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Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting of the Grand Association of Patrons of Industry of the Province of Ontario.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Grand Association was held in the St. Lawrence Hall, Toronto, on Tuesday, February 28th, 1893.

Meeting convened in due form at 2 o'clock p.m.

The Grand President, C. A. Mallory, Esq., gave the following address, which was received with applause, and ordered to be engrossed in the minutes and given to the press for publication.

GRAND PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

BRETHREN,—It is with feelings of unmixed pleasure that I welcome you to the second annual convention of the Grand Association of Patrons of Industry for the Province of Ontario. The presence among us of delegates from many counties hitherto unrepresented proves that the order has continued to spread, while the large representation from the older counties shows that the interest in Patronism is not decreasing, but continues to hold its place as of paramount importance to the great industrial classes in our Province.

I congratulate you upon the general increase in membership, as also upon the disposition manifested by our people to give special prominence to the higher aims of the organization.

The Grand President of last year, in his address, referred to a certain antagonism which appeared to exist between merchants and manufacturers, and the order of Patrons of Industry, and very truthfully stated that if such antagonism existed, it was not of our seeking. I am happy to inform you that this prejudice is being removed, and that those who are not eligible for membership in our associations are beginning to realize that we desire the prosperity of all who honestly labor for the advancement of the land in which we live.

Agriculture is the basis and source of all permanent national wealth. From earliest times civilization only took form and shape as people learned to till the soil. England is a land of traders, and yet, Prince Albert, the husband of our beloved Queen, was constrained to say "that agriculture was the foundation of the social state." In our own land, none dare deny that our greatest wealth is in the soil. Our minerals and our fisheries are of value inestimable, and are perhaps unequaled in the world. Our manufactures are not to be despised, but above and beyond all these in importance, our agricultural resources are the foundation of our greatest strength. To develop these resources, and to render prosperous and contented those by whose labors the national wealth is created, should be the highest ambition of every true patriot, and in the accomplishment of these ends, we have a right to expect the assistance of all who truly desire the welfare of our land.

The true aims of this association are "to build, not palaces, but men; to exalt, not titled stations, but general humanity; to dignify, not idle repose, but assiduous industry; to elevate not the few, but the many." These objects demand our attention, and we believe are worthy of the great organization by which we are united.

To compare experience, to correct mistakes, and by an interchange of opinion, to arrive at such conclusions as we may, as to the best means of accomplishing these ends, I conceive to be the chief object of our convention to-day.

In reviewing the work of the past year, I am happy to inform you that over 600 subordinate associations have been added to our list, and that to-day there is scarcely a county in the Province of Ontario that does not contain many enthusiastic Patrons. Our Constitution and Ritual, by your order, have been printed in the French language, and zealous organizers are now rapidly extending the work in the