

This was the last meeting held in 1866.

The Officers of the Board for the year 1867, were:

HON. JAMES SKEAD, *President*.

E. MCGILLIVRAY, *Vice-President*.

H. V. NOEL, *Treasurer*.

*Council*—H. J. FRIEL, JAMES DYKE, C. T. BATE, E. P. REMON, THOS. PATTERSON, S. HOWELL, THOS. HUNTON, S. CHRISTIE, JAMES HOPE, C. R. CUNNINGHAM, ALEX. WORKMAN, G. H. PERRY.

*Board of Arbitration*—JAS. TRACY, P. A. EGLESON, W. HUNTON, J. A. PINARD, H. N. BATE, J. M. CURRIER, I TRAVERS.

The principal business before the Board for the year was the question of Immigration, which was discussed at very considerable length, and very valuable suggestions were made thereon.

As the whole of them referred to the North West Territories and were based on the assumption that immigrants *could get there*, which, considering the means of access, is not very probable, they would not possess any interest of sufficient importance to warrant their insertion in this Report. Desirable as the establishment of a numerous population between Lake Superior and the Pacific may be, it is evident it cannot be accomplished along 400 miles of the best *gravelled* road the world has ever seen at the Eastern, nor across the Rocky Mountains, without any road at all at the Western end. The Council of the Board of Trade are of opinion that what may be styled immediate necessity exists for the construction of 400 miles of railway between Fort William and Lake Superior, and from the mouth of Fraser River to the head of navigable water on the Saskatchewan, a distance of 450 miles. This would make a total distance of 850 miles, and would open to settlement and traffic a territory of 500,000 square miles in area, rich in mineral and agricultural wealth, the germs of a commercial and manufacturing industry, little if at all inferior to that of the *Western States*, (United States), which yet remains to be developed. The investigation of this subject is of surpassing interest, and must necessarily occupy the attention of this Board another time.

A meeting of the Council was held on the 7th December, at which a communication relative to immigration to Vancouver's Island and the Red River was read.