

ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BOARD OF TRADE.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trade was held at noon on Monday, in the reading-room of the Exchange, Arthur street. The attendance was numerous. Among those present were: Messrs. A. Joseph, H. S. Scott, A. Fraser, H. W. Welch, W. W. Scott, A. Thomson, H. Fry, W. Rae, J. Laird, O. Murphy, W. G. Wurtele, W. Crawford, W. Brodie, W. Home, J. Hossack, R. Shaw, T. Fraser, C. Tetu, L. Tetu, W. J. Bickell, W. White, P. Garneau, J. Paterson, J. Thomson, J. F. Turnbull, W. Quinn, J. Lane, H. Dinning, D. C. Thomson, J. Roche, R. Hamilton, R. Archer, J. Lemesurier, B. Bennett, S. Peters, J. Brodie, &c., &c.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. A. Joseph) said that the act under which the Board was incorporated obliged the members to be called together annually for the election of a Council. A report which had been adopted by the retiring Council would be laid before them embodying all the subjects which had occupied their attention during the past year. These matters were numerous, and several of them were of very great importance. It would not be necessary to enlarge upon them, inasmuch as each item—or, in other words, the report, spoke for itself. He trusted it would meet with the approval of the Board. Three changes in the Council had taken place during the course of the past year. Mr. Stevenson, who had declined to act, had been replaced by Mr. Thomson. The vacancy created by the death of the late Mr. T. C. Lee had been supplied by the election of Mr. Dubord; and that caused by the acceptance of the Secretaryship by Mr. Grant by the election of Mr. Mountain. During the year only nine new members joined the Board. He (the President) regretted this very much, inasmuch as our Board of Trade did not number as many members as small villages in the West with half our population. He did not, of course, think that the paltry consideration of five dollars per annum deterred them. A list had been drawn up some time ago which shewed, however, that there were one hundred and fifty gentlemen carrying on mercantile business in Quebec who were not members of the Board. They belonged to the very numerous society which existed in this city, and was popularly known as the *laissez-faire* society. (Laughter.) He sincerely hoped, however, that the public attention thus directed to the matter would have the effect of inducing them to come forward