

voiced by this Institute upon so many occasions. One word about the Cabot Exhibition. The committee at Toronto are anxious to obtain the co-operation of their friends in England in extending the scope and increasing the value of that Exhibition by every means in their power. There are in England many records bearing upon Canadian interests—many valuable pictures and mementoes of our four hundred years of peace and war. What we ask, therefore, is that in the celebration which is to take place next year in Toronto, under the auspices of the Earl of Aberdeen as Governor-General, and with the active co-operation of many leading men in the Dominion, we may hope and expect to obtain the loan of such documents, pictures, and memorials as our friends in England may have in their possession. It is hoped that a British Committee will be formed to further the objects of this important Exhibition. There is one important point I desire you to remember. This Exhibition will help to dispel the notion that America and Canada are synonymous terms, a notion which of course does not exist to any extent amongst educated people, but which undoubtedly does obtain to a certain extent amongst the immense mass of the people of this country. This is one reason why I should like to see substantial assistance given to the Exhibition in Great Britain, and a practical, strong, united effort made to spread abroad a better knowledge of Canadian history, just as there has been for some time past an effort made to promote better knowledge of Canadian resources. There is much that can be done in many directions, but this is an immediate matter in which you may help us in a practical way.

COMMISSARY-GENERAL G. D. LARDNER: My object in rising is to give an explanation of a somewhat personal character in reference to an allusion made by Mr. Fleming to a gentleman deceased forty years ago, and whom I had the honour to call my father. In the course of his admirable paper, Mr. Fleming alludes to the general belief that Dr. Lardner, in lecturing at Liverpool in the year 1835, had declared that "a voyage by steamship to the American continent and Europe was perfectly chimerical, and that people might as well talk of making a voyage to the moon." Probably Mr. Fleming is not aware that this supposed declaration originated in an erroneous press report, and was at once and at the time contradicted by Dr. Lardner, who set forth in unanswerable language, not only what he meant to say, but what he actually did say. This disclaimer was published in the last edition of his work on the "Steam-Engine," eighth edition, 1851 (Walton and Maberley), as