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I. J. CASSIDEY, Editor and Manager

THE HISTORIAN.

The historian of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, in the November issue of *Industrial Canada*, records the transactions of the Association for the past ten years in precisely five lines as follows:—

From 1891 down to about a year and a half ago the attention of the Association was given mainly to tariff matters, but as the tariff remained fairly satisfactory, the Association lost considerably in vigor and aggressiveness.

On the occasion of the nineteenth annual meeting of the Association, held in Toronto February 15, 1894, a banquet was tendered to Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, who was then Minister of Trade and Commerce, who had then but recently returned to Canada from an extended trip to the Australasian provinces, the object of which was to enlarge the trade between them and this country. The banquet was held in Webb's Parlors, and more than two hundred members and invited guests were seated at the tables, presided over by John Bertram, Esq., Dundas, Ont., the then president, assisted by George E. Drummond, Montreal, the first vice-president. Minister Bowell occupied the seat of honor, and beside him was Mr. James Huddart, an influential British steamship owner who had recently established a line of large and commodious steamers between Vancouver, B.C. and some of the Australian ports. In those days the attention of the Association was not given wholly to tariff matters; and it was because of the interest taken by the Association in promoting and extending the outside trade of the country, that Minister Bowell had been invited to become the chief guest, so that the members might hear from him personally what he had to relate about the possibilities of foreign trade; and those who were present will not forget the very forcible presentation of the matter by Minister Bowell on that occasion; nor will they forget the earnestness of Mr. Huddart in explaining how much Canada would be benefitted by the establishment of a line of steamers which has since contributed so much to the building up of Canadian-Australian trade. The enthusiasm which pervaded the meeting, and the great interest taken by the Association at that time were certainly not indicative of any lack of vigor and aggressiveness.

Mr. Bowell had always in his political life taken deep interest in the welfare of our manufacturing industries; and he never lost any opportunities to express his appreciation of the encouragement rendered him by the Manufacturers

The Canadian Manufacturer

Reaches all the Blast Furnaces, Iron and Steel Works, Rolling Mills, Manufacturers of Iron and Wood-Working Machinery, Steam Engines and Boilers, Pumping and Mining Machinery, Electric Machinery and Appliances, Machinery Dealers and Steam Fitters' Supplies, all Hardware Dealers, Cotton, Woolen, Knitting and Yarn Mills, Pulp and Paper Mills, etc., in Canada.

Association. It was in behalf of the industrial interests of Canada that he made his visit to Australia; and, as stated in his address at the banquet, the life that strengthened him in his enquires and investigations was derived largely from the encouragement that he had always received from the Association. This encouragement was not always directed towards tariff matters, as the historian intimates, although the proper adjustment of the tariff was then, as now, a vital element in all our industrial enterprises, but it also looked in the direction of expansion of foreign trade; but the tariff was, on the whole, no more satisfactory then than now.

In this connection we might say that no more important mission with which any Canadian was ever entrusted was that which fell to the lot of Mr. Bowell in 1893, when, as Minister of Trade and Commerce, he made his memorable visit to Australia for the purpose of developing trade between that country and this, for which service, on January 1, 1895—less than a year after his being banqueted by the Association—he was, by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, created a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, an honor which he had so richly earned and merited. When in Australia he held conferences with the members of the Governments of New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia, at which the question of closer trade relations between these countries and this was thoroughly discussed. In all these colonies a constitutional difficulty presented itself. The colonies could not, under the constitutions given them by the Imperial Government, make any tariff concessions to any of their sister colonies which should not be granted to all other countries; and thus was prevented any reciprocal tariff legislation between them and Canada. Mr. Bowell urged the different Colonial Governments to petition the Imperial Government to have their constitutions amended so as to give them power to enter into reciprocal trade relations with other colonies; and it was upon this suggestion the premiers of the Australian colonies acted, and obtained what they asked for.

It was in this emergency that Mr. Bowell, finding that nothing else in connection with his mission could be accomplished, suggested to the Australian premiers the advisability of holding a colonial conference in Ottawa at which the relations of the different British colonies towards each other, and towards Great Britain, the Mother Country, could be considered, with a result with which we are now familiar. Lord Hopetoun, Governor of Victoria, in his speech prorogu-