

duced in the Legislative Council. At the beginning of the session the Board of Agriculture, through Major Campbell, introduced the bill of last session to amend the act constituting that Board, but without the portions relating to the Boards of Arts and Manufactures. In committee, however, the bill relating to this Board was incorporated with it, and further proceedings upon Mr. Ferrier's bill stayed in the Council. The two bills thus amalgamated passed the Lower House without opposition, and received a 2nd reading in the Council. Having been referred to a committee, however, it was never reported, the committee deeming that the amendments in the constitution of the Board of Agriculture and the abolition of the Provincial Agricultural Association would not be acceptable to the farmers of Upper Canada. The other bill, relating solely to the Boards of Arts and Manufactures, was then moved to a second reading with the assent of the Government, and referred to a committee, where all but the more important clauses were cut out. In its reduced form it received a third reading, and was sent to the Lower House, where, however, the Agricultural influence revenged itself upon the Upper Canada members of the Council representing the Agricultural interest, who had defeated their bill, by refusing to suspend the rules and allow the bill of the Boards of Arts to become law. They declared that both bills should go through, or neither. Your committee refrain from all comment on this proceeding, contenting themselves with simply recording it.

Notwithstanding the urgent representations made of the absolute necessity of an increased grant to enable this Board to perform the functions assigned to it with advantage to the government and public, or with credit to themselves, her Majesty's Provincial advisers did not think that in the present condition of the finances of the country, any increase could be made in the grants. Thus, while the Agricultural Boards have upwards of \$100,000 placed at their disposal, to foster that which scarcely needs fostering in Canada, the boards representing the Mechanics and Manufacturers of the country, an interest struggling upwards amid many difficulties, must remain content with \$4000 as a mark of the appreciation in which they are held by the government and parliament of the country.

The government also declined to submit any grant in the estimates, for the purpose of having Canada represented in the Great Exhibition of 1862. Your committee cannot express too strongly their sense of the evil done to the country by this, in their opinion, unwise economy. There can be no doubt that nothing has ever given Canada so high a position in the eyes of Europe, as the Exhibition she made of her various products in 1851 and 1855. Till then regarded by the mass of Europeans as a distant

semi-barbarous dependency of Britain, with a rigorous climate and barren soil, where nought but savages and outcasts could live, and nought but furs and timber could be procured. She showed on these occasions how great her resources were, and, to the astonishment of those who knew her best, took a position which vied with that of old, wealthy and mighty nations. Just at a time when our railway system is in a great measure completed, when our seaports are crowded beyond all previous example with ships seeking cargoes of our products; when the mines of Lower Canada are just being opened up, and there is especial need that the attention of capitalists should be directed towards the splendid opening here for investment in mining adventures, when the *eclat* of the visit of the heir apparent is still fresh in the minds of the people of Britain, to put in an apparent admission that we have already culminated and are beginning to decay, that we can not do as well now as we did ten years ago, is to submit to humiliation, to lose ground, and accept defeat in the contest for industrial rank.

The neglect to appoint a Commission will have this further evil effect, that according to the sixth rule or decision of the Royal Commission, no private parties in any foreign country or colony will be allowed to exhibit, nor will the Commissioners hold communications with any such persons except through Commissioners appointed by their governments. It will therefore be impossible, it is feared, for individual enterprise in any way to remedy this neglect of the government. It is hoped, therefore, that a Commission may yet be appointed to act on behalf of individual contributors who may be desirous of exhibiting specimens of the mineral and other riches of the country. Even if this obstacle did not exist, the Board could not, owing to the scanty funds placed at its disposal, undertake the work.

The report was unanimously adopted.

It was then resolved, that the President (J. Redpath), the Vice President (W. Rodden), Dr. Dawson, and the Secretary (B. Chamberlin), be a committee to wait on Messrs. Galt and Rose, in reference to the interest on the debt of the building, and in regard to an Exhibition. Said committee to report to the Sub-committee. And in the event of the government giving encouragement with reference to the Exhibition of 1862, the Sub-committee is empowered to make the preliminary arrangements, and report at the quarterly meeting.

It was also resolved, that a memorial embodying the views of the Board in reference to the Exhibition in 1862, as expressed in the report just adopted, be prepared and forwarded to the Governor in Council, and that the same be given all possible publicity.

The meeting then adjourned.

B. CHAMBERLIN, *Secretary*.