

with the timber trade of Ottawa and Quebec, we can understand how the losses that were made cast no reflection on the management.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Bank naturally suggests a reference to its past career and the Directors, it will be seen, take pride in noticing that the claims of the institution to public confidence have suffered no diminution.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

A tone of quiet satisfaction pervades the report of the directors of this bank, quite in keeping with the substantial character of the institution. The results of the year's business are summed up thus: profits, \$902,410, two half-yearly dividends of 5 per cent, and a sum declared to the credit of the 'Rest' account, after providing for all debts regarded as either bad or doubtful, of \$250,000 which brings the Rest up to \$1,500,000, or twenty-five per cent of the paid capital of the Bank. The directors have every reason to congratulate the shareholders upon the condition of the Bank's affairs, and Mr. King may well pride himself on the results of his shrewd management.

THE INTERNATIONAL AND THE HERCULES.

We learn from the *Post Magazine* that an amalgamation of these two Companies has been brought about. The International, it is said, has been in existence thirty years, and the assets it proposes to hand over do not amount to more than £16 upon each policy issued from its formation. The purchase is regarded as "the most disastrous that has ever taken place between Insurance Companies." The Hercules is described as "an insignificant Company of almost yesterday."

In referring to the Report of the Ontario Bank last week we omitted to mention the death of the former Vice-President of the Bank, Mr. Mann. Mr. T. N. Gibbs, of Oshawa, was elected to fill his place. The Directors could not have made a more judicious selection.

Stock and Money Market.

TORONTO, June 9th.—(Reported by Pellatt & Oaler, Brokers.)—Business for the past week has somewhat revived, and transactions in stocks and debentures were more frequent than for some time past.

Bank Stock.—The Director's report of the Bank of Montreal for the past year shows that \$250,000 has been added to the "rest," making that account now stand at \$1,500,000, a sum equal to 25 per cent. on the capital; the stock is now worth 130 to 130½. British sold at 105½. There were large sales of Ontario during the week at 98. Toronto is offering at 113½, with buyers at 112. Paid-up Royal Canadian carrying full dividend is freely offered at 90; no buyers at that price. Very little Commerce in market. Nothing doing in Gore. Merchants' sold at 106, but holders are now asking 107 to 107½. There are sellers of Quebec at 99, with buyers at 97. Sales of Molsons are reported at 108. City could be readily placed at 98½. Du Peuple is offering at 105.

Debentures.—Canada "fives" sold at 88, and "sixes" are offered at par. There is a large quantity of Toronto offering, to pay 63, due 1875. County sold during the week, pay 61.

Sundries.—There were transactions in City Gas at 105. Canada Permanent Building Society could be placed at 118; none offering. There are buyers of Western Canada at 109½. Freehold nominal at 100½ to 101; the Director's report shows that after paying two dividends of 4 per cent., \$9,800 has been carried to the reserve fund which now represents \$32,500. Mortgages are wanted, and several small ones have been placed at 8 per cent. Money continues in good demand, and high rates are obtained for short date paper.

MONTREAL, JUNE 8.—The inactivity of trade generally is causing a shade easier feeling in the Money Market, and Banks are continuing to meet the wants of all legitimate business at 7 to 9 per cent discount, the transactions over these rates being exceptional. The Stock Market is quiet but steady; the leading securities only being in request. Bank of Montreal sold at 129½, and is in good demand at 129½. British are wanted at 104 with sellers at 105. City are dull at 98 @ 98½. Ontario have changed hands to a moderate extent at 97, buyers generally offering 96½. The demand for Merchants' is considerable at an advance on our recent quotations. Sales at 107½, holders generally asking 108, with ready buyers at 107½. Gore are heavy and nominal at 45 to 47. Royal Canadian are rather weaker; sellers at 88 and buyers at 87. There are buyers of Telegraph at 135, but no sellers under 136. Richelieu are not so active; buyers have reduced their offers to 112½, but there are no sellers under 116. Dominion and Canada 6s are steady; sales at par. Champlain and St. Lawrence Railway Sterling 1st Mortgage Bonds sold at 69. Other Securities are unchanged.

LONDON, May 23rd, 1868—

	May 23, 1868.	May 24, 1867.
Bank rate of discount...	2 per cent.	3 per cent.
Bank Reserve.....	£11,868,813	£11,893,000
Bank stock of bullion...	29,788,963	19,064,000
Price of Consols	94½	93½

The abundance of money, combined with a diminished demand for discount, has resulted in a decided reduction of the terms in the open market, first class paper having, the last day, or two, been taken as low as 1½ to 1½ per cent., or ¼ to ½ per cent. below the Bank minimum. On the Stock Exchange, loans on Government securities are offered at 1 per cent.

The bank return exhibits a large addition to the reserve and bullion, the increase in the former being £550,855, and in the latter £497,575.

The following are the particulars, as compared with the preceding week:—

Rest	£3,111,556
Increase	3,865
Public Deposits	6,041,006
Increase	266,729
Other Deposits	29,329,946
Increase	259,912

On the other side of the account:—

Government Securities.....	£13,377,696
Decrease	25,763
Notes unemployed.....	10,542,710
Increase	257,596

The amount of notes in circulation is £23,925,150, being a decrease of £53,280.

NEW YORK, JUNE 6.—The week commenced with an easier condition of the banks. The last statement showed an increase of \$3,400,000 in legal tenders and of \$2,239,000 in deposits, which considering that the specie line was down \$2,615,000 amounts to a gain of \$4,854,000 in currency deposits; while the loans had increased only \$796,000. The statement indicates an increase of currency balances; and the fact of the light increase in loans and discounts as compared with the large gain in deposits implies that the amount of discounted paper maturing largely exceeds that being disposed of. This movement leaves a much larger amount of funds for use on call loans, and the rate has consequently declined to 3@4 per cent to brokers.

To-day, there has been rather more demand for money and some transactions, on miscellaneous collaterals are reported at 5 per cent.

The banks have employed some of their balances in the purchase of governments; this, however, has no effect in diminishing the extreme ease of the market, as the funds again return into the banks. Reports from all parts of the country indicate a marked ease in money at the minor centres, and the interior banks are consequently allowing their balances to accumulate here. This produces an extreme ease at New York, and encourages speculative transactions in securities; upon any new demand for moving the wool crop, or for the purchase of grain these balances are liable to be drawn upon, causing a change from the present easy state of affairs. After the middle of the month, the banks will begin to regulate their affairs with a view to the quarterly statement to be made up on the first Monday of July.

Discounts are quiet; prime commercial paper is in demand at 5@6 per cent, but is scarce.

CHICAGO, JUNE 8.—Money, as was shown by the monthly bank statement published yesterday, has scarcely ever been so abundant, and the only wonder is that it has, as yet, been the means of originating no speculative movement in products, goods, real estate, or anything else. Merchants' deposits are increasing, and the general tendency is to clear off obligations instead of to borrow more. At this season lumbermen usually want large accommodations, but at present—though the receipts of lumber have been heavier during the past week than at any time before during the season, and lumbermen have laid in large stocks—very few of them want accommodation at the banks, and in the aggregate they are paying off instead of borrowing.

Railway News.

NORTHERN RAILWAY.—Traffic receipts for week ending 30th May, 1868.

Passengers	\$4,337 81
Freight	10,705 23
Mails and sundries	2,073 24

Total	\$17,116 28
Corresponding week, 1867	15,436 98

Increase

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for the week ending 22nd May, 1868.

Passengers	\$27,030 31
Freight	39,520 16
Mails and sundries	3,579 76

Total Receipts for week	\$70,130 23
Corresponding week, 1867	59,379 03

Increase

GRAND TRUNK.—The wretched Grand Trunk securities seem to have taken a considerable rise yesterday, why we know not. The traffic is good, but in late years when has the traffic been bad? The only thing that is not good is the management. If we could get the line as well managed as the Great Western of Canada, people would be amazed at their past folly in deeming the Grand Trunk a worthless line. It is a line, in our judgment, capable of returning a very decent profit. We do not believe that it is a great property. We doubt whether it ever will be great, but we are quite sure that with economical management it is much better than market price indicates it.—*Herald's Journal*.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF INSURANCE.—At the last meeting of the New York Chamber of Life Insurance, the chairman stated that his attempt to induce Congress to consider the propriety of establishing a National Bureau of Insurance had been unsuccessful.

OIL WORKS.—We regret much to hear that owing to the operations of the Excise on Petroleum, and its relations to the Customs' Duty, the Oil works have been obliged to suspend operations. There have been generally about 300 persons, young and old, supported by this manufacture. We trust that some way of resuscitating it may ere long be devised. The foreign will now drive the local oil out of the market.—*St. John's Journal*.