

The publication of this article evoked manifestations of interest and approval from many important, and from some unexpected quarters. Prominent among these was a letter received by the author from Mr. DeLéry Macdonald, of Montreal, Secretary of the Antiquarian and Numismatical Society of that city. The Society of which Mr. Macdonald is an ornament, on subsequent occasion, fully and in the most generous manner, ratified his offer of assistance. It is fair to state that the cordial and liberal expression of opinion by this gentleman, from a distant and presumably somewhat rival quarter, had a great deal to do with the resolution to set the project actively on foot.

The Council of the Canadian Institute took a practical step in the matter by appointing a committee, which has formed the nucleus of the existing organization.

This active central committee, which was naturally of a somewhat local character, was from time to time enlarged, so as to contain such members as Principal Grant, of Queen's University, Dr. Sandford Fleming, C. M.G., of Ottawa, Prof. Bryce of Manitoba, and Mr. Gosnell, Parliamentary Librarian of British Columbia, in addition to distinguished professors representing the Canadian Institute and the Toronto Universities. The necessary space was at once promised it in public buildings by the Ontario Government and the Toronto Universities.

Further encouragement was immediately given from a highly important quarter, representative of all Canada. At the suggestion of Dr. Bourinot, C.M.G., the matter was made the subject of a paper read by the chairman of the Canadian Institute Committee before the Royal Society of Canada, at its meeting at Ottawa in May, 1895, and a confirmatory resolution was thereupon passed by that learned and representative body. Interviews were soon had, with the assistance of Mr. Macdonald, with the

authorities of the French Universities and Societies in Quebec and Montreal; and one and all, commencing with Abbé Gagnon, the Secretary of the Archiepiscopat, and the Rector of Laval University, gave their countenance and cordial adhesion to the project.

At this stage the Governor-General of Canada graciously acceded to the request of the committee to accept the office of Honorary President. The committee then proceeded to procure a bill providing for the incorporation of a public Commission, authorized by the Legislature of Ontario, and recognized by the Dominion Government, for the purpose of carrying the Exhibition into effect. The Provincial Government and other authorities have provided for the exhibition Commission taking possession of all the accommodation required for its purposes in the Ontario Parliament Buildings and the Universities adjoining it. A financial scheme has been developed with the approval of leading members of the Dominion Government, looking to an issue of a large sum of debentures, based upon the expected receipts of the exhibition. It is proposed to ask the Dominion and Provincial Governments, and the City of Toronto, to guarantee altogether \$75,000, divided in equal sums between them, applying the guarantee to postponed debentures.

Having got so far in its Parliamentary organization and programme, the time has come to lay before the public a sketch of the aims and general programme of the exhibition. It may be stated that the general object of the exhibition is first to duly celebrate the memory of that enterprising discoverer, John Cabot, and to signalize the fact that by his first sighting the continent of North America, under a commission from an English King, the way was opened for the whole subsequent course of discovery by the route of the St. Lawrence: leading to the interior of the continent as far as the

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