

STANDARD OF THE WORLD

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OLDEST BANK IN THE WORLD.

There was a kind of public record office attached to the palace and temple at Nineveh, in which it was customary to deposit important legal and other documents, such as contracts for agreements for the purchase and sale of property, marriage settlements, wills, etc.

Among these there were discovered official statements as to the history and transactions of the eminent banking house of Egidu at Nineveh. Assyrian chronology proves that these refer to a date about 2,300 years before the Chris-

SMITH, KERRY & CHACE

CONSULTING AND CONSTRUCTING ENGIN Hydraulic, Electric, Railway, Municipal. Industrial W.U. Code used. Cable Address "Si Rooms 124-7 Confederation Life Bldg., TORONTO

Cecil B. Smith

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General Manager.

tian era, when Abraham dwelt at Ur of the Chaldees, as is stated in Genesis. We may, therefore, claim for this firm the reputation of being the oldest bank in the world, at least of which we have any record, or are likely to have.

The accounts are very voluminous, and cover the transactions of five generations of the house from father to son.

The firm grew rapidly in importance during this period, during which they attained great wealth; for they had succeeded in securing from the king the appointment of collectors of taxes, a position which in the East always leads to fortune. They afterwards framed the revenue for several of the Assyrian provinces, with very great gain to the firm.-T. P.'s London Weekly.

PEN PICTURE OF COBALT.

It looks like a place that was only started yesterday, says Mr. Hamilton Fyfe in the London Daily Mail. Upon the permanence of the vein hangs the question whether it shall grow into a big town or whether the hillside, now a busy human ant-hill, shall in a few years be deserted again, and the wooden buildings left to rot in silent loneliness. Whatever happens, Cobalt will always be an interesting memory by reason of certain peculiarities which mark it off from all other mining camps.

There is no Bret Harte element about it-no Cousin Jacks in red shirts, no promiscuous revolver-shooting, no lawlessness, very little gambling, and, strangest of all, no drink. I never thought to see a teetotal mining camp, but that is what Cobalt professes to be. The hotel provides no stronger stimulant than ginger-ale.

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CASH AND MUTUAL SYST Total Net Assets, \$319,377. Amount of Government Deposit, \$35

John Fennell, Geo, C. H. Lang, W. H. Schur President, Vice-President Mgr . S

NORTHERN ASSURANCE CO. (

ch, 88 Notre

Income and Funds, 196
Capital and Accumulated Funds.
Annual Revenue from Fire and Life Premiums and from
Vested Funds
Deposited with Dominion Government for the Security of
G. E. Mosard G. E. MORERLY, Inspec. E. P. PEARSON, Agt. ROBT.