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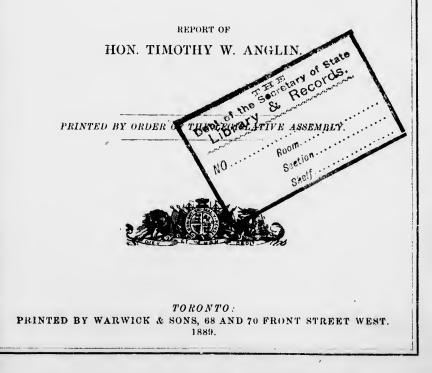
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## OHIO VALLEY AND CENTRAL STATES





# ONTARIO'S EXHIBIT

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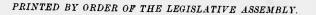
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### CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION

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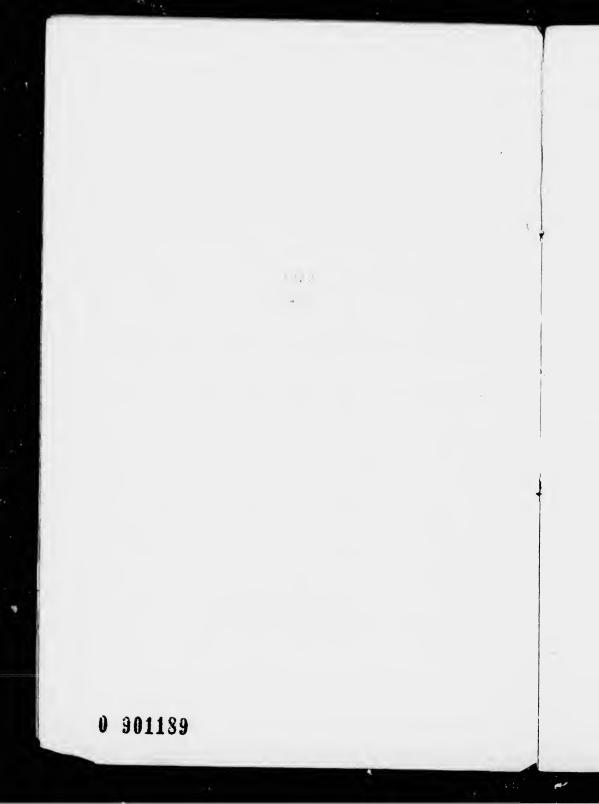




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### ONTARIO'S EXHIBIT AT CINCINNATI.

#### JULY 4 TO NOVEMBER 6, 1888.

#### TO THE HON. CHARLES DRURY, M.P.P.,

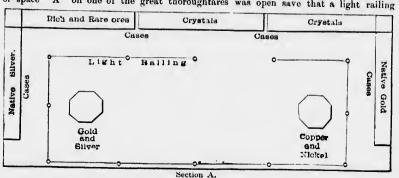
#### Minister of Agriculture :

SIR,-When in June, 1888, I was appointed commissioner to take charge of the exhibition of minerals, which the Government of Ontario proposed to make at the Centennial Exposition of the Ohio Valley, to be held at Cincinnati, I found that much progress in the work of preparation had been made under the guidance and direction of Mr. Blue, Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Blue was in correspondence with a large number of the owners of mines in various parts of the Province, and with others especially interested in the development of its mineral resources. Mr. David Boyle, an able mineralogist, was employed to obtain the co-operation of the owners of mines and others in the eastern part of the Province, and to suggest to them the best means of making the exhibition of their minerals attractive and advantageous. Mr. Blue had also engaged Mr. Peter McKellar and Mr. Burke to render similar services in the Lake Superior region. The reports from these gentlemen and the letters received daily from all parts of the Province proved that although at first several owners of mines and of mineral lands were strangely apathetic, nearly all had become alive to the great importance of making the mineral wealth and resources of Ontario better known to the enterprising people of the United States, and laudably desirous of doing their share of that work. Mr. Blue had also been in communication with the President and Commissioners of the great Exposition, had visited Cincinnati, secured a space for the Ontario exhibit in a favorable position on the ground floor, and made arrangements for having it fitted up.

It was obviously desirable under these circumstances, that Mr. Blue should supervise and direct the work of preparation to the close. Indeed, if any one clse had assumed control during the few days that remained for this work, much confusion would have been inevitable. Mr. Blue having consented to complete what he had so well begun, I conferred with him daily, rendering what assistance was in my power and endeavoring at the sume time to acquire such information as would render my services at the Exposition more valuable.

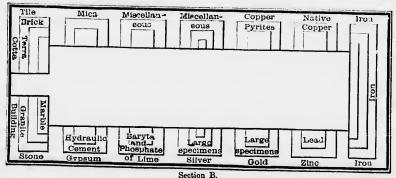
The delays in forwarding the expected specimens from different parts of the Province caused no little trouble, and although the first shipment to Cincinnati was deferred as long as possible, all had not arrived when that was made. There was, however, nearly enough to load a car, and to ensure its being forwarded without unnecessary delay Mr. Boyle went with it. A few days after, Mr. Blue went to Cincinnati to superintend the work of proparation there. I remained in Toronto for some days to look after the many packages yet to arrive. On June 30th, I shipped about twelve thousand pounds of minerals and several other packages were afterwards forwarded by express.

I left Toronto on July 2nd and arrived in Cincinnati on the 3rd. 1 found the work of preparation almost complete. The space allotted to Ontario was divided into two soctions of 30x12 feet each. These were separated by a public passage about six feet in width and were so situated with respect to one another, that a person standing in either, could not keep all of the two sections in view at once. This was a serious disadvantage, as it was necessary that two persons should be in attendance on the visitors during nearly all the long hours from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and it must be difficult for either to do much else. The advantages of the position, however, much more than compensated for this disadvantage. It was next to the great exhibits of the United States, and all who visited those must pass close to the Ontario exhibit. Between it and the great central fountain, which, cooling the sultry air by day and splendidly illuminated by night, always attracted multitudes, was an open space. The post office was near and a band stand, the music from which, although it made the work of answering questions and giving explanations much more fatiguing, brought many to that part of the building.



The accompanying diagram shows how the two sections were fitted up. The front of space "A" on one of the great thoroughfares was open save that a light railing

marked the way in which those desirous of examining the specimens should move and prevented undue crowding when the number of visitors was unusually large. On the other three sides a handsome substantial platform was constructed and on this rested a number of show cases in which the choicest, rarest and most valuable specimens were placed. In front of these, and in convenient positions, two strong octagonal pedestal were placed to support great masses of rich ores. The wall spaces back of the show cases was covered with geological maps of the Dominion and of Ontario, and a map of Ontario on which all the known mineral deposits were indicated by appropriate colors. These maps were found very useful. Indeed, without them it would have been extremely difficult to answer satisfactorily the questions as to the position of our mines and mineral deposits which were asked hundreds of times every day. On this wall also were hung some beautiful specimens of blow pipe sections, the work of Dr. Haanel, of Victoria College, Cobourg, which were greatly admired by many scientific men. Above the maps, and extending over this section, were hung British and Canadian flags, and a flag of the United States, which served at once as emblems and decorations. The British and Canadian flags attracted every day a number of natives of Canada who have gone to the States to seek their fortune but who still retain a love for their old home which they ardently expressed. Small banners and shields, bearing the Canadian arms, were also used to decorate both sections, and the names "Ontario"-" Canada" in large letters of gold proclaimed to all who passed that those rich mineral specimens which they admired so much came from a country of which, as we soon learned, very little was known even a few hundred miles from the frontier.



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The section marked "B" in the diagram stood apart from all others, and presented a face to each of four great thoroughfares. It was fitted up with a handsome enclosed counter running all round, except where space for an entrance was left on the north side. On the counter or platform were erected a number of pyramids, so constucted as to afford the best means for the arrangement and display of the minerals,

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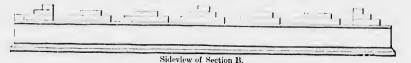
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Side view of section "B" in the diagram gives a fair idea of this arrangement. The total frontage of this section was about 84 feet, and the total shelf accommodation from 400 to 500 feet. The space between the counters was used as an office. It was found desirable, after a few days experience, to enclose the shelves and specimens of this section with a strong ornamental wire fence, without which it would have been very difficult to prevent the abstraction of the more attractive specimens.

Mr. Blue was so fortunate as to secure the services of Mr. James, of the Agricultural College, a scientific mineralogist, and on my arrival I found him, Mr. Boyle and Mr. Crosson hard at work, opening packages, assorting, labelling and cataloguing their contents, and putting the specimens in the places they were to occupy. In the glass cases in section A they placed the richest specimens of gold and silver ores, nickel, copper, molybdenite, lead and iron, crystals of apatite and baryta, and many other beautiful crystals and rare minerals, including contributions from several private cabinets. On one of the pedestals they had reared a great superstructure of copper and nickel ores from the Sudbury mines, some of the blocks weighing nearly a hundred pounds. On the other a similar pile of great blocks of silver ore from Silver Mountain, of gold ore from Lake of the Woods, and of ores from the Ottawa Valley containing zinc, lead and silver was raised. At the foot of one of the pedestals slabs of slate were piled ; before theother were specimens of sewer traps in Canadian clay. In front lay a great mass of phosphate of lime, weighing about 900 lb. from the Foxton mine in Frontenac, said to be the largest ever taken out. At one end of this section were exhibited also a large mass of gold-bearing ore, a mass of baryta from Lake Superior, and some large blocks of sandstone.

At one side of the entrance to the other section (B) were placed the specimens of Canadian clays and of terra cotta, drain pipes, bricks and other articles in clay. The display of mica, which came next, was large and varied ; then followed in order, specimens of lignite, a fine display of petroleum and its products, twenty-eight in number, a great mass of gold ore from Lake of the Woods, specimens of knolin, of felspar, of asbestos, soap stone, lithographic stone and other minerals; then rich specimens of lead ores and lead in bars, masses of silver ores from several mines and specimens of concentrated silver ore; rich, varied and beautiful specimens of copper ores from several deposits and masses of virgin copper. The whole of the southern front was occupied by the specimens of iron ores, which were numerous and large. They were chiefly from Eastern Ontario, but there was a large mass of hematite from Lake Superior. On the eastern side were placed some blocks of rich iron ore, masses of zinc ore, great masses of arsenical gold and silver ores, and bottles of arsenic obtained from such ores; a mass of apatite crystals, curious in form and of many colors, and in large bottles specimens of superphosphates prepared for use. Two large blocks of silver ore from the Beaver mine said to be worth \$2,000 a ton, specimens of mineral paints, of salt and brine, of marl and lime, of gypsum and baryta, and of clays occupied nearly all the rest of that side. Part of that and one-half of the northern s de were occupied by numerous specimens of red and grey granite, sandstones and lime-stones of various qualities, serpentine and marble. To unpack, classify and number each of these specimens, put it in its proper place, and place with it a card describing what it was and where it was found, and giving the name of the proprietor of mine or quarry as well, was a work requiring much skill and much actual labor. It was most

satisfactorily performed. The scientific and in every way excellent arrangement and the means of obtaining a large amount of information afforded to everyone who chose to read, were from the very first almost as much admired, especially by scientific visitors, as were the specimens themselves.

As soon as the specimens were in place, the important work of preparing a catalogue was undertaken. In this Mr. Blue was assisted by Mr. James and Mr. Boyle. The preparatory work he had all but completed while they were busy unpacking and assorting the specimens. This eatalogue, which is a pumphlet of 64 pages, contains not only a description of the specimens on exhibition, but also a valuable chapter on the mineral resources of Ontario, the Act of the Ontario Legislature respecting mines, and other valuable information.

As I have already said, several pickages of specimens were afterwards received, and when Mr. Peter McKellar was sent to afford to myself and Mr. Byle some much-needed assistance in September, whatever was necessary in the way of classification and readjustment, in order to carry out the original design and to give a proper place to the additional specimens was done. Oards containing fuller and in some cases more accurate information were substituted for those which had already become dingy in the smoky atmosphere of Cincinnati. Additional large cards lettered in bright colours and directing attention to the various classes of specimens were propared by Mr. Boyle and all that could be done to attract attention and diffuse information in that way, was done.

It would be impossible to say how many tens of thousands visited the Ontario exhibit. The visitors' books contain the names of nearly four thousand, and those who entered their names in these books were comparatively few. On many days the stream of visitors flowed unceasingly from nine or ten o'clock in the morning until ten at night. Of the thousands who on such days stopped to look at the specimens and make enquiries, the majority were mere sight seers, but even those carriedaway with them much more knowledge of Ontario and its resources than they had previously possessed. It required much effort, indeed, to convince many of this class, otherwise well informed and intelligent, that Canada occupies so much of this continent that is valuable, that we have so many million acres of fertile lands, that those acres are more productive than the rich lands of the Ohio Valley, that the climate is not of Arctic severity, and above all, that we possess such boundless mineral wealth in Ontario and that all those rich specimens came from that Province. The questions put by persons of this class were often amusing for the ignorance, simplicity and sincerity they displayed. It was almost impossible to persuade some of them that the specimens were not brought from Nevada, Colorado or California. On other days the number of visitors was not so large, and the fatigue of answering questions and giving explanations, while the thermometer ranged at from 90 to 98° in the shade, was not so great. But on every day the number of the more valuable visitors was very large. Everyone who was in any way interested in mineralogy, whether he was a professor in a university or college, or in charge of a museum or other educational institute, or a student in one of those institutions, or engaged in a state geological survey, or interested in a mine or foundry, or a working miner, or an amateur collector of specimens, found his way to the Ontario exhibit. This was, perhaps, to some extent due to the fact, that there was no other complete exhibit of the minerals of any State or Province, no other complete exhibit even of petroleum and its products. But it was due much more to the impressison which from the very first the Ontario exhibit made on all who saw it, and the impression made upon the whole country by the reports of those who saw it, and by the descriptions which appeared in several newspapers. Several persons stated that they had come to the exhibition, because they had heard of this magnificent exhibit of minerals. Others who on the first and second visit tried to take in the whole Exposition, afterwards made special visits to the Ontario exhibit, and not a few repeated those visits frequently. Several persons of this class wrote highly eulogistic comments in the visitors' book. One gentleman connected with a Cincinnati paper stated that he hastened to see this exhibit on his return home, because "the whole way from Duluth-where he had been on a visit-he heard nothing talked of but the Ontario exhibit of minerals." It was gratifying to learn that the expectations which those reports had excited, were in all cases more than satisfied.

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Many of the visitors of this class knew that silver had been found on the Canadian side of Lake Superior, but none of them were prepared to see such rich specimens from so many deposits. Many enquiries were made as to the location of the deposits, their probable extent, the distance from water or from railroad, and the facilities for exploring and working such deposits as may be found, and of moving the ores. Very many seemed disposed to invest in mines of this description, and there can be no doubt that the disposition was quickened and strengthened by what they saw and heard, and that the inflow of American capital will be greatly stimulated, although investments in mines of this description are now cautionaly made. One gentleman who had heard much of recent shipments of ore from the Beaver mine, came expressly to see the wonderful speciments from that mine and brought several others to see the ore that yields \$2,000 a ton. There was less said of investments in gold mines. The ores from Lake of the Woods and other quarters were much admired, but there must be a greater actual production of the precious metal before a large amount of capital can easily be obtained for the development of gold mines. Many of our visitors had heard of Silver Islet and examined longingly the specimens from that mine.

Frequent enquiries as to existence of copper in the Lake Superior region were made, and the probabilities as to the profitable reduction of such ores of zinc and nickel, as were exhibited, were oftentimes discussed. The specimehs of baryta from that region attracted much attention, and a gentleman who had made a contract to sapply large quantities of that mineral, and whose mine in Georgia had just "run out," was so influenced by what he saw and heard that, before the Exposition closed, he visited the district on Lake Superior, satisfied himself that the representations made to him were correct, and entered into an agreement, by which he is bound to take out at least 2,000 tons per month, and pay the owners, the Messrs. McKellar, a royalty on all he takes out. The geologist of the State of Pennsylvania stated, that baryta will probably increase in value, as it is now used in the manufacture of gas from water, acting as an absorbent of the oxygen when superheated steam is passed over it. Gas can thus be manufactured and supplied, he said, at less than it costs to supply natural gas.

The display of copper and nickel ores from Sudbury attracted much attention, and numerous enquiries were made as to the percentage of copper and of nickel which the several specimens contained, the locality and extent of the mines, and the facilities for obtaining fuel and for moving coal or ore. The difficulty of separating nickel and copper when combined, was discussed. This, it was said, has been successfully done at Bergen, N. Y. Copper mining is generally so uncertain, and promising mines have so often failed to pay, that the disposition to speculate in copper mines did not seem general, although the most experienced were surprised at what they heard of the extent of the Sudbury mines. The interest in Canadian lead mines was languid, because lead mines have in so many instances ceased to pay of late years.

The iron ores were much admired by scientists, foundrymen and miners. One English gentleman, who said that he established the first foundry for the manufacture of Bessemer steel in the United States, after examining several specimens said, "if these were any richer they would be iron." Several miners and foundrymen from Alabama, where the production of iron has grown so wonderfully of late, expressed strongly the wish that they could get some of those ores to mix with their own low grade ores, and proprietors of smelting works and foundries at Pittsburg and other parts of Pennsylvania eagerly sought specimens. Many enquiries were made as to the localities of the mines, the facilities for reaching them, and the probable cost of transportation by the shortest routes.

The specimens of mica were numerous and of great variety, some of a rich dark brown, some almost colo less and perfectly transparent. One large sheet—the largest ever seen in that part of the world—arrested the attention of all passers-by. Where the crystals are so large the mines must be valuable, if the crystals are numerous and casily got out. Were the deposits really large ? In what sort of rock are they found ? Docs it cost much to get them out ? In what part of Ontario are they situated ? were questions asked hundreds of times every day. Discussions as to the quality and value of the mica and comparisons with that obtained from Georgia, were frequent. One small piece, a

rhomboid in shape, was pronounced by a gentleman of large experience, the finest specimen he had ever seen,-superior even to any from the Ural Mountains. respecting the mica, came principally from manufacturers of stoves and of dynamos, per-The enquiries rona interested in electric railways, and persons disposed to invest. One gentleman from Paris, whose business it is to supply materials to the manufacturers of wall paper, made

The specimens of phosphate of lime (apatite) attracted the attention of scientists and of many intelligent agriculturists, who were under the impression that the deposits of South Carolina afforded the only supply of phosphates to be found on this continent. Some visitors had already invested in the phosphate mines of Ontario, and others, after having made particular and in some cases repeated enquiries, seemed disposed to follow

While the specimens of marble and serpentine were much admired, those engaged in preparing and supplying stone for buildings and monuments enquired more particularly about the location of the quarries from which the specimens of granite had come, the extent of those quarries and the means of transporting the granite in large quantities. The specimens of terra cotta were greatly admired, and several persons, whose business it is to supply builders' materials in Cincinnati and other cities, were very particular in their enquiries respecting it. It seems surprising that some Ontario builders learned in Cincinnati that they could obtain in their own province home made terra cotta equal at least in quality, design and finish to what they have been importing for some years.

Whenever any visitor who seemed disposed to invest in our mineral properties or to become a purchaser of our mineral products sought information, which neither Mr. Boyle nor myself was prepared to furnish, communication was opened with the interested parties

In nearly every instance the visitor returned to obtain the information

Whenever it was possible, the visitor and proprietor of the mine were

enquiries which gave reason to expect that he may become a purchaser of those portions of mica of the richest color, which now go to waste.

For some months the greater part of Mr. Boyle's time was occupied with this cor-

thus sought.

respondence. The letters written and received numbered some hundreds. In too many cases persons desirous of purchasing found that the import duties imposed in the United States are so high as to make importation unprofitable. There is reason to believe, however, that baryta from Ontario will find a market in that country, despite the duty, that there will be a large increase in the export of rich iron ores, of mica and some other minerals. But the demand for these would increase enormously at once if the duties were removed, and many minerals which are now of little or no value in the mine would find a large and profitable market. The efforts made to open a market for iron ores, terra cotta, and other articles, would have been much more successful if the import duties had

placed in direct communication, and no pains were spared to make the exhibition a means of promoting the investment of capital in our mines and extending the market for our minerals.

Every other available means of diffusing information was diligently employed. Copies of the catalogue were sent to the principal newspapers in all the cities of the United States, to several public institutions, to the members of the Ontario Legislature, and to the Ontario newspapers. About five thousand copies of this valuable pamphlet were distributed. In the official catalogue of the exhibition, four pages in a prominent place, next to the description of the United States exhibits, were filled with a graphic description of Ontario's great exhibit. To no State of the Union was one-half as much space given. Many thousand copies of this catalogue were distributed. The newspapers of Cincinnati, especially the Commercial Gazette and Post, published several favorable notices of our exhibit. Some of these were of considerable length and all expressed admiration of the display which astonished everyone capable of forming an opinion as to its merits. Several papers in other cities and towns also gave prominence to the Ontario exhibit, in

The applications for specimens were very numerous. Some desired to get apecimena of the minerals in which they were especially interested. Those who represented public institutions and private collectors begged for specimens of everything. I thought it would be greatly in the interest of the Province, to have specimens of its minerals placed in

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the museums, universities and colleges of so many of the United States, and to gratify as far as possible the cravings of enthusiastic amateurs who would talk everywhere of their specimens. It was especially desirable that those who saw the specimens should know that they came from Ontario. To make this certain, fifty small cabinets having 22 compartments each, were ordered, a catalogue to accompany each cabinet, and a card to be affixed, stating that the specimens came from Ontario. These, when filled, were distributed amongst the commisioners of the Exposition, the editors of the leading newspapers, and the principals of several colleges and other institutions. For private collectors cards were prepared, to which a number of specimens, each placed under its proper name were attached. To some of the larger state institutions larger specimens, duly labelled, were given. The number of specimens given away to other applicants from time to time were really innumerable. Mr. Boyle thinks that they number at least two thousand, and this does not seem by any means an exaggerated estimate. The specimens were not given away indiscriminately. Only those in whose hands it was thought they would be serviceable to the Province, received any. Were all the applications complied with, little of what was sent to Cincinnati would have returned to Ontario. Specimens of the minerals of this Province are now to b found in all, or nearly all the State institutions, museuus, universities, colleges ....d high schools of Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Indiana. Many were taken to Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Alabama and other States. A very earnest application for specimens came from Omaha.

It may be well to state, as evidence of the impression produced by the exhibition, that the representative of the State of Geergia made repeated applications to have the Ontario exhibit taken to that State, where an exhibition was to open when the Cineinnati Exposition closed, and that a representative of the managers of an exposition to be held at Pittsburg, Pa., this year, more than once endeavored to obtain some assurance that Ontario would take part in that exposition also. The managers expected to have a magnificent display of minerals at Pittsburg, but, as this gentleman frankly admitted, they cannot hope to have any single exhibit that will compare with that which Ontario made in Cincinnati.

None of the articles in the Ontario exhibit were entered for competition, but three of the most distinguished of the jurors, including the mayor of Cincinnati, were sent to examine and report upon the exhibit as a whole, and to make what comments they thought fit as to the especial excellence of any particular exhibits. I was assured that their report was a fitting tribute to the merits of so magnificent a display, and that the Commissioners of the Exposition would include it in their final report, of which a copy would be sent to me. I have not yet received that report. I wrote to the President of the Commission some time ago, reminding him of his promise, but I have not yet received an answer. As I found the President and his fellow Commissioners always courteous and obliging, I presume that some unforeseen difficulties have retarded the publication of that report.

The Commissioners and guarantors of the Exposition having resolved to keep it open ten days longer than was originally proposed, I reported that decision to you, and in accordance with the instructions sent to me, the Ontario exhibit was continued to the close of the general Exposition, greatly to the satisfaction of the Exposition commissioners.

Although nothing was left undone that seemed necessary to render the exhibition of the minerals of Ontario worthy of the Province and in every sense successful, unnecessary expenditures were carefully avoided, and the strictest economy consistent with making a creditable display was observed. The total cost, I believe, must seem trifling when compared with the great and permanent advantages which the Province will derive from having made this astonishing revelation of her great mineral wealth and resources to her enterprising neighbors. Those advantages, I am now satisfied, will greatly exceed the most sanguine expectations in which, before the opening of the Exposition, I ever ventured to induge.

> I have the honor to remain, Your obedient servant,

> > T. W. ANGLIN, Commissioner.

