

actual deficiency of \$737. It having been decided to have 2,000 copies of a report of the proceedings of the Convention printed for circulation, at a cost of \$165, that expenditure would increase the deficiency to \$902. The Finance Committee thought, therefore, that the gentlemen present should immediately contribute about \$1,000, in order to relieve the Association of its entire debt, and that all the members in arrears should be notified by the Secretary to settle without delay, so that there should be no lack of funds for future needs. The Committee further recommended the establishment of a local committee in every city and town in Ontario to promote the objects of the Association in its particular locality.

The President remarked that these committees would be very useful when the fighting time came on. There would be a great deal of printed matter to be distributed, and no better system could be formed for circulating it than these local committees.

The report was received and a short time was occupied in obtaining contributions and in appointing gentlemen to form local committees in the respective towns from which they came.

AGRICULTURE.

Hon. Senator Reid, of Belleville, commenced the discussion on this subject by moving the following resolution :

1. That the great Agricultural interest of Canada suffer grievous wrong through the present one-sided system of allowing American farm produce to enter our market duty free, while our produce has to pay heavy toll on entering the American market; and that justice to ourselves requires that we meet duties exacted on the other side of the border with equal duties on our side, no more and no less, also that the same measure of justice should be extended to our milling and mining interests.

He said :—I little expected when I came here to have the pleasure and honour of saying a few words in support of the resolution, but I must say it gives me the greatest pleasure to do so. I came here by accident. I am not a delegate, but I think I received an invitation, and I am very happy to be present, and to speak of the great Agricultural interests of this country, which, to my mind, is the greatest interest. I have had something to do with the general interests of the country for the last 20 years and I fancy I know what the Agricultural interests require, and what will be for their best interests, and if I should look back a little into the past, you will excuse me. I have been connected with Agricultural interests for over 40 years. I can recollect when I first arrived at Kingston, and at that time the Frontenac country was almost foreign in a monetary point of view, as the Americans

had the whole trade. The American people, when they granted us the Reciprocity treaty, thought we would become one of themselves, but it did not seem to have had that effect, as it had acted for the benefit of both countries. We all remember certain circumstances that occurred at the time the "Munro doctrine" was promulgated. I am a staunch Britisher in feeling myself, and have looked with a great deal of jealousy when anything of this kind turned up. In 1864, when Mr. Galt, Mr. Howland, and Mr. Smith went to Washington to enter into negotiations for a reciprocity treaty, I well recollect that the Americans led them to understand that Canada was to become a part of the Union. At that time we were about acquiring the North-west, and in the course of the discussion one of the American Commissioners (Mr. Morrell) asked Mr. Galt what we would have to pay for the North-west, "because," he said, "we look upon it here as if we should have to pay your debts some day." Mr. Galt also proposed building canals in common with the United States, but Mr. Morrell said he had no authority to enter into negotiations of that kind, "that, gentleman," he said, "will have to remain in abeyance until you take your seats here." Such was the state of feeling in the United States in 1864, and it is quite evident that since then our American friends have not lost the idea that the Munro doctrine is the one for them to adopt. However, I believe since then we have established a nationality north of them that will rise up a great country. This cold climate is calculated to give our people vigour, and I do think we can thrive with our neighbours in all that makes a country desirable to live in. The resolution speaks of allowing American produce to come in duty free, while they tax ours heavily. I recollect a meeting at Detroit at the time of the repeal of the Reciprocity treaty, a gentleman came into the room and said : "I have just come from Washington, and the Government do not wish any resolution passed in favour of Reciprocity." I made it my business to tell Mr. Ryan, of Montreal. The result was, we have no treaty, and therefore have to take care of ourselves. While, I believe, it would be as well to have some produce come in free, still I think we would rather suffer than put up with an unfair bargain. Mr. Reed then gave the following tariffs of duties upon different descriptions of grain going into the United States from Canada, at the same time saying that any of these coming from the United States to Canada came in duty free: Wheat, 20 cents per bushel; rye, corn, and barley, 15 cents per bushel. Mr. Reed con