

Financial and Statistical.

DEDUCTIONS FROM BANKING RETURNS.

In connection with our abstract of banking returns for March, published herewith, we give here a comparative statement under the more important headings for the five years past:—

March	Bank notes in circulation.	Deposits of the people	Current discounts to the public.	Immediately Available Assets.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1887	31,521,420	103,773,239	138,207,100	38,095,750
1888	31,985,285	106,872,336	135,616,346	41,965,605
1889	32,471,522	120,666,839	149,733,539	46,338,138
1890	31,704,281	123,809,854	152,317,456	37,074,036
1891	33,020,661	136,059,369	152,259,107	44,566,439

It will also be seen by reference to the several bank returns, that the amount of reserve funds has increased from \$18,070,296 to \$22,193,026, although within the time considered the names of five banks have disappeared from the list, viz.: Federal, Toronto; Central, Toronto; Bank of London, London, Ont.; Maritime Bank, St. John, N. B.; Pictou Bank, Pictou, N. S. From a comparison of the above figures, and a glance at our abstract of returns elsewhere, the development in the business of the country will readily be seen. This development bids fair to be continuously maintained, judging from a present general survey of the situation.

The tower of the public building now in course of erection in Philadelphia is to be provided with a clock, which, for size alone, will be one of the marvels of the world. The centre of the dial (twenty-five feet in diameter) will be 351 feet above the street. It is calculated that it will take a year to place the clock machinery in the tower after the building has been completed. The bell is to weigh between 20,000 and

25,000 pounds, and will be second in weight to the great Montreal cathedral bell (which weighs 28,000 pounds), and it is calculated that its peal will be heard even to the most distant part of the city. Chimes similar to those of Westminster clock will be used, ringing at the quarter, half, three-quarter, and an hour. To distinguish the time at night, the dial will be illuminated by electricity, so that the position of the hands can be seen from any point of the city. The minute-hand is to be twelve feet and the hour-hand nine feet in length, while the Roman figures on the dial will measure two feet and eight inches in length. A steam engine will be placed in the tower for the purpose of winding up this timepiece each day.

It is estimated by the Royal Geographical Society that the world's population in 1890 was 1,487,600,000, with an average population of 31 to the square mile. The increase for the past decade is 8 per cent., the lowest percentage of increase being in Asia, 6 per cent., with 850,000,000 of population. Australasia with 4,730,000 people represents the largest increase, 30 per cent. Europe has 101 to the square mile and a population of 380,200,000. North America is set down at 89,250,000 population with 14 to the square mile, and 20 per cent. increase in the past decade.

The facility and rapidity with which distant parts of the world are being brought into communication found a striking illustration the other day, when a special train of eight coaches of the Canadian Pacific Railway, with its general manager on board, steamed into Montreal, having made the run from Vancouver to this place (2,906 miles) in 92 hours and 40 minutes, or in considerably less than four days. It left Vancouver immediately on the arrival of the company's new steamer "Empress of India" from Japan, which left Yokohama on the 17th of April, the train arriving in Montreal as before stated, making the entire time from Yokohama in a little less than 15 days. Thus do we annihilate space in these days.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE CHARTERED BANKS IN CANADA.

Comparison of Principal Items.

Assets.	31st March, 1891.	28th Feb., 1891.	31st March, 1890.	Increase and Decrease for month.	Increase and Decrease for year.
Specie and Dominion Notes.....	\$17,207,553	\$16,892,535	\$15,869,791	Inc. \$335,018	Inc. \$1,337,762
Notes, cheques and balances due from other Can. bks.	11,525,961	8,440,090	8,969,163	Inc. 3,509,871	Inc. 2,559,998
Due from American Banks and Branches.....	13,316,554	12,159,238	10,393,127	Inc. 1,157,286	Inc. 2,923,527
Due from British Banks and Branches.....	2,825,078	3,503,835	1,841,256	Dec. 778,757	Inc. 983,822
Government Securities.....	8,923,228	8,641,382	8,096,836	Inc. 282,346	Inc. 827,042
Loans and Collaterals.....	15,195,079	15,162,861	13,165,822	Inc. 32,218	Inc. 2,029,257
Loans to Corporations.....	2,357,759	29,591,297	25,324,201	Dec. 233,418	Inc. 4,003,588
Discounts to the Public.....	152,251,107	150,572,488	152,317,456	Inc. 1,586,679	Dec. 58,319
Overdue debts, including those secured by mortgage.	3,336,639	3,160,424	3,057,670	Inc. 176,215	Inc. 278,969
Total Assets.....	265,476,151	257,480,841	248,709,510	Inc. 5,995,310	Inc. 14,766,641
Liabilities.					
Notes in circulation.....	33,020,661	31,925,749	31,704,281	Inc. 1,094,912	Inc. 1,316,380
Government Deposits, Dominion and Provincial.....	6,192,002	5,938,797	6,980,264	Inc. 233,205	Dec. 788,262
Deposits from the public.....	136,059,370	133,149,092	123,806,834	Inc. 2,910,278	Inc. 12,249,516
Loans from other Banks.....	3,041,577	2,694,370	2,428,068	Inc. 347,207	Inc. 613,509
Balances due to American Banks.....	153,858	160,148	193,921	Dec. 6,290	Dec. 40,063
Balances due to British Banks.....	2,866,107	1,926,358	2,231,824	Inc. 939,719	Inc. 574,283
Total Liabilities.....	181,502,475	176,021,783	167,564,544	Inc. 5,480,692	Inc. 13,937,931
Capital.					
Capital paid up.....	60,248,198	60,111,028	60,204,018	Inc. 137,170	Inc. 44,180
Reserve Fund.....	22,193,026	22,036,322	20,565,333	Inc. 156,704	Inc. 1,627,693
Directors' Liabilities.....	7,544,420	7,394,964	7,236,881	Inc. 149,456	Inc. 307,539

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