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AUTUMN CIRCULAR. 1868. 1853.

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# THE TRADE REVIEW

AND

Intercolonial Journal of Commerce.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1868.

The Business Office of the "Trade Review" is removed from No. 4 Merchants' Exchange to No. 58 St. Francois Xavier Street, Room No. 5, Up Stairs.

#### THE GORE BANK.

T the adjourned meeting of the shareholders of this Bank, held last Monday, (a full report of which will be found elsewhere.) it was unanimously resolved that it was expedient to reduce the shares to 60c. on the dollar, viz , from \$40 to \$24 per share.

It will be seen by reference to the Report of the special committee, that the balance to credit of capital account, after making all allowances for bad and doubtful accounts, is \$500,479 87. The paid-up capital of the Bank is \$803,289, so that the balance of capital still remaining intact is 61 81 per cont. of the original paid-up capital.

We presume that as soon as an amonded charter can be obtained, the proportion of capital not paid will be at once called in. If this be done, the Bank will then have a working capital of about \$615,000, and with combined energy and economy in the administration of its affairs, there is no reason why the Gore Bank should not recover much of its lost business and attain to a position as good as that of any other banking institution in the Province.

### THE ABBITBATION-SLOW WORK !

THE people have some right to complain at the long and apparently unnecessary dolay in settling up the old partnership between Upper and Lower Cana-da. It is now a long time since Messrs. Gray, MoPher-son and Day, were appointed arbitrators, but up to this time, we believe, nothing has been done by them. This is said not to be the fault of these gentlemen, but of one or all of the Governments interested; however this may be, it is to be regretted that so much delay has taken place. It is a very undesirable thing that the affairs of the Dominion and the two principal Local Governments should be so long mixed up together, and there are already those who hint that political intrigue rather than the public interest is at the bottom of it. We express no opinion on this point, party politics being without the province of this journal, but we certainly think there is no good excuse for longor delaying the arbitration, and that the longer the settlement is staved off the more probable is it that difficulties may arise. It is high time, too, that both Ontario and Quebec know their exact financial position. The local Legislatures are just about to assemble, and the people's representatives have a right to understand exactly what burdens their respective Provinces have to bear. Daring their first Sezsions, neither Mr. Dunkin nor Mr. Wood, the treasurers, were in a position to lay a full statement before the Hotal Houses, and judging from present appearances.

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the arbitration will not be held in time to enable them to do so this year. This will furnish a good text for "the Opposition," which honorable body has not always so valid a grisvance to descant upon. We trust we have seen the last of delay in this matter, and that the arbitrators, Messrs. Gray, MoPherson and Dsy, will be enabled to proceed with and finish their labours before the Local Houses reach the time for adjournment.

## GREAT WESTERN BAILWAY OF CANADA.

THE Report of the Directors for the half-year ending July 31st, 1863, will be found clsewhere.

We regret to notice a large falling off in the passenger traffic, as well as in local freight, mails, and sundries, compared with the corresponding period of 1867, the decrease on these items amounting to £20,214 sterling The increase in foreign freight and in the omigrant traffic makes the total decrease for the halfyear, £8,887.

The Directors assign as a principal cause of the decreased receipts " the diminished rates adopted by " the parallel routes for through passengers and "freight." As, however, there has been a large increase in foreign freight, while the decrease has been in the locals, this will hardly seem a very satisfactory manner of accounting for the reduced receipts, although it may be a very excellent reason why the per centage of working expenses to receipts should shew a great increase.

The Directors have recommended a dividend out of the earnings of 2 por cent. free of income tax, but from the auditors' report it will be seen that the amount absorbed by this dividend would be greater than the bona-fide carnings of the half-year. The auditors point out that the amount of American funds held July 31, was \$90,756.88 in excess of the amount held January, 31, 1868, and that no allowance has been made for the discount on this depreciated cur. rency, wh' h they calculate would amount to £5,600 at the then rate of gold. As the dividend of course is not payable in United States currency, it follows that the Directors have recommended the payment of a dividend in excess of the profits of the half-year, a course which, to state the case mildly, is certainly open to very grave objections.

The auditors further state it to be their opinion that the proper course to adopt with-regard to the treatment in the accounts of United States funds is at the end of each half-year to include them in the balance