

does not represent the total increase in circulation, there being also as was to have been expected a large increase in the issues of "Legal Tenders." Deposits still continue to swell in amount, the additions for September being \$230,000 in deposits not bearing, and \$800,000 in those bearing interest. Deposits in the P. O. Savings Banks have also increased \$31,337.

Turning to the Liabilities, we find that the reserve of coin and Legal Tender notes has been largely drawn upon, the decrease being to the extent of over \$3,000,000, balanced by an increase in discounts of \$3,640,000.

The movement in grain being now much more rapid than during last month, we shall expect to see in the next Bank Statement still more marked changes than are exhibited in the foregoing.

### ARE THEY NOT TRAITORS?

**A**RE not those the worst of traitors who persistently endeavour to work injury to the country of their birth or of their adoption? Are they not the most contemptible of traitors in that while they thus seek to inflict injury, they at the same time profess to be most anxious for the welfare of the country? Such are the men who, for personal or political end, have been crying "stinking fish," over this Canada; who have been vilifying it without ceasing; who have painted it as well nigh unfit for human habitation, cold, barren and inhospitable who have done their little best by portraying the circumstances of the United States in most glowing colours to drive off the enterprising and energetic of our youth in seek their fortunes there; who would willingly see Canada a depopulated wilderness if only they could succeed in their scheme of annexation; and such are the men who will not be permitted to lead Canadians by the nose, who will not be allowed to traffic away the noble birthright of freedom which we possess for any paltry price that may be offered; and who will reap for their reward the contempt of all good men and true, and the consciousness that their baseness has failed in its effect only to cover themselves with infamy.

The efforts of these traitors were however partially and temporarily successful. Numbers of young men, and men with families as well, tempted by the alluring prospects, the reported wealth, the certain fortune, to be found in the United States, were induced to leave Canada and cross the imaginary line which separated the overflowing fertility of the Republic from the leanness and sterility of the Dominion. Numbers, we say, were induced to go, and to nearly as many as went has come the desire that they had quietly remained at home. Many have come, many more would come back had they the means, and all know now that change does not necessarily imply improvement. The experience of those emigrants, disheartening though it may have been to themselves, will not have been wasted, if it enables them to counteract the efforts of those who persuaded them, and are trying to persuade others that Canada is almost the worst place in the world to live in, the very antipodes of the United States. It will enable them to speak with the authority conferred by personal knowledge of the subject, of the inferiority of the conditions of earning a livelihood in the States as compared with Canada, and it will check most effectually the movement which had commenced.

We do not advocate that the traitorous practices of Anti-Canadians should be punished by imprisonment or confiscation, but we do hope they will be the recipients of the contempt of all classes of our people, and that the low estimation in which they will soon find themselves held, will be the means of causing them to relapse this country of their most unwelcome presence.

### DID GOVERNMENT DO RIGHT?

**W**ERE our Government justified in taking the steps they did on Sunday the 10th in order to prevent any possible inroad from Fenian bands, or were they guilty of carelessly creating a general feeling of insecurity at a time when trade and credit might be very seriously injured thereby? A great many people anxiously inquired into the action of Government, attributing motives for it that in many instances were very far from the mark, while others while giving due credit to the good intentions of our rulers, nevertheless thought that all was done to be frightened by rumours without any foundation in fact, and hastily and unnecessarily spread an alarm which was hurtful to the interests of the country.

Whether Government had information of a character of such undoubted reliability as to warrant their action, we have no special means of knowing; but from the latest intelligence received, we do not doubt that they had ample justification. Had they not taken the precautions they did, and had reported Fenian designs been successfully carried out, on whom would the responsibility have rested? Would there not have been raised a general outcry against the faithless sentinels sleeping at their post, and even accusations made of their having wilfully and traitorously sold their country, and would they have been undereriving of blame? We think there would in such case be very great cause for blame, and we hope Government will never hesitate to act on the principle that the best time to lock the stable door is before—not after—the steed is stolen. It is less costly, and more satisfactory in its results than a reckless ignoring of danger, even when followed by consequences no worse than the comparatively trifling bloodshed and loss of property which accompanied the Fenian raid of 1856. It is exceedingly easy for irresponsible people, on whom the duty of protecting the country does not devolve, to find fault; but it is not likely that such people, if in office, would be any more ready to disregard threatening reports, or to give them only the exact weight to which they might be entitled.

Touching Fenian designs on Canada, however a absurd and improbable they may appear as in any way calculated to effect the solution of the Irish question, we are not disposed to doubt the possibility of another attempt being made to carry them into effect. In the intense Irishism of the low grade Irish who swarm in the chief cities of the United States, the very loyalty to England and England's queen evinced by Canadians becomes a mortal offence; and if punishment could be inflicted upon us and at the same time a humiliation be cast on Britain, then would there be much rejoicing amongst the Irish, a great strengthening of their hands and an emboldening of the timid or lukewarm to join the ranks of their avowed friends. Any attempt, however, to be made with any prospect of success this year, will have to be made within a very brief period before the rapidly increasing inclemency of the weather becomes our best protection. We shall not be long left in suspense, for if a raid is to be looked for, or feared at all, it must take place before the close of the present month. If the next fortnight passes without any serious cause of alarm, we may possess our souls in peace, and rest quietly under the conviction that for this winter at least we shall be free from any attack from a foreign foe.

### ON THE MOVE TO MARKET.

**A**DVICES from all parts of the west inform us that the general move of this year's crops to market has begun. Very seldom has this movement been so late in commencing, but the fact is, it could not be hurried, for the season was not only a backward one, but the harvest has been so bulky in many sections, that the farm as have barely finished it, and got their Fall Wheat in, even yet. Not more than two weeks ago, crops could still be seen standing out in the fields in not a few Western Counties, and many were at a loss to know how they were going to find time to do justice to their Fall plough. During last week, many of the District Agricultural Exhibitions were held, and from them till the bad roads—about the end of November—the sales of barley, wheat, oats and other grains, will be exceedingly large. One thing will prevent the sales from being so large as they otherwise would be. That is the low prices going for wheat and barley. The writer has heard a good deal of grumbling from farmers on this score, and thousands of them will hold back a large part of their crop for higher prices, which they hope they may get later in the fall, or early in the spring. It goes hard for a farmer who has received as high as \$1.75 for wheat and \$1.30 for barley, to sell the former for less than \$1 per bushel, and the latter for about 50c. But a large crop and moderate prices often go together, and our friends of the plough will just have to make the most of it. They have certainly little to complain of this year for Providence has given their labour, in many cases, a double reward. Some improvement has already been manifest in business, and at the rate the crops are now being turned into cash, the improvement must soon augment considerably. The Banks are treating liberally with miners and produce dealers, and there is no lack of the needful

with which to buy produce. In fact, it is felt on all hands that the excellence of the harvest must render the present a prosperous Fall and winter, and that all kinds of business will be on a safer basis than usual. The 'proof o' the pudding' is the eating o' it, but we agree with the view that the business prospect is more cheering than for a long time past.

### FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE.

**V**ERY few people among us have any idea of the extent to which the Fire and Life Insurance business has extended in Canada. The particulars of the business for last year (1883) were recently placed before us, and we must say we were somewhat surprised at the figures returned. As they are undoubtedly correct, we can confidently say there are few countries which, when population and wealth are considered, make use of these valuable societies to a larger extent than Canada does. During the year we find that there were no less than 75,563 new and renewal policies issued, of which number 46,326 were issued by stock, and 29,237 by mutual companies. The number of losses during the year was 1,616, which is but a trifling percentage of the policies issued. The following statistics show the operations of all the Fire Companies during the twelve months—

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Premiums paid during 1883 | \$ 1,982,955 |
| Amount of new policies    | 125,789,120  |
| Total amount of risks     | 200,731,463  |
| Losses paid during year   | 1,697,652    |
| Losses in suspense        | 77,150       |
| Losses resisted           | 60,185       |

These results are very creditable to our Fire Insurance Companies and the country at large. It affords some glimmering of the great wealth of the country, to think that the risks taken amount to over two hundred millions of dollars. Deducting the losses in 1883 from the premiums, it will be seen that there would remain nearly \$800,000 to pay the expenses of the different companies, and to divide as profits. The totals of the Life Assurance business for 1883 are, of course, much smaller than those of Fire, but they are rapidly increasing. It is quite evident that the importance of Life Assurance is gaining in popular estimation, and that for a man to insure his life for the benefit of his family will soon become as general as the insurance of buildings. The returns of Life business during 1883 were as follows—

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Premiums paid during year    | \$ 96,431  |
| Amount of new policies       | 9,971,967  |
| Total amount of policies     | 29,677,168 |
| Amount of claims during year | 268,483    |
| Claims paid during year      | 21,423     |
| Claims in suspense           | 21,123     |

During the twelve months 2,690 persons insured their lives, and 195 policies became claims by the death of the parties insured. Only one company carried on what is known as 'Accident' Insurance—that is, the Travellers' Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn. That Company received \$19,559 in premiums, and had to pay out \$11,233, the amount of 90 claims, which made up the year's casualties. All the different Companies doing business in Canada have complied with the Act passed in 1863, which renders it necessary to deposit bonds or other securities with the Government, as a guarantee of good faith to their policyholders.

Whilst on this topic we may add that our Marine Insurance is by no means inconsiderable. The value of the policies existing in 1883 was very close on \$18,000,000, and the premiums paid during the same period amounted to \$27,124 over 5 3/4 per cent being in force. The losses paid were \$52,556, and \$36,267 awaited payment.

### THE FORT GARRY ROAD.

**T**HERE has recently issued from one of the Departments at Ottawa, a return showing the progress of the Fort Garry road up to May last. This return was moved for during last session, but has only lately been published. Great progress has doubtless since been made, but as that cannot be officially obtained at present, it may not be uninteresting to our readers to learn what had been done up to the time above stated. According to the report of John A. Snow, Esq., the Superintendent residing at Fort Garry, which report is dated 4th May, 1883, there had been 23 miles of the road opened up to that time, 2 1/2 miles of which had been fastened. The works had been in progress from the 9th of November, last, to the 1st of April, and there were 40 men on an average kept constantly employed. A large number of teams were also kept busy in forwarding supplies and hauling forward materials for fascines