

of the Grammar School Act in question originated, (and who had promised me at the time of its adoption to give the benefit of his experience and practical knowledge in giving it effect,) readily aided me by his counsels and advice. I found, on inquiry and the comparison of catalogues, that some of the instruments could be procured more cheaply in Paris, while it was more advisable to get others made in London. At length Messrs. Negretti & Zambra (the London manufacturers of philosophical instruments) agreed to furnish all the instruments required as low as they could be obtained in Paris, to mark the thermometers according to both the Centigrade and Fahrenheit systems, and to make them range as low as thirty-five degrees below zero; to test all the instruments before packing them, and to deliver them in New York, to a brother of Mr. Negretti, at their own risk—I only to pay the freight. I beg to append to this letter, marked A, the admirable memorandum with which Col. Lefroy kindly furnished me in London, on the subject of these instruments; and I am happy to be able to add that Professor Cherriman, who succeeded Col. Lefroy in the Observatory at Toronto, has cordially consented to afford me all the aid I may require in the preparation of the tables and instructions necessary to render the system of Meteorological observations adopted in the Senior County Grammar Schools harmonious with that adopted at the Provincial Observatory, and to prepare and transmit the proper returns. Messrs. Negretti and Zambra cannot execute the order for the whole of these instruments (forty sets—and which will be made under the inspection of Col. Lefroy) until some time in February. The cost of them will be from £12 to £15 a set. The system of Meteorological observations in Canada, when once established, will be more complete than that of any other part of America.

5. I have made the Paris Exhibition a *School*, in which to learn what has been done and is doing in different countries of Europe, as to the instruments, illustrations, &c., employed in the communication of knowledge, from the first elements to the highest branches, and in the various departments of human learning—especially of mechanical and physical science. Instruments of this kind are included, for the most part, in the Eighth Class of the Catalogue of the Universal Exhibition. After frequent examination and comparison of these instruments, and after witnessing, in every case possible, the mode of using them, I have made a selection of such as appeared to be the best adapted to our Educational Museum and Institutions. I think that some of them will be found to be of very great interest and utility.

6. Having observed collections of small models of agricultural implements, and having also, among the endless variety of articles of domestic economy, observed some of novel and useful character, I have purchased all the former that I could obtain, and that appeared to be worth procuring, and a selection of the latter, such as I have not seen in Canada, and which are, for the most part, cheap and of simple construction, and very convenient and useful, and which, together with many of the articles of domestic use, (specimens of which I have purchased and am purchasing at the Exhibition in Paris,) when once seen, can, I think (like the articles of school furniture, the models of which I introduced a few years since,) be as cheaply and successfully manufactured in Canada as they are in Europe. I think it is a true principle of political economy—an essential condition of the development and pros-

perity of a country—that nothing should be imported from abroad which can be as cheaply and well produced in the country itself. I trust the models of agricultural implements which I have procured, and to which I hope to make considerable additions, will be interesting to Canadian agriculturists, both as illustrating the science and practice of agriculture in Europe and as affording, possibly, some useful suggestions for the improvement of some agricultural implements in Canada, while the introduction of some of the articles or instruments of domestic economy, of which I have selected specimens, will contribute not a little to the conveniences of many Canadian households, and I hope, in some degree, to the improvement and extension of Canadian manufactures. In some of these selections and purchases, I have been not a little assisted by Mr. Alfred Perry, of Montreal—Curator of the Canadian Department of the Exhibition. Mr. Perry seized favorable moments to make purchases for me, and in other instances I availed myself of his experience and knowledge in my selection and purchases. I believe the very great success of Canada in the Exhibition is much indebted to Mr. Perry's intelligence, industry and attention to visitors, if I may judge from references which have been spontaneously made to him in connexion with the Canadian Department of the Exhibition, by French, German and English Commissioners, in the conversations which I have had with them.

7. But there is another class of objects to which my attention has been specially directed—another agency of national civilization and refinement which I wish to see introduced into Canada—another source of enjoyment, as elevating and improving in its influence, as it is varied and delightful in itself. I refer to objects of taste, sculpture and paintings, engravings and photographs—that last and wonderful discovery and improvement in the fine arts. My attention was first practically drawn to this subject by Col. Lefroy, and to which, by appointment, a breakfast conversation was subsequently devoted, at his house in London, in company with Chief Justice Robinson, a day or two before he left London for Canada. At my request, Col. Lefroy embodied his views and suggestions in writing, in an excellent and beautiful letter, which, with his permission, I append to this communication, marked B. I need scarcely say that I felt most deeply grateful to Col. Lefroy for his suggestions on this subject, and entered into them with all my heart; but before proceeding to act upon them, I thought it advisable to submit them to the several members of the Canadian Government and Legislature who were at that time in London, as also to Lord Elgin, and they all, without exception, warmly approved of the suggestions, and of my devoting the time necessary to carry them into effect, to the extent of the means placed at my disposal. I at once applied myself to studies and observations in order to acquire sufficient confidence, and qualify myself in some degree, for this new task. I made frequent visits to the Sydenham Palace, as also to the Galleries of Sculpture and Paintings in London, and subsequently in Paris, in reference to the special objects I had in view, besides reading the best works I could procure on the subject—among which were the four excellent volumes of K gler, two of which have been edited by Sir Edmund Head, and the other two by Sir Charles Eastlake. I also visited and spent considerable time in the principal establishment of antique and modern statuary in London, and several similar establishments in Paris, especially those of the Beaux Arts and