To-day, for example, so low has the rate of interest fallen that the Governme found it necessary to accept $1\frac{1}{4}$ for fifteen millions of dollars placed temporarily wi banks in Montreal.

The figures above show that while deposits increased in our banks seven tim over in thirty years, circulation very little more than doubled and discounts hard doubled, all facts that show the stability of our banks and banking system. Dividen paid on the earnings of Banks in Montreal runs from 6 to 10 per cent. Take this tab It gives the present condition of Montreal Banks in a nut-shell.

STATEMENT OF BANKS ACTING UNDER CHARTER.

*For the month ending 31st December, 1885, according to the Returns furnished by them to ihe Department Finance.*

| NAME OF BANK. | Capital Authorized. | Capital Subscribed. | Capital Paid-Up. | Reserve Fund. | Total Liabilities. | Total Assets. | Divide Declar Rate p. per ann |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bank of Montreal | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 | 12,000,000 | 6,000,000 | 28,077,748.47 | 46,749,584.37 | 10 |
| Bank of British N. America | 4,866,666 | 4,866,666 | 4,866,666 | 1,055,100 | 6,714,669.00 | 11,423,842.00 | 6 |
| Banque du Peuple | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 | 200,000 | 2,147,430.34 | 3,676,680.11 | 6 |
| Banque Jacques-Cartier | 500,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 140,000 | 1,251,552.83 | 1,912,859.25 | 6 |
| Banque Ville-Marie | 500,000 | 500,000 | 477,530 | 20,000 | 959,737.34 | 1,462,543.94 | 7 |
| Banque d'Hochelaga | 1,000,000 | 710,100 | 710,100 | 70,000 | 1,188,549.75 | 1,973,811.01 | 6 |
| Molsons' Bank | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 675,000 | 7,952,303.04 | 10,833,081.98 | 8 |
| Merchants' Bank of Canada | 6,000,000 | 5,798,267 | 5,736,699 | 1,375,000 | 14,622,697.89 | 21,982,369.11 | 7 |
| Banque Nationale | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | Nil. | 2,250,341.21 | 4,399,880.41 | Nil. |

# TRADE OF THE PORT OF MONTREAL.

Having touched upon the heart of our commercial system, on banks let us giv the reader a glance at their arteries and feeders. This the trade of the Port of Mon real has to do with. From the report of Geo. A. Hadrill, Secretary of the Montre Board of Trade, we find that the total tonnage of sea-going vessels for season of 18 was 683,854 tons, which exceeds the previous highest record (664,263 tons in 1883 Of this tonnage only 9.39 per cent. was sail, showing how completely steamers hav supplanted sailing vessels in the ocean carrying trade of this port. Of inland vesse there arrived 5003, with a total tonnage of 724,975 tons, the aggregate of ocean an inland tonnage being 5632 vessels and 1,408,829 tons.

The lumber trade continues to be a large item in Montreal's shipping busines the exports to South America in 1885 employing 47 vessels, carrying a total of 26,465 543 feet, the shipments to the United Kingdom being 89,667,407 feet, of which 84,282 275 feet were by steamers.

There is a large and steady increase in the exports of Phosphate, last year's figures being 24,299 tons; for 1884, 20,461 tons; and for 1883, 17,160 tons.

Receipts of coal by sea in 1885 were, from Great Britain 48,022 tons, from th United States 213,641 tons, and from the Maritime Provinces 215,600 tons, or a total o 478,953 tons.