The following quotation from the *Witness* will make it apparent that the feeling caused by their *General Manager* against the Bank of Montreal on account of its FINANCIAL BRIGANDISM has already caused the Directors to inquire for explanations.

"The *Globe* has a statement that the cashier of the Bank of Montreal had explained to the Directors of that institution, the recent alleged attempt to crush the Merchant's Bank, giving as the reason for demanding gold for a large amount of cheques, &c., at once, that the Merchant's Bank had advertised to give interest on current deposits, if over $500. This was an attempt, in the first place, to take away business from other banks; and in the second place, it was, in the estimation of Canadian Bankers generally, an eminently unsafe mode of doing business. It was, we understand, to give a practical proof of the dangerous character of such a business that the demand for obligations of the Merchant's Bank were allowed to accumulate for a while in the Montreal Bank, whilst the former was presenting regularly the obligations of the latter for payment in gold."

It has been said that a green Irishman once swallowed a peach with legs on it, from not having learned that a tree toad was the same color as the fruit of the tree it inhabits. There is a possibility of that statement made to the *Globe*, and as above further explained by the *Witness*, having some legs to it, that the gulability of the *Witness* was not aware of. Some information that we have gleaned may make it apparent that there was more tree toad than peach, in the particular explanations the "*General Manager*" of the Bank of Montreal has, with so much affected innocence, afforded to his employers and the public.

First. It seems that the Merchant's Bank thought it would pay it, to allow interest on all accumulation of *deposits* over $500, which is, it seems, better terms than the general Manager of the Bank of Montreal sees fit to allow its customers. The Manager, Mr. King, becomes jealous of the progress to favour of his enterprising neighbour, and exactly like an old established merchant with a first-class credit, who becomes jealous of a new beginner that is honest, but has but little capital. The old merchant is offended because he is undersold, and at once lays a plan to buy up the young man's obligations, the payment of which, in the regular course of trade, would be partly extended by renewals. Payment is consequently unexpectedly demanded, and ruin inevitable, unless a friend at hand can afford adequate assistance. The *General Manager* of the Bank of Montreal in thus accumulating a large amount of cheques, &c., is just as innocent as the old merchant would be. Moreover we are aware that at about the same date the bills of the Merchant's Bank were refused by the agent of the Bank of Montreal in St. Catharines. Thus the agent —by instruction, no doubt—refusing to take only $60—the amount—endeavoured to utterly destroy the credit of the Merchant's Bank in Canada West. Many will say that is Jesuitism united with brigandism, and more like the serpent than the dove.

The *Witness*, in trying to hang the cloak of innocence upon shoulders the garment was apparently not made for, says that paying interest on deposits of "over $500 was, in the estimation of Canadian Bankers generally, an eminently unsafe mode of doing business."

Now, no Canadian Banker can point out anything unsound in paying interest on those deposits. Their dividends might be less, but if they done sufficient extra business they would be more, and for Mr. King to assert the Merchant's Bank was doing a risky business, was simply to blacken his own management, which may be seen from the fact that while the Merchant's Bank possessed $96,746 of coin for $544 554 of liabilities;