

THE FEBRUARY BANK STATEMENT.

The comparative table which is appended shows a number of changes to have occurred in the past month and in the past year, which are of a somewhat more promising character than those in corresponding periods before 1895. In order to give a wider field for observing the movements in the more significant items in the bank returns, we give in the following table the changes in each February from 1892 to 1896, with the changes made in the yearly periods which terminated with each one of those months.

		Changes during February.	Changes during preceding year.
	+	Indicates Increase	and - Decrease.
Specie and Dominion notes	1892	+ 279,563	- 354,654
"	1893	+ 95,499	+ 3,255,555
"	1894	+ 153,954	+ 1,681,171
"	1895	- 123,633	+ 2,449,221
"	1896	- 1,169,000	- 3,265,311
Due by American agents,	1892	- 37,949	+ 5,453,525
"	1893	- 229,356	+ 3,784,578
"	1894	- 2,100,424	- 5,927,387
"	1895	- 440,318	+ 8,038,564
"	1896	- 870,241	- 4,845,966
Call loans,	1892	+ 152,273	+ 1,639,170
"	1893	+ 62,602	+ 4,735,938
"	1894	+ 766,273	- 4,676,178
"	1895	+ 32,277	- 3,274,626
"	1896	- 1,825,712	- 3,971,052
Discounts,	1892	+ 2,081,918	+ 35,544,423
"	1893	+ 452,809	+ 11,592,642
"	1894	+ 1,486,505	+ 1,814,055
"	1895	+ 1,867,261	- 3,901,483

Discounts,	1896	+ 3,004,732	+ 11,862,490
Circulation,	1892	+ 5,615	+ 785,266
"	1893	+ 147,693	+ 267,825
"	1894	+ 31,892	- 2,375,573
"	1895	+ 101,842	- 1,787,833
"	1896	+ 390,471	+ 1,004,102
Deposits on demand,	1892	+ 1,392,152	+ 9,181,585
"	1893	+ 636,781	+ 6,792,928
"	1894	- 590,918	- 7,261,689
"	1895	+ 2,045,716	+ 4,994,241
"	1896	- 2,074,529	- 4,136,204
Deposits payable after notice,	1892	+ 1,124,805	+ 11,093,473
"	1893	+ 1,043,085	+ 9,745,977
"	1894	+ 396,163	+ 5,430,557
"	1895	+ 813,848	+ 6,512,949
"	1896	+ 194,492	+ 6,360,160

It will be noted that the banks in the years ending February, 1893, 1894 and 1895, increased in each year the amount of their stock of specie and Dominion notes by considerable sums. Between February, 1895, and February, 1896, they, however, reduced these cash reserves by \$3,265,311, one-third of the decrease having been made in February last. The February bank return for each one of the past five years shows a decrease in the balances due to our banks by their American agents, and in the past year the total amount was reduced by \$4,845,966. In the same period the call loans were reduced \$3,971,052, a sharp decrease having occurred last February. These two sums, amounting to \$8,817,018, were diverted into the market for current or trade loans, which were enlarged last year by \$11,862,490, the month under notice having added \$3,004,732.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE CHARTERED BANKS IN CANADA.

Comparison of the Principal Items.

Assets.	29th Feb., 1896.	31st Jan., 1896.	28th Feb., 1895.	Increase and Decrease for month.	Increase and Decrease for year.
Specie and Dominion Notes	\$ 20,650,517	\$21,826,412	\$ 23,921,828	Dec. \$ 1,169,895	Dec. \$3,265,311
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks	5,883,170	6,402,345	5,865,781	Dec. 519,175	Inc. 17,389
Due from American Banks and Agencies	18,002,882	19,533,123	23,508,848	Dec. 870,241	Dec. 4,845,966
Due from British Banks and Branches	4,710,922	4,299,200	3,106,880	Inc. 411,662	Inc. 1,604,042
Canadian Municipal Securities and Brit., Prov. or Foreign or Colonial, other than Dominion	9,042,521	9,748,340	9,681,513	Dec. 705,819	Dec. 638,992
Railway Securities	11,176,222	11,072,559	8,795,965	Inc. 106,663	Inc. 2,380,257
Loans on Stocks and Bonds on Call	14,683,576	15,909,298	18,054,628	Dec. 1,825,712	Dec. 3,971,052
Current Loans to the Public	207,484,616	204,479,884	195,622,126	Inc. 3,004,732	Inc. 11,862,490
Overdue Debts	4,073,863	4,284,475	3,216,112	Dec. 210,512	Inc. 857,751
Total Assets	314,273,808	315,676,305	310,684,728	Dec. 1,402,497	Inc. 3,589,080
Liabilities.					
Bank Notes in Circulation	29,810,536	29,429,065	28,815,434	Inc. 390,471	Inc. 1,004,102
Due to Dominion Government	3,120,680	3,142,574	5,387,021	Dec. 21,894	Dec. 2,266,341
Due to Provincial Governments	3,296,705	3,605,176	3,367,454	Dec. 308,471	Dec. 70,740
Deposits on demand	60,419,199	62,493,728	64,555,403	Dec. 2,074,529	Dec. 4,136,204
Deposits made by the public after notice	121,446,870	121,252,378	115,083,710	Inc. 194,492	Inc. 6,353,160
Due by Banks	2,539,592	2,732,915	2,999,779	Dec. 193,323	Dec. 460,187
Due to American Banks and Agencies	177,187	171,654	156,427	Inc. 5,533	Inc. 20,760
Due to British Banks and Branches	4,265,596	4,645,748	4,162,576	Dec. 380,352	Inc. 102,820
Total Liabilities	225,858,247	228,314,158	225,139,473	Dec. 2,455,891	Inc. 718,774
Capital.					
Capital Stock paid-up	62,196,495	62,196,496	61,687,571	Inc. 105	Inc. 508,925
Reserve Fund	26,458,799	27,715,799	27,543,341	Dec. 1,257,000	Dec. 1,086,542
Miscellaneous.					
Directors' Liabilities	7,888,462	7,983,597	7,618,378	Dec. 95,135	Inc. 270,084
Greatest amount of notes in circulation at any time during the month	30,474,786	32,307,557	29,875,664	Dec. 1,832,771	Inc. 599,122

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation being 5 per cent. on average maximum circulation for year ending 30th June, 1895—\$1,814,624.