

such debentures and specie to be held by the Receiver General for the redemption of such notes.

4. The amount of Dominion notes to be issued and outstanding may be, from time to time, increased to an amount not exceeding nine million dollars, on like security of debentures and specie equal together to the amount of notes so issued and outstanding, by order in Council founded on a report of the Treasury Board, such increase being so authorized for amounts not exceeding one million dollars at one time, and at intervals of not less than three months, and no such increase being authorized unless the Receiver General then holds specie to the amount of one-fourth of the aggregate amount of such increase and of the debentures already held by him as aforesaid; nor shall the amount of nine millions be so authorized, unless the Receiver General then holds specie to the amount of two million dollars; and the Receiver General shall always, as a rule, hold specie to the amount of twenty-five per cent. of the debentures to be held by him as aforesaid, and shall, under no circumstances, hold a less amount of specie than fifteen per cent. of such debentures; the amount of debentures and specie so held for securing the redemption of the said notes, being, together, never less than the amount of notes then issued and outstanding; and if the amount of such specie should at any time fall below twenty-five per cent. of the amount of such debentures, it shall be the duty of the Receiver General, without delay, to increase the proportion of specie to at least twenty-five per cent. of the amount of debentures.

5. Debentures of the Dominion may be issued and delivered to the Receiver General, for the purposes of this Act, and to enable him to comply with its requirements, such debentures being held as aforesaid, for securing the redemption of Dominion notes, and the Receiver General having full power to dispose of them, either temporarily or absolutely, in order to raise funds for that purpose, or for procuring the amounts of specie required to be held by him under this Act; but nothing in this Act shall be construed to permit the issue of debentures not otherwise authorized by Parliament for any increase of the public debt, beyond the amount authorized by Section five of the Act of Supply, passed in the Session held in the thirty-second and thirty-third years of Her Majesty's Reign, chapter one.

6. If any amount of Dominion notes be issued and outstanding at any time in excess of the amount then authorized as aforesaid, the Receiver General shall hold specie to the full amount of such excess, for the redemption of such notes; and any amount of such notes which the public convenience may require may be issued and remain outstanding, provided the excess of such amount over that so authorized be represented by an equal amount of specie held by the Receiver General as aforesaid; and the issue of Dominion notes so represented in full by specie, shall not be deemed an increase of the public debt; but except in the case of notes so issued against an equal amount of specie, the total amount of Dominion notes outstanding shall never exceed the amount authorized under the foregoing sections of this Act.

7. Section nine of the Act hereby amended is repealed, except as respects any existing arrangements made under it, which shall remain in force until terminated in accordance with the conditions thereof; and the Governor may in his discretion establish Branch Offices of the Receiver General's Department in Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, and St. John (N. B.) respectively, or any of them, for the redemption of Dominion notes, or may make arrangements with any Chartered Bank or Banks for the redemption thereof; and may allow a fixed sum per annum for such service at all or any of the said places; and specie or debentures held at any such Branch Office or by any such Bank, for the redemption of Dominion notes, shall be deemed to be held by the Receiver General.

8. Section eleven of the Act hereby amended is repealed; and the Receiver General shall publish monthly, in the "Canada Gazette," a statement of the amount of Dominion notes outstanding on the last day of the preceding month, and of the specie and debentures then held by the Receiver General for the redemption thereof, distinguishing the amounts of specie and debentures so held at each of the cities aforesaid respectively; such statements to be made up from returns to be made by the Branch Offices, Bank or Banks aforesaid, to the Receiver General.

9. All words and expressions in this Act shall have the meaning assigned to them respectively in the Act hereby amended; and the un-repealed provisions of the said Act, in so far as they are not inconsistent with this Act, shall apply to the Dominion notes to be issued under this Act, which shall be construed as one Act with that hereby amended.

THE OBLIGATIONS OF SHIPOWNEERS TO FREIGHTERS.—A case of importance to merchants and shipowners—*Novara v. Henderson*—came before the Court of Queen's Bench, in London, Eng. The plaintiffs were Liverpool merchants, and brought the present action against the owners of a steamship trading between Alexandria and Liverpool and Glasgow for loss occasioned to a cargo of beans through the neglect of the master. The cargo was freighted to Glasgow, and was damaged by an accident to the vessel when it was going down the Mersey after it had touched at Liverpool. The ship had to be run ashore to prevent sinking, and to enable it to be repaired part of the beans were taken out and put into lighters, but restored without being dried. Afterwards the ship proceeded on her voyage to Glasgow, although in the meantime the plaintiffs wrote to the agents that they were ready to receive the cargo in Liverpool, provided a proportionate reduction were made from the freight. The cargo was found greatly deteriorated in Glasgow and sold at a loss, and the suit was brought for the neglect of the master in not taking care to dry the beans before he proceeded on his voyage. The Lord Chief Justice held that the plaintiffs were entitled to recover. Quoting an opinion of Lord Stowell to the effect that if the cargo was perishable it should be transhipped or sold in such circumstances, he said that the master was the agent for the freighter, and though not bound to delay the voyage in order to put the cargo in a proper condition, yet being compelled to stay for repairs he was bound to do all he reasonably could to put the damaged cargo in a proper condition. It had been so decided in the American courts, with which they agreed, "though if the object could be obtained by a delay which would cause no prejudice to anyone, it might be the duty of the master to incur that delay." In the present case it appeared that the time for drying the cargo before the vessel was ready to proceed was too short, but that was no justification for proceeding with it. As acting for the freighter the master was bound either to tranship the cargo or to sell it, and if he had sold it the ship would not have been entitled to freight *pro rata*; but even this alternative was not forced upon him by the offer of the freighter at Liverpool. The shipowner was therefore liable.

Meetings.

QUEBEC BANK.

The following is the report of the directors to the shareholders, at their fifty-second annual general meeting, held 6th June, 1870.

The Directors have to report that the net profits for the year ending 1st of June last, after paying current expenses, amounted to \$161,771.99.

From which have been paid—
Divid. 1st Dec, 1869. \$517,58 00
Do. 1st June, 1870. 52,440 50—104,198 50
Leaving a surplus of.....\$57,573.49

to be added to the account of Profit and Loss, making a total of \$187,239.44.

The Directors, after a careful revision of all the assets of the Bank, resolved to make ample provision for all the bad and doubtful debts. This has been done, an amount of \$145,050.35 having been applied accordingly, leaving a surplus of \$42,189.09—out of which \$30,000 has been set aside as the beginning of a Reserve, and \$12,189.09 remains at credit of Profit and Loss.

The branches of the Bank have been duly inspected, and the Directors have pleasure in stating that the business of the Bank throughout the Dominion continues to increase in every department.

The Charter of the Bank will expire next year. Preliminary steps have therefore been taken to secure a renewal thereof, and it will shortly be the duty of the Directors to call a General Meeting of the Shareholders, for the purpose of obtaining their authority, to apply to the Governor General in Council for an extension of the existing Charter, with amendments according to the provisions contained in the "Act respecting Banks and Banking," passed during the last session of Parliament.

(Signed,) Jas. G. Ross, President.

Abstract from the books of the Quebec Bank, exhibiting a General Statement of its affairs 20th of May, 1870:—

LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock paid up.....	\$1,498,300 00
Bank Notes in circulation.....	1,131,885 00
Semi-Annual Dividend, payable 1st June, 1870.....	52,440 50
Former Dividends unpaid.....	4,212 02
Balances due to other Banks.....	43,276 27
Cash Deposited.....	1,806,206 27
Bearing Interest.....	\$1,208,702 73
Not bearing Interest.....	597,503 64
Reserve Fund.....	30,000 00
Reserved for Interest, etc, due.....	30,136 39
Profit and Loss Account.....	12,189 99
	\$4,608,646 24

ASSETS

Coin, Bullion and Provincial Notes.....	\$478,141.86
Notes and Cheques of other Banks.....	56,907.71
	\$535,049 57
Real Estate belonging to the Bank.....	87,711 46
Balance due from other Banks.....	417,424 89
Government Debentures.....	148,433 32
Amount of Debts due to the Bank on Bills discounted and other securities.....	3,420,026 99
	\$4,608,646 24
	J. STEVENSON, Cashier.

HOME DISTRICT MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Members of the Home District Mutual Fire Insurance Company was held in Toronto, June 6th, at the Office of the Company.

The meeting was called to order by the President, the Honorable John McMurich.

The Secretary read the report for the past year, with the Cash Account:

Report.

The Board of Directors of the Home District Mutual Fire Insurance Company submit to the Members the following statement of its affairs with Cash Account annexed.

The Directors have much pleasure in stating, that no losses have been sustained by the Company since the last annual meeting, a circumstance which cannot fail to be satisfactory to the members.