

Real estate	85,077 68
Bank premises.....	66,760 44
	<hr/>
	\$7,969,041 71

J. S. BOUSQUET,
Cashier.

We, the undersigned auditors, named at the last general annual meeting of the shareholders, after having examined the books, verified the specie and legal tenders on hand, in a word, after having taken cognizance of the assets and liabilities of the corporation of "La Banque du Peuple," have the honor to report that we have found the whole to be correct and deserving our approval.

P. P. MARTIN,
NOLAN DELISLE,
LOUIS ARMSTRONG, } Auditors.

Montreal, 1st March, 1893.

After some brief remarks by the president, who moved the adoption of the report, the cashier, Mr. J. S. Bousquet, then made the following statement:—

THE MANAGER'S ADDRESS.

I have thought it desirable to shorten my remarks on the general trade of the year in order to enter, with probably wearisome minuteness, into the details of the growth of our bank since I first became associated with the responsibilities of its management; but such elaboration, I am convinced, will meet the approval of all the shareholders who watch our progress with kindly interest.

Any one who will contrast, however cursorily, the report and accounts now submitted with the similar documents of 1885, can hardly fail to be struck with the remarkable development which has been going on in this institution, through good and bad years; and this progress has been accomplished in the face of keen competition.

It is owing to this most careful attention to and supervision of our business that we have been able, out of surplus profit year after year, to effect most important internal "betterments," to establish and to nurse during their infancy our branches, and to attain, as we now claim to have attained, a high position amongst the soundest banks in the Dominion of Canada, as we believe in the security we offer to our customers, and in the class and proportionate amount of our investments.

Of course the dividends declared have not been large, but your directors felt sure that it was wiser to subordinate the question of large dividends to that of greater safety.

In comparing all the important items of our statement this year, we find that since the balance sheet was presented at last year's meeting, our deposits have increased by upwards of \$1,360,000, and it gives me pleasure to state that this increase is not made up of any particularly large sums, but of comparatively small amounts, and to a large extent in current accounts, which shall result in a considerable increase in the Bank's business connection.

In the item of circulation at \$752,446 there is an increase of \$17,592.

Our "Reserve Fund" of \$550,000 is increased by \$70,000, and our net profit is \$56,137.44 larger than that of last year.

Turning to our assets we have specie and legal tenders on hand, \$394,969.03, or \$58,980.17 more than last year; in money at call and short notice, \$1,230,304.03, an increase of \$782,428.55.

These immediately available assets, cash and call money, represent over 30 per cent. of our liabilities of \$6,152,437.36 to the public.

Our loans and discounts current, amounting to \$5,793,932.33, the increase for the twelve months is \$571,015.94.

Now, if we contrast the position of the bank with that which it had attained in 1885, the interval representing eight years, one may feel strongly impressed with the success that has been achieved. In order to show at a glance the results obtained, I have prepared a comparative table of the three most important items in our statement.

	Circulation.	Deposits.	Loans and Advances.
1885..	\$277,359	\$1,305,868 37	\$2,765,284 39
1887..	944,544	2,340,919 76	4,021,074 62
1889..	833,284	3,641,506 28	5,130,191 66
1891..	709,824	3,961,792 73	5,548,134 92
1893..	752,446	5,362,766 37	7,024,236 36

Therefore the growth of our deposits from \$1,305,868.37 to \$5,362,766.37; our circulation

from \$277,359 to \$752,446; our loans from \$2,765,284.39 to \$7,024,236.36, and our profits from \$76,000 to \$255,000, are matters to be grateful for.

We have now 18,000 persons to whom money is lent, 10,000 depositors and 700 shareholders. The amount of our money transactions during the year has been over \$160,000,000, and the gross earnings have exceeded 33½ of our capital.

In fact, so large has been the growth of our business that, as the president has just said a few minutes ago, we have bought the adjoining properties, and a building suitable to the advancing dignity of this bank is to be erected on them, which, doubtlessly, besides proving a profitable investment of the funds, will attract business by increasing the confidence and respect of the public.

We shall have, I suppose, to pay higher dividends in those new premises. Anyhow, we hope that the new premises will even be more satisfactory than the old ones, and that we shall be able to meet you at all future times with the same satisfactory statement that we have presented to you to-day.

In addressing the meeting of the shareholders of this institution in this very room last year, on the general trade of this province, I stated with regard to the failures that the large number and the large liabilities the annual list at that time disclosed, were due to unfavorable circumstances which had already then, to a great extent, passed into history; and, furthermore, I stated that our industrial, agricultural and commercial prospects and conditions were more than usually sound and promising.

This satisfactory outlook in March, 1892, was the result of our immense crops of 1891, and the high prices we had been getting for them.

The outlook has been fully realized. Even before examining any evidences of the volume and character of the business during the year which has just closed, no one would hesitate to say that 1892 has not proved far more prosperous than either 1891 or 1890.

Stated in brief, if we were to gather accurately the consensus of the whole business community, the results obtained would support the idea that although this has not been a conspicuously prosperous year, it has been a year of good returns all around.

Consumption of almost every article of merchandise has been large; the grocery trade, in nearly all its branches, has likewise enjoyed a good share of activity, with fairly remunerative prices ruling.

The dry goods trade of the country generally has not been in as good condition for years as it is now, after a very successful season.

The distribution of goods has not only been large, but they have passed into the hands of consumers, been paid for and remittances made to manufacturers; hence collection has been good.

This increased activity and improvement in values has been quite marked in manufactured goods, led by the great cotton goods industry in all its branches, the shoe trade and woollen manufactures.

Lumber, hardware and metals have also experienced a year of activity, and in all the minor branches of trade there has been a noticeable increase in the volume of transactions.

As to agricultural producers, the growers of live stock, and especially beef cattle, have not had a phenomenally good year.

Wheat raisers have suffered from extreme low prices, but their losses have been made up in part by their profits on other crops; but as I have already said, this Province does not produce much of either, consequently its local internal revenue, from an agricultural standpoint, has not suffered.

The hay crop of 1892 was a large one in the Province of Quebec and of fine quality; fortunately, owing to a poor crop in Great Britain, the demand for it was good, and there has been an amount of money made in shipping hay to the English market, where our Canadian hay is giving great satisfaction.

Our dairy products, chiefly our cheese, under the very important work done by the Dominion Agricultural Department through the experimental farms and their directors and professors, and also with the aid given by the Province on the same line, are certainly assuming greater and greater importance every year, and I am happy to state that there has been a great and rapid advance in the dairy industry

amongst farmers of this Province. Our fellow-countrymen seem to have awakened, and worked to improve their system, so much so that only the very best of Ontario and Eastern townships can hold its own against them. They are determined even to improve on the good quality.

The total value of cheese shipped from this port during the past season was over \$11,000,000, and the production has been larger than in 1891; according to returns, the total export figures indicate 1,651,798 boxes for 1892, as against 1,351,670 boxes in 1891, showing the large increase of 300,000 boxes.

Business as a whole has been done with satisfactory profit to the producers, and everything indicates that England would absorb any amount of cheese that we could produce, as long as we send fine cheese, for, although our make this year has been the largest on record, the amount of cheese left on hand at the close of the navigation was smaller than ever. This should stimulate our farmers to keep up the quality of their goods.

There are also no reasons why our farmers cannot also excel in butter; although some of the butter exported is of splendid quality, we regret to admit that so large a proportion of butter ranks below the *finest*.

Butter, especially, might easily be improved as a whole, and if a better quality could be produced this article would find just as easy a market as our cheese, and great profits could be derived from it by the farming community. No farmer need fear about the sale of his butter, and at a good price, if it is first rate.

Since dairying has received such an impetus in this country of late, the attention of our people should be turned to pork production.

The pork producing business is one of the most important in our agriculture, and it is hoped that before long a great many in this province will enter on this trade and will produce enough to supply our local wants, which are now provided for by Ontario farmers.

Therefore, in conclusion, I may say that the mercantile and agricultural classes, as well as the industrial, have had a good year and are in good shape; the demand from foreign countries for all our produce is good and the banks of the country have ample funds for the necessities and new development in trade, and lack no confidence in the future business in any section, either agricultural, commercial or industrial, of the Dominion.

QUEEN CITY FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Report of the directors to the twenty-second ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the company, Church street, Toronto, on Saturday, the 25th day of February, 1893.

REPORT.

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the Revenue account and the Profit and Loss account for the past year, and the balance sheet showing liabilities and assets on 31st December, 1892.

The number of policies at the close of the year was 2,919, covering at risk, after deducting re-insurance, the sum of \$2,349,225.

By referring to the Profit and Loss account it will be seen that the total sum at the debit of this account on 31st December was \$42,040.58, out of which has been appropriated the regular shareholders' dividend, equal to twenty-five per cent. of the original paid up capital, leaving a balance at the credit of this account to cover re-insurance reserve, etc., of \$39,540.58.

In accordance with Act of Incorporation all the directors retire and are eligible for re-election.

W. H. HOWLAND, President.
HUGH SCOTT, Managing Director.
THOS. WALMSLEY, Secretary.

QUEEN CITY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER, 1892.

Dr.

To premium income and rents \$23,026 39
Interest 4,376 90

\$27,403 29

Cr.

By re-insurance \$1,434 97
Cancelled policies 1,752 15

\$3,187 12