

Receiving, as he was, a large commission for procuring subscribers to stock, did this prevent him from challenging payments of commissions to some person or persons unknown, for which there are no vouchers?

Was he aware that the Manager or Cashier was discounting the Company's stock-notes, or notes for payment of instalments on stock, and using the same, and using the Company's indorsement to float these and other notes?

Did he, or did he not, know that he assisted in furthering irregular transactions under cover of the Company's indorsement, such, for instance, as the Three-Rivers bonds matter?

Let us now appeal to the Directors for replies to a few questions equally plain.

Seeing that they had made the Government deposit of over \$50,000 in bonds, and that they were in distress for funds, why did they not remonstrate against their Manager purchasing bonds? Did they ever inspect *in detail* the accounts of the Company? and did the large and unprecedented expenses not strike them as excessive? Did they inspect the loss-register of the Company, and compare that with the statements issued? and did they compare the losses and expenses with the premium receipts of the Company? While sanctioning the reduction of the Company's capital to twenty-five per cent paid up, did they do so in accordance with the resolution of the shareholders? Did they ever take steps to have this resolution legalized by sanction of the Legislature? and did they ever take the proper means to see that said resolution was carried out for the understood purpose of relieving the stock held by the Bank of Commerce? and has this been done? Is it not a fact that their Manager has grabbed the proceeds of the proposed reduction where made, and has left the said stock intact in the hands of the banks?

Have they not attempted to take advantage of the illegal action for reduction of the stock, thus hampering the due liquidation of the Company's indebtedness?

It is to be hoped that the shareholders, at their approaching meeting, will put men at the helm who will do their duty; and that duty plain. The approaching Report is anxiously awaited by the public; and we have no doubt Mr. Ross will let the truth see daylight.

We do not doubt that the Directors have felt their position keenly, and that they have shown anxiety to retrieve the Company's lost position. But if, as we believe, the true replies to our interrogatories will show them to have been unfaithful to their trust, *the best thing they can do is at once to re-insure on the terms already offered.* Otherwise let them issue a circular to their policy-holders, asking them either to send in their policies for cancellation, and to secure their rebate as soon as the money can be procured, or take their chances along with other creditors. Nothing short of this will extricate the Directors from the unenviable position they now occupy.