

Encouraged by so high authority it is now resolved to issue and widely circulate the address of the Council to His Excellency, with His Excellency's reply thereto, together with such documents and explanations as may appear desirable in order to elucidate the subject.

As the Board was organized and incorporated in the year 1857, the President and Council feel that they cannot better commemorate the semi-centennial of this Association than by publishing in the Mother Country and in all the sister Dominions, the documents which follow on a subject of the highest Imperial importance.

The Council is indebted to Sir Sandford Fleming, a member of the Board, for the prefatory remarks which follow and other documents appended.

On behalf of the Board of Trade of the City of Ottawa,

JAMES W. WOODS,

PRESIDENT.

CECIL BETHUNE,

SECRETARY.

OTTAWA, Nov. 15TH, 1907.