

# "CANADIAN MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE" EXTRA.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 14, 1857.

## Toronto Board of Trade—Special Meeting.

A special meeting of the Board of Trade was held on Monday evening, at which the President, T. Clarkson, Esq., presided. The meeting was numerously attended, and the following report and resolutions were submitted in reference to the present condition of the country:—

The Secretary, Mr. Robertson, read the report of the committee appointed to confer with the Managers and Cashiers of the several Banks. This report was as follows:—

"In compliance with the resolution passed by the Board at the last general meeting, your committee have held two meetings—the first of which was attended by five representatives of the Banks doing business here.

"Your committee being deeply impressed with the importance of the trust confided to them, endeavoured to explain the present state of the country as suffering from the monetary crisis which is now so generally felt throughout the American continent, in consequence of which they urged on the Banks the immediate adoption of some means whereby the produce of the country could be moved to market previous to the close of navigation—this being the most important measure of relief contemplated by your committee; in support of which it was shown that the circulation of the Banks would be increased without any danger from a run on them for specie, as the bills so circulated would gradually find their way back to meet the engagements of the city merchants, which would be a means of easing the Banks by decreasing the liabilities of their customers.

"Your committee respectfully suggested to the Banks the necessity of adopting some means by which they could settle the balances against each other, without the withdrawal of specie from their vaults, as has recently been the practice; and in this view your committee were supported by the unanimous opinion of those present.

"From the general tenor of the conversation at these meetings, it appeared evident that the Cashiers of the Local Institutions were desirous of affording the relief suggested. But in the absence of the Managers of the principal-named Institutions of Lower Canada, no decisive action could be taken, in consequence of which an adjourned meeting was held in the expectation of these gentlemen being present; but without the desired result. In conclusion, your Committee have reason to believe that the discussion which has taken place will not be without its use.

"Your Committee have sought the aid of the Board of Trade, of Montreal, so that a crisis may be averted, which, in its effects, would be ruinous alike to public and private credit.

"All of which is respectfully submitted."

The Report was received and adopted.

The President then stated that he had much pleasure in adding that an arrangement had been made by the Local Banks for settling their exchanges by bills of exchange on London; and that he understood these exchanges would take place monthly, which would materially ease the present pressure. He remarked that the Banks appeared desirous of assisting to get out the produce of the country before the close of navigation. On the whole, the action of the Committee was looked on favourably.

It was then moved by Mr. Armour, seconded by Mr. Lewis, that the Committee should receive a vote of thanks, and be requested to continue to act. Carried.

Several gentlemen having addressed the meeting, Mr. Heward stated that the Banks had agreed to settle their balances monthly. This statement was received with much satisfaction.

A communication from Mr. Isaac Buchanan, of Hamilton, was next read; it had reference to the present scarcity of money, enclosing a letter of his which appeared in the *Spectator* yesterday morning. The writer stated that 20 years ago the same sentiments had been uttered by him; and suggested that an interview should be had with the Inspector-General and other members of the Cabinet, in order to induce them to pass an act he had drawn up, and which he thought would cause relief in an emergency like the present.

## THE FINANCIAL CRISIS.

Financial affairs in the United States continue unsettled, and numerous suspensions and failures, both of Banks and individuals, are still reported.

The following is a list of failed Banks, to date so far as advices have been received.

Addison Bank, Addison, N. Y.	Oct.	7
Bank of Kanawha, Va.	Aug.	25
Bergen County Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	1
Bank of Orleans, N. Y.	"	10
Bank of New Jersey, N. J.	"	10
Bank of the South County, R. I.	"	12
Bank of the Capitol, Ind.	"	12
Bank of Elgin, Ill.	"	12
Bank of Galena, Ill.	"	18
Bank of Napierville, Ill.	"	18
Bank of Hartford County, Conn.	"	23
Bank of Canandaigua, N. Y.	"	24
Bank of Pennsylvania, Phil'd Pa.	"	25
Bank of Lima, N. Y.	"	29
Bridgeport City Bank, Ct.	Oct.	1
Bank of Corning, N. Y.	"	1
Bank of Belleville, Ill.	"	1
Bank of Belleville, Belleville, Ill.	"	1
Bass River Bank, Mass.	"	2
Bank of Ashland, Ky.	"	3
Bank of Trenton, Tenn.	"	5
Bank of Central New York, Utica	"	5
Bank of North America, Seymour, Ct.	"	5
Bank of Nashville, Tenn.	"	5
Bank of Watertown, N. Y.	"	6
Broadway Bank, N. Y.	"	10
Central Bank, Indianapolis, Ind.	Sept.	15
Colchester Bank, Conn.	"	18
Commercial Bank, Phil'd Pa.	"	26
Charter Oak Bank, Conn.	Oct.	6
Danby Bank, Vt.	Sept.	4
Dayton Bank, Ohio	"	17
East River Bank, N. Y.	Oct.	10
Exchange Bank, Hartford, Conn.	"	6
Farmer's Bank, Wickford, R. I.	Aug.	25
Farmer's Bank of Hudson, Wis.	Sept.	19
Farmer's Bank, Elizabeth City, N. C.	"	29
Fox River Bank, Wis.	Oct.	1
Farmer's & Citizen's B'k, Williamsburg N. Y.	"	1
Farmer's Bank, Hudson, N. Y.	"	2
Grocer's Bank, N. Y.	"	10
Gerard Bank, Philadelphia, Pa.	Sept.	25
Genesee River Bank, N. Y.	Oct.	1
Hollister Bank, Buffalo, N. Y.	Sept.	4
Huguenot Bank, N. Y.	"	12
Hopkinton Bank, R. I.	"	24
Hamilton Exchange Bank, N. Y.	"	30
Hudson River Bank, Hudson, N. Y.	Oct.	2
Lee Bank, Mass.	"	6
Leonardville Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	30
Mercantile Bank, Hartford, Conn.	Oct.	6
Monticello Bank, Va.	"	3
Medina Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	24
Miami Valley Bank, Ohio	"	10
Monsum River Bank, Main	"	16
Niagara River Bank, N. Y.	"	4
O'iver Lee's Bank, Buffalo, N. Y.	"	4
Ontario Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	15
Old Saratoga Bank, N. Y.	Oct.	2
Oneida Central Bank, N. Y.	"	5
Ontario County Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	9
Philipsburg Bank, N. J.	Oct.	2
Peninsular Bank, Detroit, Mich.	"	1
Pine Plains Bank, N. Y.	"	8
Powell Bank, Newburg, N. Y.	"	3
Pratt Bank, Buffalo, N. Y.	Oct.	10
Rhode Island Central Bank, R. I.	Aug.	25
Reciprocity Bank, N. Y.	"	26
Rock River Bank, Wis.	Sept.	14
Rock Island Bank, Ill.	"	17
Sackett's Harbor Bank, N. Y.	Aug.	26
Sandford Bank, Maine	Sept.	16
Stark Bank, Vt.	Oct.	2
Shelbyville Bank, Tenn.	"	5
Trader's Bank, Ind.	Sept.	17
Thompson Bank, Conn.	Oct.	8
Tiverton Bank, R. I.	Aug.	25
Union Bank, N. J.	Sept.	29
Warwick Bank, R. I.	Aug.	25
Warren County Bank, Pa.	"	25
Western Bank, Lockport, N. Y.	Sept.	22
Windham County Bank, Conn.	Oct.	3
Western Bank, Mass.	"	5
Weare Bank, N. H.	"	5
Worthington Bank, N. Y.	"	5
Yate's County Bank, N. Y.	Sept.	21

The following New-York City Banks suspended yesterday:—Marine, Ocean, Merchants' Exchange,

New-York Exchange, North River, Irving, Citizens', Chatham, Bull's Head, St. Nicholas, and Market Banks. Also, the Bank of South Carolina, and Western Exchange Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Nebraska.

Thompson's Reporter, quotes New England Bank Notes at 2 discount; New York State at 1 to 2 discount; Canada at 2 to 8 discount.

Bank exchange on N. York, is 2½ premium and scarce Private " " 2 " " Bank " " England, 9½ In Montreal, Bank exchange on England is quoted at 7 premium.

In New York, exchange on England is almost unsaleable, and has been sold as low as 95.

So far, Canada has stood the pressure with great firmness, but owing to our extensive relations with the United States, the return of easier times here, must depend very much upon the course of events on the other side.

In any event, the present low price of produce will doubtless soon tempt buyers to visit our market, and this with the aid of the Banks, will we trust give a healthier tone to Mercantile operations. To our friends we would say, buy and sell with great caution, reduce your liabilities to the lowest possible amount, and be prepared for the worst, for the safety of the mercantile community, like that of the soldier, consisting in being prepared for any emergency.

## AFFAIRS IN MONTREAL.

From John Dougall's Commercial Review of the 9th inst., we make the following extract:—

We have been making enquiries into the grounds for various charges now being brought against the Banks, and find the following very satisfactory results:—

1st. The Banks are discounting as freely as their capital and circulation will warrant, as the next monthly statement will show.

2nd. They have come to an arrangement, to settle their balance by exchange on England, a plan which will obviate the inconvenience of demanding specie, or exchange on New York.

3d. The Banks are refusing no credit, asked by responsible parties, for the purchase of produce in Canada, but, on the contrary, are facilitating, by every means in their power, this most necessary operation.

4th. So far from speculating in exchange, they are paying 3 or 4 per cent. more for it, than the same kind of bills, would sell for in New York, and thus doing all in their power to facilitate shipments of produce to Europe.

The fact is, the public have more need to turn their reprobation on panic makers, than on Banks. This class of people, among whom were two or three disreputable papers, in New York, have been instrumental in annihilating millions of exchangeable value in the United States, and throwing many thousands of working people, out of employment for the winter; and if Canada would beware of like results, she must beware of fostering or giving ear to would-be panic-makers.

The Montreal Gazette, of the 12th inst., confirms the above statements, and makes the following remarks:—

"The fact is, if people will but practice economy, believe nothing about panic and trouble which they do not know, maintain the confidence in themselves and the commercial community which the condition of the country justifies, we shall soon cease to hear the doleful stories which men delight in, in times like the present, and panic-making will go out of fashion. No doubt money is tight, and men will require to make sacrifices to get it. The farmer must sell his grain for less, and the merchant his exchange. Stocks and lands, too, must, in some cases, be parted with at a sacrifice; but there should be, and must be, no general crash, for Canada abounds in all the elements of wealth."

## Monthly Averages of Canadian Banks.

Date.	Capital.	Discounts.	Specie.	Circulation.	Deposits.
1857.					
March 31,	\$16,119,187	\$34,927,218	\$2,025,715	\$11,338,376	\$8,306,435
April 30,	16,295,597	32,232,219	2,145,249	10,859,571	8,507,157
May 31,	16,844,834	32,470,986	2,114,084	10,226,624	8,795,065
June 30,	17,246,140	32,307,199	2,310,933	10,511,876	9,650,326
July 31,	17,924,667	32,243,981	2,262,167	10,760,167	8,625,924
August 31,	18,092,888	32,931,843	2,272,310	10,777,358	8,621,015