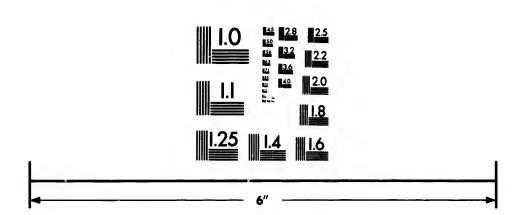


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## "Citizens' Committee,"

91 ADELAIDE ST. EAST,

TORONTO, MAY 8th, 1889.

DEAR SIR,

Enclosed you will find a copy of an address to the people of Ontario issued by the Citizens' Committee of Toronto. The address deals with what we believe to be, for Canadians, the most momentous question of the time.

It is clearly the duty of the people of the Province, as a whole, to be up and doing in this matter and to shape out a course of action by which the threatened danger may be averted.

In order that the opinion of the people may be clearly ascertained and that a common line of action may be agreed upon, a Convention has been called to be held in Toronto on the 11th and 12th of June. That this Convention may express the views of the whole people, it is of great importance that every part of the Province should be represented at the Convention, and that all citizens, without distinction of party, should have a share in the selection of delegates.

You are earnestly requested to unite with the other gentlemen in your municipality, to whom this circular has been sent, whose names are given below, in calling a public meeting to consider, this matter and to appoint delegates to the Convention.

e make the following suggestions as to procedure:-

- 1. Call a public meeting of citizens, and see that it is well advertised. (Form of poster sent herewith—if more are needed please send for them to the Secretary.)
- 2. Draft one or two resolutions, to be proposed at the meeting, and secure suitable men, representing, if possible, different political parties, to move and second said resolutions.
- 3. Let the meeting appoint delegates according to the directions appended, being careful, if possible, to select them from different political parties.
- 4. Let the meeting appoint a committee to attend to necessary matters, such as the circulating of petitions, collecting of funds, etc., and also a responsible man to act as Treasurer. It is suggested that a collection be made at the public meeting to defray the charges of the meeting, expenses of the delegates, and other expenses connected with the Convention.
- 5. If it is desired, the Toronto Citizens' Committee will endeavor to send one or more speakers to your meeting.
- 6. Let the meeting adjourn to meet after the Convention at the call of your committee to receive the report of your delegates and take further action.
- 7. At your public meeting, and subsequently, let signatures be secured to the petition transmitted herewith. Each person who signs should be an elector entitled to vote for members of the House of Commons, and should sign two copies of the petition, giving in every case the full address, shewing the number of street, lot, concession, etc., where such voter resides, so that any signature may be readily verified. Please have petitions completed and returned in duplicate to the Secretary at Toronto not later than 1st June. It is of the greatest importance that the petition should be signed by as many as possible.
- 8. Please send to the Secretary without delay, a report of the proceedings at your public meeting and the names and addresses of the committee and delegates, filling out the enclosed certificate, showing the names of delegates.

Kindly acknowledge, by first mail, receipt of this communication, and report as soon after as possible what action is being taken.

We venture to impress it upon you that all citizens friendly to the principles of civil and religious liberty are asked to assist in this movement, irrespective of party or creed, so that no resolutions should be passed, and nothing done to offend the susceptibilities of any of those whose cooperation we seek.

Signed on behalf of the members of the Toronto Citizens' Committee, as follows:—E. D. Armour, T. B. Armstrong, Wm. Bell, John Bailie, Wm. Caven, D.D., J. M. Cameron (Rev.), A. C. Courtice, B. D., S. C. Duncan-Clark, J. W. Carter, Geo. Downard, Alex. Fraser, M.A., W. Gooderham, J. L. Hughes, W. H. Howland, W. J. Hunter, D.D., H. A. E. Kent, Frank Lloyd, Wm. Lee, W. J. McMaster, D. J. Macdonnell, B.D. (Rev.), G. M. Milligan, B.A. (Rev.), Wm. Morton, J. J. Maclaren, Q.C., J. K. Macdonald, John McMillan (Ald.), Geo. E. Morrison. E. Mcdcalf, Robert Newman, Henry O'Brien, W. W. Ogden, M.D., S. B. Pollard, M.D., G. H. Robinson, John T. Small, A. Sutherland, D.D., J. Steele, B. H. Scott, F. Somers, J. T. Slater, W. F. Wilson (Rev.), Wm. Wilson, Geo. Webber, L. Walker, G. Worrell.

## THE CONVENTION.

The following suggestions for the appointment of delegates to the convention are respectfully offered by the Citizens' Committee: In order that the proposed convention may be a thoroughly representative one, it is suggested that meetings be held in every municipality in the province to appoint delegates. It is further suggested that delegates be selected in the proportion of not fewer than four for each township municipality, two for each incorporated village, ten for each incorporated town, and twenty for each city.

In case it is not possible to carry out the foregoing suggestions as to the holding of a public meeting, it is hoped you will take such other steps as circumstances will permit to secure representation from your district, and notify us of the appointment of such delegates. In any event, please obtain all possible signatures to the petition, returning them as soon as possible. Besides the delegates to be appointed, visiting delegates from wards of towns or cities, or from societies or bodies in sympathy with the cause, will be most cordially welcomed to the convention, and a list of all such who are likely to attend should be sent to the Secretary as early as possible.

As the expenses incidental to the action now taken are necessarily heavy, the committee ask contributions thereto from those interested, and that the same be sent promptly to

J. K. MACDONALD, Esq.,

TREASURER OF CITIZENS' COMMITTEE, 15 Toronto Street, Toronto.

All such subscriptions will be acknowledged through the press, unless the donor orders otherwise.

All communications to be addressed to

W. BANKS,

SECRETARY,

91 Adelaide St. East, Toronto.

