

of \$2,500,000 of which \$2,000,000 is subscribed and paid up. The reserve fund at end of 1904, was \$3,200,000. The shareholders were highly delighted at the annual statement as they well might be when it justified half-yearly dividends of 10 per cent., or 20 per cent. per annum. It was announced that the title "Bank of Nova Scotia" would never be changed.

* * * *

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—King Edward went on 14th inst. to Westminster to open Parliament with the customary ceremonial. His Majesty was accompanied by the Queen, and the Prince and Princess of Wales. The King read his speech in which only a brief reference was made to the war without any intimation of peace negotiations being in progress. The Balkans were alluded to as causing anxiety although measures adopted at the instance of the Austro-Russian Governments have been instrumental in bringing about some amelioration in the state of the disturbed districts, but "these measures have still to be supplemented by radical reforms especially of the financial system before any permanent improvements can be effected in the administration of these provinces of the Turkish empire."

The investigation of the North Sea incident was mentioned, also the Tibetan expedition and the movement to give the Transvaal representative government. The speech was remarkably uninteresting and the coming Session of Parliament also promises to be so as no legislation is likely to be introduced of an exciting nature. It is thought probable that Parliament will be dissolved this year and the country asked to express itself in regard to several questions looming up.

* * * *

MR. DONALD MACMASTER, K.C.—The Bar of which he is distinguished leader has secured a portrait of Mr. Donald Macmaster, K.C., as a present in recognition of his services as Batonnier from 1903 to 1904. The work is by Mr. Robert Harris. Mr. Macmaster is about to take up his residence in London, England, where, it is said, he will be heard of in legal and political circles. In whatever assembly Mr. Macmaster speaks he will command attention and great respect.

* * * *

THE SNOW RECORD.—Memory in regard to past weather experiences is not trustworthy. Some affirm that never before was there so heavy a snowfall as this winter, others pooh-pooh this and recall far heavier visitations, but as both sides rely on memory the value of their testimony is doubtful. This winter there has been no thaw, as in most previous ones, so what snow has fallen has remained whereas in many previous years the first few falls of snow went away and left the later ones a clear course, hence an apparently higher snowfall than this year.

In this city the removal of snow from the sidewalks has been far more general and thorough than for many past years. Fewer accidents have occurred up to this

date, so the claims against the city for damages will be less. Pedestrians all over the city have reason to be thankful for the improved condition of the sidewalks, so far as snow obstructions are concerned, and the rate-payers, as such, will not have their taxes wasted in meeting claims which never would arise were the by-laws enforced.

* * * *

THE PEEL STREET SNOW REMOVERS.—The dwellers on Peel street, in this city, which is a first-class residential section, have taken the street into their own care failing to get the work they desired done carried out by the Corporation. They have had the snow piled on each side of the roadway scattered over its entire surface, and levelled, then rolled so as to make what they regard as a far superior track for horses and sleighs than is provided by the old system. This procedure it appears is illegal, so the Peel street defiers of civic authority are threatened with the pains and penalties of the law. It would be an interesting sight to see a few score of our prominent citizens hauled before the Recorder, charged with having spent their money in putting their street in what they regard as a better condition than other streets. "The quarrel is a very pretty quarrel as it stands," it will probably lead to some measures being taken to improve the roadway of certain streets which are almost impassable owing to the accumulations of snow and the huge snow mounds which, on both sides, spread some few feet on the roadway.

* * * *

THE PEEL STREET REBELLION.—Certainly the appearance of lower Peel St., presents a very striking and very pleasing contrast to that of all others except those occupied by the Street Railway tracks. There are no huge snow mounds to disfigure the street, nor a narrow lane between them, as in other first-class streets through which it is almost impossible to drive any vehicle. The residents may be doing what is "agin the law," but they have set a notable example. On 15th inst. the leading residents held a meeting to consider the situation. A determination was expressed to continue such work as would make Peel St. a model for others in residential sections. The idea of snow levelling making it dangerous for horses was repudiated by a number of residents who own valuable horses.

When a thaw comes such work will be done as will prevent dangerous conditions arising. The Peel St. rebellion will probably cause some steps to be taken by the civic authorities as will keep residential streets safely open for carriages, which they were not last season.

* * * *

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN IRELAND.—The Prince of Wales had a most cordial reception in Dublin and wherever he appeared in public places during his visit to Ireland. At Kilmainham having noticed Sergeant Farmer, V.C., on parade, whom he himself had decorated with the Victoria Cross at Pietermatitzburg, called him forward and entered into a friendly con-