

A Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Trade was held on 5th April, at which after the routine proceedings and the election of New Members, it was moved by C. R. Cunningham, Esq., Vice-President: and seconded by W. Pemock, and resolved:—That the Report of the Council on the subject of Immigration and the North West Territory be referred to the Council to be published.

Moved by E. McGillivray, seconded by H. N. Bates, and resolved:—That the Memorial on the Reciprocity question be approved except the two last paragraphs, and that the whole be referred back to the Council for reconsideration. Moved by E. McGillivray, seconded by S. Howell, and Resolved that a Memorial to the House of Commons, the Senate and the Executive, be prepared urging the necessity of opening the Navigation of the Ottawa, and connecting it with Lake Huron by way of the Matawan and French Rivers, and that Alex Workman, S. Howell, T. Patterson, C. R. Cunningham, G. H. Perry, and the mover be a Committee to prepare the same. No steps were taken in this matter owing to the fact that the Ottawa Representatives in Parliament did not bring the question forward till the close of the Session, and only then by way of a report on the proceedings of a Committee; a course which precluded any possibility of good being done by such Memorials, as the one proposed. An attempt to enlist the support of the Boards of Trade, and principal Municipalities was made by a circular from the Council, but the movement met with no responsive reply except in one or two cases, and as it was evident a general support could not be obtained, it was decided not to present the Memorial.

On the 8th of April the Assessment Committee met, with G. H. Perry as Chairman, and after careful investigation, resolved to report in favour of the repeal of the exemption clauses, raising the amount of exemption on income in clause 21 to \$600, inclusive, and to ask for repeal of clauses 1, 9, 11, 22 and 25 of said exemption.

A meeting of Council was held on 17th April, at which it was resolved to have the papers prepared by the Secretary, under the title of "Report of the Council of the Board of Trade of Ottawa on the North-west Territory," published. A communication from the Water Committee of the City Council, referring to certain measures taken by them on the Ottawa Navigation and Canada Central Railway question, and urging on the Council corresponding action, was read. It was resolved that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Water Committee for their very effective action on those matters, and that the Council take up their suggestion at its next meeting.

An address to Sir G. E. Cartier, Bart., and Hon. W. Macdougall, C.B., was read and adopted, and the Secretary directed to write to both gentlemen, asking when they could receive the Council to present the address.

Resolved that the yearly report, now printed for 1866, '67, '68, be sent to each member of the Board of Trade, and copies to each of the Boards of Trade in the Dominion.

Resolved that the question of duties on books, book-binders, materials, the copy-right law, and newspaper postage be taken up at next meeting.

The Council next met on 21st April at noon, and presented the following address to the Hon. Sir George Etienne Cartier, Bart., Minister of Militia and Defence; and the Hon. William Macdougall, C.B., Minister of Public Works:

GENTLEMEN,—The Council of the Board of Trade of the City of Ottawa, offer their sincere congratulations on your arrival from the arduous and successful mission, undertaken in the interests of the British Empire, especially of its North American possessions. In whatever light the acquisition of the Hudson Bay Company's Territory may be viewed, no question can arise as to its value, politically and commercially, both to the Mother Country and her Colonial Empire on this continent, and as you have overcome, by unwearied perseverance and enlightened statesmanship, the great and almost unsurpassable difficulties surrounding the negotiation for the transfer to Canada of the valuable tract between the shores of Lake Superior and the Eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains; the Council of the Board of Trade trust the same progressive policy will be manifested in such measures as will lead to the immediate development of the inexhaustible resources in the agricultural and mineral wealth of that country. On behalf of and representing the mercantile community of the Capital, we thank you for the service