

condition of traders generally. On the other hand, the larger increase in deposits payable after notice, which very far exceeds all precedents in Canadian banking, being \$44,961,729 in the twelve months between 31st Dec., 1900, and 31st Dec., 1901, as compared with an average of ten millions, is significant evidence of the heavy accumulation of capital going on in Canada. The Canadian chartered banks increased their deposits last year by a larger sum than their total deposits in 1871.

It is understood that a change is contemplated in the form of the monthly bank returns. There are several that might well be amalgamated, as they show nothing of general interest, and, the distinction between some columns and others is more technical than practical.

Columns 5 and 6 in the Assets and 19 and 20 in Assets might be compressed into two columns. The "Average amount of specie" and "Average of Dominion notes held during the month" are items more fanciful than useful. Such averages can never be accurate, and, if accurate, would show nothing of the slightest value or interest.

How far the enlarged business done by the banks last year, as shown by the monthly returns, has been, accompanied by equal expansion in profits, will appear when more of the annual statements have been issued, in May and June next. In these days when bank competition is quite active, enlarged business does not necessarily imply commensurate increase in net profits.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR DECEMBER, 1901, OF THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA.

Comparison of Principal Items, showing increase or decrease for the month and for the year.

<i>Assets.</i>	Dec. 31st, 1901.	Nov. 30th, 1901.	Dec. 31st, 1900.	Increase or Decrease for the month.	Increase or Decrease for the year.
Specie and Dominion Notes.....	\$32,976,734	\$32,690,007	\$31,558,509	Inc. 847,727	Inc. 1,418,225
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	16,003,366	13,928,716	16,401,559	Inc. 3,065,180	Inc. 592,337
Deposit to Secure Note Issues.....	2,508,918	2,508,018	.....	.....	.....
Loans to other Banks in Canada secured.....	737,435	803,848	1,607,116	Dec. 66,413	Dec. 869,751
Deposits with and due from Bks. in Canada.....	5,821,200	4,767,435	4,402,835	Inc. 1,055,705	Inc. 1,426,345
Due from Banks and Agencies in United Kingdom ..	6,283,729	7,530,952	5,240,232	Dec. 617,223	Inc. 1,634,497
Due from Banks and Agencies elsewhere.....	11,156,756	14,010,462	11,677,009	Dec. 2,553,700	Dec. 220,343
Government Securities.....	9,768,701	10,426,428	12,451,142	Dec. 657,227	.....
Canadian Municipal Securities, British, Foreign or } Colonial other than Dominion.....	14,528,036	14,304,026	12,260,984	Inc. 224,010	Inc. 2,217,052
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks.....	31,994,130	33,661,712	25,507,842	Inc. 1,677,882	Inc. 6,486,288
Total Securities held.....	56,290,867	57,794,160	50,219,908	Inc. 1,501,999	Inc. 6,480,899
Call Loans, in Canada.....	37,651,041	37,552,475	33,981,408	Inc. 60,166	Inc. 3,670,465
Call Loans, outside Canada.....	45,263,661	40,661,177	27,214,789	Dec. 5,690,516	Inc. 18,020,172
Total Call and Short Loans.....	82,915,602	88,515,954	61,216,307	Inc. 5,690,650	Inc. 21,699,937
Loans and Discounts, in Canada.....	289,158,657	288,820,260	275,646,812	Inc. 338,397	Inc. 13,511,765
Loans and Discounts, outside Canada.....	32,160,566	28,534,885	20,079,790	Inc. 2,625,681	Inc. 12,081,276
Total Current Loans and Discounts.....	321,319,223	317,355,145	295,726,602	Inc. 3,964,078	Inc. 25,936,411
Aggregate of Loans to Public.....	404,235,125	405,871,097	356,942,449	Dec. 1,645,972	Inc. 47,292,678
Loans to Provincial Governments.....	3,793,026	3,223,091	.....	Inc. 570,535	.....
Overdue Debts.....	2,105,705	1,979,591	.....	Inc. 106,114	.....
Bank Promises.....	6,753,172	6,727,384	.....	Inc. 25,788	.....
Other Real Estate and Mortgages.....	1,616,747	1,594,840	1,714,434	Inc. 21,007	Dec. 78,017
Other Assets (chiefly Gold held in the Yukon).....	9,841,652	12,849,548	7,792,097	Dec. 3,007,860	Inc. 2,405,555
Total Assets.....	562,077,793	566,307,315	501,542,015	Dec. 4,289,512	Inc. 60,535,778
<i>Liabilities.</i>					
Notes in Circulation.....	54,372,788	57,741,566	50,758,216	Dec. 3,368,778	Inc. 3,524,542
Due to Dominion Government.....	4,804,646	3,501,573	4,540,906	Inc. 1,633,073	Inc. 323,740
Due to Provincial Governments.....	2,822,088	2,855,166	2,918,097	Inc. 33,078	Dec. 960,000
Deposits in Canada payable on demand.....	102,369,034	98,754,437	100,436,035	Inc. 3,545,597	Inc. 1,872,999
Deposits in Canada payable after notice.....	233,431,229	232,188,847	188,470,500	Inc. 1,242,384	Inc. 44,961,729
Total Deposits of the Public in Canada.....	335,740,463	330,943,284	288,915,535	Inc. 4,796,979	Inc. 46,824,728
Deposits elsewhere than in Canada.....	31,155,262	33,711,370	20,442,185	Dec. 1,156,108	Inc. 10,212,877
Total Deposits.....	367,065,625	364,654,654	309,357,720	Inc. 2,141,871	Inc. 57,737,605
Loans from other Banks in Canada secured.....	737,435	803,848	1,607,117	Dec. 76,375	Dec. 904,714
Deposits by and Balances due other Bks. in Canada.....	4,155,273	3,495,223	2,823,710	Dec. 660,050	Inc. 1,311,563
Due to Banks and Agencies in United Kingdom.....	3,754,773	4,588,367	4,190,638	Dec. 833,594	Dec. 435,965
Due to Banks and Agencies elsewhere.....	1,657,699	868,104	526,104	Dec. 181,545	Inc. 526,595
Other Liabilities.....	10,236,648	12,316,329	.....	Dec. 2,079,681	.....
Total Liabilities.....	449,691,585	450,824,830	392,150,481	Inc. 1,733,845	Inc. 56,941,501
<i>Capital.</i>					
Capital paid-up.....	67,591,311	67,568,607	67,087,111	Inc. 22,704	Inc. 404,200
Reserve Fund.....	37,364,708	37,074,774	34,501,349	Inc. 259,934	Inc. 2,863,359
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>					
Liabilities of Directors and their firms.....	10,820,718	10,561,503	12,188,943	Inc. 259,215	Dec. 1,368,225
Greatest circulation during the month.....	58,650,297	60,397,697	54,460,813	Dec. 1,746,804	Inc. 4,189,484