

mentioned with much regret and disappointment that nothing has been done to provide for the want. It has been publicly stated that an intention is entertained of altering the old Post Office instead of erecting a suitable building, worthy of Quebec, a course this Board would earnestly deprecate, as the existing building cannot be converted into a convenient Post Office.

INTERCOLONIAL BOARD.

A convention of delegates from all the Provinces was called to meet in Montreal in June last, to complete the organization of a Central Board for British North America. The Fenian trouble, however, necessitated a postponement, and it is not now proposed to convene another meeting until the Union of the Provinces shall have been completed.

CORPORATION OF PILOTS.

This body brought before Parliament, at its last session, an amendment to their Act of Incorporation, seeking for powers and privileges which were considered dangerous to the efficiency of the service, and the rights of masters and owners, and your Council took active measures to defeat it. Through the exertions of Hon. C. Alleyn, Geo. Irvine, Esq., M.P.P. for Megantic, and J. W. Cook, Esq., the bill was defeated, and the thanks of the Board are due to those gentlemen for their valuable aid on the occasion.

THE NEW TARIFF.

The tariff of duties and the proposition of the Finance Minister to issue Provincial Notes and withdraw the bank circulation, received the careful attention of the Council. A letter suggesting several changes was sent to the Hon. Mr. Galt, some of which were acted upon, but the Council regret to observe that the sugar duties were so changed as to throw the whole trade into the hands of the refiners to the detriment of the revenue. Under Confederation the entire tariff will require revision, when, it is hoped, a law satisfactory to all parties will receive the careful attention of Parliament.

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE IN WINTER.

This question has excited a good deal of attention both in and out of Parliament, and a special Committee was named by your Council to investigate the subject. Their report has already been before the members of the Board, and copies of it were sent to the Colonial Delegates in England, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Board of Admiralty and the War Office. Letters have been received from those departments endorsing the views of the Council.

THE CENTRAL SYSTEM.

At the Detroit Convention the Committee on weights and measures suggested the general adoption on this Continent of the central system in the weighing of grain, flour and seeds. Since that meeting, the Albany Board of Trade have taken an active part in promoting its introduction in