THE NOVEMBER BANK STATEMENT.

The Government Returns of the chartered banks for the month of November show changes so slight and unimportant as to suggest much steadiness in trade. Money appears to be more plentiful than the desirable investments for same. The Bank note circulation may, in the course of a few years, prove to be a problem for bankers to grapple with. Experience has shown that this item of the monthly bank statement usually reaches its highest figures in October, after which the tendency is downward. In 1897, the reduction recorded in November over the preceding month was $1,437,000. But, this year, the decrease only amounted to $192,000, and scrutiny of the returns demonstrates the difficulty some banks are having in providing the necessary circulation for growing business.

The most notable increases for the month are:—

Specie and Dominion Notes.. .. ..$	534,478
Due from U. S. Banks & Branches..	576,073
Due from Great Britain..	1,201,893
Increase in Railway Securities..	532,190
Increase in Call Loans..	991,698
Increase in Current Loans..	4,332,646

The increases for the year in some of the principal items of the November return are sufficient to impress one with the growth and development of the business of the Dominion. The increased holdings by chartered banks of Canadian and Foreign Municipal securities exceed $3,000,000, and of Railway Securities nearly $1,500,000. Call Loans have increased during the year by $6,000,000, and Current Loans to the public over $23,000,000, as against last year's increase for the same period of $7,000,000. Deposits, demand and otherwise, have increased by $26,000,000, whereas, in 1897, the increase was only $23,000,000.

To the opening up of British Columbia and the North West Territories, and the increased attention being given to mining as a legitimate industry, may be attributed in some measure the growth in some of the figures herein given. But, apart from these reasons for improvement, there is abundant evidence that Canada, as a whole, is enjoying no small measure of prosperity, although, as usual, the local industries in some sections of a great country are suffering from causes beyond the power of government or people to prevent.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR NOVEMBER OF THE RETURNS OF THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA.

Comparison of the Principal Items.

Assets.	30th Nov., 1898.	31st Oct., 1898.	30th Nov., 1897.	Increase and Decrease for month.		Increase and Decrease for year.	
Specie and Dominion Notes	$26,413,085	$25,878,607	$26,195,514	Inc.	$534,478	Inc.	$217,351
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks	10,865,445	10,948,128	9,526,045	Dec.	86,683	Inc.	1,339,400
Due from American Banks and Agencies	23,929,718	23,353,645	28,410,443	Inc.	576,073	Dec.	4,480,725
Due from British Banks and Branches	14,287,430	13,085,537	16,579,039	Inc.	1,201,893	Dec.	2,291,609
Canadian Municipal Securities and Brit., Prov. or Foreign or Colonial other than Dominion	17,207,041	17,545,553	14,007,502	Dec	338,512	Inc.	3,199,539
Railway Securities	17,175,160	16,642,970	15,770,900	Inc.	532,190	Inc.	1,404,260
Loans on Stocks and Bonds on Call	24,963,993	23,972,295	18,930,378	Inc.	991,698	Inc.	6,033,615
Current Loans to the Public	229,261,061	224,928,415	205,723,909	Inc.	4,332,646	Inc.	23,537,152
Overdue Debts	2,438,171	2,525,641	3,391,838	Dec.	87,470	Dec.	953,667
Total Assets	391,783,255	384,019,461	361,132,969	Inc.	7,763,794	Inc.	30,650,286
Liabilities.							
Bank Notes in Circulation	42,350,948	42,543,446	40,143,878	Dec.	192,498	Inc.	2,297,070
Due to Dominion Government	2,815,832	2,532,287	3,943,425	Inc.	283,545	Dec.	1,127,593
Due to Provincial Governments	2,151,862	2,358,888	2,288,759	Dec.	207,026	Dec.	136,897
Deposits payable on demand	89,468,722	87,352,116	80,402,878	Inc.	2,116,606	Inc.	9,065,844
Deposits payable after notice	156,534,262	152,005,027	139,528,801	Inc.	4,529,235	Inc.	17,005,461
Do made by Banks	3,605,693	3,714,488	3,581,511	Dec.	108,795	Inc.	24,182
Due to American Banks and Agencies	1,450,174	350,357	305,737	Inc.	1,099,817	Inc.	1,144,437
Due to British Banks and Branches	2,248,728	2,224,422	575,030	Inc.	24,306	Inc.	1,673,698
Total Liabilities	301,709,806	293,661,023	271,902,920	Inc.	8,048,783	Inc.	29,806,886
Capital.							
Capital Stock paid-up	63,170,293	63,051,104	62,288,636	Inc.	119,189	Inc.	881,657
Reserve Fund	27,694,310	27,619,464	27,283,999	Inc.	74,846	Inc.	410,311
Miscellaneous.							
Directors' Liabilities	7,663,040	7,573,333	7,562,652	Inc.	89,707	Inc.	100,388
Greatest amount of notes in circulation at any time during month	44,024,625	42,873,369	42,303,141	Inc.	1,151,256	Inc.	1,721,484

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation, amount required being 5 per cent. on maximum circulation for year ending 31st October, 1898, $1,989,523.