

time of your sub-committee's assumption of office this suit was pending; and it was only in the month of April last that a judgment was rendered, condemning the Board to pay the amount demanded by the plaintiff.

Your sub-committee were unable to meet this demand; and execution was subsequently issued, under which the building was seized, and advertised to be sold on the 27th day of November following, now past.

A deputation was named by this Board to proceed to Quebec, to lay before the members of the government the affairs of the Board and its position with regard to the exhibition building; which they did, but the results of which have yet to be realized.

In the meantime the sale of the building was postponed by the action of the Royal Institution for the advancement of learning Governors of the University of McGill College, who claim that the building shall be sold subject to the restrictive clauses contained in the deed of the property from that body to this Board. As this claim is resisted by the contractor, some time must elapse before further steps can be taken. Your sub-committee strongly recommend their successors in office to bring this matter prominently before the government, that this Board may be relieved of the incubus of this debt to the contractor.

During the past year, the Agricultural Association, at the meeting held at Sherbrooke in September last, decided to hold their next exhibition in this city; and that a proper representation of the Arts and Manufactures of the Province may be secured. Your sub-committee recommend their successors to immediate action in the matter.

The importance and necessity of an increased grant, together with amendments in the constitution of these Boards, was deeply felt by your sub-committee's predecessors in office; and representations were duly made to parliament, and a bill containing the latter submitted, but without success. Your sub-committee, equally desirous of shaking off the trammels which limited them in their operations, made similar applications; but although supported in their views by the Upper Canada Board they were unable to effect any change.

The desirability of a change in the Patent laws, and the act respecting Trade Marks and Designs, was also a matter of serious consideration as well on the part of your sub-committee as of their predecessors; and although a bill containing such enactments as were considered desirable for the country was introduced during two successive sessions of parliament, the desired changes have not yet been made.

Your sub-committee now recommend to their successors the consideration of these three measures, the securing of which will do much towards enabling this Board to fully discharge their important duties.

A course of lectures on mechanical and scientific subjects was established by your sub-committee's predecessors; but the meagre attendance of those for whose benefit they were given, deterred your sub-committee from making a similar effort: they however recommend

to the consideration of their successors, whether it would be desirable to make another effort in this direction.

The contribution of the Board in aid of the classes of the Mechanics' Institute has been renewed for the present year, and your sub-committee regret their inability to do more.

The exhibition building continues to be occupied as an armory for the Montreal Field Battery of Artillery under the arrangement made with the government by your sub-committee's predecessors. A small rental has been obtained by letting it for concerts and other amusements, a statement of which is herewith submitted.

It is highly desirable in the opinion of your sub-committee that arrangements be made for using the building for the purpose originally intended; and your sub-committee recommend the consideration of this matter, to their successors as one of their first duties: but, failing in this, they recommend that some definite arrangement be made for its occupation for other purposes, by which the Board may be relieved from further responsibility respecting it.

Your sub-committee cannot conclude without referring to the Exhibition of all Nations held in London during the past year, and which is now closed. They regret extremely that the contributions from this Province were, for the most part, confined to raw and mineral products, in consequence of the tardiness attending the appointment of Canadian commissioners, and the small amount appropriated for this purpose. Had more zeal for the prosperity of the manufacturing interests of the Province been exhibited in proper time; and had the appointment of commissioners been made, as it should have been done, when the attention of government was called by your sub-committee's predecessors to the restrictions of the Home Commissioners; and had a suitable sum been placed at the disposal of Commissioners to enable them to secure a proper representation of the progress made in the Arts and Manufactures of this country, Canada would have occupied a higher position than that allotted to her in the great exhibition of 1862. As it is however, she has her prizes, and her position among nations, which position it is now the province of this Board to assist in maintaining and elevating.

The Treasurer's accounts are herewith submitted for audit.

The whole nevertheless respectfully submitted.

(Signed,)

WILLIAM RODDEN,
Vice President.

(Signed,)

DUNBAR BROWNE,
Sec. pro tem.

THE WHEELER AND WILSON SEWING MACHINE—A MODEL WORKSHOP.

The great inventions of modern times may be briefly enumerated. They are the steam engine, the electric telegraph, and the sewing machine. Others of great importance have been introduced, but we refer to these three, as those