

and seven hundred and twenty-four dollars and ninety-six cents, was appropriated by the Governor in Council, in settlement of the claim for rent of the Exhibition Building, during the last five years; and in order to extinguish the mortgage due to Government on the property, the Hon. Mr. Ferrier was authorized, under the direction of Government, to dispose of the vacant lots adjoining the property, to the extent required to meet the balance of amount due.

The amount thus allowed for rent, your Sub-Committee paid over to the holder of the contractor's mortgage, in reduction of the amount due by the Board, and your President signed and received the necessary discharge.

As it appeared, however, from the terms of the minutes of the meeting of the Governor in Council, that a misapprehension still exists respecting the funds out of which the building was erected, and the adjoining lots, your Sub-Committee felt bound to remonstrate against the repeated misapprehensions made on this subject and repeatedly corrected by your Sub-Committee; and duplicate letters were consequently addressed to the Hon. the President of the Council, and the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture. A reply from the latter has been received, containing assurances that, notwithstanding what has been done, he is still fully alive to the difficulties under which the Board labours, and that he will seize the first favourable opportunity to renew his efforts in its behalf. The correspondence and a copy of the minute are herewith submitted.

Your Sub-Committee would recommend to their successors renewed application to the Government, for the relief of the Board from the liabilities still remaining due on the Exhibition Building, as soon as the members of the Government now in England return to this country, inasmuch as the operations of the Board cannot be carried out on a proper scale until these barriers are removed.

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