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**J. 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 just 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 remains fairly satisfactory, the Association lost considerably in vigor and aggressiveness.

On April 24, 1893, an important and influential deputation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association waited upon Sir Oliver Mowat, then Premier of Ontario, and Messrs. Hardy, Ross, Bronson and Dryden, members of the Ontario Government, and preferred a request that a bonus be granted on pig iron produced in the province.

It was acknowledged within the Association, and by manufacturers and commercial men generally, that this country could not attain the height of prosperity and industrial independence desired for it unless we had a blast furnace industry which would, to the greatest extent possible, supply the domestic demand for pig iron. The Association had hoped for years that the encouragement which had been bestowed upon the production of pig iron by the Dominion Government, which included a duty of \$4 per ton upon imported and a bonus of \$2 per ton on the home production, would have given us the industry in Ontario, but it had not, and it was evident that this much to be desired event would not be realized unless some additional inducement was offered. There was an awakening at that time to the importance of the subject by many manufacturers, capitalists and others in different parts of Ontario, and the Association deemed it the proper time to move in the matter.

The deputation of the Association, who waited upon the Government, included Messrs. John Bertram, president; R. W. Elliot, chairman of the Tariff Committee; W. K. McNaught, P. W. Ellis, Thomas Cowan and A. E. Kemp, all of whom had been or have since been presidents of the Association; Samuel May and J. P. Murray, vice-presidents, the secretary and many other members.

President Bertram in introducing the subject to the ministers, explained that the deputation had been appointed by authority of the Association to request the Government to offer some inducement toward the manufacture of pig iron. It was admitted that in Ontario existed an abundance of ores

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of most excellent quality, yet, notwithstanding this, our mineral resources were undeveloped and as unproductive as the illimitable water power running to waste throughout the province. The aid asked would not only ensure the production of pig iron, but the development of other mining resources. The province possessed a series of magnificent waterways which would be utilized for the passage of many large steamers which would yet have to be built. The capabilities of Northern and Western Ontario were practically unlimited for the manufacture of steel rails with which to equip our railroads; of steel plates for shipbuilding purposes, and of steel beams for the construction of large edifices.

The Secretary read the memorial which stated that "the Association observed with very much pleasure the interest that had been awakened, and the efforts that were being made looking to the establishment of an iron furnace industry in Ontario. Many of the members of the Association were workers in iron. They were manufacturers of machines and machinery composed wholly or in part of iron; and whatever relates to the iron question affected them.

"They believed that in all our manufacturing industries it was desirable that, where possible, the raw materials which they consumed should be produced in this country. This applied specially to pig iron. This article was the foundation of an almost endless variety of articles which entered into the everyday uses of the people, or was essential in the production of them.

"It was well to bear in mind that although for many years the Dominion Government had imposed a duty on imported pig iron, and also bestowed a bonus upon such iron as had been made in the country, yet the stimulus had failed to induce capitalists to erect any blast furnaces in Ontario. Since the adoption of that policy sufficient time had elapsed in which to thoroughly investigate the possibilities; and it was well known that such investigation had been made repeatedly; and the conclusion was that if Ontario was ever to have a blast furnace industry, it could only be made to materialize under different circumstances than those which prevailed. They were confronted with the fact that the tariff imposed a duty of \$4 per ton on pig iron; that there was a Dominion bounty of \$2 per ton; that ores, fuel and fluxes were accessible and cheap; that there was a demand for iron, and that, notwithstanding these, they had no blast furnace industry. On the other hand they knew that capital is conservative and timid, and they could not hope to see it invested in blast fur-