

CHRISTMAS.

We take the following remarks upon Christmas from the British Columbia Commercial Journal:—

What, it may be asked, has a journal devoted to finance and commerce to say about Christmas? It will be said that it is all very well for the clergy in their pulpits and the editors of the ordinary newspapers, whose scope is so extended and whose field is so comprehensive, and who, moreover, are always glad of something to break the comparative monotony of their daily routine, to devote some of their space to a talk about the great festival of Christianity. For our part, we protest against being left out. We may possibly make few pretensions to piety; we may hold our own individual views as to minor questions of theology and sectarianism; but we cannot forget the old, old story of the angel messengers, nor can we affect to ignore the fact that there was at one time a babe born in Bethlehem whose birth and its surroundings were different to those of any other. We have, all of us, heard from our childhood that as He grew up, though He might in many other respects have been like other boys, He lived a life like to that of no other; that He spake as no other boy or man ever did, that He suffered and died under the most painful and ignominious circumstances, yet that today, though more than eighteen centuries have passed, He is still held in hallowed remembrance by the truest and best men and women of the world.

This same Jesus is really and truly believed in by hundreds and thousands as the one who has saved them from their sins and the attendant consequences, has given them a hope for the hereafter, for their happiness in which it is their duty to strive. Whatever there may be in all this, it has nevertheless raised the aspirations of all those who have been brought under what are termed Christian influences and the example which the Man of Galilee set in his solicitude for the welfare of others has been the means of making whole-souled men out of many, who, whatever their natural good qualities, might never have been led to believe in the all comprehensive brotherhood of humanity. The proclamations of the Decalogue given amid the thunderings of Sinai have never been made so effective as by the example of their observance set by Him, who presumed to honor God as His father, and as he went about doing good daily emphasized the fact that even the meanest and lowest of the community were His brethren.

Christianity, as it exists, has done much for commerce. It has been the means of creating confidence in one another, and a measure of consideration for those who were not the most successful in their avocations, and, moreover, has opened up and given a stability to communities that are renowned the world over for what may be termed the business probity of their people. For these and many other reasons we would join our tribute to that of the shepherds and the wisemen and, re-echoing the angel's message of Peace and Good-will, would say we wish to all a Happy Christmas.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

Statement of the result of the business of the bank for the half-year ended 31st October, 1891:—

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|---|-----------------------|
| Balance of profit and loss account, 30th April, 1891 | \$439,728 30 |
| Profits for the half-year ended 31st October, 1891, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts | 666,642 98 |
| | <u>\$1,106,371 28</u> |
| Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st December, 1891 | 600,000 00 |

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| Balance of profit and loss carried forward | \$506,371 28 |
| NOTE.—Market price of Bank of Montreal Stock 31st October, 1891, 227 per cent. (equal to \$454 per share). | |

GENERAL STATEMENT—31st October, 1891.

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| <i>Liabilities.</i> | |
| Capital stock | \$12,000,000 00 |
| Reserve | \$6,000,000 00 |
| Balance of profits carried forward | 506,371 28 |
| | <u>\$6,506,371 28</u> |
| Unclaimed dividends. | 4,786 85 |
| Half-yearly Dividend, payable 1st Dec., 1891 | 600,000 00 |
| | <u>\$7,111,158 08</u> |
| | <u>\$19,111,158 08</u> |
| Notes of the bank in circulation | \$5,397,602 00 |
| Deposits not bearing interest | 7,649,536 30 |
| Deposits bearing interest | 19,324,509 49 |
| Balances due to other Banks in Canada | 3,497 50 |
| | <u>\$32,375,145 38</u> |
| | <u>\$51,486,303 46</u> |

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| <i>Assets.</i> | |
| Gold and silver coin current | \$2,038,150 12 |
| Government demand notes | 2,011,607 75 |
| Deposit with Dominion Gov't required by Act of Par'm't for security of general bank note circulation | 135,000 00 |
| Due by Agencies of this bank and other banks in foreign countries | 11,913,565 98 |
| Due by Agencies of this bank and other banks in Great Britain | 3,022,054 25 |
| | <u>\$14,985,620 23</u> |
| Government bonds, India stock, etc. | 1,308,000 00 |
| Notes and Cheques of other banks | 1,200,093 86 |
| | <u>\$21,628,471 96</u> |
| Bank premises at Montreal and branches | 600,000 00 |
| Current loans and discounts, (rebate interest reserved) and other securities and assets | \$28,714,729 33 |
| Debts secured by mortgage or otherwise .. | 432,934 65 |
| Overdue debts not specially secured (loss provided for) | 110,167 52 |
| | <u>\$29,257,831 50</u> |
| | <u>\$51,486,303 46</u> |

E. S. CLOUSTON,
General Manager.

BANK OF MONTREAL,
MONTREAL, 31st October, 1891.

CANNOT beet root be successfully grown in British Columbia? The sugar produced from it and the industry connected with its production are increasing in favor almost everywhere. Sugar of this description is, with all the augmented production, about two shillings per cwt. dearer in the English market.

"MR. HOWARD VINCENT, as the originator and chief apostle of the Empire Trade League, has recently been in Japan 'blowing a blast,' as the local newspapers put it, 'which heralds a condition of trade that must come to pass in the near future.' He has already converted Canada, it appears, to his ideas of commercial federation; and he is probably now on his way to Australasia." The above is from an English trade journal, which has been wrongly informed on this subject, for to our mind Mr. Vincent, judging from the receptions he has had in the Eastern provinces, is a long way of having "converted Canada." He would do well in the meantime to look at home and to take the advice given him by the paper from which we quote:—"The British public knows little or nothing about Mr. Howard's scheme; and it looks very much as though his friends have not sufficient confidence in its efficacy to stand up for it. As for Mr. Vincent, if he has his idea at heart, he should be among the working men voters of Shoreditch or Battersea rather than wasting his eloquence in places thousands of miles from the centre in which it is being weighed and found wanting."

Wanted

FOR CASH.

Good :
: Lots.

MUST BE BARGAINS

YOUNG &
BARTLETT,

9 TROUNCE AVE

AS

OUGH

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MEN, from

R,
Street

le, Jr.,

RIA, B. C.

ASER

our List
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lose to
doubt
he Mar-

venue.

tray,



ICE

Victoria.

7.

BOOTS AND
REPAIRING,

ING,

REET.