

1874. MARCH. 1874.

Bryce McMurrich & Co.

WHOLESALE

DRY GOODS MERCHANTS.

LARGE

Additional Shipments

Received, and

STOCK IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

VERY COMPLETE.

Agents for sale of DUNDAS COTTON MILLS
MANUFACTURES.

WAREHOUSE—34 Yonge Street, TORONTO.

THE MONETARY TIMES,
AND TRADE REVIEW.

TORONTO, CAN. FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1874

SAVINGS BANKS OF THE DOMINION.

Aside from the chartered Banks the legally authorized receptacles of the public savings are: 1. Savings Banks under the management of Trustees: 2. Government and Post-office Savings Banks: 3. Permanent Building Societies. A blue book recently issued supplies us with valuable information respecting each of these classes of financial institutions, up to the middle or end of 1872.

The returns cover the transactions of three savings banks under the management of Trustees: the Caisse d'Economie, of Quebec, the City and District, of Montreal, and the Toronto, of this city. At the end of 1872, these three possessed assets which compared with two previous years, were as follows:—

Total assets 1872.....	\$7,398,243.72
Total assets 1871.....	7,406,924.47
Total assets 1870.....	5,781,997.41
Against which were liabilities as under:—	
Total liabilities 1872.....	\$7,394,194.88
Total liabilities 1871.....	7,024,552.63
Total liabilities 1870.....	5,384,623.12
The principal items which composed the assets were:	
Government securities.....	\$120,236.67
Seigniorial claims.....	345,975.51
Municipal debentures.....	906,223.99
Railway bonds.....	5,000.00
Harbour and other debentures	102,800
Bank stock	1,043,865.12
Mortgages, real Estate.....	34,839.11
Notes secured by collaterals	2,587,305.21
Deposits in banks at Interest.	1,937,869.61
Cash on hand.....	14,647.33

Accrued Interest.....	1,628.79
Interest due.....	27,754.45
Real Estate, furniture, &c.....	230,434.60
Miscellaneous	38,346.77

Total..... \$7,398,243.72

The liabilities are made up as follows:—

Due depositors, & capital.....	\$5,557,125.98
Miscellaneous	1,837,068.90

Total liabilities.....\$7,394,194.88

As between the three banks named, the deposits are divided thus:—

Caisse d'Economie.....	\$2,011,409.68
City & District.....	3,180,515.09
Toronto.....	365,201.21

Total..... \$5,557,125.98

The total number of depositors was 20,341, against 21,514 in 1871, and 19,562 in 1870, of whom 516 had more than \$1600 each at their credit at the end of 1872. The surplus profits of the Caisse d'Economie are not stated; those of the City & District were \$84,264.05, of which \$6,035 was paid in charity; those of the Toronto, were \$4,811.54. The expenses were, Caisse d'Economie \$26,123.86, City & District \$22,671.98, Toronto \$2,851.70; the total for the three banks ending in 1872, \$51,647.54, against \$33,479.36 in 1871, and \$35,937.90 in 1870.

Turning to government saving banks, we find the amount on deposit in the Provincial Savings Banks at Halifax, on 30th June, 1872, was \$1,045,353.80, against \$943,340.88 in 1871. In the New Brunswick Savings Banks there were \$1,001,523.57 on deposit on 30th June 1872, against \$1,167,113.79, at the corresponding date of the previous year. In the Post office department the deposits amounted to \$3,096,500.01, owned by 21,059 depositors. The totals then, for all the savings banks are:

Government Savings Banks... Savings Banks under management of Trustees	\$5,143,326.80 5,553,617.28
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\$10,696,944.08

Add Building Societies.....	2,473,267.94
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Total savings 1872	13,170,212.20
“ “ 1871	12,615,759.00

Increase in 12 months was ... \$554,453.20

There are besides these deposits considerable sums held by brokers and private bankers; but taking the above sum we find that it is equal to \$3.78 per head of the population, according to the census of 1871.

There were in the chartered banks of the Dominion, not including the Banks of Prince Edward Island, on the 31st Dec., 1872, deposits payable after notice, \$22,850,733. Classing these with the savings of the people, above given we have a total of nearly \$11 per head of population.

LONG CREDIT.

Of all the forms in which this mischievous system shows itself the most delusive and objectionable is that of *dating goods forward*. We had thought we were making progress towards a better state of things. Long credit has been the bane of trade in Canada. It has eaten away profits as fast as they are made and condemned many a man to an old age of misery. After a lifetime of hard work he has found his supposed surplus melted away in a mass of old debts which no human power could collect, and instead of being able to enjoy the evening of his days in a well earned ease the drudgery of dependence and poverty is his lot for life.

This is no fanciful sketch or overdrawn picture. It is an "ower true tale," as many man knows by bitter experience. Long credit has an irresistible tendency to generate bad debts. The one is the legitimate and inevitable effect of the other. And bad debts again bring about insolvency and demoralization. We doubt if any commercial country in the world was so tormented with these evils as Canada. We do not except even the United States, certainly not as a whole, though the evil may be as great in some of the newer regions of the West as it has proved itself here.

But things may go on till they become perfectly intolerable. Such evils are so mischievous as to produce a strong desire for reformation, and we had thought that such a reformation had been in progress for some time back. Strenuous efforts have been made in various quarters to do business on shorter terms of credit and we are glad to say with considerable success. Many a trader is now steadily prospering owing to his having acted on the following maxims for some time back:

BUY LITTLE AND OFTEN.

Buy for cash if possible and take the discount.

Buy on short credit if not possible, and avoid renewals and work on light stock. Sell at a small profit for cash.

Attract cash customers by offering inducements to pay. If you cannot sell for cash send your bills in every quarter. Collect close.

These maxims are all quite contrary to the old fashioned method of long credit, easy collecting and never ending files of book accounts. But what was the result? Why, that in the course of ten years, on an average only about one man out of every ten was left standing. All the rest had gone through insolvency, and were either struggling with poverty or had left the country.