

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

OF THE

Merchants Bank of Canada,

*Presented to the Stockholders at the Annual Meeting held
on Wednesday, 21st June, 1882.*

The DIRECTORS of the MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA have pleasure in presenting to the Stockholders the Report of the business of the year just closed:—

The Net Profits of the year's business, after deducting charges and interest on deposits, have been	\$762,441.83
<small>(Provision for the bad and doubtful debts of the year is made in Contingent Fund Account.)</small>	
Add Profits brought forward from 1881	12,264.59
	\$774,706.42

This sum has been disposed of as follows:—

Dividend No. 26, at 3½ per cent.	\$196,550.90
“ No. 27, at 3½ per cent.	199,454.28
	\$396,005.18
Written off Bank Premises and Furniture Account	20,000.00
Transferred to Contingent Fund	120,000.00
Added to the “Rest”	225,000.00
Balance carried forward to next year	13,701.24
	\$774,706.42

The profits have been so much in excess of those of last year, as to admit of the payment of dividends at the rate of seven per cent. per annum instead of six, while the surplus carried forward to the different funds above named is considerably in excess of that appropriated in 1881.

This result will no doubt be satisfactory to the Stockholders.

In the Report presented at the last General Meeting, reference was made to the revival of trade, and the improved prospects of the country.

This improvement has continued to operate, to a greater or less extent, during the year, and a good harvest of agricultural products, and a large production of lumber and timber, generally disposed of at a high range of prices, have added materially to the wealth of the country.

Our various manufacturing industries have been pressed to meet the demand for their products. There has, however, owing to unfavorable seasons, been a considerable check to the consumption of certain lines of our large and increasing imports, and stocks in consequence have accumulated to undue proportions. Payments, however, on the whole, have continued satisfactory. But it is worthy of the consideration of importers, whether their operations might not be reduced with advantage.

The development of the business of Manitoba and the North West, has proceeded at an unexampled rate, and is still going on.