

they got him cheap and it served their purpose. Passengers when passing the cook house had many a time to shut their eyes to what was going on. It is simply an imposition on the travelling public to advertise to sell tickets as they do for a first-class passage, with such miserable accommodation.

ONTARIAN.

April 13th, 1891.

Meetings.

WESTERN BANK OF CANADA.

The ninth general meeting of the shareholders of the Western Bank of Canada was held at the head office of the bank, Oshawa, Ontario, on Wednesday, the 8th day of April, 1891. The following shareholders were present: John Cowan, W. F. Allen, Dr. McIntosh, J. A. Gibson, T. H. McMillan, T. Paterson, C. W. Scott, John McLaughlin, Thomas Miller, Robert Dillon, W. W. Tamblin and Daniel Lick.

The president, Mr. John Cowan, occupied the chair, and Mr. McMillan, the cashier, acted as secretary to the meeting.

REPORT.

The directors beg to submit the ninth annual report, for the year ending the 28th February, 1891. The net profits for the period covered by the report have amounted to the sum of \$39,366.82 (being about 11½ per cent. on the average paid up capital of the bank), which, with the balance, \$5,566.82, carried forward from the previous year, aggregates \$44,933.48. Out of this amount two half-yearly dividends of ¾ per cent. each have been paid or provided for, absorbing the sum of \$24,341.84, also \$9,000 transferred to the Rest account (which increases the Rest account of the bank to \$75,000), and the balance, \$11,591.64, has been carried forward to the credit of profit and loss. The business of the bank has been active and progressive, and no losses of importance have been incurred. The cash reserves have been maintained at a point in excess of the obligations of the bank.

JOHN COWAN,
President.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF THE WESTERN BANK OF CANADA.

February 28th, 1890.

Balance at credit of profit and loss account	\$ 5,566 82
Net profits of the year, after reserving interest due on deposits....	39,366 66
	\$44,933 48
<i>Liabilities.</i>	
Capital paid up.....	\$ 348,166 43
Reserve	75,000 00
Notes in circulation.....	273,795 00
Deposits	982,798 78
Due to other banks in Canada....	40 10
Reserved to pay interest.....	8,290 73
Due to dividend No. 17.....	12,205 85
Balance at credit of profit and loss account.....	11,591 64
	\$1,711,888 53

Applied as follows:—

In payment of dividend No. 16.....	\$12,135 99
In payment of dividend No. 17.....	12,205 85
Carried to credit of reserve account....	9,000 00
Balance at credit of profit and loss account	11,591 64
	\$44,933 48

Assets.

Specie.....	\$ 37,823 15
Legal tenders.....	31,419 00
Notes and cheques of other banks	11,302 78
Due from other banks in Canada	260,748 23
Due from agents in New York..	7,680 88
Due from agents in London, Eng.	62,916 66
Cash assets immediately available.....	411,890 70
Bills discounted current.....	1,284,424 40
Past due bills, secured.....	4,196 81
Past due bills, unsecured.....	1,415 69
Other assets, safes, &c.....	9,960 93
	\$1,711,888 53

T. H. McMILLAN,
Cashier.

Oshawa, February 28th, 1891.

It was moved by the president, and seconded by the vice-president, and carried, that the report as read be adopted, printed, and circulated amongst the shareholders.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, That the thanks of the shareholders are due and are hereby tendered to the president, vice-president and directors of the bank for the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the bank during the past year.—Carried.

On motion of Mr. Paterson, seconded by Mr. Gibson, it was resolved, That the thanks of the shareholders be given to the cashier and other officers of the bank for their attention to the interests of the bank.

Mr. Tamblin moved, seconded by Mr. Dillon, That this meeting do now proceed to elect by ballot seven directors to fill the places of those retiring, and that Messrs. C. W. Scott and John McLaughlin be scrutineers for said election, and that the poll remain open for one hour to receive the votes of the shareholders, but that should five minutes elapse at any time without a vote having been taken, the poll shall be declared closed, and that the scrutineers be paid \$4 each for their services. Carried.

The scrutineers reported the following seven gentlemen as having received the unanimous vote of the shareholders, viz.:—John Cowan, R. S. Hamlin, W. F. Cowan, Dr. McIntosh, W. F. Allen, Thomas Paterson, and J. A. Gibson, who were declared duly elected directors for the ensuing year. A vote of thanks was then tendered to the chairman for his able conduct in the chair, and the meeting adjourned.

At a subsequent meeting of the new board, John Cowan was unanimously elected president, and R. S. Hamlin, vice-president.

ANECDOTES OF SHANTY LIFE.

BY BARNEY.

It frequently happens that the taking out of timber becomes necessary in the summer in some localities when the soil and other conditions do not require snow and ice. On one occasion, when finishing a tie contract in the early heated term, when black flies and mosquitoes reign in the woods, a gang of shantymen, tired of horse play, were seated around a smudge fire smoking on Sunday afternoon. Some one hinted that a bottle of whiskey would not go badly, and suggested that lots be drawn and the unlucky one foot some nine miles for a supply. The usual squabble occurred as to the manner of drawing, when finally a big, dark complexioned Frenchman bet a gallon and the carrying of it, that he could lie on his face, stark naked, for half an hour, and never twitch a muscle from bites of flies or mosquitoes. He was taken up, then undressed himself, and on "time," got into shape. He stood the punishment without a flinch, although covered with the insects. When the challenger, after 27 minutes expired, saw he was elected, he quietly with a chip picked up a coal and deposited it on the victim's back. It sizzled for a second; then with a spring like a salmon and an oath. Mr. Frenchman jumped to his feet, dug his fingers into his back, yelled and danced. When told out of pure mischief that he had lost the bet, he roared: "Saore! nugh! you bet! you dink ha mans ha geese? shes not bargain for ha wassup."

The Crook Act has done much towards doing away with shebeens which flourished on the roads between civilization and the bush, but in many sections, although frowned upon by boss lumbermen and all foremen with the interests of their firm at heart, they continue to vend whiskey *Blanc* and swamp whiskey as a standing menace to peace and goodwill amongst crews who on their road to the shanties stopped for a meal or rested over night. On one occasion a crew, under a strict foreman, had reached the last stage but one of their overland journey. They put up for the night in a log building, constructed, furnished and stocked to meet the requirements of a shantyman, but unlicensed. In spite of the vigilance of the foreman some evidently were drinking, and, as evening wore on, some became drunk. The foreman remonstrated with the landlady and tried to frighten the landlord, but without avail. He finally heard a rumpus in a back room off the kitchen. The landlord was Highland Scotch, and was serving a countryman.

Two Frenchmen were endeavoring to force their way into the small room, but were stopped. When the landlord emerged from the tap-room, leaving his companion locked in, he was interrogated as follows: "Monsieur, we Frenchmen, eh? we be Scotchmans, eh, we get the liquor?" The landlord tried to explain that the foreman was raising a fuss, that he would get into trouble, and as a clincher he said in his best vernacular—"She'll no give to nobody, an' last o' a' to a Frenchy." He had hardly finished speaking when, bang! one of the dust struck him in the eye and disappeared like a shot. Quick as a flash he let the remaining Frenchman have it in the jaw. The recipient, on asking what he was thumped for, was told: "She was hit right on the e'e by yer nepoor, she didna deservt—ye didna deservt, ga on' hit him."—*Canada Lumberman.*

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 15th, 1891.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average 1891.
Montreal.....	925	923½	7	925	924	924½
Ontario.....	117	115	137	117	115	117
People's.....	97½	97	95	100	97	101
Molson's.....	187	185½	188½	187	185½	186½
Toronto.....	219	215	215	219	215	217
J. Cartier.....	95½	95	100½	97	100	98½
Merchants.....	146½	145½	25	146½	145½	146
Commerces.....	129½	128½	264	129½	128½	129
Union.....	105½	104	1806	105½	105	95
Mon. Teleg.....	61	60	606	61	60½	61
Rich. & Ont.....	194	192	78	194½	192½	201
Street Ry.....	182	199	98	185	181	181
do. new stock	203	203	72	203	202½	202½
Gas.....	188	180	12	195	180	180
do. new stock	804	79½	6050	79½	79½	79½
C. Pacific.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
do. land g. b'ds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
N. w. Land.....	.....	.....	.....	73	75½	85
Bell Telephone	112	110	28	.....	.....	.....
Montreal 4%.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

—At the annual meeting of the Canada Company held in London on the 26th of last month, Mr. R. Gillespie, who presided, said there were many elements in the report which ought to be encouraging, and amongst them might be particularly mentioned the discovery of natural gas, which was being utilised. He would not be surprised to find some important discoveries being made in Canada before long.

—*Good Health* says that a New York merchant noticed that each successive bookkeeper gradually lost his health and finally died of consumption, however vigorous and robust he was on entering his service. At length it occurred to him that the little rear room where the books were kept opened into a back yard so surrounded by high walls that no sunshine came into it from one year's end to another. An upper room, well lighted, was immediately prepared, and his clerks had uniform good health ever after.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, April 15th, 1891.

ASHES.—The market continues quiet with further weakness to be noted, and a drop in values is also to be reported in Liverpool. A couple of small lots of first pots have been sold to the U.S. at about \$4.60, but makers can hardly calculate on over \$4.50 now; second pots pretty well cleaned out, and we quote \$3.60. Two brls. of pearls in lately realized about \$6.25. Receipts light, but have kept steadily ahead of last year, and there is evidently more being made in the country.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The wholesale business in spring footwear is now about over, and travellers are off with fall samples to the more distant districts of the Dominion. There is no marked feature in the trade at present.

CEMENTS.—There has been a freer demand for cements in small lots, at figures ranging from \$2.50 to 2.80 as to quality and lot, Belgian included. Orders for some considerable blocks have been booked for import. Firebricks are in the situation noted a week ago.

DRY GOODS.—Some moderate sorting business is reported from west of Toronto, the