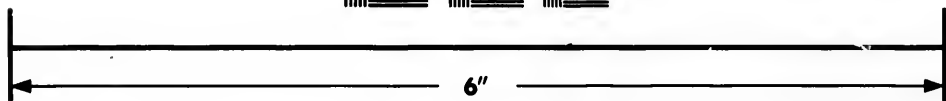
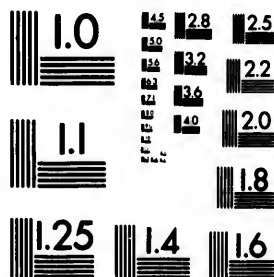


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 872-4503

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

© 1984

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distortion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.
- Additional comments:
Commentaires supplémentaires:

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure, etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	12X	14X	16X	18X	20X	22X	24X	26X	28X	30X	32X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

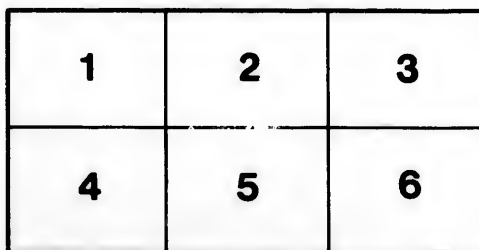
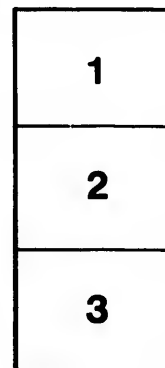
Library of the Public
Archives of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol \rightarrow (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

La bibliothèque des Archives
publiques du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont le couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole \rightarrow signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

s
étails
s du
modifier
r une
Image

s

rrata
to

pelure,
n à



32X

By the
O

It will
projected
individual
ised Muni
and Conde
money.
who had n

The
rowing w
of all pro
Woodstoc
urged upo
indocemen

The
and appar
undertaki
road migh
destroyed

In a
their own
the gener
if at all,
enhanced
the value
fited by t
the Railw
domain b

A st
amount g
includin
part of t
to pay fo
on the P
in the sa
the Ham
the Pres

The
Quebec l
enough t
1858, \$
about ha
bear a la
Ag
\$11,135
Canada,
carrying
grant ro

It
but the
2: "Su
become
under a

ADDRESS

By the Corporation of the City of Hamilton, to the Inhabitants of Canada, on the Subject of Relief to Embarrassed Municipalities.

ORIGIN OF INDEBTEDNESS.

It will no doubt be remembered by most persons that when the Great Western Railway, (the first road of any extent projected in Canada,) was proposed to be built, great difficulty was experienced in getting the stock taken up by private individuals, and that to encourage the construction of a work acknowledged by all to be necessary, the Legislature authorised Municipalities to take stock in Railways. No limit was put to this power, and persons qualified to vote for Aldermen and Councillors, under a low franchise (and not even paying taxes), were entitled to vote upon By-laws enacted to borrow money. The owners of property were thus placed in the position of having their property mortgaged by the votes of those who had no property to lose, and who could leave the Municipality without loss on its becoming embarrassed.

MUNICIPAL LOAN FUND.

The evil was further aggravated by the establishment of the Municipal Loan Fund, which provided facilities for borrowing which did not otherwise exist, and the Government of the day sanctioned the advance of Loans from the Fund out of all proportion to the population and resources of some of the Municipalities. In at least one instance—that of the Woodstock and Lake Erie Road—the Government, through the then Premier Mr. Hincks, at a public meeting at Oxford, urged upon the Municipalities the propriety of taking stock in the road, which shows that at the period in question every inducement was held out to Municipalities to engage in the construction of Railways.

PARALLEL ROADS.

The Legislature in more than one instance chartered parallel roads, and thus places which had made only reasonable and apparently prudent efforts for Railway accommodation, had their prospects injured, and were driven to engage in rash undertakings to preserve their business advantages, and have in this way become hopelessly embarrassed; and where one road might have flourished and made a return for the outlay, the competition by two or more for an insufficient traffic, destroyed their prospects and rendered them unprofitable.

RAILWAYS BENEFICIAL TO THE PUBLIC.

In answer to the appeal for relief from Railway debts, it is said that the Municipalities must bear the consequences of their own extravagance. This is a selfish argument, when it is considered that the outlay has been incurred in facilitating the general communications of the country; and it may fairly be replied that the Cities and Towns have benefited but little, if at all, (some certainly not at all), by Railways, while the rural population has obtained great advantages: the farmer in the enhanced price of produce, and the opportunity of selling it much nearer his own home than formerly, which has increased the value of his land—for land will rise in proportion to its market advantages. The owners also of Grist mills have benefited by the improved conveyance of flour, &c., to market, and the Saw-mill owner in the transport of his lumber. Some of the Railways also—as the Port Hope and Lindsay, and the Brockville and Arnprior—have added to the value of the public domain by opening up wild lands and making them available for settlement.

GRAND TRUNK AND NORTHERN RAILWAYS.

A strong argument in favor of relief to those Municipalities which have invested in Railways is found in the large amount granted by the Government to these roads. The inhabitants of the Province generally have to bear this burden, including those who have assisted in the construction of other Railways—thus doubling the burden of the latter; and a part of them have actually suffered direct injury by the competition of the western portion of the Grand Trunk, and have to pay for that which has actually injured them. If it is fair to lay the burden of the Grand Trunk and Northern Railways on the Province at large, it is only just that the sums invested by Municipalities on other lines of Railway should be treated in the same manner. The Northern Railway can in no sense be said to be a Provincial work more than the Great Western, the Hamilton and Port Dover, the Buffalo and Lake Huron, the Port Hope and Lindsay, the Brockville and Arnprior, or the Prescott and Ottawa.

QUEBEC FIRE LOAN AND MONTREAL HARBOR.

The sums advanced by the Government, under the above heads, are certainly more for local than general objects. The Quebec Fire Loan, given in the Public Accounts for 1860 as \$378,361, was made to individuals who were not prudent enough to insure their property, and the sums paid back to the Provincial Treasury are thus given:—In 1857, \$242; in 1858, \$801; 1859, \$3,384; 1860, \$12,209—showing that although there is improvement of late, the last amount is only about half the interest. So that the rich city of Quebec, with its 65,000 inhabitants, has been leaving the poorer towns to bear a large share of the burden of its local losses.

Again, the \$481,000 to the Montreal Harbor Trust (which appears to have paid back nothing except some part of the \$11,185 under the head of Tonnage Dues at Quebec and Montreal,) is, on this account, an aid to the wealthiest city in Canada, for which everything has been done to promote its prosperity,—expensive canals, toll free, and a great Railway, carrying freight at a loss, to build up her trade and benefit her merchants. Can Quebec and Montreal then justly object to grant relief to the Municipalities of Canada West?

THE SEIGNIORIAL TENURE GRANT.

It has been said that Canada West has received an equivalent for the relief granted to the habitants of Canada East, but the state of the case is really this. It is enacted in the Act, Cap. 41, Consolidated Statutes L. C., Section 87, Clause 2: "Such payment shall not in any way extinguish or diminish the individual liability of the Municipalities which have become indebted on the security of the said Loan Fund, but the said yearly sum shall, so soon as the Province ceases to be under advances to the said Loan Fund, be added to the Upper Canada Municipal Fund, and distributed in like manner."

Thus, in reality, no equivalent is given to Upper Canada, the Municipalities at large can receive no benefit from it until the whole of the Municipal Loan Fund is paid off by the Municipalities, for the Government must always be in advance to that Fund, as the five cents in the dollar required from the Municipalities, does not in some instances pay more than one-fourth of the interest on their debt; the arrears are therefore always accumulating. The amount now asked to be added to the liabilities of the Government by those places which have borrowed for Railway purposes, on their own credit, is just the amount, (\$2,400,000), granted for the Seigniorial Tenure Relief, and to what better purpose can it be applied than in assisting those places out of their difficulties?

ACCUMULATED ARREARS IN MUNICIPALITIES.

Our Municipal Law is so defective, that while it expects that Corporations shall levy annually sufficient to meet all their current liabilities, and a Sinking Fund to pay off principal, no penalty is attached to the neglect of those duties, and many Corporations have, for the purpose of keeping down taxation, paid a portion of their expenses, or interest on Loans, out of borrowed money, and made no provision for meeting the payment of Debentures as they become due; thus the members of Corporations elected now in times of depression, find themselves not only called upon to provide for the proper annual expenditure, but for accumulated arrears, requiring a rate of taxation far beyond the capacity of the public to bear.

EFFECTS OF HIGH TAXATION.

The amount of taxation which a Municipality can bear consistently with its prosperity and progress, may be a matter of dispute; in flourishing times it may, no doubt, bear more than at others, but experience shows that as the amount increases, a larger per centage is lost in collection, and much distress is caused by the closure of the chattels of the poorer classes for taxes. Two shillings and six-pence in the £ is now generally spoken of as the maximum, beyond which taxation becomes oppressive, and in the way it is now levied under our Assessment Law, it is no doubt, high upon some classes; upon Merchants' Stocks, which have already paid heavy Customs' duties, and upon untenanted houses. With a rate of four shillings in the £, it is found that the collection is very slow, and with ten shillings it is not likely that more than one-half could be collected, and that all but the owners of Real Estate would leave a town so burdened, and render the property valueless. Yet this amount of taxation is even now needed to meet the liabilities of some Municipalities, without including a Sinking Fund for the redemption of their debts.

HIGH TAXATION FALLS WITH ESPECIAL SEVERITY ON THE OWNERS OF SMALL PROPERTIES.

While the burden of taxation may be felt severely by the large holder of property, and may ultimately, if continued, impoverish him, it is seldom that he does not derive an income from some part of it, and may have other resources; but on the industrious mechanic or laborer, who has invested the savings of his life in three or four small tenements as a provision for old age, or upon widows, supposed to be provided for by such property, the inability to let their houses, and yet the liability to pay high taxes upon them, falls with peculiar severity.

HIGH TAXATION PUTS A STOP TO BUILDING.

When taxation rises to such an amount as to make tenants fear to undertake the payment of them, and the landlord has to take a low rent and to deduct the taxes from that, and when in addition, a large amount of debt is hanging over the Municipality, capitalists fear to build, and thus mechanics and laborers are thrown out of employment, and all the trades connected with building languish.

IT RENDERS PROPERTY UNSALEABLE.

In addition to the preceding evils property is rendered absolutely unsaleable in Municipalities where accumulated arrears, or heavy debt falling due; renders them liable to fall into the hands of the Sheriff. Persons who are embarrassed, however anxious to dispose of their property, find it impossible under such circumstances to meet with purchasers, and property is advertised for sale in vain.

ALTERATION OF THE ASSESSMENT LAW BY THE ACT OF 1861.

The change in the mode of assessing vacant lots, &c., which comes into operation this year, will as much reduce the value of property in Municipalities as to require a much heavier rate in the dollar to make up the same amount of taxation. Lots not built on are to be valued only at such a price as they can be freely sold for within the year; and all ground surveyed into lots but not sold is to be valued as ground for agricultural or garden purposes; and all ground now a quarter of an acre, attached to residences, is to be valued as paddock or shrubbery, or garden ground, and such an amount value added to it as it is worth for those purposes, instead of at the value of building ground, as it has been hitherto. While much of this is just as regards land not likely to be built on, a great reduction will be made in the taxes paid by non-residents on building lots scattered through the cities and towns, and thrown on the resident householder and merchant.

DIMINISHED MARKET FOR FARMERS.

The Agricultural community around Cities and Towns embarrassed by heavy taxation, and consequently diminishing population, suffer by the loss of market for the more bulky and perishable of their produce. It may make no difference in the price of those things which are purchased for export, but it must in all others. Hay, oats, potatoes and other vegetables; fruit, butter and cheese; fat cattle, sheep, and horses will find a duller sale where the town population is diminished in means than in a flourishing community.

EFFECT ON THE CREDIT OF THE PROVINCE.

Should any Municipality which has a considerable amount of Debentures in the hands of English holders, fail to meet either principal or interest when it becomes due, the effect will be to lower the credit of the Province and the value of all Canadian securities. This effect has already been produced, in some measure, by the inability of the City of Montreal to meet the interest due on its coupons on the 1st of January, 1862, as may be seen by articles on the subject in the English papers.

REVENUE OF THE COUNTRY.

The revenue received from Customs' Duties must be diminished by the depressed condition of the Towns. It will be known that great economy has prevailed for three or four years in consequence of the diminished resources of the inhabitants of our Cities and Towns, and the unemployed mechanics and laborers have been obliged not only to leave their places but the Province—thus necessarily decreasing the resources of the Government, as the greater the aggregate population, the greater the consumption of imported goods. It may be said that the recent Census shows that the population has increased during the last ten years; this is true, but what would have been the result if the Census had been taken in 1856 or 1857. The Town populations would, in many instances, have been found to be 25 or 30 per cent. more than at present.

HOW THE EVIL IS TO BE REMEDIED.

If Municipal embarrassment has been shown to have produced these evils, it is plain that some general plan, adopted through the intervention of Parliament, is the best if not the only remedy. The great bulk of the Municipal Debentures, which has been expended on works of general utility is already a Provincial burden, as the Government has undertaken a

...from it until
...in advance
...pay more
...now asked
...on their own
...purpose can it be

...sufficient to meet all
...of these duties, and
...interest on loans,
...due; thus the
...for the proper
...the public to bear.

...may be a matter
...as the amount
...of the piece
...and which taxation
...upon some classes;
...in a ratio of four
...more than one-half
...under the property
...without including

PROPERTIES.

...if continued,
...; but on
...as a provision
...and yet the

...and the landlord
...over the
...of all the trades

...communicated ar-
...as embroiled,
...and

...which reduce the
...of taxation
...all ground sur-
...of a quarter of
...of value added
...with much of
...resident's an

...considering
...difference in
...other regula-
...enforced in

...shall be used
...value of all
...to
...the public

...in 1877
...with
...of 1877

...of 1877
...of 1877

great p
paltion
the am
statem
people,
than is
prospe
asiata
the ge
refusec
differe
will b
prospe
shops
for the
Munic

CITY

great portion, if not all, the Municipal Loan Fund Debentures for Provincial 5 per cent. Bonds, and as few of the Municipalities have paid their five cents on the dollar to the Government the public has actually borne it to the present time, and the amount now proposed to be added to this, and made a Provincial liability, does not exceed \$2,400,000. It is not a fair statement to say, that this would be adding to the debt of the country, for it is already a debt owed by a portion of the people, and it is but distributing the burden instead of increasing it. It would take no more money out of the Province than is sent out now; but by spreading it over a large surface the obange would be rendered imperceptible, and the increased prosperity and enterprise restored to the relieved Municipalities would more than compensate the Province at large for its assistance; neither would it lay any direct tax on the rural population as some imagine, as the interest would be paid out of the general Revenue of the Province, derived from Customs and other duties. If, on the contrary, this relief should be refused, and the Government or private Creditors determine to exact the terms of the Bond, and for this purpose place the different Municipalities in the hands of the Sheriff, the result must be disastrous to both Debtor and Creditor. The former will be hopelessly ruined, and while the latter may at first recover slowly and gradually fifty per cent. of his claim, his prospects will year by year diminish, as those best able to pay will leave a locality so harassed, and the creditor will find empty shops and vacant houses, which for five years he cannot attempt to sell, and when that time arrives he will find no bidders, for the next year judgments will make the same property again liable for its share of debt, until the whole claim against the Municipality is sued for or hopelessly abandoned.

(By order,)

THOMAS BEASLEY,
City Clerk.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE,
Hamilton, 17th February, 1862.

