

THE DECEMBER BANK STATEMENT.

With this review closes the returns for 1890, and although the year cannot be said to be fraught with the success hoped for in the early part, still it may be said to compare favorably with previous years. The tightness in money seems to show itself more plainly in this statement than in the preceding ones. The reductions in foreign balances with the increase in notes and cheques between Canadian banks tell their own story. Overdue debts and those secured by mortgage also show an increase. We find a decrease in "Loans current" and "Loans to corporations," and a little life seems to have been infused into "Loans on stocks, bonds, etc." There is nothing very discouraging in the statement when compared with that of the same months in former years. We find the banks holding nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ millions more specie and Dominion notes than in the same month last year. We also find bank notes in circulation nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ millions more than in the same month last year, and the largest amount ever held in that month except once, viz., 1882, and that, as explained in a former issue of the CHRONICLE, could not be said to have been put in circulation for ordinary business purposes. Bank notes in circulation for the past ten years were as follows, viz.:

Dec. 31st, 1881	\$32,358,844	Dec. 31st, 1886	\$34,578,347
" 1882	36,501,694	" 1887	34,354,795
" 1883	33,559,454	" 1888	34,785,486
" 1884	31,935,933	" 1889	33,577,700
" 1885	32,363,992	" 1890	35,006,274

The agricultural products at threshing fell short of what was anticipated when growing and gathering, still, in many localities the crops were above the average. Another assurance of the prosperity of the country is the increase in deposits of the people. We find during the

year an increase of about $7\frac{3}{4}$ millions. That a portion of this amount comes from deposits formerly made in the Government and Post Office savings banks we have no doubt, but over and above that amount we find a large margin. In December, 1888, the deposits of the people were \$121,878,438; in December, 1889, \$126,243,756; in December, 1890, \$133,933,528.

This shows an increase in 1889 over 1888 of \$4,365,318, while the increase of 1890 over that of 1889 is \$7,689,772. We find the balance due to depositors in Government and in Post Office savings banks as follows:—

	Gov't. Savings Bks.	P. O. Savings Bks.
1888	\$19,993,168	\$21,667,265
1889	19,223,611	22,596,755
1890	17,858,575	21,756,342

It may be here noted that the accounts of a few offices have been transferred from the Government to the Post-office savings bank for the greater convenience in the working of these institutions. It will be seen that in 1889 the increase in the latter account overbalances the reduction in the former. We shall therefore deal only with the reduction of 1890:—

Reduction in Gov't. S. B. 1890	\$1,365,036
" " " 1890	\$40,413
Total reduction	\$2,205,449
Increase in chartered banks, 1890	\$7,689,772
Deduct	2,205,449
Balance	\$5,484,323

This amount of the people's savings, together with the various other savings institutions which have not doubt received their quota, give proof that the year 1890 with all its up-heavals, financially and commercially, has not been unproductive of good for at least a portion of the Canadian people.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE CHARTERED BANKS IN CANADA.

Comparison of Principal Items.

Assets.	31st Dec., 1890.	30th Nov., 1890.	31st Dec., 1889.	Increase and Decrease for month.	Increase and Decrease for year.
Specie and Dominion Notes.....	\$16,229,270	\$15,902,713	\$15,085,476	Inc. \$326,557	Inc. \$1,143,794
Notes, cheques and balances due from other Can. bks.	11,050,416	9,647,572	11,008,578	Inc. 1,402,844	Inc. 41,858
Due from American Banks and Branches.....	9,199,504	11,489,228	10,729,577	Dec. 2,289,724	Dec. 1,530,373
Due from British Banks and Branches.....	4,031,652	4,690,697	3,961,996	Dec. 659,045	Inc. 69,656
Government Securities.....	8,603,437	8,712,912	8,153,288	Dec. 109,473	Inc. 450,149
Loans and Collaterals.....	16,106,072	14,923,373	15,479,879	Inc. 1,182,699	Inc. 626,193
Loans to Corporations.....	29,958,193	30,632,412	24,864,602	Dec. 674,219	Inc. 5,093,591
Current Discounts to the Public.....	153,236,184	153,535,370	150,422,602	Dec. 299,186	Inc. 2,813,582
Overdue debts, including those secured by mortgage.	2,758,391	2,467,181	2,647,609	Inc. 291,210	Inc. 110,782
Total Assets.....	260,157,159	260,791,284	252,166,663	Dec. 654,125	Inc. 7,970,496
Liabilities.					
Notes in circulation.....	35,006,274	36,344,546	33,577,700	Dec. 1,338,272	Inc. 1,428,574
Government Deposits, Dominion and Provincial.....	5,770,126	5,030,306	7,731,258	Inc. 739,820	Dec. 1,961,132
Deposits from the public.....	133,933,528	133,138,388	126,243,756	Inc. 795,140	Inc. 7,689,772
Loans and Deposits from and amounts due to other Banks in Canada.....	2,232,303	2,207,244	2,558,302	Inc. 25,059	Dec. 325,999
Balances due to American Banks and branches.....	125,419	79,884	79,174	Inc. 45,526	Inc. 46,236
Balances due to British Banks and branches.....	1,412,382	1,035,966	1,057,030	Inc. 376,416	Inc. 355,352
Total Liabilities.....	178,526,551	178,485,619	171,684,384	Inc. 340,532	Inc. 7,142,167
Capital.					
Capital paid up.....	60,057,235	60,013,485	60,289,910	Inc. 43,750	Dec. 232,675
Reserve Fund.....	21,940,369	21,603,654	20,371,332	Inc. 336,715	Inc. 1,569,037
Directors' Liabilities.....	7,485,465	7,145,845	7,856,848	Inc. 339,620	Dec. 371,383

Two Banks, viz., The Federal Bank and Bank of London (in Canada) have been dropped from the Statement within the year.