

**Census of 7
American States.**

The Census returns of Maine, New Hampshire, Virginia, Kansas and three other American States show the increase since last census to have been \$340,600, on an aggregate of 5,610,000, which is an enlargement of only 6 per cent., as against Canada's increase of over 10 per cent. Some of our American critics have put the large additions made to several States in contrast with those of Canada, States that owe a large proportion of their increase to the influx of foreigners. Their explanation of the almost stagnant condition of the population of Kansas especially would be interesting, as that State has been boomed by Americans, and, some years ago, even by the Hon. Edward Blake, as offering greater attractions to settlers than Canada.

**Journal of the
Bankers'
Association.**

The Journal of the Canadian Bankers' Association for July contains chapter VI of the history of Canadian Currency, banking and exchange, an article on "Mining in British Columbia," by Mr. Jacobs, of Greenwood B. C., on "The growth of our foreign investments," by Mr. H. M. P. Eckardt, of this city, an obituary of the late Mr. John Paton, Director of the Bank of British North America, the Gilbert Lectures, 1901, by Sir John Paget Bart, and a copy of the By-Laws of the Association, with other matter of banking interest. The paper on "The Growth of our Foreign Investments," is avowed to have been written with the object of supporting the contention that Canada is destined ultimately to become a lending nation. As a matter of fact Canada is now a lending nation as our banks have many millions lent in the United States. If the writer means that the time is drawing apace when Canada will no longer need foreign capital to sustain her commerce, or to carry her public debt, but, will have home capital sufficient for all home needs and a surplus to lend outsiders, we fear his statistics are not promising for this change coming at an early date. The accumulation of deposits in Canada in the last 10 years must, however, be regarded as indicating that they are likely to enlarge far beyond the opportunities for investment in home enterprises. Both borrower and lender Canada will be for many years to come. The Gilbert lecture consumes about 6,000 words in explaining what is meant by a person being a bank's "customer," and the point is left at the end undefined, the following question being asked: "If merely gratuitously cashing 60 cheques for 20 years for a man makes him a customer, what would cashing 30 cheques for 10 years come to? When does the stranger leave off and the customer begin? When are you, in fact, collecting and when cashing?" In

the case under review the person alluded to used a certain bank to collect cheques on other banks which he left with them. Every business man would say that these transactions constituted him "a customer" of the bank he had those dealings with. But, if he simply presented cheques on the bank itself and received cash for them he could hardly be regarded as a "customer" of such bank.

THE MURDERED PRESIDENT.

Of the greatest of moral heroes it was said:—

"His bier was watered by a nation's tears."

Not only a nation's tears have flowed in grief over the bier of the murdered President of the United States, but humanity has been stricken with sorrow at his assassination. For his afflicted widow the hearts of all men feel the deepest sympathy. Of William McKinley's merits, of his claims to honour, it is enough to say that by his neighbours he was chosen to be Governor of his native State by an enormous majority, and was twice raised by his fellow countrymen to the dignity of Chief Magistrate, as President of a nation numbering seventy-five millions of people. Differ as men may as to the wisdom of such a course, they must all admire the patriotic motive which inspired his fiscal policy, embodied in the McKinley tariff, and even its, and his opponents recognise the eminent ability, courage and energy with which he pushed that policy to a successful issue. Ever quick to catch the sound of the popular voice, the dead President proved his gift of statesmanship by stepping promptly to the front as the exponent and leader of the nation's will. President in name McKinley displayed the attributes that are implied in the title "King," for he was the man with the genius of leadership, the man who "knew" the needs of the time and of the people, the man who was crowned by natural gifts, and raised to a throne built up on the foundations of popular homage. He fell by the hand of an assassin for no failing in duty as a ruler or fault as a man. The shot fired by his murderer was fired at the principle of authority, it was a blow at social order, it was an attack upon a nation's life. Were such deeds to effect their purpose civilization would collapse. The profound confidence in anarchy being a madman's dream has made society imprudently indifferent about the presence in its midst of these organized assassins. They deserve to have the brand of Cain put on them and driven to wander far from the haunts of men. William McKinley, President of America, has gone to a higher sphere. Of him we may say with Sciller: "Of all the possessions of this life fame is the noblest, when his body has sunk into the dust his great name still lives."