

negotiated with the United States Government, without providing that ships built in the Dominion be admitted to registry in the United States, upon the same terms as American built ships have been registered in Great Britain during the past seventeen years, together with the same privileges in the coasting trade as are now enjoyed by the United States vessels in British waters. Your Council also brought this important matter before all the Boards of Trade in the Dominion, requesting them to urge it on the attention of the Government, who have promised to do all in their power to accomplish it.

SILVER QUESTION.

Considerable inconvenience and loss continues to be suffered from the heavy discount still current on American silver. Notwithstanding the imposition of the 15 per cent. duty, and the exportation of a considerable sum by Mr. Weir, of Montreal, there still is a large amount in the country, and further action is necessary to remove the evil.

ONTARIO SHIP CANAL.

A large and Influential meeting, presided over by His Worship the Mayor, was held in the rooms of the Board in November last, to promote the construction of this vast and all-important project. J. B. Forayth, Esq., in an able and exhaustive speech, thoroughly explained the nature of the work and its advantages. At the close of the proceedings your Council were appointed a Committee to further the object. Your Secretary, Mr. Grant, when in Chicago last December, had an interview with the Commercial Committee of the Chicago Chamber of Commerce, who, with the Governor of the State of Illinois, are warmly in its favor, and who promised, when it became necessary, to urge its importance on the Legislature of that State. Your Council are pleased to notice that His Excellency the Governor-General, Sir John Young, and the Premier of the Dominion, Sir John A. Macdonald, have expressed strong opinions in its favor.

CITY CORPORATION.

The City Council having applied to the Local Legislature for additional amendments to their Charter, your Committee petitioned Parliament against the imposition of an income-tax—against any change in the present law regulating the qualification of voters for Mayor and Aldermen, and in favor of making proprietors liable for payment of all assessments on real estate, whether levied on proprietors or tenants, for such taxes as are by law charged against them.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR MASTERS AND MATES.

The Council proposed to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries that the Government should establish at Quebec and Halifax a Board to enable sailors to qualify as Ship Masters and Mates in Navigation and Seamanship, and to grant them certificates of competency, and the Minister promises to