any of them. It will be remembered in this case that—as stated by the *Quebec Daily News*—"*all the other banks stood in terror*" of the Bank of Montreal, and not knowing which one it would try to crush next, neither knew which of the others to trust. It was a difficulty among themselves. They only knew that not one of them was safe. That terror arose from a knowledge of their weakness, individally and collectively, of their inability to pay their own debts due on demand, and not from a fear that the notes discounted for their customers would not be paid, which refreshes our mind with the statement we previously made that while "nine tenths of the merchants and business men of Canada have better assets than the banks, that the banks are in a position to break nine tenths of those industrial classes," can there be any soundness or safety for business men under a system that puts them in jeopardy every hour.

To make apparent how readily one bank can thus operate upon and ruin a sister institution, we cite an instance that occured in this city not many years ago. A private bank felt insulted by the refusal of its paper by one of our chartered or corporation banks, it at once set to work to gather up the bills of that bank, and to promptly present them for gold, until its more mighty neighbour began to tremble for its reputation, when it offered terms of compromise. Then, as at the present time, the banks only possessed one dollar in money for every seven of liability against them for circulation and deposits. We can thus clearly perceive, as we have stated, how easy it is for one of our banks to crush its neighbour by simply scheming: to get hold of one seventh of its vouchers and demand immediate payment. The Bank of Montreal through the deposits made into it on government account for duties, was enabled to accumulate $260,000 against the Merchant's Bank at a time when it knew that that bank only had $90,000 in money. That the reader may not suppose the Merchant's Bank weaker than the other banks we need only state that the Bank of Montreal itself at the same date—1st. of August—owed $11,471,061 for *bills* and *deposits* alone while it only had $1,509,571 in specie to pay it with and had consequently sold every dollar of its $6,000,000 of paid up capital and nearly $10,000,000 of its $11,471,051 of deposits it is liable for on demand and short notice.

The *Daily News* further on truthfully remarks:

"May we not ask, is a giant institution like the Bank of Montreal justified by seeking to create a monopoly for itself, in crushing out the smaller banks in the Province? Is it for this it is pampered and fostered by the Government? Was it for this purpose the Government account was transferred from the Upper Canada Bank to it, to place more means at its disposal to carry out its nefarious purpose? Was it to legalize an extensive shaving concern, that this bank was chartered? If so it is well we should know it, and know it in time, that the public may be prepared to avert the evil it may cause; but if not we call upon the Government seriously to consider the danger to be apprehended from the course now adopted by the Bank of Montreal; and we also direct the attention of the members of the Legislature to the evils likely to arise from giving unlimited power and unlimited aid to so dangerously managed a concern."

Those pointed remarks are encourageing to us in our endeavours to show that the Banking system of this country is unsound and alike injurious and dangerous to the banks and every other class in the country. They afford us hope that the "*Press*" will ponder upon—endeavour to understand and to clearly set before their readers truthful views and sound advice upon such all important questions. We have often been asked by business men why it is that the newspapers do not give them any information on those points.

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