are most anxious to do all we consistently can for your apple shippers, we cannot

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