

Board of Arts and Manufactures FOR UPPER CANADA.

THE LIBRARY OF REFERENCE.

At the monthly meeting of the Committee, held on the 27th ultimo, it was

Resolved, on motion of Mr. Sheppard, "That the Library of the Board be opened to the public (for reference) on the evenings of Tuesday and Friday of each week, from 7 to 10 o'clock;" in addition to the usual hours, from 10 A. M. to 4 o'clock, P. M., daily.

The Library contains several hundred volumes of valuable books of reference in architecture, decoration and ornament, designing, encyclopædias, engineering and mechanics, manufactures and trades, general science, patents of inventions of Great Britain, the United States and Canada, &c.

W. EDWARDS, *Secretary*.

DRAFT OF A MEMORIAL OF THE BOARD OF ARTS AND MANUFACTURES FOR UPPER CANADA RELATING TO A RENEWAL OF AN ANNUAL GRANT TO MECHANICS' INSTITUTES THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE.

To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled.

The Board of Arts and Manufactures for Upper Canada, respectfully beg leave to represent to your Honourable House, that during the session of the Provincial Parliament in the year 1859, as soon as it was publicly known that it was the intention of the Government to withdraw all grants to Mechanics' Institutes, a deputation was appointed by the committee of this Board to wait upon the Hon. Finance Minister, and to represent the effect of the withdrawal of Government support, not only on the different Mechanics' Institutes throughout the Province, but also on this Board.

The Finance Minister then assured the deputation that it was the intention of the Government to resume the annual grants to Mechanics' Institutes in the following year, under a new and more judicious mode of distribution.

The period for the renewal of these grants having now been deferred for three years, the Board of Arts and Manufactures for Upper Canada respectfully approach your Honourable House with the prayer that the support of the Government may no longer be withheld from the Mechanics' Institutes in existence, or which may be formed, throughout the Province; and with a view to ensure the judicious application of a Government grant, the Board respectfully suggest that the following scheme of its disbursement be adopted and authorized:

1st, A renewal of the grant of \$200 per annum to be made to each properly organized Mechanics'

Institute throughout the Province, embracing not less than fifty members, paying at least \$1 per annum, and twenty of whom shall be working mechanics or manufacturers.

2nd. Fifty per cent. of the grant, or \$100, to be appropriated to the purchase of books of an instructive character for manufacturers and artisans; such works to be supplied through the Board of Arts and Manufactures at reduced rates; but the selection from an approved list, to be made by the Institutes themselves.

3rd. Forty per cent. or \$80, to be devoted to the encouragement of classes established in the respective Institutes, for class instruction in mechanical or natural sciences by lectures or otherwise; and for prizes to be given to successful competition at the Annual Examination of member of Mechanics' Institutes, established by this Board.

4th. Ten per cent., or \$20, to be retained by the Board of Arts and Manufactures for prizes in the Arts and Manufactures Departments of the Provincial Exhibition.

5th. The distribution of the annual grants for Upper Canada to be made by this Board, upon approved returns from each Institute of the proper application of the funds applied for and expended in the formation and instruction of classes, or in the establishment of prizes, such returns to be forwarded by this Board to the Auditor General at the close of each year, with a report on the working of the respective Institutes.

6th. Any funds not legally claimed by the Institutes, to be set apart for the engagement of occasional lectures on subjects relating to arts and manufactures, selected by the respective Boards, and for the publication of such lectures with appropriate illustrations in the journals of the respective Boards.

Your memorialists deem it highly desirable to supply the manufacturers and artisans of Canada with easy facilities for obtaining the best information relating to the several branches of industry, and would therefore, to that end, respectfully beg leave to urge upon your Honourable House, the vast importance of renewing the annual grants to Mechanics' Institutes; believing that the means your memorialists venture to suggest are well adapted to carry out the desirable object.

Wherefore your memorialists humbly pray, that your Honourable House will be pleased to recommend to His Excellency the Governor General, that the annual grants to Mechanics' Institutes may be resumed, upon the scheme of distribution hereinbefore suggested, or upon such other plan as to your Honourable House may seem best: and your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray, &c., &c.