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THE TRADE REVIEW
 AND
Intercolonial Journal of Commerce.
 MONTREAL, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1869.

Purchasing Department of the **TRADE REVIEW.**
 See Advertisement.

The Grand Trunk Railway of Canada have announced the payment of the half-year's interest on the Atlantic and St. Lawrence shares.

It is reported from England that Earl Granville, the Colonial Secretary, has suggested as a compromise that the Dominion should pay the Hudson Bay Company £500,000 for the surrender of their territorial rights, and that the President of the Company has recommended the acceptance of the offer as the best which is likely to be obtained

An important meeting was held in Montreal on Tuesday evening, to consider the question of copyright, and resolutions were passed expressing the necessity of a change from the present unfair state of things, and asking legislation which would place Canadian publishers on the same footing with those of the United States, and enable them to publish reprints of English copyright works by paying 12 1/2 per cent. to the author. No one can fail to see the justice of this proposal, and it will obtain the support of all parties in this country.

BAY VERTE CANAL.
 THE project of connecting the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy by means of a canal through the isthmus of Chignecto, is again attracting public attention, especially in the Lower Provinces. The engineering difficulties in the way are comparatively trifling, and the entire cost of constructing a

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 FRED. COLE, Secretary.
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 9-ly

canal with eight feet of water, according to surveyor's estimates, would only be about \$275,000. The work is one which would probably be of more direct benefit to New Brunswick than to any of the other Provinces; but, nevertheless, the advantage would be great to all the Provinces, and the work might well be undertaken by the Dominion. That it would be a directly remunerative investment from tolls levied on vessels passing through it, though uncertain, is highly probable; but there is no doubt whatever that the existence of such a canal would be of far greater commercial value to the Dominion than would be at all represented by the small sum which it would cost to construct. A glance at the map will make this evident at once, as showing the great saving of time to all vessels desirous of going from the Gulf of St. Lawrence either to Bay of Fundy ports or to United States ports farther South. The flour trade between Ontario and St. John, already important, would be greatly increased by the opening of this canal, and St. John would then be within 50 hours distance from Montreal by water. We hope the next Session of Parliament will not end without the passage of a Bill providing for the construction of this public work whose importance is so greatly out of proportion to its probable cost, and to the undertaking of which we imagine there will hardly be any opposition.

BANK RETURNS.
 THE Bank Statement for February, published elsewhere, contains the complete returns for the Quebec and Ontario Banks. We append a comparison of their assets and liabilities for the months of February and January:—

	Jan.	Feb.
Circulation	\$ 9,019,504	\$ 9,238,838
Balances due other Banks	1,322,277	1,630,879
Deposits not bearing interest	16,050,663	14,624,810
Do. bearing interest	21,433,417	21,723,125
Total Liabilities	\$40,825,861	\$47,063,200

ASSETS.

Coin, Bullion, and Prov. Notes	\$18,277,920	\$11,772,460
Landed or other property of Bank	1,623,481	1,535,441
Government Securities	3,229,016	3,105,820
Notes of other Banks	1,823,118	1,623,838
Balances due from other Banks	4,937,073	5,638,474
Discounts	61,173,777	62,925,060
Other Debts	3,476,057	3,623,646
Total Assets	\$79,074,065	\$50,167,723

The principal changes in the February returns are