

THE MAY BANK STATEMENT.

The latest statements rendered to the Government by the chartered banks show very little cause for comment. There is nothing to indicate any marked change in the business of the country. The holdings of specie increased during the month \$2,209,965, being now 3 1-2 millions in excess of the May figures of the same item in 1899. Dominion notes show an unimportant reduction. The amount due from American banks and Agencies increased during the month \$2,068,337. The amount due from the United Kingdom increased by \$776,217, although during the twelve months the reduction has been over four millions. Current loans continue to denote activity and growth in trade, the increase during May exceeding 1 1-4 millions, and for the year \$33,717,642. Overdue debts reveal a reduction in the amount thereof since May, 1899, of \$358,140, of which total \$313,496

represents the receipts for May. This somewhat significant reduction in an interesting item of the Government statement can only be explained by bank managers. On the eve of annual meetings they are usually very active in the collection of matured obligations. At all events, the reduction is something to note and rejoice at.

Bank notes in circulation vary but little for the month, but the total amount is nearly six millions in excess of the figures of 1899. Deposits on demand and otherwise, continue to increase, the combined increase therein being nearly \$7,000,000.

The recent issue of annual statements, and the liberal treatment of the officials of some of the banks, mark an extremely successful banking year.

For purposes of future reference and comparison, we publish our usual statistical abstract of the May Bank Statement.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR MAY OF THE RETURNS OF THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA.
Comparison of the Principal Items.

<i>Assets.</i>	31st May. 1900.	30th April. 1900.	31st May. 1899.	Increase and Decrease for month.	Increase and Decrease for year.
Specie and Dominion Notes.....	\$29,224,075	\$27,014,110	\$25,648,191	Inc. \$ 2,209,965	Inc. \$ 3,575,884
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks.....	9,675,405	10,340,636	10,545,635	Dec. 665,231	Dec. 870,230
Due from American Banks and Agencies.....	21,217,311	19,148,974	22,055,017	Inc. 2,068,337	Dec. 837,706
Due from British Banks and Branches.....	5,992,243	5,216,026	10,030,419	Inc. 776,217	Dec. 4,038,176
Canadian Municipal Securities and Brit., Prov. or } Foreign or Colonial other than Dominion..... }	17,136,998	17,004,868	16,071,584	Inc. 132,130	Dec. 1,065,414
Railway Securities.....	14,093,698	14,336,216	14,908,616	Dec. 242,518	Dec. 814,918
Loans on Stocks and Bonds on Call.....	28,900,129	28,905,583	29,154,398	Dec. 5,454	Dec. 254,269
Current Loans to the Public.....	282,876,813	281,615,493	249,159,171	Inc. 1,261,320	Inc. 33,717,642
Overdue Debts.....	1,583,931	1,897,427	1,942,071	Dec. 313,496	Dec. 358,140
Total Assets.....	436,049,338	429,714,067	403,678,070	Inc. 6,335,271	Inc. 32,371,268
<i>Liabilities.</i>					
Bank Notes in Circulation.....	42,856,762	43,908,432	37,012,914	Dec. 1,051,670	Inc. 5,843,848
Due to Dominion Government.....	3,358,068	2,404,425	3,767,372	Inc. 953,643	Dec. 409,304
Due to Provincial Governments.....	2,772,754	3,099,686	2,350,788	Dec. 326,932	Inc. 421,966
Deposits payable on demand.....	99,520,204	94,979,467	92,200,417	Inc. 4,540,797	Inc. 7,319,847
Deposits payable after notice.....	176,503,361	174,041,686	164,117,087	Inc. 2,461,675	Inc. 12,386,274
Do made by Banks.....	2,622,900	2,226,568	3,057,160	Inc. 396,332	Dec. 434,260
Due to American Banks and Branches.....	925,571	1,167,813	542,557	Dec. 247,242	Dec. 383,014
Due to British Banks and Branches.....	6,158,335	5,671,691	6,896,443	Dec. 486,644	Dec. 738,108
Total Liabilities.....	336,182,352	328,568,220	311,052,591	Inc. 7,614,132	Inc. 25,129,761
<i>Capital.</i>					
Capital Stock paid-up.....	64,589,447	64,454,351	63,617,335	Inc. 135,096	Inc. 972,112
Reserve Fund.....	31,099,989	30,581,347	28,907,231	Inc. 1,118,642	Inc. 2,792,758
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>					
Directors' Liabilities.....	10,005,081	10,477,190	7,072,041	Dec. 472,109	Inc. 2,933,040
Greatest amount of notes in circulation at any time } during the month..... }	45,853,285	45,620,310	38,412,933	Inc. 232,975	Inc. 7,440,352

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation, amount required being 5 per cent. of maximum circulation for year ending 30th June, 1899 \$2,068,822.

THE LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The manager of the Canadian Fire Branch of the Lancashire, Mr. Thompson, is being congratulated upon entering into possession of the handsome new building just erected in Toronto, which is likely to prove an excellent investment for the company:

"The property consists of a five story building, 50 feet wide by 115 feet deep, running through from Wellington St., East, to Front St., East, the location being 27 and 29 Wellington St., East, and 36 and 38 Front St., East, Toronto.

There is an entrance to the main floor from Wellington Street, and another entrance to the street floor from Front Street. The building has a handsome architectural appearance on both fronts. The property was purchased by the company about one year ago, and the structure was completed on the 1st inst. No expense has been spared in making the building first-class and up-to-date in every particular.

The main entrance is finished in a very handsome and substantial manner, the main hall having a marble Mosaic floor, marble steps, and marble dado. The