

yielded a half-yearly dividend of from \$120 to \$130: but the effect of the present disastrous war has been such as to prevent these dividends being drawn without serious loss, for the last two or three years.

In the month of January last a communication was received stating that it was intended to reduce the capital of the Bank, and to convert it into a National Bank, and enquiring whether the Association would be willing to surrender ten of its shares at the par value. After due deliberation it was not deemed desirable to take any immediate action in the matter, and during the last few days a circular has been received to the effect that the Bank has been converted into the "Merchant's National Bank, of Boston."

The stock in this Bank as far as your Committee are aware, is good, but it becomes a question whether in the present position of affairs in the Northern States, it will be advisable to allow it to remain there. But the more immediate matter upon which your Committee seek direction is as to the arrears of dividends,—and they wish to be advised as to whether they shall still allow them to accumulate, or whether they shall invest them in other stock.

For the last three or four years your Committee have been unable, in consequence of the death of the mortgagor, to collect the interest upon a mortgage for £100, made by one Higgins of Cape Breton, and assigned by the late Hon. James B. Uniacke, to the Alumni for a specific purpose; and they had almost determined to foreclose the mortgage, when fortunately an offer was made which, although much less than the face of the mortgage, resulted after much negotiation and delay, in the transfer of the mortgage to W. D. Smith, of Mabou, for the sum of £100, and all arrears of interest, amounting to £28 5 0.

This principal sum of £100 has been placed upon a deposit receipt in the Bank of Nova Scotia, pending a better investment, and the interest according to the terms of the bequest can only be applied towards the payment of the salary of a Professor of the College.

During the year an instalment of eighteen pounds has been paid by one Angus McDonald, on account of purchase of lands at Antigonish, presented to the Incorporation by Mr. Merritt.