

Tedious details all these may seem to some—détails relating to events which should be relegated to the catacombs of history ; for no sensible man should care either how they happened, or whether indeed they happened at all or not. Yet they are important cogs in the machinery of human life, and we claim for them a place, however humble, in the page of history. The influence exerted on the prosperity of nations by the character of their currency is perhaps a branch of study which has received less attention than it deserves. The minds of historians have been too much engrossed by the stirring drama of war and diplomacy, of politics and court intrigues, to give themselves to the dry and obscure study of such subjects as those which we are now discussing. "In the whole of the international policy of a State," writes our late President, Mr. Stuart, "there is none which calls for more vigilant, unremitting attention on the part of the first executive magistrate and the Council of State, &c."

Closely related to the subject of Currency, is the business of Banking. All hope of success in establishing a Bank in the Colony had not been abandoned. On the 4th of March, 1807, an advertisement appeared in the *Gazette*, requesting the attendance of the inhabitants of Quebec, at the Union Hotel, on Friday, the 6th, at one o'clock, P.M., to consult on the proper measures to be taken for the establishment of a Bank of issue in the Province. Nothing practical however resulted from the meeting.

In February, 1808, a petition of divers inhabitants of the Cities of Quebec and Montreal, praying to be erected into a body corporate, under the title of the "Canada Bank," was presented to Parliament—received and referred to a special committee ; and on March 4th, the Bill was introduced. Objections, however, were urged against the measure by many members—objections which, estimated by