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The present proposition is, that the foundation stone of an Imperial Institute shall be laid on the day of Her Majesty's Jubilee. The site has not yet been decided upon, but there is every probability that the new buildings will be erected on the grounds where the Colonial and Indian Exhibition was held last year. The old buildings have already been removed.

The question now arises, what benefit will Canada derive from an Imperial Institute?

EDWARD P.

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E.C., Sept. 17.

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1. It is to be premised that each of the colonies will retain its own individuality, by having sufficient accommodation for a museum and offices; such an arrangement would be advantageous by concentrating all the colonial offices now dispersed over London.

2. It is considered that it would be more economical, as the expenditure for rents would be less, and the museum would be invaluable to the agents of the respective colonies in their dealings with commercial men or intending immigrants.

3. The museum would be a permanent advertisement of Canadian products and trade collections. Hitherto, Canada has only had an opportunity of exhibiting her products and manufactures to Europeans about once in each decade, this is doubtless of considerable value, but it is well known that private individuals who have amassed colossal fortunes in trade by advertising, have done so by constant and continual advertising. The same rule which applies in this case to the private individual is applicable to a colony. This can be proved by the action of Australia.

Prior to the Centennial Exhibition of 1876, some of the colonies of Australia voted money for the establishment of a colonial museum in London, and part of their permanent collection was exhibited at Philadelphia. Not knowing the date of the establishment of this museum I will take the year 1874. On comparing the value of exports from Australia to Great Britain, I find that the exports for the year 1884 amounted to over seven millions of pounds sterling (\$35,000,000) more than the exports amounted to in 1874.

We will now see what Canada has done during the same period. In 1874, the exports to Great Britain amounted to \$45,003,882; in 1884, the exports amounted to only \$43,736,227; a decrease of \$1,267,655.

It is therefore evident that permanent exhibitions are of great value to a colony, and if Canada is to find a larger market for her products and manufactures, we must not be satisfied with arousing temporary attention to our goods, as was done at the Colonial Exhibition, but must endeavor to increase our trade by keeping the importance of our forests, mines and fisheries, and our trade manufactures permanently before the people of other nations.