

RECENT CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Comptroller of Customs has approved of the following decisions of the Board of Customs, as of date December 5th:—

Inaglypta wall decorations, 1½ cents a roll, 25 per cent.
Oakum felt, 17½ per cent.
Car-jacks, 30 per cent.
Peptogenic milk powder, 25 per cent.
Peta naphthol, 20 per cent.
Single spun silk, colored, 20 per cent.
Dental furnaces, generators and gasometers, 27½ per cent.
Bunsen burners, 27½ per cent.
Blow pipes, 35 per cent.
Vulcanizers of copper, 30 per cent.
Vulcanizers of iron, 27½ per cent.
Metal boxes, plated, when lined, 5 cents each and 30 per cent.; and, when not lined, 30 per cent.
Jute cloth, woven, in part, with colored jute yarn, 20 per cent.
Solderine, free.
Baskets and skips containing cotton yarn, dutiable at same rate as if empty.
Log or coach screws, 30 per cent.
Hasps and staples, and screw hooks and eyes, 32½ per cent.
Leather leggings, lined with cotton, 25 per cent.
Cotton canvas, gun covers, or cases, 32½ per cent.
Leather gun cases, 25 per cent.
Chandelier, or lamp hooks, of iron or steel, 27½ per cent.
Chandelier, or lamp hooks, of brass, 30 per cent.
Turmeric, ground, free.
Quilt frame and carpenters' clamps, 35 per cent.
Paper boxes, plain, printed, or ornamented, or labelled (not including boxes covered by item No. 352), duty, 35 per cent.

Collodion, for photographers, 20 per cent.
Soapstone packing, 22½ per cent.
Electric bells, 25 per cent.
Potato planters, 20 per cent.
Carbonate of potash, 20 per cent.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Dec 11th, 1895.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average price 1894.
Montreal	221	218½	219	222	220	218
Ontario	80	80	16	.....	80	101
People's .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	116
Molsons	180	180	30	183	175	169½
Toronto	243	243	4	.....	242	245
Jac. Cartier .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merchants'	169	167	4	170	167	163½
Commerce	136½	136	141	137	136½	137½
Union	100	100	50	100	.....	100
M. Teleg	164	164	46	164½	163½	155
Rich. & Ont.	102½	99½	1075	101	100	84
Mont. St. R'y.	225½	218	16922	222½	222½	161
Gas	206½	203	3280	204	203½	192½
C. Pacific Ry.	54½	53½	250	54½	54	59½
Land gr't b'nds ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	107	109½
N.W. Land pref. ..	.....	.....	.....	50	40	.....
Bell Tele.	160	159	90	159½	159½	154½
Mont. 4% stock ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

STORY OF THE ERIE.

The Erie Railway has just passed into the hands of its bondholders, and has by them been reorganized. The *Railway Age* recalls the remarkable history of the road, and presents it in the following chronological order:—

1832—New York and Erie Railroad chartered to build from Piermont, on the Hudson, to Dunkirk, on Lake Erie, 446 miles.

1836—Construction begun, the gauge being six feet.

1841—Went into bankruptcy, having built 60 miles, to Goshen. Extended to Middletown, seven miles, in next two years.

1845—Reorganized under the same name, the State releasing its mortgage of \$3,000,000, and the stockholders surrendering one-half their stock.

1851—Completed to Dunkirk. Next year extended into Jersey City.

1859—Second bankruptcy. Receivers appointed.

1861—Reorganized as the Erie Railway Company.

1868—Passed into control of Jay Gould and Jim Fisk. Fisk killed a little later. Capitalization increased from \$74,000,000 to \$102,000,000.

1872—Gould ousted by an exciting coup d'état on the part of the English bondholders represented by Gen. Sickles. Gen. John A. Dix elected president in Gould's place. Capitalization had risen to \$128,000,000. Mileage, 959 miles.

1875—Third bankruptcy. President H. J. Jewett appointed receiver. Capitalization, \$142,000,000.

1878—Sold under foreclosure. Reorganized as the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad. Capitalization reduced from \$152,000,000 to \$94,000,000. Third rail laid to give standard gauge connections. The six-foot gauge was finally abandoned in 1885.

1884—Defaulted on interest on bonds. Adjustment effected.

1894—Fourth bankruptcy. Placed in the hands of receivers. Capitalization and debt, \$179,000,000. Mileage operated, including leased and controlled N. Y., P. & O. and Chicago & Erie roads, 1,970 miles.

—At Tilbury a large pond of water has been connected by a pipe with the reservoir of the village water works, so that in case of fire the supply will not be exhausted easily.

Annual Statement of the Western Loan & Trust Co., Ltd.

MONTREAL, P.Q. Ending Oct. 31st, 1895.

Profit and Loss Account

RECEIPTS

By Balance brought forward\$14,802 45
By Sundry Earnings 3,744 04
By Interest 21,756 74

—————\$40,303 23

EXPENDITURES

To Dividends Nos. 4 and 5, 1894.....\$ 6,818 57
To Dividend No. 6 6,853 08
To Sundry Expenses, including advertising, postage, interest and Exchange 2,900 23
To Expenses of Management for 17 months, including salaries, directors' fees, rent, etc. 6,267 42
To deductions from fixtures, etc..... 268 48

—————\$23,107 78

By Balance forward 17,195 45

—————\$40,303 23

General Balance Sheet

October 31st, 1895

ASSETS

Cash on hand.....\$ 197 94
Loan Account, including int. accrued .. 716,100 44
Cash in Bank..... 895 54
Sundry Accounts, including debentures and other securities .. 23,668 75
Office Furniture and Supplies 2,229 33
Stockholders' Account..... 815,196 37
Agents' Supplies 478 63
Contingent Account..... 824 84

—————\$1,559,591 84

LIABILITIES

Capital Account \$1,083,050 00
Profit and Loss Account..... 17,195 45
Trust Funds 5,346 39
Due the Bank 4,000 00
Debenture Account 450,000 00

—————\$1,559,591 84

To the President and Directors :

GENTLEMEN,—I hereby certify that I have checked every entry in the books of the company and found them to be correct. I have also checked the foregoing statement and can certify that the same is correct in every particular. Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER WOODS, Auditor.

DEAR SIR,—At a meeting of the directors of this company held on the 19th instant, immediately preceding the Annual Meeting of the company, a dividend of 3½ per cent. was declared on the stock of the company having 25 per cent. or over paid, payable on and after the second day of December next. This, as you will understand, is for the last six months, making the dividend for the year seven per cent.

At the Annual Meeting, the statement herein enclosed was submitted and in the regular way adopted. The following gentlemen were elected directors for the next ensuing year:—President, Hon. A. W. Ogilvie, Senator of Canada; Vice-President, S. H. Ewing, Esq., Vice-President Molsons Bank; J. N. Greenshields, Esq., Q.C., of Messrs. Greenshields & Greenshields; R. Prefontaine, Esq., M.P., of Messrs. Prefontaine, St. Jean & Archer; J. S. Bousquet, Esq., Merchant; W. Barclay Stephens, Esq., Manager; John Hoodless, Esq., of Messrs. J. Hoodless & Son, Hamilton, Ont.; R. W. Knight, Esq., Stock Broker, of Woodstock, Ont.; R. A. Anderson, Esq., Financial Agent, Vancouver, B.C. At a subsequent meeting of the Board the Hon. A. W. Ogilvie was re-elected president, and Mr. S. H. Ewing elected vice-president. Mr. Ewing is a director in a few monetary institutions in the city, as well as being the vice-president of the Molsons Bank.

The authorized capital stock of the company is \$2,000,000, and there is still quite an amount of that stock not taken up. If you, or your friends, wish to make a safe and paying investment, I sincerely hope that you will consider favorably the stock of this company and subscribe for a few more shares. The affairs of the company are in a very satisfactory condition. We have had only one foreclosure since the incorporation of the company and the amount of that mortgage was \$600, besides it was a mortgage which we took over from one of the Building and Loan Associations which we absorbed two years ago. Hoping that I will have the pleasure of hearing from you, I remain,

Yours truly,

W. BARCLAY STEPHENS, Manager.

Montreal, November 20th, 1895.