

Meetings.

BANQUE JACQUES CARTIER.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Banque Jacques Cartier was held in Montreal.

The chair was taken by the President.

The Directors in their report state:—

The net profits of the year are.....\$106,545 71

Less Dividend of 4 per cent.

1st June.....\$40,000

Do. do. 1st Dec.....40,000

80,000 00

Leaving a balance of profit of.....\$26,545 71

From this sum the Directors have

added to the rest.....20,000 00

Leaving to the credit of profit and loss account.....\$6,545 71

The rest now amounts to \$130,000, equal to 13 per cent. on the capital of the bank. The monetary crisis which prevailed during the months of September and October last, and which forced the Banque Jacques Cartier, as well as the other banks of the country, to restrict its discounts, to the great injury of commerce, suggested to many of you that the time had arrived when the Banque Jacques Cartier would find it advantageous to increase its capital.

Although the Directors are not quite decided on this point, they nevertheless think it would be well that you should take advantage of the clause in the new Banking Act which authorizes you to give the Board of Directors the necessary powers to issue new stock to such amount as you deem proper, leaving it to decide as to the time and manner of doing so. Doubtless, judging by the past, the bank will be obliged to extend its operations considerably, as well for its own advantage as for that of its numerous clients and friends.

Business during the past year has been generally satisfactory, and thanks to the abundant harvest with which the country has been favored, the prospect for the future is good.

In view of the increase of business, your Directors deemed it their duty not to lose the opportunity which presented itself in May last to secure a suitable site for the erection of a bank building, and they acquired for the sum of \$40,500 the property situated in Place d'Armes, now occupied by the Express Company. On this magnificent emplacement, 53 feet front by 80 in depth, your Directors propose to erect next spring a building, which, while meeting the requirements of the bank, will be a credit to the institution and an ornament to the city.

During the year the Board of Directors has had two painful losses. Two of the most zealous and valuable members have been removed by death—Mr. Louis Boyer in December, and Mr. Louis Beaudry in June last. The former has been replaced by Mr. Nazaire Villeneuve, and the latter by Mr. John L. Cassidy. Your Directors hope their choice of these gentlemen will meet your approbation.

Balance sheet of La Banque Jacques Cartier, 30th Nov., 1871:—

ASSETS.

Specie.....	\$46,728 31
Dominion Notes.....	122,000 00
Notes and Checks on other banks.....	35,485 72
Balances due from other Banks.....	141,361 81
Notes discounted, overdue, and not specially secured.....	72,931 54
Do. Secured on mortgage, Bank stock, &c.....	62,023 82
Do. Current.....	2,538,757 12

Property Place 'Armes. \$41,372 06
Less due Heirs Watts. 20,269 00

Moveable property.....

21,103 05
2,000 00

\$3,042,391 38

LIABILITIES.

Capital Paid-up.....	\$1,000,000 00
Rest.....	130,000 00
Profit and loss account.....	36,551 21
Circulation.....	443,457 00
Balances due to other banks.....	5,206 39
Deposits bearing interest.....	1,042,654 50
Do. not bearing interest.....	343,661 20
Dividend payable 1st Dec.....	40,000 00
Unclaimed Dividends.....	861 08

\$3,042,391 38

(Signed)

H. COTTE,

Cashier.

Montreal, 30th November, 1871.

Proposed by L. Marchand, Esq., seconded by Jacques Grenier, Esq.:

"That in view of the rapid increase in the business of La Banque Jacques Cartier, it is proper that the shareholders assembled to-day in their annual general meeting should avail themselves of the fifth clause of the Act 34 Victoria, cap. 5, entitled 'Act concerning Banks and Banking,' to give, as by the present resolution they do give, the Directors of the said Bank all the necessary powers for the issue of new shares in the capital stock of the said Bank to the amount of one million dollars, which would make the capital of the said Bank amount to two million dollars, leaving, however, to the Directors the liberty to decide as to the time, amount and manner of doing so."

Mr. Marchand, in explanation of the motion, stated that he proposed to leave it in the discretion of the Directors what amount of stock they would issue at a time. They might think it advisable to issue \$200,000 or \$400,000, according as they had means of employing the money.

Mr. Masson thought it would be better to issue the whole amount of stock at once, and then call up 10 per cent. or more, as they deemed advisable. He believed this was the position of the Bank of Montreal with respect to the new stock. He proposed to leave it to the Directors to fix the conditions as to what amount they would receive at once, &c.

Mr. Marchand—The whole difference between us is this, that I propose to leave it to the Directors to issue what portion of the million dollars they choose, while Mr. Masson proposes that they shall issue the whole million at once, but shall have the power to refuse to receive more than 10 per cent. But according to usage, when a man subscribes say for a hundred shares, he has a right to pay up the whole at once. The bank, therefore, might be encumbered with funds which it could not profitably employ. To obviate the possibility of this, I propose to give to the Directors authority to issue only a part at one time. The motion was adopted.

The following Directors were elected:—Romuald Trudeau, Chas. S. Rodier, Victor Hudon, J. B. Beaudry, P. M. Galarneau, L. J. Beliveau, A. Lapierre, N. Villeneuve, John L. Cassidy. The new Board met immediately after, and elected Romuald Trudeau, Esq., President, and Chas. S. Rodier, Esq., Vice do.

THE MONTREAL STEAM ELEVATING AND WAREHOUSING COMPANY.—This Company held its annual meeting on the 11th inst., when the following gentlemen were elected members of the Board of Directors, viz.: Messrs. David Torrance, J. Cowan, J. H. Joseph, Andrew Allan, and A. J. Patterson. The Directors have resolved to issue new stock, the calls on which are to be made as the new elevators are ren-

dered necessary by the increased business of the port. Two have already been ordered, which will make nine elevators for the coming season, owned by this Company.—Herald.

THE LAW OF MUTUAL INSURANCE.

The London, Eng., *Review* discusses at great length, and in able manner, the state of the English law relating to Mutual Insurance companies. After reviewing various cases, and tracing the matter down to the present time, sums up as follows:—Combining now the points decided by Lord Cairns in the case of the Kent Mutual with those other results which we have traced out in the earlier portions of this article, we shall find the following propositions, either conclusively settled by express authority or plainly deducible, as we believe, from general principles:—

1. A participating policy-holder in a mixed assurance company is not a partner by reason of his receipts of a portion of the profits. He is not therefore liable for any debts whatever of the company. He is entitled to be paid *pari passu* with the general creditors of the company; but the fact of his policy being charged on the funds of the society will not give him any priority over the general creditors of the company, or entitle him to have the assets marshalled.

2. A participating policy-holder in a mixed office who votes and exercises a control over the management, profits, &c., would seem to be liable in like manner to participating policy-holders in mutual offices.

3. A participating policy-holder in a mutual assurance company is in the position of a partner, and therefore so long as he continues a member of the society, he incurs in respect of all contracts which the directors enter into within their powers, an unlimited liability, unless such liability be limited either by the deed of settlement or by the special terms of the contract entered into on his behalf by the directors; but

4. The clause which is usually, if not always inserted in the deed of settlement of mutual assurance societies, and also in the policies and annuities which they issue, effectually limits the liability under policies and annuities to the funds of the society. With respect, therefore, to these *inside* creditors, the members of the society (that is, the participating policy-holders), if protected by such a clause as we have mentioned, incur no liability whatever.

5. There is no such limitation of liability as to *outside* creditors, that is, all creditors whose contracts are not restricted to the funds of the society.

6. All liability ceases at once when a member, i. e. a participating policy-holder, in a mutual assurance society withdraws from the society except as to *external* debts contracted during the time of his membership. He may withdraw at any time, there being no legal obligation on him to continue making any "contribution to the funds of the society."

7. The order in which the funds of a mutual assurance society, whose policy and annuity contracts are limited by the usual clauses, would be distributed in the event of a winding-up would seem to be as follows:—The outside creditors and the non-participating policy-holders and annuitants would be paid *pari passu* out of the funds of the society. The participating policy-holders as *partners* would receive nothing until all the creditors were paid in full. If the funds did not suffice, the outside creditors alone would have an unlimited claim against the participating policy-holders for the balance. It would seem, too, on principle, that the costs of the winding up and of the realization of the assets must fall on the participating policy-holders (*Re Professional Life Assurance Society*, 3 Equity Reports).