

replaced members of the old management. Having thus recently been appointed, they were entitled to a fair chance before incompetency should be alleged against them. The report was adopted with two dissentients. Commenting editorially on this meeting, the *Canadian Gazette* says:—"Though many of those present at the recent meeting of the Hudson's Bay Company seemed unaware of it, it is none the less a fact that at a great expenditure of time and, it may be assumed, of skill, the present directors of the Company are doing all that can be thought of to bring the Company's business into harmony with the present conditions of business in the Canadian North-West. This is necessarily, under the circumstances, a work of time and of great difficulty, but those engaged in it are not easily daunted, and though they seem to get but scant encouragement from some of those who speak at the meetings, they are, we believe, quietly confident that they will in the end put the Company into the best possible position that the surroundings will permit."

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.—Great things from small beginnings often spring up; and it is not unlikely, says the *Canadian Gazette*, that the fourth Congress of the Universal Postal Congress, which closed its doors at Vienna the other day, will live in history chiefly because of an almost unrecorded incident in its proceedings. That incident may yet pave the way to Imperial penny postage. Other good work the Conference undoubtedly did. The decision that every country in the Union shall in future supply the public with reply-paid post-cards is an eminently wise one, and cannot fail to be welcome in countries such as Canada, which have ever been in the forefront in postal reform. The flow of people and commerce between the old world and the new is increasing every year, and everything which simplifies and cheapens the means of intercommunication must do good. The initial cost of the change may for the moment prove a little disconcerting to Mr. Haggart with a postal revenue below a postal expenditure, but its advantages are so obvious that the reply-paid post-card should soon become a valuable source of income. The general relaxation of the rule as to the dimensions of packets of patterns and samples of merchandise is also a step in the right direction. The recognition by the Convention for the first time of the necessity for securing by legislation the suppression and punishment of frauds on the Post Office by the counterfeiture of stamps, etc.,