John McLennan, Esq., President,

And the Council of the Board of Trade;

AND

ROBERT ESDAILE, Esq., President,

And the Committee of Management of the Corn Exchange

Association:—

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Third Annual Report on the Trade and Commerce of this City, it may be stated that the notice given by the United States Government to abrogate the Reciprocity Treaty induced me to make some investigations regarding the commercial and other resources of Canada, and to inquire into the trade relations of the British North American Provinces. The Preliminary Reports herewith submitted embody the principal facts ascertained. I have not indulged in theorizing; intelligent merchants will form their own opinions. If this publication shall tend in any degree to advance the interests of the business-community my aim will be accomplished.

Thanking you, and the Boards you represent, for the unvarying kindness manifested, and for the favor with which you have received my Reports of two preceding years,—

I remain, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant.

WM. J. PATTERSON,

Secretary.

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MONTREAL, March 15th, 1866.