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THE
BANKERS' JOURNAL
 AND
FINANCIAL REVIEW.

Devoted to the Interests of Canadian Banks, Loan and Insurance Companies, Municipal Corporations and Joint-Stock Associations Generally.

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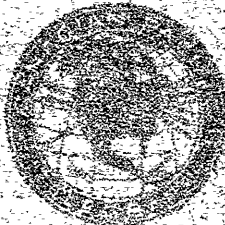
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 Rest Fund..... 6,000,000

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 Rest..... 2,725,000

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 BRITISH COLUMBIA—Bank of British North America.

A general Banking business transacted.
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INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1855.

Capital, all paid-up . . . \$2,000,000 | Rest, . . . \$1,100,000

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INCORPORATED 1835.

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 Reserve Fund, 1,700,000

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Capital Authorized,	\$2,000,000
Capital (Paid-up),	1,040,677
Res.,	1,020,293

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 Cor. Yonge and Queen Sts.
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Authorized Capital,	\$2,000,000
Subscribed	735,000
Paid-up	546,926
Reserve Fund	58,000

Directors.

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Head Office - WINNIPEG, Manitoba.

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 Murdoch, " C. R. Dupuis, " Boleserau, " E. W. Young,
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Deposits received and interest allowed. Collections promptly made. Drafts issued available in all parts of the Dominion. Sterling and American Exchange bought and sold.

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CAPITAL PAID UP, - - - - - \$1,200,000
 REST, - - - - - 225,000

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 New York,..... National Park Bank. GREAT FALLS, MONT., First National Bank.
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The notes of this Bank are redeemed at par as follows: At Halifax, N.S., St. John, N.B., and
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LA BANQUE DU PEUPLE.

ESTABLISHED 1835.

Capital Paid-Up, - - - - - \$1,200,000
 Reserve, - - - - - 480,000

Head Office, - - - - - MONTREAL.

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 Alliance Bank, Limited. London. France—Le Crédit Lyonnais, Paris.

La Banque Ville Marie.

INCORPORATED 1873

Head Office, - - - - - Montreal
 Authorised Capital - - - - - \$1,000,000.
 Paid-up Capital - - - - - \$479,250.

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 London. Bank of Montreal.
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Capital Paid-up \$1,500,000
 Reserve Fund 315,000
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OTTAWA.

Capital (all paid-up) - - - - - \$1,492,100
 Rest - - - - - 600,340

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INCORPORATED 1872

Authorized Capital - - - - - \$1,000,000
 Capital Paid-up - - - - - 500,000
 Reserve Fund - - - - - 210,000

HEAD OFFICE, - - - - - HALIFAX, N. S.

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 St. John

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 Co., Boston—Suffolk National Bank, Kidder, Pea-
 body & Co., London, Eng., Paris Banking Co., and
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Capital Paid-Up - - - - - \$710,000
 Reserve Fund - - - - - 200,000

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 Lyonnais, New York—The National Park Bank
 Boston—The Third National Bank, Chicago—
 National Live Stock Bank. Collections made
 throughout Canada at the cheapest rates. Letters
 of credit issued available in all parts of the world.

THIS SPACE

FOR

SALE.

THIS SPACE

FOR

SALE.

CANADA * PERMANENT

Loan and Savings Company.

Subscribed Capital.....	\$5,000,000
Paid-up Capital.....	2,600,000
Reserved Funds.....	1,552,252
Total Assets.....	13,091,772

OFFICE: - - COMPANY'S BUILDINGS,
TORONTO STREET, - - - TORONTO.

DEPOSITS received at current rates of interest, paid or compounded half-yearly.

DEBENTURES issued in Currency or sterling, with interest coupons attached, payable in Canada or in England. Executors and Trustees are authorized by law to invest in the debentures of this Company.

MONEY ADVANCED on Real Estate security at current rates, and on favorable conditions as to repayment. Mortgages and Municipal Debentures purchased.

J. HERBERT MASON, Managing Director.

THE CANADA LANDED

- AND -

NATIONAL INVESTMENT CO.

(LIMITED).

The Canada Landed Credit Co. Incorporated 1886.
The National Investment Co. Incorporated 1876.
AMALGAMATED 1891.

Head Office, 23 Toronto St., Toronto

Subscribed capital,	\$2,000,000
Paid-up	1,004,000
Reserve Fund	525,000
Assets	4,215,047

JOHN LANG BLAIRIE, Esq., President.
JOHN HOBKIN, Esq., Q.C., LL.D., Vice-President.

Money lent on Real Estate. Debentures issued. Executors and Trustees are authorized by law to invest in the debentures of this Company.

ANDREW RUTHERFORD, Manager.

THE IMPERIAL TRUSTS COMPANY OF CANADA.

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Capital Paid-up.....	314,316.58
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Cash Capital,	\$ 2,000,000.00
Reserve Fund,	2,341,925.98
Surplus (Stockholders),	1,334,460.81
Surplus (Policy-holders),	3,334,460.81
Losses paid to date,	\$3,027,788.02

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THE
BANKERS' JOURNAL
AND
FINANCIAL REVIEW.

VOL. IV.

NOVEMBER, 1892.

No. 2.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

MONTREAL, 30th November, 1892.

THE BRUSSELS MONETARY CONFERENCE.—On the 22nd inst. the Monetary Conference opened its sessions at Brussels, and the delegates are approaching the main question of the assemblage as we go to press. Our readers will remember that this international convention is the outcome of public sentiment in the United States on the all important silver question. As far back as last December, President Harrison, in his address to Congress, referred to a proposal then under consideration, to advocate a monetary conference for the purpose of reaching an international agreement as to the relation which should be maintained between gold and silver, and the adoption of standard coins of a given weight and fineness, which should be current in all countries of the world. At that time public sentiment in Europe appeared adverse to any consideration of bi-metallism, and the proposal was dropped for the time being. Later, however, in the beginning of March, the idea received more favorable attention, with the result that a bill was introduced into Congress providing for an international congress, and authorizing the President to invite foreign governments to send delegates to consider the silver question in its entirety. Subsequently, however, the bill was withdrawn, and the President himself took the initiative by issuing invitations to the leading European governments to a monetary conference on the lines suggested, and the present Congress is the outcome. Early in May, the

English Minister of Finance publicly announced to deputations that England would accept the invitation of the United States, and other countries soon followed the lead of Great Britain, viz.: Austria-Hungary, Germany, Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, Roumania and Servia, and finally Russia. All of these countries are now represented at Brussels by delegates of the highest reputation as financiers, and among them the directors of the mints of Europe. The following represent the United States in the matter:—E. B. Andrews, president of Brown University, one of the most learned political economists of the day; Henry W. Cannon, successor of John Jay Knox as comptroller of the Currency, and now president of the Chase National Bank of New York; Senator William B. Allison of Iowa, a man of great experience as a legislator and a leader in financial questions; Senator John P. Jones of Nevada, one of the most prominent and earnest advocates of free silver; and Representative J. B. McCreary of Kentucky, also said to be a free coinage man. The representatives of Great Britain are: Mr. Currie, one of the foremost gold men of London; Sir William H. Houldsworth, one of the most prominent bi-metallic advocates of Lancashire; Sir Charles Fremantle, a technical official; and two other monometallists. Belgium has appointed as delegates three monometallists: Senator Weber, superintendent of the Mint Sainctelette; M. Montefiore Levy, a banker; and one bi-metallist, Director of the Mint Ard. The delegates from France are: M. Terard, formerly Minister of Finance and subsequently Premier; M. Liron-dairolles, Director of the Mint; and M. Foville of the Ministry of Finance. Most of the nations represented have adopted the gold standard, and it will be a difficult task to convince them of the advantage of a fixed ratio between the two metals, which, if adopted, will commit them to bi-metallism.

LOANS AND DISCOUNTS.—The principle of evolution finds application in recording changes incidental of late years to banking development, and to no phase more applicable than that of the modern character of loans and discounts. That veteran American banker, Hon. E. S. Lacey, has recently given this subject his careful attention, with a result that is entitled to

careful attention. It will be noted, he points out, that, relatively, the volume of commercial and business paper gradually becoming reduced, while that which is known as accommodation paper is occupying more and more space in bank portfolios. The cause of this change is undoubtedly found in the changed conditions of trade in all its forms. All over the world, there has been a continual and rapid progress toward reducing all operations, as far as practicable, to a cash basis, and curtailing credits, where indispensable, to the shortest practicable time. This spirit pervades the operations of all classes, including the importer, the manufacturer, the jobber, and the retailer; and its activities are characterized by increasing vigor and tenacity. The immense volume of business developed by improved methods of production, cheaper and more rapid transportation, increased consumption, consequent upon the cheapening of commodities, and the prosperity of the great body of consumers, has induced such competition as makes it necessary that, so far as practicable, every element should be eliminated which involves risk of loss or delay of payment. If all transactions were settled in prompt cash, loss on account of insolvency and interest charges would disappear from the calculations of the seller. The shorter the credits granted, the nearer he approaches this greatly desired condition. While this movement is to be encouraged on the ground of safety and economy, it will be observed that it tends to greatly reduce the volume of commercial and business paper. Three decades ago the sale of commodities by the manufacturer to the wholesale dealer was upon long time, the wholesale dealer giving long credit to the retailer, and the latter to the consumer, and, in nearly every case, a note of hand closed each transaction. All along the devious, obscure, and almost interminable line of credits, the promissory note or bill of exchange constituted the convenient and unfailing medium for settlement. The bills thus brought into existence furnished the larger part of the commercial and business paper, which filled to repletion the note cases of the banking houses, whose aid was necessarily invoked. Bank officers of the last generation looked upon this as the only kind of paper that a prudent and conservative banker could properly discount, and regarded with marked disfavor accommodation bills, and especially those of the single-name variety. This prejudice is, to

a great degree, founded in reason, and still very properly influences the action of the conservative banker. Nothing forms a safer and better discount line than bills drawn in payment for merchandise purchased by the prudent merchant for his regular trade. Unfortunately, the supply of this paper is yearly becoming relatively more limited. The retail dealer, in both village and city, as a rule, sells for cash or on thirty-day settlements, and reports all his outstandings as open book accounts. He rarely receives notes from his customers, and consequently, has comparatively few to offer his banker. The same thing is true, to a greater or less extent, of the manufacturer, the importer, and the jobber. An adequate supply of genuine business paper is yearly becoming more difficult to obtain.

It becomes important, under these conditions, for bankers to ascertain what precautions can be taken to prevent the increased losses that the more extended use of accommodation paper seems to render possible, if not probable. The general adoption of the cash and short-time plan in mercantile transactions has, no doubt, eliminated much of the risk incident to the old method of long credits, as it tends to reduce the total current liabilities of the dealer, where the aggregate yearly transactions remain unchanged. It is also made more difficult for the merchant to transact business for an extended period, with an inadequate capital, or none at all, as was formerly quite common, under the extended credit system. Lack of either capital or capacity is now demonstrated at an earlier date, and the hastening of the almost inevitable catastrophe, in such case, serves to keep the losses within more moderate limits. Under present conditions, the prudent merchant reduces, by frequent settlements, the amounts at risk in the case of individual debtors, and ascertains and provides for losses incurred before they have become so large as to involve him in serious embarrassment. As a general proposition, it may be said that a bank's success is based upon and in proportion to the success of its customers. So, whatever conditions inure to the benefit of the latter, cannot but be to the advantage of the former, and it must be conceded that short credits have served to diminish the losses, and increase the probabilities of success, in all lines of trade. The intelligent banker, however, will not rest content until he has exhausted every available means to enhance his profits and

promote safety. He is ever on the alert to avoid losses by reason of advances to the improvident or dishonest. It is apparent that losses would be largely averted, if the banker could be thoroughly and accurately informed as to the character and responsibility of his borrowers. Any plan, therefore, that will bring him into possession of this information should be promptly adopted and persistently pursued. The information now furnished by the various commercial agencies is of great assistance in ascertaining the responsibility of borrowers. Although their reports are not to be implicitly relied upon, being often incomplete and occasionally misleading, yet no prudent banker can afford to dispense with their services, especially where his field of operations is so extensive as to preclude the possibility of his having personal acquaintance with every customer, and accurate knowledge of their affairs. It goes without saying that access to these sources of information should be at the command of every bank officer whose sphere of operations is not purely local, and confined to the narrowest field. In addition to this, he should employ every proper means to ascertain and systematically record, in such a manner as to be readily accessible, all facts which affect favorably or unfavorably the standing of those who are asking, or likely to ask, favors at his hands. In the end, however, the customer himself must be depended upon to make a full and complete exhibit of everything affecting his present responsibility and future success. It is unwise to accept the account of any man whose truthfulness is not fully established, and prudence dictates that no person should be accepted as a borrower, who is not willing to make in confidence to his banker a complete exhibit of his resources and liabilities.

CANADIANS IN THE UNITED STATES—According to the census returns of the United States recently made public, the number of Canadians resident in the Republic in 1890 is returned as having been 980,941, as compared with 717,157 in 1880, an increase of 263,784, or about 37 per cent. The number of Canadians in the New England States in 1890 was 380,167, as against 175,426 in 1880, showing that in ten years the number has considerably more than doubled. The division of population of Canadians in the New England States was:—English, 174,406; French, 205,761.

In Massachusetts the increase was very marked, the number of Canadians residing there in 1890 being 207,601, as against 74,203 in 1880. The figures thus made public will set at rest the alarm that appears to have agitated the minds of a certain section of our people by enabling them to modify their views as to the extent to which "compatriots" are fleeing their common country. It is noteworthy to find that the exodus is not wholly confined to French Canadians, for it is clearly in evidence that quite fifty per cent. of the increase in the case of the New England States, represents English Canadians. We incline to the belief that the Maritime Provinces have contributed the larger portion of this latter class. In this connection it may prove interesting to place here on record the views entertained, by one of the 980,481 above mentioned, on the past and present of his native country. They appear in an address delivered by H. H. Gardner, of El Dorado, before the Kansas Bankers' Association a short time since, and, to our mind, very fairly and cleverly estimate the true conditions which have stimulated emigration: "I left my native country, Canada, upon coming of age, because I found no promising business outlook ahead, and I was confronted with a languishing condition of affairs that made it dangerous to embark in any business enterprise. The then condition of the country under the policy of free trade, which had produced complete vassalage to England, with a business of exporting the raw materials of the country, heavy timbers, deals, and fish, and importing every manufactured article of English make, had driven out the young men in hordes, who crossed over the line into the United States, and so great was the exodus that it at last attracted the attention of the public men of the country and a change of policy was made, shaped after the United States, and protection given so as to encourage the establishing of factories. Things improved materially when the effects of this new policy were felt and the exodus was temporarily stayed; but with the small market of 5,000,000 of people and no growth in population worth mentioning, the stimulus of the protective tariff resulted in attracting more capital into manufacturing channels than could be profitably employed, and a sacrificial cutting in the price of home-manufactured goods closed up some establishments, reduced wages, and caused great uncertainty. This over-doing has since been remedied, and business readjusted and considerably improved. The census reports

of 1891 showed the average wages paid 16 to 18 per cent. higher than they were ten years ago, but this I hardly think can be credited to their tariff, for the cheap labor of Canada has flocked to this country on account of higher wages here, and thus decreased the supply on their home market, that demand has raised the wages of those remaining. It would appear, from observation of Canada's experience under strong protection, that incidental protection might have served her better, for what was practicable in a country of 65,000,000 was not in one with only 5,000,000.

THE CATTLE TRADE.—With the closing of navigation, cattle shippers are balancing their accounts for the season, and few are the lucky ones who have escaped losses. The large exporters have all lost heavily, the market having run against them almost from the opening. The season may, indeed, be termed the black year of the trade, the conditions present being such as few could have foreseen or provided against. British herds were suffering from the foot and mouth disease when shipments from the ports of Montreal first began, trade being demoralized in consequence, and the first consignments on arrival were disposed of at the low figure of $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. at Liverpool. High prices were paid by drovers to our farmers, then holding off for good values, and too free buying with speculative intent brought its own reward to too impulsive dealers. There was not the competition many looked for, and exporters were shy of heavy purchases, except at their own figures. On the 13th June, however, the markets at home improved a penny, and for thirty days the cattlemen made money freely, but about the middle of July the markets broke again, and August opened with trade bad under heavy offerings of native cattle. A slight recovery took place subsequently, however, and of late a few shippers have recouped themselves for a part of their previous losses, but the great majority show a debit balance of large amount as the result of the season's operations. Stockers lost money almost from the start. The Scotch feeders were getting so little for their fat cattle that they were afraid to buy any more for feeding purposes. The agricultural depression in Great Britain was great, and has now become a matter of the most serious moment. The depression is attributed to four causes: (1) the keen foreign competition; (2) a run of bad seasons; (3) the increased cost of labor and the difficulty of obtaining it, and (4) the increase in rates. In Scotland the total

head of cattle is about one million. The average price of cattle of all classes in 1890 was £18. There was a decline last year, and the general drop this year, as compared with 1890, cannot be put at a lower figure than £5 per head. The best cattle have suffered very little decline. Second-rate pedigreed cattle have dropped heavily in value, and have, in many instances, barely given ordinary commercial rates. Generally speaking, the greatest fall has been in cross-bred cattle intended for breeding purposes. The best of these have suffered at least from 25 to 30 per cent. on what used to be regarded as an ordinary average. Small yearly cattle of fair sorts, but with little promise of outcome, have scarcely been saleable at from 50 to 75 per cent. reduction. Reverting to the average value of 18 pounds per head—a million cattle would mean 18,000,000 pounds. The same number at the present estimated value of 13 pounds gives us 13,000,000, which brings out a loss of 5,000,000 pounds to the farming community. Is it any wonder that our cattle did not make money this year? In reference to sheep it may be said that the trade has been ruinous. Our sheep cannot compete with the frozen Australian and New Zealand mutton, and the trade is likely to die a quiet death.

In 1877, when the cattle trade may be said to have fairly begun, the shipments were 6,940 cattle and 9,509 sheep, and three years later they had increased to 41,730 cattle and 74,502 sheep. For the following two years there was a falling off in the shipment of cattle, but in 1883 there was a revival, and in 1885, the shipments showed an increase of 50 per cent. over those of 1880. There was an increase up to 1890, when the shipments of cattle reached the highest point on record, 123,126 head. Last year the shipments dropped to 109,150, and there is a further decrease to 98,755 this year. As stated above, the shipments of sheep in 1880 were 74,502: these figures have only been exceeded twice since, viz., in 1883, when 84,790 were sent across, and in 1886, when the shipments were 93,856. In 1889, the shipments were 59,344, and there has been a marked decline ever since, the total for the present season being only 15,932, the smallest shipments since 1877.

OUR CHARTERED BANKS.

THEIR EARLY HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT. (i)

THE MONTREAL BANK 1817-1822.

In the last issue of the *JOURNAL* we foreshadowed a change in the London financial agency of the Dominion, and with marked commendation noted the claim then being advanced by the directorate of the Bank of Montreal. Since previous writing the contemplated change has become an accomplished fact, the claim of the Bank has been duly recognized by the Hon. Minister of Finance, and after the 31st December next our chief monetary institution will occupy itself with the entire London business of the Government: a duty its ample resources and high credit will render easy of performance.

In recording this event of special interest to the Canadian people we are led to review the past history of the great and prosperous corporation, now about to occupy almost the position of a State Bank, and in so doing we beg to assure our readers that the dates and figures about to be presented for their attention are compiled from original sources of information, and may therefore be relied upon as being accurate in every detail. It so happens that circumstance has thrown in our way authentic documents and memoranda, which, we are apprised, will supplement the knowledge of the Bank's earlier history, contained in the archives of the corporation itself—these latter having unfortunately suffered impairment, to a slight extent, through lapse of time and the loss of special documents, first, in a conflagration which early in the Bank's history destroyed its original office, and, again, in the confusion incident to later changes of location. This has been to us a source of especial pleasure, not to add instruction, for the data at hand will enable us to re-lay the corner-stone of an edifice, designed by Canadian master-hands, and, stone above stone, built up by Canadian industry, until to-day it stands unrivalled on a continent noted for financial enterprise, and acknowledging but few peers in the broader world of finance.

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Immediately after the close of the War of 1812-14, peace being then assured, an impetus was given to the national spirit of the infant colony, and its leading merchants projected measure after measure intended to advance the development of their country. Of these measures some have still to reach their full development. In August, 1815, Parliament voted its first grant, £25,000, toward the construction of a canal from Montreal to Lachine, to open up communication with the West: the inaugural step of a policy which has not yet been carried to its legitimate end, nor will be before the close of 1895—eighty years of indomitable perseverance and constant effort. The North West Company, a band of traders, rivalling the Hudson's Bay Adventurers in their power and sphere of operations, then stood at the zenith of their might, and reigned like feudal barons over far inland posts. Steamers were built for inland navigation; and the dawn of a new era of trade and commerce was ushered in by the establishment of a company of associates to provide the rising colony with adequate banking facilities.

To whose master-mind the idea of a Bank of Montreal first suggested itself, whether that of John Richardson or of George Moffatt, both equally active in projecting ventures for the welfare of the colony,—we have utterly failed to determine. That it emanated from either of these spirits seems undoubted. Early in the year 1817, the idea having been mooted, a committee of leading merchants was appointed to draft articles of association, under the chairmanship of John Richardson, the junior member of the firm of Forsyth, Richardson & Co., general merchants, and dealers in furs. This prominent citizen of Montreal was a native of Banffshire, Scotland, and a man of energy and action *par excellence*. The Montreal of the period owed more to him than to any other of its citizens; and whenever any thing was to be done requiring skill and energy for its accomplishment—John Richardson was the one whom his fellow colonists called to the front.

In those early days, the securing of rights by private companies was a difficult and tedious process, the sanction of the British Government being required to all legislation to this end, passed by the Province. The promoters of the new venture, however, were not men to calmly await the grant of corporate existence before entering actively into the conduct of business operations, and the

committee were instructed to draft a series of Articles under which a bank could be immediately opened up pending application for an Act of charter. It thus became the duty of those entrusted with the matter, to devise some means of assuring to future subscribers the one main privilege of incorporation—that involved in the idea of limited liability. How well they performed this troublesome task will be made known by reference to the following reprint embodying the result of their labors. The Articles were so phrased, that future customers of the proposed bank made themselves parties to a contract containing a stipulation, as a condition precedent, that payment of any debt due by the Association was to be made "out of the joint funds of the company and not otherwise." Its circulating notes were to bear, and did bear, a like legend, until the sanction of the Imperial authorities was obtained to a provincial act to be passed later. It is recorded, however, that some difficulty was at first experienced, as happened later in the unfortunate period of the Bank's history, in securing the acceptance of these notes by the *habitant* of the period; and it often became necessary to impress them with the Molson stamp in order to assure them special circulation, the Molson name being a guarantee of safety to certain classes of the community. That these notes soon passed into general currency, however, although bearing this odd condition, is apparent from the fact that a counterfeit issue of one denomination (\$5) made its appearance in 1820; and the new currency rapidly replaced the old "Army Bills" then in process of redemption. It may not be doubted that the success of the Army Bill Act, and the withdrawal from circulation of the large amount of bills issued thereunder, was a potent argument used by the projector of the new venture to secure the co-operation of his subsequent colleagues. The minds of the more or less ignorant countryman had thereby been partially disabused of that fear of paper currency with which the card money of the later French *regime* had so deeply imbued them.

The committee reported in May, and the Articles adopted were published *in extenso* in the columns of the *Montreal Herald* for three successive months, according to the terms of the Seventh Article. No copies of this paper, for any one of the issues containing this interesting document, appear to be now in existence; our source of information being a small pamphlet, printed by one

"William Gray," probably at the instance of the Bank, and seemingly intended for gratuitous distribution over the Bank's counter. Stock books were opened in June, and, by the beginning of July, sufficient stock had been subscribed for and paid in to authorize the members of the committee, under the Second Article, to call a meeting for the due election of a board of directors to further organize and, in due course, commence active operations. Accordingly, on the 4th July, 1817, the necessary requisition having been prepared, it was signed by seven members of the committee having superintendence of the stock list, and called a meeting of shareholders for the 7th August. This appeared in the *Montreal Herald* and one other Montreal newspaper, immediately after the signing, in order that the time appointed should not be "at a distance of less than thirty days from the time of notification." The seven members who signed this requisition were the following : John Richardson, George Garden, George Moffatt, Thomas Andrew Turner, Robert Armour, James Leslie and Horatio Gates.

These names carry us back to the opening years of Canada's prosperity, when each one of the pioneers who bore them was lending his energy and individual enterprise to the work of nation-building. In fancy we may now picture the forms and features of these early traders ; honorable in dealing, serious in project, with master-minds among them to direct and further execution. Could we but revive the period and bid the citizens single out three men, greatly beloved and trusted, the choice would fall with one accord on Honorable John Richardson, Honorable George Moffatt and Honorable Peter McGill ; three men whose services to the public in succession have been such as to place them alone amongst those who may have followed or succeeded them. Of the last named gentleman we shall have much to say, when treating of the progress of the Bank under his presidency from 1834 to 1860 ; the two first named now claim our attention as being of the ever mystic number.

As we have already stated, John Richardson was born a native of Portsoy, Banffshire, Scotland, in the year 1755, and was the junior member of the firm of Forsyth, Richardson & Co., which, at the end of last century, and during the first thirty years of the present, stood foremost among the commercial houses of the "city." Their business was a general one, but, like all other merchants of the time, they dealt largely in furs, which later became the

most lucrative branch of their trade. In company with Joseph Frobisher, he represented the East Ward of the city, in the first Parliament of Lower Canada. He was one of the Commissioners for removing the old fortifications of the city from 1802 onwards. He projected and secured the passage of a bill for the construction of a canal to Lachine as early as 1795-6, although he did not see the work commenced till 1821, on the 17th July of which year he turned the first sod, at the commencement of the work. He was chairman of the company that secured the completion of the undertaking, in 1825, at a cost of \$440,000. In this connection we are afforded an opportunity of judging the character of the man from his actions ; for it may be recorded that his singleness of mind, and fear of being reproached with self-seeking, actually proved detrimental to the best interests of the community. The canal ought to have been carried down to Hochelaga through what is now Craig street ; but he opposed the project lest it should be said that he promoted it for the purpose of enhancing the value of his own property, which lay in the Quebec suburbs. Second on the list of gentlemen appointed by His Excellency Sir Gordon Drummond, in 1815, a committee to obtain subscriptions in aid of the families of the slain at Waterloo ; one of the six commissioners for building the Nelson Monument ; director of the first Montreal Savings Bank ; a trustee for improving the highway to Lachine ; Justice of the Peace, and, finally, chairman of the committee to superintend the construction of the General Hospital, 1821, and later its first president. No enterprise requiring energy or skill was considered likely to promise success unless John Richardson became one of the leading spirits. On the 31st January, 1831, he was sworn in as a member of the Legislative Council of the Province, but died on the 18th May of the same year, aged 76 years. A year later his fellow-citizens erected the "Richardson wing of the General Hospital" as the most fitting monument to perpetuate his memory in stone.

George Moffatt was born in the county of Durham, England, on the 15th August 1787, and came to Montreal at the age of thirteen, entering the counting-house of Gerrard, Yeoman & Gillespie in 1800—a firm then acting as one of the agents for the great Northwest Company : At the period now under review, George Moffatt was one of the leading partners in this firm, then known as Gerrard, Gillespie, Moffatt & Co., and is specially men-

tioned as having been most active in establishing the proposed bank. He was a forcible speaker, and represented one of the city wards for several years prior to 1832, on the 5th November of which year he was summoned to the Legislative Council. As president of the Board of Trade for many years, he assisted to give a finer tone to the commercial sentiment of his day, being himself a gentleman of high honor and integrity. He died on the 25th February, 1865, in the 78th year of his age.

James Leslie was born at Kair, Kincardine, Scotland, on the 4th September, 1786, the son of Captain Leslie, 15th Regiment of Foot, Assistant Q. M. General to General Wolfe at the capture of Quebec. Having received his education at the Grammar school, Maréchal College and University of Aberdeen, he came to Montreal in 1808, and began business on his own account as a general merchant under the style of James Leslie & Co., a firm known in after days as Leslie, Starnes & Company. He was a volunteer in 1812, and held a commission in the Militia from 1811 to 1862, when he retired, retaining his rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. From 1824 until the Union he represented the East Ward of the city in the Legislative Assembly of the Province. After the Union in 1840 he was returned as member for Verchères from the first general election until summoned to the Legislative Council in 1848. From March, 1848, to September he was president of the Executive Council, and from the latter date to October, 1851, held appointment as Provincial Secretary and Registrar. He occupied his seat in the Legislative Council to the date of Confederation, when in May, 1867, he was called to the newly constituted Senate, to represent Alma. On the 6th December, 1873 he died, aged 87 years, leaving behind him a most honorable name. Of high honor as a merchant, affable and courteous as a gentleman and statesman, it is written of him that his life and character were stained by no single fault.

Of Horatio Gates it has been said: "He was one of the grandest of merchants, but one cramped by the littleness of our commerce. Had he lived but thirty years later, no Peabody or Gould or Vanderbilt would have been before him." Although J. Ogilvy exported the first shipload of flour in 1803, it is to Horatio Gates we owe the opening up of our great flour trade with the West. From Upper Canada and the Genesee and Black

River country of the State of New York, he brought vast quantities, for the time, of pot and pearl ash, wheat, corn, flour, beef, pork and butter, carrying them in Durham boats and sloops to Lachine, and carting them thence to the town for export to Great Britain and the West Indies, operations which kept from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in constant circulation between the town and the adjoining country to the West and South; remarkable figures in those old colony days. He was of New England origin; a United Empire loyalist, one of those whose forefathers had left England to seek "a faith's pure shrine—freedom to worship God," yet whose hearts were so bound to the old land by many endearing ties, that they could not bear to have them entirely sundered. To this infusion of vigorous life, drawn from old Puritan stock, Canada owes much of its present prosperity and advancement. The firm of Horatio Gates & Co. consisted first of the subject of this slight memoir and a Mr. Bellows, but the latter gentleman retiring, Nathaniel Jones, a nephew of the continuing partner, was admitted a member, and for many years ably seconded the ventures of his senior. Mr. Gates was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 16th March, 1833. He was elected to the directorate of the Montreal Bank at the first meeting of subscribers, and continued to sit on the Board till his death, being president from the 6th June, 1826, until the December following, when he resigned the position to give place to John Molson, sen., whose services were then for the first time invoked to guide the Bank through its earlier misfortunes. The date of his death we have not been able to determine at this stage of our inquiry.

Robert Armour was a native of Kilmarnock, Scotland, and was born in 1780, coming to Canada in 1798. He engaged in general merchandise, and successively formed several partnerships in Montreal. His first firm was known as Henderson & Armour. Afterwards he did business under the style of Robert Armour & Co., and in 1817 his name appeared as senior partner in the firm of Robert Armour & Davis. As one of the Wardens of the Trinity House and a commissioner for improving the inland navigation between Montreal and Lachine, he occupied several positions calling for executive ability, finally becoming cashier of the Bank of Montreal, in which his brother Shaw was discount clerk, in 1820, prior to his settling in Cobourg.

Thomas A. Turner, subsequently appointed the first vice-president of the Bank, was a partner in the then celebrated commercial house of Alliston, Turner & Co., general merchants and founders, whose foundry, was situated on St. Mary street in the Quebec Suburbs, some little distance beyond Molson's brewery, and a little east of the fine country residence of John Richardson. Here was cast the cylinder and iron work for Molson's "Swiftsure," the first all Canadian built steamer, launched Thursday afternoon, 4th September, 1812, by the Governor-General and his Lady, amidst the thunders of a salute of 19 guns and the cheers of thousands of citizens who had gathered to witness the ceremonies. Thomas A. Turner was one of the first directors of the Montreal Savings Bank, a Warden of the Trinity House, one of the Commissioners for the improvement of the inland navigation between Montreal and Lachine, and a member of the Board of Examiners for flour inspectors.

The last of the seven gentlemen to sign the requisition for a general meeting of subscribers to the articles of the Montreal Bank, whose lives we are recording, was George Garden, the head of the firm of Garden, Auldjo & Maitland, later so widely known as Auldjo, Maitland & Company, general merchants. Elected a director of the Bank at its first meeting, he continued to occupy this position of honor until 1825, being appointed vice-president in 1820. Re-visiting Scotland in 1825, with a view to the education of his two sons, he shortly afterwards returned to Canada, where he died on the 15th October, 1828, in the very fullness of life, aged 56 years. While vice-president of the Bank, on the dissolution of parliament following the death of George III, he was returned as a member of the assembly for the East Ward of Montreal, his colleague being L. J. Papineau.

We will now proceed to reproduce in all their quaintness and style the Articles of Association under which the corporation commenced operations, together with the more important of its first by-laws, our source of information being the pamphlet previously referred to:—

Articles
OF
ASSOCIATION
OF THE
MONTREAL BANK.

To All to whom these Presents shall Come;

It is known and made manifest, that we, the Subscribers, have formed an Association or limited Co-partnership, and do hereby agree with each other to conduct Banking Business in the manner hereinafter specified and described, by and under the name or style of

The Montreal Bank;

And we do hereby mutually covenant, declare and agree, that the following are and shall be the fundamental Articles of this our Association and Agreement with each other, by which we, and all persons who at any time hereafter may transact business with the said Company, shall be bound and regulated.

First.—The Capital Stock of the said Company shall not exceed Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds current money of this Province, divided into five thousand shares of Fifty pounds each; and for the purpose of raising the said Capital Stock, a book of Subscription shall be opened in this City after thirty days previous notice in at least four of the Provincial Newspapers, under the superintendence of John Richardson, George Garden, George Moffatt, Thomas Andrew Turner, Robert Armour, James Leslie, Horatio Gates, John C. Bush, and Austin Cuvillier, or any three of them; and to continue upon their superintendence, until there shall have been an election of Directors, as hereinafter provided, which book shall be headed with the present articles of Co-partnership or agreement, and shall continue open until the whole of the said capital stock shall have been subscribed. Every person or persons, co-partnership, body politic or corporate, who may or shall become members of this Association, may subscribe for such and so many shares as he, she, or they shall think fit, not however exceeding, in the first instance, twenty shares; and it is hereby agreed, that the shares respectively subscribed shall be payable in gold or silver coin, current in this Province, in the manner following, that

is to say: five *per centum*, as a deposit at the time of subscribing; ten *per centum* to the Directors, within ten days after they shall have been chosen in manner hereinafter provided; another payment not exceeding ten *per centum*, whenever they shall require it, at such time and place as they shall appoint for that purpose, giving thirty days previous notice as aforesaid; and the remainder shall be payable in such instalments as a majority of the Directors shall agree upon; but no after-instalment shall exceed ten *per centum* upon the capital stock, for the payment of which thirty days notice shall always be given.

Second.—It is further mutually agreed upon, that whoever the sum of five thousand pounds shall have been actually deposited, or paid in on account of the subscriptions to the said stock, notice thereof shall be given by the persons under whose superintendance the same shall have been received, in at least two of the Montreal News-Papers, and the said persons shall at the same time, in like manner, notify the time and place of holding a meeting of the subscribers, which shall be at the distance of not less than thirty days from the time of such notification for proceeding to the election of the number of Directors hereinafter mentioned; and such election shall then and there be made by a majority of shares voted for, in manner hereinafter prescribed in respect to the annual elections of Directors: and the persons who shall then and there be chosen shall be the first Directors, and shall be capable of serving until the expiration of the day fixed for making the annual election; and the Directors so chosen, shall as soon thereafter as circumstances can conveniently allow of, commence the business and operations of the said Bank, but no Bank Bills or Bank Notes shall be issued or put in circulation, nor any bill or note be discounted at the Bank, until twenty-five thousand pounds in gold or silver shall be actually paid in, and received on account of the subscriptions to the said capital stock.

Third.—For the good management of the affairs of the said Association or Company, there shall be thirteen Directors, who shall be annually elected by the proprietors or holders of the said capital stock, at a general meeting thereof to be annually holden on the first Monday of June, at which annual meeting the said proprietors and stockholders shall vote according to the rule hereinafter established, in respect to voting at general meetings; and the Directors so chosen by a majority, in conformity to such rule, shall be capable of serving as Directors, for twelve months (unless any of them shall be removed for mal-administration before the expiration of that period by a general meeting of stockholders, or unless suspended, as hereinafter provided), and at their first meeting after such election, shall choose out of

their number, a President and Vice-President, and their places respectively, from time to time, fill up when vacant by death, resignation, absence from the Province, or removal, as above-said. In case of death, resignation, absence from the Province for three months at a time, or the removal of a Director by the stockholders, his place, in case of such removal, shall be filled up by the said stockholders, and in the other cases, by the remaining Directors, or a majority of them, to serve, however, only until the succeeding general meeting as abovesaid.

Fourth.—The Directors for the time being, shall have power to appoint such officers, clerks and servants under them, as shall be necessary for executing the business of the said Company, and to allow them such compensation for their services respectively, as shall be reasonable and proper; all which, together with the expenses of building, house rent, and all other contingencies, shall be defrayed, out of the funds of the said Company. The said Directors shall likewise be capable of exercising such other powers and authorities for the well regulating and ordering of the affairs of the said Company, as shall be prescribed by the bye-laws and regulations thereof.

Fifth.—It is further covenanted and agreed upon by and between the parties to this agreement, that if the said capital stock of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds is not subscribed within three months after the said book of subscription shall have been opened, then and in such case it may be competent for any former subscriber or subscribers to increase his, her, or their subscriptions to forty shares; and if the aforesaid capital stock is not subscribed within four months after the said Book of subscription shall have been opened, then, and in such case, the deficiency may be subscribed for by any person or persons, body politic or corporate, but they shall not be permitted respectively to hold more than fifty shares in the whole, unless the same be acquired by purchase, after the said Bank shall have commenced its operation.

Sixth.—It is hereby expressly and explicitly declared, to be the object and intention of the persons who associate themselves under the style or firm of *The Montreal Bank*, that the joint stock or property of the said Company (exclusive of dividends to be made in the manner hereinafter mentioned) shall alone be responsible for the debts and engagements of the said Company. And that no person who shall or may deal with this Company, or to whom they shall or may become in any wise indebted, shall, on any pretence whatever, have recourse against the separate property of any present or future member of this Company, or against their persons, farther than may be necessary to secure the faithful application of the funds

thereof, to the purposes to which by these presents they are liable. But all persons accepting any bond, bill, note, or other contract of this Company, signed by the President or Vice-President, and countersigned or attested by the Cashier of the Company, for the time being, or dealing with it in any other manner whatsoever, thereby respectively give credit to the said joint stock or property of the said Company, and thereby respectively disavow having recourse, on any pretence whatever, to the person or separate property of any present or future member of this Company, except as above mentioned. And all suits to be brought against this Company (if any shall be) shall be brought against the President for the time being; and in case of his death or removal from office, pending any suit against him, measures shall be taken at the expence of the Company, for substituting his successor in office as a defendant; so that persons having demands upon the Company may not be prejudiced or delayed by that event; or if the person suing shall go on against the person first named as defendant, (notwithstanding his death or removal from office) this Company shall take no advantage of such proceeding on that account; and all recoveries had in manner aforesaid shall be conclusive upon the Company, so far as to render the Company's said joint stock or property liable thereby, and no further; and the Company shall immediately pay the amount of such recovery out of their joint stock, but not otherwise. And in case of any suit at law, the President for the time being shall have full power in his own name, and on behalf of the Company, to prosecute to judgment and execution in the manner and form, as by the laws of this Province it is provided; it being expressly understood and declared, that all persons dealing with the said Company, agree to these terms, and are to be bound thereby.

Seventh.—These articles of agreement shall be published in at least one of the News papers printed in the Cities of Quebec and Montreal for three months, and for the information of all persons who may transact business with, or in any manner give credit to this Company, every bond, bill, note, or other instrument or contract, by the effect or terms of which, the Company may be charged or held liable, for the payment of money, shall specially declare, in such form as the Board of Directors shall prescribe, *that payment shall be made out of the joint funds of this Company, according to the present articles of association, and not otherwise*; and a copy of the sixth article of this Association, shall be inserted in the Bank Book of every person depositing money, or other valuable property, with the Company, for safe custody, or a printed copy shall be delivered to every such person, before any such deposit shall be received from him. And it is hereby

expressly declared, that no engagement can be legally made in the name of the said Company, unless it contain a limitation or restriction to the effect above recited. And the Company hereby expressly disavow all responsibility for any debt or engagement which may be made in their name, not containing a limitation or restriction to the effect aforesaid.

Eighth.—The number of votes to which each Stockholder or Stockholders Co-partnership, body politic or corporate, holding stock in the said Company, shall be entitled on every occasion, when in conformity to the provisions and requirements of these articles, the votes thereof are to be given, shall be in the proportion following, that is to say: For one share and not more than two, one vote; for every two shares above two, and not exceeding ten, one vote, making five votes for ten shares; for every four shares above ten, and not exceeding thirty, one vote, making ten votes for thirty shares; for every six shares above thirty, and not exceeding sixty, one vote, making fifteen votes for sixty shares; and for every eight shares above sixty, and not exceeding one hundred, one vote, making twenty votes for one hundred. But no person or persons, co-partnership, body politic or corporate, shall be entitled to a greater number than twenty votes, and all stockholders resident within this Province, or elsewhere, may vote by proxy, if he, she, or they shall see fit, provided that such proxy be a stockholder, and do produce a sufficient authority from his constituent or constituents, for so representing and voting for him, her, or them; provided also that after the first election of Directors, no share or shares of the capital stock of the Company shall confer a right of voting, either in person, or by proxy, which shall not have been holden during three calendar months, at the least, prior to the day of election, or of the general meeting, where the votes of the stockholders are to be given.

Ninth.—None but a stockholder, actually resident in the City of Montreal, and holding at least ten shares in the capital stock, and being a natural born subject of His Majesty, or a subject of His Majesty naturalized by act of the British Parliament, or a subject of His Majesty, having become such by the conquest and cession of the Province, or any person who shall have resided seven years in the Province, and in any of the above cases who shall have resided three years in this City, one of which shall have immediately preceded the day of election, shall be capable of being elected or chosen a Director of the said Bank, or shall serve as such.

Tenth.—Nine of the Directors in office shall be re-elected for the next succeeding twelve months, of which the President and Vice-President shall always be of the number.

Eleventh.—No Director shall be entitled to any salary or emolument, unless the same shall have been allowed to him by a general meeting of the stockholders; but the stockholders may make such compensation to the President or Vice President, for their extraordinary attendance at the Bank, as shall appear to them to be reasonable and proper.

Twelfth.—Not less than five Directors shall constitute a board, for the transaction of business, whereof the President or Vice-President shall always be one, except in case of sickness and necessary absence, in which case their places may be supplied by any other Director whom the President or Vice-President so sick or absent, shall respectively by writing, under their hands, appoint for that purpose. The President and Vice-President shall vote at the Board as Directors, and in case of there being an equal number of votes for and against any question before them, the President, and in his absence, the Vice-President shall have a casting voice.

Thirteenth.—Any number of stockholders, not less than fifty, who together shall be proprietors of two hundred and fifty shares, shall have power at any time, by themselves or their proxies, to call a general meeting of the stockholders, for purposes relative to the said association, giving at least six weeks notice thereof, in at least one of the News papers published in this City, and specifying in such notice the time and place for such meeting, with the object or objects thereof; and the Directors, or any seven of them, shall have the like power at any time (upon observing the like formalities) to call a general meeting as abovesaid. And if the object for which any general meeting, called either by the stockholders or directors as abovesaid, shall be to consider a proposal for the removal of the President, Vice-President, or other Director or Directors, for mal administration, then and in such case the person or persons so proposed to be removed, shall from the day on which such notice shall first be published, be suspended from the execution of the duties of his or their office; and if he be the President or Vice President, his place shall be filled up by the remaining Directors, to serve during the time of such suspension.

Fourteenth.—Every Cashier and Clerk of the Bank, before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall give bond, with two or more sureties, to the satisfaction of the Directors; that is to say, every Cashier in a sum not less than five thousand pounds, with condition for his good and faithful behaviour; and every clerk with like condition, and sureties, in such sum as the Directors shall consider adequate to the trust to be reposed in him,

Fifteenth.—The Company shall not hold any lands and tenements, but such as may be necessary for the transaction and accommodation of the business of the Bank, and for no other purpose: It shall nevertheless be competent for the Directors, on behalf of the Company, to take and hold mortgages on property, by way of additional security for debts contracted with the said Company in the course of its dealings: but on no account shall money be lent upon mortgage, or upon lands and other fixed property, nor such be purchased by the Company upon any pretext, except in the special case above recited.

Sixteenth.—The total amount of the debts which the Company shall at any time owe, whether by bond, bill, or note, or other contract whatsoever, shall not exceed treble the amount of the capital stock actually paid in, over and above a sum equal in amount to such money as may be deposited in the Bank for safe keeping), and in case of excess, the Directors, under whose administration it shall happen, shall be liable for the same, in their natural and private capacities, but it shall not exempt the Company or the lands, tenements, goods, or chattels thereof, from being also liable for such excess; such Directors, however, as shall have been absent when the said excess was contracted, or shall have entered their protest against it, upon the minutes of the proceedings of the Board, may respectively exonerate and discharge themselves therefrom, by pleading and proving such absence, or shewing such minutes.

Seventeenth.—The shares of capital stock shall be assignable and transferable, according to such rules and forms, as may be established in that behalf, by the board of Directors, but no assignment or transfer shall be valid or effectual, unless such assignment or transfer shall be entered or registered in a book or books, to be kept by the Directors for that purpose, nor until the person or persons making the same shall previously discharge all debts actually due by him, her, or them, to the said Company, which may exceed in amount the remaining stock belonging to such person or persons; and in no case shall any fractional part of a share, or other than a complete share or shares be assignable or transferable. And it is hereby further expressly agreed and declared, that any stockholder, who shall transfer in manner aforesaid, all his stock or shares in this Company, to any other person or persons whatever, shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member of this Company, and that any person or persons whatever, who shall accept a transfer of any stock or share in this Company, shall *ipso facto* become and be a member of this Company, according to these articles of association.

Eighteenth.—All bills, bonds, notes, and every contract and engagement, on behalf of the Company, shall be signed by the President or Vice President; and countersigned or attested by the Cashier of the Company; and the funds of the Company shall in no case be held responsible for any contract or engagement whatever, unless the same shall be so signed and countersigned, or attested as aforesaid.

Nineteenth.—The books, papers, correspondence, and funds of the Company, shall at all times be subject to the inspection of the Directors, but no stockholder not Director shall inspect the account of any individual or individuals, with the Company.

Twentieth.—Half-yearly dividends shall be made of so much of the profits of the Company, as shall appear to the Directors advisable, and shall be payable at such place or places as the Directors shall appoint, of which they shall give public notice in at least two Newspapers published in this City, at least thirty days before; and the Directors shall every year, at the general meeting, for election thereof, lay before the stockholders, for their information, an exact and particular statement of the amount of the debts due to and by the Company, specifying the amount of Bank Notes then in circulation, and the amount of such debts as in their opinion are bad, or doubtful: and also stating the surplus or profit, if any remaining, after deduction of losses and provisions for dividends. Provided that the rendering of such statements shall not extend, to give any right to the stockholders not Directors, to inspect the account of any individual or individuals with the Company.

Twenty First.—If there shall be a failure in payment of any part of the sum or shares subscribed by any person or persons, co-partnership, body politic or corporate, the party failing in paying the first instalment of ten per centum, succeeding the deposit of five per centum hereinbefore required to be made at the time of subscribing, shall respectively forfeit the said deposit to and for the use of the said Company, and the stock shall be sold at public sale, for the behoof of the Company, and on failure of paying the other instalments, or any of them, the party or parties failing therein, shall forfeit the original deposit of five per centum, and the dividends unpaid prior to the time for making such payment, and during the delay of the same.

Twenty-Second.—The said Company shall not directly or indirectly deal in any thing, excepting Bills of Exchange, gold or silver Bullion, or in the sale of Goods really and truly pledged for money lent, and not

redeemed in due time, or in the sale of stock pledged for money lent, and not so redeemed, which said goods and stock so pledged, and not so redeemed, shall be sold by the said Company, at public sale, at any time not less than ten days after the period for redemption; and if upon such sale of goods or stock, there shall be a surplus, after deducting the expenses of sale, over the payment of the money lent, such surplus shall be paid to the proprietors thereof respectively.

Twenty Third.—The board of Directors are hereby fully empowered to make such other bye laws and regulations, for the government of the affairs of the Company, and that of their officers and servants, as they, or a majority of them shall from time to time think expedient, not inconsistent with law, or these articles of Association.

Twenty Fourth.—This Association shall continue until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and no longer; but the proprietors of two thirds of the capital stock of the Company, may by their concurring votes, at a general meeting to be called for that express purpose, revise or alter these articles, or any of them, or dissolve the Company at any prior period, provided that notice of such meeting, and of its object, shall be published in all the Provincial News papers for six months previous to the time appointed for such meeting: and provided also, that no revision or alteration of these articles shall subject any stockholder or stockholders to be bound beyond the amount of his, her, or their stock.

Twenty Fifth.—Immediately on any dissolution of this Association, effectual measures shall be taken by the Directors then existing, for closing all the concerns of the Company, and for dividing the capital and profits, which may remain among the stockholders, in proportion to their respective interests.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our names and firms, at Montreal.

EXTRACT
 FROM
RULES AND REGULATIONS
 ADOPTED BY THE
President and Directors
 OF THE
MONTREAL BANK.

21st Oct. 1817.

First.—The Bank shall be opened, and kept open for the transaction of business, from nine o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, from the first of May until the first of November; and from the first of November until the first May, from ten o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, every day in the year except on Sundays, the first of January, Epiphany, Annunciation, Ascension, Good Friday, His Majesty's Birth Day, Corpus Christi, or Fête Dieu, St. Pierre and St. Paul, Assumption, All Saints, Conception and Christmas days; which days shall be considered as Holy-days, on which no business shall be transacted at the Bank, and the Cashier shall affix in some conspicuous place in the Bank, a notice to that effect.

Third.—In all cases where a member of this association may vote by proxy, or when any transfer is made, or dividend received, or other act done by attorney, such proxy shall be held to produce his original authority or letter of attorney, and deposit the same with the Cashier.

Fourth.—The stock of every member of this Association shall be considered to be pledged to the Company for any and all monies which such member may at any time owe the Bank; and the Board of Directors may, if they see cause, refuse to make any transfer, or pay any dividend upon such Stock, until such debt is fully discharged.

Fifth.—The Bank may take charge of the cash of all such persons as shall choose to place it there free of expence, and shall keep it subject to the order of the depositor, payable at sight; and may also receive deposits of ingots of gold, bars of silver, wrought plate, or other valuable articles of small bulk, for safe keeping, at the risk of the depositor.

Eighth.—The days of discount shall be Tuesday and Friday of each week, and the Directors shall assemble on those days at ten o'clock, precisely, for the purpose of Discounting, except any of the Holy-days observed by the Bank should fall on those days, then the Directors shall meet on the succeeding day.

Tenth.—All bills and notes offered for discount shall be delivered in the Bank on Monday and Thursday in each week, and laid before the board of Directors by the Cashier on the succeeding Tuesday and Friday at ten o'clock, together with a statement of the funds and situation of the Bank, on which days the discount shall be settled, and such as are admitted shall be paid or placed to the credit of the applicants on the day on which they are discounted, and may be drawn for at any time after one o'clock, and the Notes or Bills not discounted, shall be returned at any time after one o'clock on the same day.

Eleventh.—Discount shall not be made for a longer time than ninety days, and the usual grace, unless by an unanimous vote of the Directors, present at a meeting of the board, and no discount shall be made without two responsible names; but if property, as shall be approved by the Board, be deposited and pledged to an amount sufficient to secure the payment with all damages, then one responsible name may be taken.

Twelfth.—Notes of Hand, Bills of Acceptance, and all other Negotiable Notes and Bills may be discounted without the endorsement of the applicant, by an unanimous vote of the Directors present, and no renewal of a note shall be made without at least ten per cent. of the amount be paid, except by the unanimous vote of the Directors present.

Thirteenth.—The firm of a house in trade is not to be taken at the Bank unless they shall in writing make known at the Bank, the names of the partners composing the same, and the firm of a house to be considered as one name only.

Fourteenth.—Every person who opens an account, and transacts business with this Bank, besides subscribing to the Sixth clause of the fundamental articles of this association, as is therein provided, shall also subscribe his name in a book to be kept for that purpose, to be called *The Book of Signatures*, and all persons who compose any house keeping an account with this Bank, shall subscribe their names, and the signature of the firm in this book, if residing in Montreal.

Fifteenth.—No credit shall be given on any pretence whatever to any

person who may be at the time a delinquent debtor at the Bank; whether the delinquency be on paper discounted or left for collection, as promisor or endorser.—And in order that the board may be enabled to carry this regulation into exact operation, it shall be the duty of the Cashier to lay before the Board at each meeting for discount, the names of all delinquent debtors, designating those on discount, and those on collection notes.

Sixteenth.—Discounts may be made on notes payable to the President and Directors of the Bank, on such personal pledges and other securities as the board of Directors may deem expedient, consistently with the Eleventh article.

Seventeenth.—All transfers for collateral security, shall be made to the President and Directors of the Montreal Bank, and the President is hereby authorized to transfer such security on payment of the debt for which it is pledged.

Eighteenth.—Whenever a discounted note shall have remained delinquent, it shall be the duty of the Cashier to enclose the same to the Solicitor of the Bank, to be put in suit, unless otherwise ordered by the President or Vice-President and Director of the Week.

Nineteenth.—Persons leaving notes for collection, shall be required to leave a memorandum of them at the same time, and in case of non-payment or protest, the person lodging the same shall pay the charges before the notes are returned. The Cashier shall put up a notice of this regulation in some conspicuous place in the Bank.

Twentieth.—A notice of the following tenor, signed by the Cashier, shall be affixed in some conspicuous place in the Bank.

NOTICE.

Whereas Notes and Bills may be left at the Bank for collection, it may sometimes happen that omissions in notifying the parties or other informalities or mistakes respecting such Notes or Bills may take place, whereby damage may accrue to the proprietors of them, or other parties concerned; Public Notice is therefore hereby given, that the Directors of this institution, consider such notes and bills as left wholly at the risk of the persons leaving the same, and that the Bank will be responsible only for monies actually received in payment thereof, but not for any omissions, informalities, or mistakes whatever.

By order of the Directors,

Signed,

, Cashier.

Twenty-first.—Notes and Bills left for collection must be lodged at the Bank, three days at least before they become due, and none under twenty-five pounds will be received.

Fortieth.—The stock of this Association shall be transferable at the Bank only by such Stockholder, or his legal representative in case of his death, or by his attorney specially authorized for that purpose, and thereupon such Stockholder shall surrender and deliver up his certificate, or receipt, and execute a transfer in such form as the Directors shall prescribe; and the President, or Vice President and Cashier, shall thereupon issue a new certificate to the person to whom the same is thus transferred, and in case such transfer shall not include the whole number of shares, specified in such certificate, or receipt, the original holder shall be entitled to a new certificate for the number of shares not so included, and all persons holding such certificates shall be entitled to an equal dividend in proportion to their shares of the profits of the capital stock, as well as all other privileges and immunities as Member and Stockholder in the Banking Company.

Forty-First.—The books and accounts of the Bank shall be regularly balanced on the third Mondays in the months of May and November in each year, at which time, the half-yearly dividends shall be declared and published, as is directed by the fundamental articles of the Association.—The Books of Transfer shall be shut for twenty days immediately preceding each of the days appointed for balancing the books of the Bank, and declaring the half-yearly dividend, and the Stockholders who shall stand in the books of the Bank, at the time when the transfer shall be so suspended, shall be entitled to receive such dividend of profits then to be declared and paid, and the same shall be paid to them or their attorneys respectively.

As already stated it was on the 7th of August, 1817, that the meeting was held in the town of Montreal at which the first President and Board of Directors of the "Montreal Bank" were appointed, authorized to open its doors and administer affairs until the first Monday in the June following. The following names, according to the records of the Bank of Montreal, formed the successful ticket: John Gray, president; Thomas A. Turner, vice-president; John Forsyth, George Garden, Geo. Moifatt, Horatio Gates, F. W. Ermatinger, John McTavish, John Leslie, Austin Cuvillier, Hiram Nichols, George Platt and Zabdiel Thayer.

Later on the 21st Oct., the Directors met, and having appointed Robert Griffin, Esq., cashier, adopted a set of by-laws, forty-four in number, for their future guidance, and arranged for the commencement of business on the 3rd November following—the office chosen being a building belonging to the Armour estate, situated on St. Paul street, between St. Nicholas and St. François Xavier, and occupied by the Bank for the purposes of its business until destroyed by fire three years later.

Thos. A. Turner's connection with the Bank was of short duration for reasons not now determinable, and in the year following its establishment, he headed a number of dissatisfied shareholders in the promoting of a rival association known to history as the "Bank of Canada," of which he became president, and Robert Armour, cashier. This association carried on business for several years, side by side with the Montreal Bank, discounting alternate days with its more powerful rival; but the influence of the latter organization proved too strong for the success of its younger competitor, and in the course of a few years the Bank of Canada fell into the hands of H. Gates & Co. and William Peddie & Co., who subsequently wound up its affairs without loss to its stockholders,—the first Canadian bank to honorably close its doors. We have now before us a small packet containing several denominations of its circulating notes, which bear a similar wording to the earlier issues of the Montreal Bank.

In reviewing the lives and labors of the prominent merchants whose names are identified with the founding of the Montreal Bank, we trust we have not wearied the patience of our readers. It seems but a just reward for the benefits conferred by their efforts in the direction recorded upon the two succeeding and

the third generation now blessed with banking facilities beyond their most urgent needs. Seventy-five years ago, on the 3rd November, 1817, the first Canadian Bank opened its doors with a banking capital of £87,500 currency, or \$350,000, under the efforts of these gentlemen of wealth and position. To-day the corporation of their creation stands credited with a capital and rest of \$18,000,000, surrounded by co-workers of later birth aggregating a further \$68,541,846; together guardians of the people's savings to the truly enormous sum of over two hundred millions.

It may be of interest at this point of our sketch to give a few statistics concerning the trade of the country at the date under review. Reliable figures are now at hand, and we can offer our readers a statement of the imports and exports of the Province for the year in question, 1817. There arrived in the ports of Lower Canada, 332 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 77,115 tons, and 335 vessels cleared with an aggregate tonnage of 76,828 tons. The imports were: 231,436 gallons wine; 44,660 gallons brandy; 12,646 gallons gin; 536 gallons awack; 1,125,842 gallons rum; 60,547 gallons molasses; 609,170 lbs. refined sugar; 2,310,965 lbs. muscovite sugar; 35,995 lbs. coffee; 376,634 lbs. leaf tobacco; 277 lbs. manufactured tobacco; 18 lbs. snuff; 5,724 packs playing cards; 186,247 minots salt; 254,248 lbs. tea, mostly green; and merchandise to the value of £672,876 17s. 11½ d., paying 2½ per cent. duty.

Among the exports were immense quantities of furs, pine and oak timber, oak staves, spars of every description, pot and pearl ashes, together with 145,660 bushels of wheat and 38,047 barrels of flour. In the following year 401,791 bushels of wheat were exported, or almost three times the quantity recorded for 1817, a sudden expansion of considerable import, did we venture to ascribe its main cause to the establishment of the Montreal Bank.

Washington Irving, in his "Astoria," recalls the following reminiscence of Montreal society at this period: "Few travellers that have visited Canada in the days of the McTavishes, the McGillivrays, the McKenzies, the Frobishers, and the other magnates of the North-West, when the company was in all its glory, but must remember the round of feasting and revelry kept up among those hyperborean nabobs." But it was at the great annual

gathering of the "agents" from the towns with the "wintering agents," from interior posts, at the Grand Portage, now Fort William, that the greatest ostentation of the leading men of the company was displayed. "The partners from Montreal ascended the rivers in great state, like sovereigns making a progress, or rather like Highland chieftains, navigating their subject lakes. They are wrapped in rich furs, their huge canoes freighted with every convenience and luxury, and manned by Canadian *voyageurs* as obedient as Highland clans men. They carried up with them cooks and bakers, together with delicacies of every kind, and abundance of choice wines for the banquets which attended the great convocation. Happy were they, too, if they could meet with some distinguished stranger—above all, some titled member of British nobility—to accompany them on this stately occasion, and grace their high solemnities."

" (TO BE CONTINUED.)

JOURNAL OF MERCANTILE LAW.

COMMENTARY ON THE BANK ACT OF 1890. (1)

CHAPTER VI.

OF OFFICE BONDS.

SECT. I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

SECT. I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

241. ALLEGED ILLEGALITY ATTENDANT UPON THE ORIGINAL UNDERTAKING.—We come now to that class of cases wherein some illegality in the undertaking itself, or in the circumstances attendant upon its reception, are relied upon to invalidate it. The first question which presents itself is whether a director can be a surety upon the bond of any officer of his own bank. In some countries this has been forbidden by legislative enactment. But it is not thus forbidden by the Banking Act, and when not forbidden by statute it cannot be said to be absolutely illegal. As a matter of practice it is not of unusual occurrence, although as a general rule guarantee companies incur the obligations incidental to a bond.

242. In dealing with the parties who purpose to become sureties upon an officer's bond, the directors are held to perfect good faith. The sureties, unless they are informed to the contrary, have a right to suppose that their undertaking is in the ordinary course of business similar in all material respects to other like undertakings, and exposing them to no peculiar and hidden risks. If the directors are aware of secret facts which do in truth materially affect and enhance the danger of the obligation, it is their duty, if they have an opportunity, to state the fact to the bondsmen before the delivery of the instrument. It is not enough that they take

no positive pains to conceal the truth, and that they answer honestly such questions as the bondsmen put to them. They are bound to give the information, if they have a proper opportunity for doing so. But they are not bound to state facts which only *may* make the risk greater in the particular case than in some other cases. It is facts which they know actually have made it greater. To illustrate the distinction :—If an officer already in their service is re-guarantied, they are not bound to state to his sureties, offered upon his new bond, that he is careless, negligent, stupid, or a poor and inaccurate accountant. They are not obliged to state that they themselves have been remiss in examining into the condition of the Bank, the amount of its funds on hand, and the correctness of its accounts. Neither need they state the existence of other and prior bonds, even though they may be still in force. But if they know that there is in fact a defalcation existing which will be covered by the terms of the proposed bond, they are bound to state it, and their failure to do so is such a breach of good faith on their part as will invalidate the contract. Even where a party offered as bondsman had been a director in the Bank itself at the time the defalcation took place, and ought therefore from the nature of his official duty to have been aware of it, it was held that he should show that as a matter of fact he did not know it ; that his co-directors had carefully concealed it from him up to and after the time of his executing the bond, and apparently with the very object of leading him to execute a bond which would by its terms cover it. But the practice of any such fraud by the directors does not invalidate the instrument as a whole ; it simply annuls and avoids the liability of the individual surety towards whom the fraud was practised. The co-sureties, with whom the dealings were strictly in good faith, remain bound. (1)

243. BREACH OF STIPULATION IN BOND.—If the bond stipulates that a certain sum only shall be left in the custody of the clerk, and a larger sum be left, the bond is not thereby voided. The nomination of the sum will be construed, unless clearly otherwise expressed, to be a limitation of the liability of the surety.

(1) *Franklin Bank v. Cooper*, 36 Me. 179; 39 id. 542; *Franklin Bank v. Stevens*, 39 id. 532; *Smith v. Bank of Scotland*, 1 Dow, Parl. R. 294.

(1) A case in point, in this connection, was as follows:—A person had been bookkeeper, and in that position had committed frauds, which had never been detected. He was raised to the position of cashier, and as such furnished a bond, with sureties for the faithful performance of his duties. He continued, however, to commit frauds of a like general character with those previously committed by him as bookkeeper. Held, that in a suit by the bank to recover from the sureties on the bond for the frauds committed during the cashiership, it could not be shown in defence that the frauds committed by him as bookkeeper would have been discovered had the officers of the bank not been grossly derelict in the examination of the books of the bank. "The object of the bond is to guarantee to the bank the faithful performance by the cashier of his duties. His duties and obligations are not affected by the negligence of the other officers or agents of the bank, and such negligence does not discharge his sureties." It is also a *quære* whether, if the officers of the bank had had knowledge of the frauds of the principal as bookkeeper, and had failed to communicate such knowledge to the sureties on his bond as cashier, these sureties would thereby have been discharged. To decide such a *quære* against the sureties would be a great hardship upon them, not easily capable of justification.

244. Where at the time the sureties executed a bond for the teller, he has already defrauded the Bank (though he had not as yet been detected or suspected by its officials), the sureties sought to show in defence that this fact was concealed from them at the time the risk was taken, and that if it were unknown to the Bank it was by reason of gross negligence and carelessness. The court said that if the Bank had voluntarily suppressed anything they knew, or were bound to know, it might vitiate their contract with the sureties; but if they were only cleverly defrauded, without the ordinary inspections and precautions usual in business disclosing the fact, they were not to be reproached on that score. They could not give notice of what they did not know themselves. (2)

245. In an Ontario case where, at the time of entering into the bond, the defaulting clerk was receiving a certain commission or

(1) *Lindsay v. Lord Downes*, 2 Ir. Eq. 307.

(2) *La Banque Nationale v. Lesperance*, 4 L. N. 150.

percentage on the business done, a change to the payment of a fixed salary was considered no defence to an action on the bond, there being no stipulation as to remuneration in the bond. (1) Had there been such a stipulation a change of this nature might have been fatal. (2)

246. Where defendants alleged that in the deed in which they became sureties the plaintiff Bank stipulated to pay the defaulting clerk a salary of £300, without which they would not have entered into the bond, but had since reduced his salary to £225; it was held that in the absence of consent on the part of the sureties such reduction had the effect of terminating and making void the bond. (3)

247. The fact that of two of the sureties, one was a director and the other a shareholder of the Bank, and aware of the reduction, did not presume consent.

248. SURETY'S RIGHT TO DEMAND AND NOTICE.—No demand need be made upon a surety prior to bringing suit against him. (4) Neither is he entitled to prompt notice of a loss covered by his obligation. The bankers may continue to employ the principal, and cloak the fact of the loss so long as they like, saying nothing about it to the surety, and concealing it even from their own employees by a false entry on their books of a loan to the clerk of the amount. (5) This law was practically established by the jury, who seem to have thought that there was nothing in the obligor's contract with the Bank which put it under any obligation to look after his interests in the way of notifying him of the occurrence of a loss. Nor is the rule devoid of reason, for the surety incurs no risk on the ground of being deprived of the opportunity at once to withdraw and annul his suretyship, and so save himself from further loss; for no new liability can accrue against him if the Bank continues to employ the officer after knowledge of his misconduct. And even if this last rule should

(1) *Bank of Toronto v. Wilmot et al.*, 19 Q. B. R. (U.C.) 73.

(2) *North Western Ry. Co. v. Winsay*, 10 Exch. 77.

(3) *The City Bank v. Brown et al.*, 2 L. C. R. 246.

(4) *Pierce v. Williams*, 23 L. J. Exch. 322; *Grocers' Bank v. Kingman*, 16 Gray 473.

(5) *Grant*, p. 259, citing *Peel v. Tatlock*, 1 Bos. & P. 419.

ever be construed, as is within the bounds of possibility, to apply only to cases where the officer's misconduct has been fraudulent, or otherwise wrongful in its character, and not to apply where his default has been simply the result of incompetence, ignorance, or carelessness ; still, it is not improbable that, if the sureties wish to secure the right to be notified even of such acts, they must insert express stipulations to that effect in their undertakings with the Bank. If they neglect to take such precautions in their own interest, the law may well refuse to interfere to protect them from the results of their own *laches*, except in cases which are tainted with actual wrong-doing.

CHAPTER VII.

FORFEITURE OF CHARTER RIGHTS.

SECTION 1.—FORFEITURE FOR MALFEASANCE.

SECTION 2.—INSOLVENCY.

SECTION 3.—THE WINDING UP ACT.

SECTION 1.—FORFEITURE FOR MALFEASANCE.

249. Generally it may be said that any violation, willfully or knowingly committed, of any material direction or provision embodied in the law of the corporate existence ; or any fraudulent or dishonest act ; or the occurrence of anything which shows that for any reason, whether of fault or misfortune, the Bank is incompetent in any respect to perform safely and usefully any of its functions, will furnish sufficient ground for taking away the corporate franchise. The refusal to transmit a statement of the condition of the Bank, required by law to be made to a government official ; excessive loans to directors, though no by-law exists in reference thereto ; the making of a note to the Bank, without consideration and merely colorable, which the Bank receives and uses for the purpose of making its assets appear greater ; all these, in the United States, have worked forfeiture of the corporate franchise.

250. Matters which are a cause of forfeiture of charter cannot be set up and tried in collateral proceedings. There must be a

direct process, instituted by the Government, in which the defence, excuse, or explanation of the Bank will be heard, and the distinctive question will be judicially passed upon, free from the complication of any other parties, issues or interests.

251. An act or omission, in order to furnish ground for proceeding to take away the corporate franchise, must be the act of the corporation itself. Cases might arise in which the act or omission of the shareholders, as a body, could have this effect. Ordinarily, however, the law regards the board of directors as constituting the body corporate for all matters of this description. The fault must accordingly be theirs, either directly or by legal implication. Otherwise it will not be the act of the Bank, and will not be a cause of forfeiture. Thus, if a cashier or teller, although acting within the scope of his allotted functions, commits a breach of the organic law, this fact alone is not sufficient to cause a forfeiture. On the contrary, it will be presumed that he alone and individually, of his own motion, is guilty of the misdoing. But if the contrary be affirmatively shown, and it be actually proved that the directors ordered, or knowingly permitted or ratified, the illegal act, then it remains no longer the act of the individual officer, but becomes the act of the Bank, and as such furnishes ground for the process for disfranchisement. It is only when the act of the subordinate is rendered by the attendant circumstances, in the view of the law, the act of the principal, that of the board of directors, or of the Bank itself, that the principal will be deprived of its corporate existence by reason of it. (1) Upon whom the burden of proof rests, whether with the prosecution to show that the act of the officers was in fact the act of the Bank, or with the Bank to show the contrary, is a point which we have nowhere found discussed or decided. It is not improbable, that in any particular case it might depend somewhat upon the nature and the aspect of the act itself; and according as these presumably pointed to the directorate or only to the officer as the origin of the transaction, the *onus* might be shifted to the one side or the other. If, however, a rule of general application is demanded, the directors or Bank may claim the benefit of the presumption of innocence.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

(1) Clarke v. Metropolitan Bank, 3 Duer 241.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

The assessment of the city of Hull, Que., is \$1,928,000,—an increase of \$23,000 over last year.

The Royal Corset Company is asking exemption from taxation and a bonus of \$10,000 from Sherbrooke.

The amount named in the award of the arbitrators appointed to fix the value of the Brockville Water Works was \$139,454.

Ferrona, the new mining town in Nova Scotia, is rapidly becoming known, and some 120 houses have been put up for the miners. Many shops also are being erected.

Vernon, B.C., is desirous of becoming incorporated as a city, and application will be made at the next session of the Provincial Legislature for letters patent. Kamloops is likely to follow suit.

In January, a by-law will be submitted to the electors of Toronto, to raise the sum of \$125,000 to carry out the scheme of cleaning Ashbridge's bay, the debentures to extend over a period of 40 years.

Carberry's rate of taxation is $26\frac{3}{4}$ mills on the dollar. It is made up as follows: General rate, 14 mills; county rate, $\frac{1}{4}$ mill; debenture rate, $\frac{1}{2}$ mill; general school tax, 3 mills; special school tax, 9 mills.

On the 8th inst. the people of St. Henri voted on a by-law granting \$209,000 to Clendinneng's foundry, upon condition that the same be established in the municipality, and the majority was in favor of the grant.

The municipal council of Lachine have granted to Mr. R. Bickerdike the exclusive privilege for twenty years of an electric tramway. It is to be in operation not later than 1894, and will connect with the system of the Montreal Street Railway Company

Tenders will be received by the Town Clerk up to the 5th day of December next, for local improvement debentures of the town of Simcoe for about \$5,272, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and repayable in equal annual instalments extending over a period of 20 years.

The Finance Committee of the Ottawa City Council have decided to recommend that a by-law be submitted to the ratepayers in favor of granting a subsidy of \$125,000 to the Ottawa & Parry Sound Railway and \$75,000 to the Kingston, Smith's Falls & Ottawa Railway, on certain conditions.

The St. Lambert, Que., municipal council have adopted a by-law for the provision of water and drainage for the village. The by-law will be submitted to a vote of the property-owners on the 9th December. The sum to be expended under the plans considered will be about \$60,000 or \$70,000.

London assessment for 1893 has been completed. The total assessment is \$15,176,087, a decrease of \$71,560 from last year. There are increases in real estate and personal property, the falling off being confined to income, consequent on the allowance of \$700 exemption on all personal earnings, which causes a decrease in the total of \$193,185.

Tenders will be received by the village treasurer up to 12 o'clock noon, on the sixteenth day of January, 1893, for the purchase of the whole or any of the above mentioned debentures of the village of Renfrew. These debentures are issued on the instalment plan, extending for twenty years from the 1st December, 1892, interest payable at the rate of five per cent. per annum, half yearly.

The Hamilton city treasurer has received a cheque from the Hamilton Street Railway Company for the city's share of the gross earnings for the quarter ending September 26th, amounting to \$3,436.40. The gross earnings for the quarter were \$33,937.05. The city gets 6 per cent. of that and \$400 a mile on 14 miles of track. The returns for the last quarter show an increase of \$1,014.78 over the city's share for the former quarter ending June 26th.

Tenders will be received by the Mayor of Buckingham until the 5th December, 1892, at noon, for the purchase of the whole or any part of the above-mentioned issue of \$40,000 Water Works Debentures of the Town of Buckingham. These debentures are issued under date of 2nd November, 1892, in 400 bonds of \$100 each, bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly. Purchasers will be required to pay accrued interest for the current half year.

With regard to the proposed Central depot at the canal basin, for the Ottawa & Parry Sound and other railways, Mr. J. R. Booth says that if the city of Ottawa will give the \$55,000 bonus talked of, he will build a depot, and guarantee that all the railways shall have access to it on reasonable terms. With reference to the location of workshops in the city, he says he will locate them within the city limits if he can get a sufficiently large area on anything like fair terms.

On Vancouver Island, the Canada Western Railway is stirring up speculators, and several new town sites are being offered on the east coast, Duluth on Duncan's Bay being the latest. Also in the Kootenay country is booming, while several new town sites have been put on the market in the Slocan district. A new town site Okanagan Falls, at the foot of Dog Lake in the Okanagan district, has just been placed on the market, and several other properties in the same district are being offered.

The electors of Amherstburg have rejected two by-laws,—one to grant \$25,000 for an extension of the Sandwich, Windsor & Amherstburg Railway from Sandwich to Amherstburg, and the other to grant \$5,000 for an extension of the M.C.R. into town. There was 62 majority of the small vote cast in favor of the by-law, but there was 13 less than the number required by law. The promoters of the by-law intend asking for a scrutiny, or will submit the same by-law again in January at the municipal elections.

The Brockville by-law authorizing the issue of \$150,000 debentures with which to purchase the waterworks from the company now owning them has been carried almost unanimously, the vote being 701 for and 26 against. Another by-law, providing the management of the works by elected commissioners, was carried by a similar majority. The members of the company which built the works and have run them for the past ten years are largely Montreal men, Messrs. Leduc and Tourville being among the most prominent.

The Bedford town council has adopted the following resolution: That whereas a petition has been presented to this board, signed by a large number of ratepayers of this town, asking that manufacturers constantly employing twenty persons be

exempt from municipal taxation for a term of years; be it therefore resolved, that any persons or company who at present or hereafter may carry on any industry, as well as the land used for said industry, and giving constant employment to at least twenty persons actually engaged in the premises in said industry, shall be exempt from municipal taxation, under Act 4559 of the Revised Statutes of 1888, for a term of ten years from this date.

The Hamilton city council at its last meeting refused to sanction the application of a large number of ratepayers, who asked that a by-law be submitted to the citizens asking them to bonus the Niagara Central Railroad to the extent of \$125,000, on condition that they extend their line to Hamilton. The Niagara Central in its special act of incorporation has a provision, that in case a petition for a bonus is presented to the council of a municipality by fifty ratepayers, the council must submit the by-law within six weeks of the time such petition is received. It is doubtful if the Hamilton city council can be forced to submit the by-law against the will of the majority of the aldermen, but in any event they would probably accompany it with a very strong adverse recommendation.

At the request of Ald. Rolland and Mr. Robb, City Treasurer now in London, Eng., in connection with the new Montreal loan, the Road Department has furnished a detailed statement of improvements and permanent works and cost for ten years (from 1882 to 1891 inclusive), and appropriations for 1892, from which the following figures are taken:—

	Ten Years.	
	1882-1891.	1892.
Street opening and widening.....	\$2,446,978 99	\$1,682,900 00
Road pavements	1,455,864 95	342,798 02
Pavement of sidewalks.....	255,986 45	79,933 15
Sewers, main.....	324,930 45	57,109 92
Sewers, laterals.....	788,727 58	83,598 95
Bridges and subways.....	195,000 00	.....
Parks.....	22,448 91	5,000 00
Flood protection works.....	307,702 47	2,529 27
Harbor improvements.....	1,000,000 00	.....
Total.....	<u>\$6,797,639 80</u>	<u>\$2,253,869 31</u>

The town of Chatham has been calling for tenders for a loan amounting to \$48,800.00, payable in 33, 34 and 35 years, and bearing interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. per annum, principal payable at maturity. Tenders closed 28th inst.

The financial statement of the town of Calgary from January 1st to Nov. 17th shows receipts of \$65,637, principal items being taxes \$21,000 and loan \$30,000. The assets of the town amount to \$80,600. The debenture debt is \$64,234, and the liabilities, including amount due bank, \$74,234.

Tenders will be received by the Treasurer of Brockville up to 28th December, 1892, for the following debentures of the Town: \$30,000, 4 p.c. 20 years' Bonds. \$45,000, 4 p. c. 30 years' Consolidation. \$150,000, $4\frac{1}{4}$ p. c. 30 years' Water Works, Purchase. Interest payable half-yearly. Tenders for each series to be separate.

Tenders will be received by the town treasurer up to 12 o'clock noon, on the 5th day of December next, for the purchase of the whole or part of an issue of debentures of the town of Galt for the sum of ten thousand dollars. The debentures are for \$500 each, payable in 20 years, viz. : On the 15th day of August, 1912, with interest thereon at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly (on the 15th days of February and August in each year) at Galt. Tender to state price allowing the town accrued interest to date of transfer.

The corporation of Sherbrooke has made a temporary loan of \$10,000 from the Caisse d'Economie, Quebec, at 5 per cent. The money is required to complete the drainage system. Sherbrooke is now alive to the importance of retaining manufactories in her midst. Since her loss of the Electric Supply Company, which went to Peterborough, and the Corset Works, which went to St. Hyacinthe, her residents have organized a new corset company, paid-up capital \$10,000 and an electric supply concern. At the same time the council of the city has voluntarily taken the step of reducing the valuations for industrial establishments for assessment purposes, reductions of one-half to three-fifths having been made. Thus the Paton Manufacturing Company machinery is reduced from \$125,000 to \$50,000, and that of Adam Lomas & Son from \$40,000 to \$20,000.

RAILWAYS, ELECTRIC SERVICE AND NAVIGATION.

RAILWAYS.

The Elgin, Petitediac & Havelock Railway has been sold by auction at Havelock, King's County, N.S., and realized \$15,000. The purchaser was Mr. J. D. Chipman, who was understood to be acting on behalf of the English bondholders.

An order-in-council has been passed at Ottawa with respect to lands in the railway belt in British Columbia, sold by the local Government, declaring that all sales made without the authority of the Government of Canada are illegal and void.

The first construction train of the Orford Mountain Railway reached Kingsbury, Que., at noon yesterday, 30th November. The last spikes which connect Kingsbury with the railways of the Dominion were driven by Major Williamson and Judge Foster, president of the railway.

The Kamloops *Sentinel* has undoubted authority for stating that the British Columbia Southern Railway, if built over the Gold Range and Hope Mountain, would not be more than 15 miles shorter than the present C.P.R., and that there are eight miles of tunnelling through the mountains on that line.

The world's railroad record has been broken by engineer Henry Hicks in the phenomenal time of 39, 38 and 37 seconds for three consecutive miles. The engine drew three heavy coaches. The previous record was 39¼ seconds, made by the same engine, No. 385, on the Philadelphia & Reading's system.

The Toronto & Richmond Hill Railway has issued a writ for \$50,000 against the county of York and the Metropolitan line; they also ask for an injunction to prevent the County Council from passing the by-law giving the Metropolitan a 99 years' franchise for running cars from Toronto to Richmond Hill.

The Montreal & Western Railway is rapidly getting into working shape. A train is running daily between Montreal and Ste. Agathe, via Ste. Thérèse and St. Jerome. A train runs three times a week between Ste. Agathe and St. Faustin, and the work will shortly be completed as far as St. Jovite, fifty-two miles from St. Jerome.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Stanstead, Shefford & Chambly Railway was held at Waterloo on Wednesday, when the following gentlemen were elected directors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. E. C. Smith, G. T. Childs, S. W. Foster, Gardner Stevens, Geo. C. Robinson, A. H. Moore, I. B. Futvoye, D. D. Ranlett and I. G. Cowie.

Mr. Kenny, the solicitor of the Gatineau Valley Railway, has returned from the Kazabazua. He says that next month ten miles between Wrights and Kazabazua will be completed and ready for inspection. The surveyors and engineers are now going over the next twenty miles, which will be built next year, leaving only about twenty-five miles to complete the road.

Grading will be begun in early spring on the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway. The Pend d'Oreille River will be bridged before the water rises, and the work pushed through to a finish. Engineer Roberts expects to have locomotives running to Nelson by September of next year. The depot will be located near to the Columbia & Kootenay Railway Company's depot, and the lines will connect.

Respecting the Chignecto Ship Railway, the Chignecto *Post*, published at Sackville, N.B., and the newspaper authority closest to the site of the enterprise, has this to say: "Several reports concerning the condition of the work are circulating through the papers which are both incorrect and misleading. Messrs. Ross, of Montreal, it is true, have signed a contract to complete the work, but the old trouble, tightness in the money market, has not yet been removed. The work remains in the same condition as a year ago."

The C.P.R. Company is arranging for a full exhibit in the transportation department at the World's Fair. Among other features will be a fac-simile of one of their transcontinental trains consist-

ing of locomotive and tender, baggage car, colonist sleeper, first-class car and sleeper and buffet, the whole occupying a space of 390 feet. Other countries in like manner purpose showing what their railways are capable of. The London & North-western Railway, one of the greatest roads in England, will exhibit a fully equipped train on tracks immediately adjoining the C.P.R. train, so that visitors to the Fair will be enabled to contrast railroad travelling in the old and new worlds.

The beginning of a decrease in gross earnings of American railroads, as reported from week to week, strikes some persons with surprise. In October, the earnings of 132 railroads were 1.85 per cent greater than in the same month of last year, notwithstanding the great movement of grain and cotton then produced by the most bountiful crops. In the first week of November the earnings on 79 railroads showed nearly the same ratio of increase, although it is proper to notice that those railroads whose returns come in late or only each month are apt to reduce the general rate of gain. But in the second week of November a decrease of 3.1 per cent. appears on the roads thus far reporting, and quite a number which have been making gains for a long time now begin to report losses.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada for an Act giving effect to an agreement arrived at between the Grand Trunk Railway Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the corporation of the City of Toronto, concerning, amongst other things, land to be used for railway purposes, and embodied in a certain document dated the 26th day of July, 1892, and known as "The Esplanade Agreement;" also for an Act giving effect to an agreement made the 26th day of July, 1892, between the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada of the first part, and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company of the second part, concerning a union passenger station in the city of Toronto, and certain lands, tracts and real estate to be used in connection therewith.

The Montreal & Pacific Junction Railway is now an accomplished fact. A meeting of the shareholders was held on the 11th November at the Jacques Cartier Bank at Montreal, at which the following board of directors was elected:—Hon. A. Desjardins,

president ; Ald. R. Prefontaine, M.P., vice-president ; Messrs. C. T. Viau, M. Perrault and J. P. Casgrain, directors. The line, which is intended to start from Hochelaga and pass through Bout de L'Île to a point on the C.P.R. near L'Assomption, will be located at once under the direction of the chief engineer, Mr. J. P. Casgrain, and it is expected will shorten the distance between Montreal and Quebec by about twelve miles. It is also intended to organize a suburban service covering all points on the island east of Montreal, as well as to run branches to all the principal industrial centres along the wharves. The capital of the company is placed at \$500,000. It is understood that the company have an understanding with the Canadian Pacific, to the effect that as soon as the road is completed the big corporation will take it over, and run it as a portion of the Quebec section.

The *Railway Age* has prepared some statistics, which, in view of the common attacks made on railroad owners as monopolists and plutocrats, make curious reading. Of all the stocks dealt in on the New York Stock Exchange, some seventy in number, only fourteen are ordinarily quoted at or above par. Of the others, only six range over 90. Only seventeen are quoted as high as 50 cents on the dollar, twenty-three range at from 20 to 50, and twenty-one are rated at from \$20 down to \$4 per share, when there happens to be any sales. The *Age* gives a list of twenty-one roads, owning 29,000 miles of track, the common stock of which amounts to \$609,000,000, which at current quotations could be bought outright for \$74,000,000. Control of one-sixth of the railway mileage of the United States can, in fact, be bought for \$2,600 a mile. These are surprising figures, and show, besides some water, a very heavy loss to the original proprietors of the railways. There is, in fact, no branch of industrial development in America in which so much money has been hopelessly sunk as the railroads, which have frequently benefited everybody but the man who had courage to build them.

RAILWAYS OF THE WORLD.—At the railway congress lately in session at St. Petersburg the railway mileage of the world was presented in tabulated form. This showed that the mileage at the beginning of this year was 167,755 in the United States, 14,082 miles in Canada, and 5,625 miles in Mexico and Argentine Republic. In Europe, the German Empire comes first, with 26,790 miles ; France

second, 24,310 miles; Great Britain and Ireland third, with 22,685 miles; Russia fourth, with 19,345 miles. Wurtemberg and Denmark are the countries which have made the least progress in the construction of railways since 1886, while in Asia, apart from the 16,875 miles of lines in India, the Trans-Caspian line recently constructed by the Russians is 895 miles in length, the Dutch colonies have 850 miles of railway, the French 65, and the Portuguese 34, while there are 125 miles in China and 18 in Persia. In Africa, the colony of Algeria and Tunis comes first, with 1,940 miles; the Cape Colony second, with about 1,880 miles; Egypt third, with 965 miles; Natal fourth, with 341 miles; while the Orange Free State has 150 miles, and other minor States about 300 miles. In Australia, the figures are 2,703 miles for Victoria, 2,275 miles in New South Wales; 1,645 miles for Queensland, 1,875 miles for South Australia; 401 for Tasmania; and 1,950 for New Zealand. These figures are from the latest obtainable statistics, and show a material difference from those heretofore given.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY EARNINGS.

The earnings of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the month of October, 1892, were as follows:—

Gross earnings	\$2,112,762
Working expenses.....	1,088,260
Net profits	\$1,024,502
Net profits, September, 1891	978,665

Increase, 1892

\$45,837

For the ten months ending October 31st, 1892, the figures are as follows:—

Gross earnings.....	\$17,426,765
Working expenses	10,829,848
Net profits.....	\$6,596,917
Net profits, same period, 1891	6,141,451

Increase, 1892.....

\$455,465

The earnings and expenses of the New Brunswick Railway are included in both years.

CANADIAN PACIFIC TRAFFIC RETURNS.

<i>Week ending</i>			1892.	1891.
November	7	do	\$488,000	\$466,000
November	14	do	498,000	480,000
November	21	do	496,000	485,000
November	30	do	601,000	579,000.

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

<i>Week ending</i>			<i>1892.</i>	<i>1891.</i>
Nov. 5	Passenger train earnings	\$118,853	\$117,795
do	Freight do do	.....	308,153	303,027
Nov. 12	Passenger do do	.....	122,342	124,687
do	Freight do do	.....	286,691	289,917
Nov. 19	Passenger do do	.....	110,146	112,433
do	Freight do do	.....	294,860	298,161
Nov. 26	Passenger do do	.....	114,184	107,092
do	Freight do do	.....	282,399	280,576

GRAND TRUNK EARNINGS.—The weekly traffic receipts of the Grand Trunk Railway since 1st January last compare with those for the corresponding period of last year as follows:—

		<i>Decrease.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>
Four weeks to January 30	.....	\$8,405	
Four weeks to February 27	.....		\$69,768
Four weeks to March 26	.....		92,965
Five weeks to April 30	.....		127,279
Four weeks to May 28	.....		54,580
Four weeks to June 25	.....		83,191
Four weeks to July 23	.....		17,742
Five weeks to August 27	.....	51,708	
Four weeks to September 24	.....	10,479	
Five weeks to October 29	.....		45,510
Four weeks to November 26	.....		3,939
Totals	.....		\$494,974
			70,592
Total Net Increase	.....		\$424,382

CANADIAN RAILWAY PROGRESS.—In no branch of development, says an Exchange, has Canada made greater strides than in that of railway creation and extension. Forty years ago there were but 17 miles in operation. At Confederation there were only 2,258, whilst to-day there are over 14,000. Since 1878, this progress has been especially remarkable, as the following figures show:—

CANADIAN RAILWAYS.

	1878.	1891.
Miles in operation.....	6,143	14,900
Train mileage.....	19,569,447	43,399,178
No. of passengers.....	6,443,924	13,222,568
Tons of freight.....	7,883,472	21,753,021
Earnings.....	\$20,520,078	\$48,192,099
Working expenses.....	\$16,100,102	\$34,960,449

The capital of our railways from all sources was \$160,000,000 in 1868, and is now \$816,000,000. Of this latter sum \$142,000,000 is paid by the Dominion Government, \$25,000,000 by Provincial Governments and \$13,000,000 by municipalities. It is gratifying to know in this connection that the cost per mile of Canadian roads is \$55,809, or only \$1,500 more than the American cost, in spite of the immeasurably greater difficulties we had to encounter, and far less than that of the United Kingdom (\$216,479 per mile), Belgium, France, Germany, Russia, Austria, India, Victoria or New South Wales.

Compared with the railways of the United States in financial management or business progress, those of Canada are far superior. Canadian roads are solvent, and generally prosperous, as the figures given below will indicate :—

Railways 1891.	Earnings.	Expenses.
Canada Atlantic.....	\$558,832	\$337,754
Canada Southern.....	4,408,964	3,161,345
Canada Pacific System.....	18,672,174	11,538,134
Grand Trunk.....	17,423,860	12,621,478
Intercolonial.....	2,977,395	3,662,342
Other lines.....	4,150,874	3,639,396
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$48,192,099	\$34,960,449

The bonded debt is in round numbers \$266,000,000, or \$53 per head of our population, while that of American railways (1889) is \$4,828,000,000, or \$80 per capita. The interest paid out by United States roads is \$171,000,000, whilst their dividends only amount to \$79,000,000. Writing in reference to the disastrous condition of American railways, in *The Forum*, October, 1888, Mr. Adalbert Hamilton said :—

"Data are not accessible prior to 1876, but since then over 400 American companies operating more than 35,000 miles of railroad have been insolvent, and the relation of two billions of capital stock and indebtedness have been readjusted under foreclosures. * * * So far from railway insolvency being a matter of surprise, it does not seem inaccurate to say, in view of our railway history, that the dominant American railway policy is to cumulate indebtedness to the uttermost limit, without setting bounds to borrowing, without providing means of payment, and with the most complacent view of insolvency.

ELECTRIC SERVICE.

The Bell Telephone Company are fast completing their underground conduit in London.

Tenders are asked for the street lighting of the town of Cobourg, also for an electric plant with a capacity of 30 arc lamps, 2,000 candle power. Tenders received up to 7 p.m., December 5th.

Vancouver city and New Westminster are connected by a splendid electric service. Though the grades are heavy between the two towns, the distance, 14 miles, is covered in 50 minutes.

The suit entered by the Winnipeg Street Railway Company for an injunction to prevent the new electric company from running cars in Winnipeg is now in progress. This is the beginning of a long litigation, the horse car company claiming to have been given a monopoly of the streets by the City Council.

It is said that the directors of the Hamilton, Waterdown & Guelph electric railway will have no difficulty in getting the \$500,000 stock subscribed. The agent of a Toronto syndicate has offered to take \$100,000 stock. The deputation, which went before the Guelph City Council, has received every encouragement.

The Hamilton Street Railway Company intends to apply to the Ontario Legislature to have its Act of Incorporation amended so as to enable the company to increase its borrowing powers. At present the company is limited to an amount not exceeding the total of its paid-up stock. The directors want to increase the amount so as to make improvements in the system and an extension of the lines.

In an interview, one of the proprietors of the St. Catharines Merrittton & Thorold Electric Railway states that his partner, Mr. Symmes, after a visit to Cincinnati, Ohio, had decided to change the present system to the Thomson-Houston system, and in view of this they had ordered three new vestibuled cars with 250 horse power motors. The old cars will be thoroughly overhauled and repaired and used as trailers. The track will be relaid nearly the whole of the length. The time for the trip to Thorold will be reduced to 30 minutes, just one-half of what has been the time.

A traveller, in speaking of the electric street railway system of Victoria, noted that the cars put on the lines by the company were much larger and more commodious than those in use in Eastern Canada. No open cars were employed, but the closed carriages would seat 36 persons, and in a pinch hold a hundred. Although the cars ran at a much higher rate of speed than in Toronto, frequently attaining a momentum of 15 miles an hour, accidents very seldom occurred. Two fatalities only for the past three years were recorded, and in both cases the victims were children.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Brantford Electric Light & Power Company took place on the 24th inst., and was very largely attended. Directors were elected as follows:—Messrs. R. Henry, W. Buck, G. H. Wilkes, Dr. Digby, H. B. Leeming and G. C. Schultz. Some \$30,000 worth of new stock has been subscribed, and the books will soon be closed. The new company will reclaim a quantity of waste land in connection with the canal, and they will also go largely into incandescent lighting and the furnishing of power for motors.

Capitalists who have been approached to take stock in the Hamilton Radial Railway Company have had a consultation with Engineer Jennings of Hamilton as to the feasibility of the scheme to bring electrical power from the Falls to operate a system of electric railways radiating from the city in the direction of Brantford, Guelph, Oakville, Mount Forest and Caledonia. After going over the matter thoroughly, Mr. Jennings gave it as his opinion, that until some better system of transmitting electric power is invented the scheme cannot be worked on a paying basis; the power could be transmitted, he says, but the plant would be so costly that it would not pay a dividend on the investment.

NAVIGATION.

The result of the recent inquiries into the progress of work on the Soo Canal as well as preparations for winter operations has been to satisfy Hon. Mr. Haggart that the canal will be completed next summer.

It is said that the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company is making arrangements for the building of two new boats. One of them will probably be placed on the Saguenay line and the other kept as a spare boat.

The London *Gazette* contains an interview with Sir John Abbott, in which the Premier said: "The Government desires a new fast steamship service, and has granted a sum of £10,000 annually for that purpose. Negotiations are still progressing, but no special measures are in contemplation, although the Government will take any reasonable steps to promote the establishment of such a service." The Premier's assurance that no special measures are in contemplation for the establishment of a fast steamship service is worthy of note, in view of the statements that have been made of negotiations for such a service in connection with the transfer of the Intercolonial to the Canadian Pacific. The fact is that no such proposition as has been the subject of so much discussion has ever been made to the Government, and consequently it has never been considered by the Government.

MINES AND MANUFACTURES.

SLOCAN LOST TO CANADA.—Just about this time last year a mineral district was discovered in West Kootenay which showed the largest surface croppings, over the widest area, and the richest rock ever known on this continent. It immediately began to create some excitement. During the winter Spokane was a centre for prospectors and mining men who either had come from or were going into the Slocan. The American papers took the matter up. They quoted the *Miner*, interviewed men from Slocan, and what news they could not get in those legitimate ways they invented. The American press can always be trusted to discover when it requires a fertile and inventive imagination to do justice to a country. And Slocan seemed so rich that the wildest freaks of the journalist's imagination did no more than pass for sober description. The spring opened and the braying of trumpets had ceased; people were tired of it. Now that it is over we may say that Slocan got a decided set back. That class of creature known as the mining expert, who can always criticize what he does not understand, got in his deadly work. The excitement following the wonderful surface showings was spent. It remained to be seen whether development work would snuff the country out altogether, or renew its success on a more permanent basis. What has been the result of the summer's work? In every claim where work has been done the wildest hopes raised by the surface cropping have been more than realized. Good prospects have become bonanzas, and many that were doubtful have turned out satisfactory. It has been proved conclusively that the veins in Slocan are continuous and that they go down. Thousands upon thousands of tons of ore are in sight. It a year's time many of them will be out of sight again—in bullion vaults. All this undoubted wealth has been completely monopolized by American energy and American pluck. Much capital has not been required. The prices hitherto have been small. With small capitals and lots of pluck this territory, for a mineral belt eight miles wide by forty long cannot be spoken of otherwise, has been acquired and

is now owned by Americans. There is only one English development syndicate at work there, and so far as we know not a cent of Canadian capital has gone into mining in the Slocan country. We are all for Canada. The country is so rich, and we would like to see our own citizens coming to the front and opening it up. But in this case they have not done so. They have not realized their duty towards the undeveloped portions of their own territory, and they have suffered accordingly. Within two years Kootenay will have her millionnaires, and they will all be American citizens. All honor to them, say we. The marvellous way in which they attack a new country overcomes all obstacles, tears the wealth out of it, explains why America is so great a nation to-day, and why she attracts Canada's best blood and energy. But we cannot help hoping that the sharp lesson read by Slocan to the citizens of Victoria and of eastern cities will have some effect, and that other new and promising territories now coming to the front will not be neglected by them as Slocan has been. Good prospects in the Slocan have plenty of buyers in the field. Capitalists are coming in every day from Utah, Colorado and Montana. Big prices are being paid for mines. Mr. Justice Walkem opened his eyes at a claim having been bonded for \$75,000. Slocan is fast becoming a centre of industry and wealth. And had it not been for Americans it would have been a howling wilderness.

An exception to the remarks in this article must be made in favor of Ottawa capitalists, who own and are working the Wellington claim in Slocan, with, we understand, most satisfactory results.—*Nelson Miner*.

MINING ITEMS.

Reports have been received of very rich finds of silver at Boundary Creek, Okanagan, B.C., almost pure silver.

A coal mine is being opened at De Bert, N.S., near the town of Truro. The situation is most favorable, only three miles of track being required to connect it with the I. C. R.

T. Allyard, the mining engineer of the Anglo-American Company, has discovered, it is said, fine gold-bearing quartz veins at the head of Harrison Lake, B.C., and is confident that that part of the province will turn out a valuable mining region.

Mining news from Algoma district is very encouraging. American capitalists have bought the Ophir gold mine at Bruce Mines, and there is quite a "gold" boom in that neighborhood, other veins having been found.

Regulations to govern the issue of licenses of occupation for the working of mines and minerals within the Rocky Mountains park of Canada have just been approved. The duration of licenses is not to exceed 20 years, and a royalty of 10 cents per ton is to be paid by the licensee on all coal taken out of the mine.

A big mining deal, embracing all coal and iron mines of Cumberland county, N.S., has been consummated. The syndicate is composed of Montreal and New York men. The new company is to be known as the Canada Mines & Coal Company, with a capital of \$1,500,000. Wilkins, the New York banker, is financier.

The Hamilton Natural Gas Company has been granted a charter, and boring for gas will be commenced this fall. The company has a capital of \$6,000, and the shareholders propose to spend it in sinking wells. The Burlington Glass Company is interested in the scheme, and desires the company to sink a well near its factory.

An attempt is now being made to develop the iron mines of Labrador. The great Krupp gun manufacturing works at Essen have sent an agent thither to ascertain if 500,000 tons a year can be secured to run their plant, and if so a difference of transportation of \$875,000 yearly between there and Spain will be used in development work.

The Rabbit Mountain mine, Port Arthur, which was once the celebrated mine of the district, is to be re opened. The mine is said to be very rich, and has been shut down for a number of years owing to the difference of opinion amongst its owners. The proposition now is to pump out the mine and start the mill and mine to work immediately.

DeWolf and Munro, Vancouver, who are acting for American capitalists, have bonded an iron claim on Redondo Island from Ed. Wylie. The claim yields 75 per cent. They expect to close the deal with American capitalists on Tuesday of this week for a sum between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Thirty men will be put to work at once to develop the mines.

Mr. George E. Drummond, managing director of the Canada Iron Furnace Company, of Montreal, reports that the Swedes supplied to his company have been found to be steady, hard-working men, peculiarly adapted to charcoal iron making. He urges the Government to encourage more Swedish immigration into the district for the development of the iron trade.

The mining industry is reported to be steadily advancing in all branches in Nova Scotia except coal, in which there seems to be a falling off from the output of last year. In iron and manganese there is, says the *Halifax Critic*, increased business, and although the yield of gold is somewhat less than last year, the prospects are better, as a number of mines have changed hands, and will be extensively worked in the future.

The gold fever has reappeared at Marmora, Ont., and mining operations are being carried on quite vigorously. One gentleman, who has the patent for a new and economical device for the reduction of ore, purchased a mining site on November 3rd, and in fourteen days had a shaft sunk, and is now hard at work bringing ore to the surface. It is considered that gold will be produced in paying quantities by this new process of reduction.

Judge Malhiot has delivered judgment in a case in Aylmer, which declares the mining tax in Quebec imposed by the Government of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on all sales of properties illegal. The case arose out of the recent sale of the Brock mine to T. P. Coffee, a solicitor in Guelph. Mr. Sims, an agent of the Quebec Government, took action against Mr. Coffee for the amount of the tax on the price of the property. It is likely that an appeal will be taken against the judgment.

Most of the placer mines of British Columbia have closed down for the season. Results will no doubt be a little disappointing, but so far as can be ascertained, a great deal of preliminary work has been done in hydraulicing on some of the principal creeks, and it is expected that next spring, all being well, there will be a rich reward for the labor and expenses of this season. Perhaps more attention has been paid to placer deposits than ever before since the days of placer excitement.

Dr. Bell, Assistant Director of the Geological Survey, has just returned from his season's work in that section of Algoma between Sudbury and Mississangua. The genial doctor has an interesting story to tell of the richness in minerals of that most interesting region. He says the Harona formation up there is the richest, economically, in the world. It is 700 miles long and 50 miles wide, and all the known minerals, except coal, can be found in it. It was here, near the Wallace mines, that nickel was first discovered over forty years ago.

The Canadian Pacific, after drilling for salt at Windsor, Ont., for several months, has struck strong brine at a depth of 1,127 feet. A suitable plant will be erected.

Speaking of this discovery, an old salt manufacturer, John Ransford, of Clinton, says that people of experience in salt-making in this country regard these discoveries at Windsor, Mooretown, etc., as simply so many more sinks for capital that might be profitably employed elsewhere. "There is to-day in existence manufacturing capacity for over three times the consumption."

The Nelson *Miner* says: "The successful stocking of the Goldendale and Democratic claims, on Toad Mountain, for \$1,000,000, shows that in spite of Slocan, Toad Mountain is not forgotten. The company will operate under the name of the Toad Mountain Mining Company, and its headquarters will be in Spokane. Mr. Glover, president of the First National Bank, in Spokane, is president of the company. The company will put to work to drive a tunnel on the Goldendale, which has one of the largest surface showings on Toad Mountain. The ore is galena and grey copper. Fair samples yield over 200 ounces in silver to the ton."

The Foord pit of the Halifax Coal Mine company, near Stellarton, Pictou county, N.S., has had to be abandoned again. After the accident of 1880, when many lives were lost, the pit was unworked and water turned into it, which it was hoped would extinguish the fire. After being left in this condition for some years, a few months ago a large number of men were sent to work mining in the pit, but this week had to abandon it as the fire is still burning there, and the gas has accumulated to such an extent that it became unsafe. The mine is evidently on fire and out of the reach of water, and will, probably, never be worked again. It is computed there are twenty million tons of coal there unmined.

A patent has just been issued to Mr. Thomas MacFarlane, of Ottawa, both in Canada and the United States, for improvement in the treatment of nickel ores. It appears that metals now being mined at and around Sudbury are subjected to roasting, smelting and bessemerizing processes, by which an impure nickel metal is produced, which requires to be sold to foreign nickel refiners who produce the metal. It is said that in this way the miners of Sudbury do not receive more than one-third of the value of the nickel contained in their concentrated metal. Mr. McFarlane's process consists in reducing the ore to powder, calcimining it with salt, leaching out the nickel, and preparing the pure metal from the solution. In this way it is believed that when the process is generally adopted, nickel mining at Sudbury will become much more profitable than heretofore.

The entire property of the Cariboo, N.S., gold mine, consisting of 101 acres and 300 acres of real estate, with buildings, machinery, etc., is to be transferred to a joint stock company. The capital is \$300,000, divided into shares of one dollar each. A novel feature is that the company guarantee a 6 per cent. dividend for three years on the face value of the first issue of 130,000 shares of preferred stock, which is offered at 50 cents on the dollar. Recent quartz is rich in gold. The first crushing was 28 tons, and yielded over 103 ounces of gold. At a greater depth the next lot showed a most encouraging increase, the yield being 272 ounces from 22 tons of quartz, which shows a value by the official mint return of \$5,091. The total expense of mining and milling not exceeding \$700. Ore worth over \$1,000 per ton is coming out and more is being uncovered. This is not a pocket or nugget mine, as the strike gradually increases in richness and thickness and shows every indication of continuing to great depths. Many other leads are known by their croppings to intersect the mining areas, but their richness is yet undetermined, being totally undeveloped.

About three weeks ago, under the direction of the British Admiralty, a test was made at Portsmouth of the nickel steel armor plates, and the result gave the highest satisfaction to everyone concerned. The plates, produced by the Harvey process, were the handiwork of the Carnegie Steel Company of Pittsburg. While there was no doubt of an ultimate influence that the success of the test would have an immediate effect as regards the Canadian nickel-steel industry was hardly hoped for, yet such has been the case.

Last week the agents of Carnegie, Phipps & Co., in New York, made the announcement that they would require 1,000 tons of nickel steel per day from Canada. The offer was made to the Commercial Mining Company, which possesses nickeliferous tracts in the Sudbury district through one of the company's directors, Mr. Hemmingway, in Boston. The directors of the Commercial Mining Company in Toronto say that all that is needed is a custom smelter in the Sudbury district, and claim that the Ontario Government should take instant steps towards the erection of one. At present only four mining companies have smelters of their own, and their united capacity is only in the neighborhood of 300 tons per day. The Carnegie Company would prefer merely that the ore should be roasted in Canada, but should be taken to Cleveland to be smelted and refined. This procedure would have the effect of losing a very large industry to the country.

It is understood that an American Company has bonded certain new properties on Texada Island, B.C., and will put men to work to develop them. Not only iron, but other mineral properties have been bonded, and, of course, a good deal of interest is excited in the results of these transactions. Several years ago there was quite an excitement regarding Texada Island, more particularly in regard to gold. Whether the attempts then made to determine the value of certain deposits were made under the very best auspices and under the best advice may be questioned. At all events, nothing came of it, but a number of owners of claims never lost faith in the island, which, from a mineral aspect, is certainly a marvellous one, in the combination of economic minerals of value and other deposits it displays, and something like another local excitement is probable. This island is regarded as tributary to Nanaimo, which now, in the language of a newspaper correspondent, boasts of having in the adjacent vicinity, coal, iron, copper, lead, silver, gold, fireclay, pottery clay, sand stones, granites, immense deposits of marble, lime stone and nickel. The extent and value of the silver, gold and nickel deposits, of course, require to be determined by actual development, but as to the other minerals, etc., there can be no question as to their existence in large bodies. It is alleged that nickel has been found in veins from 8 to 60 feet in width, the ore of which is equal to that of the Sudbury mines, but this is hearsay. It would seem, however, that the mineral resources of Texada Island and vicinity tributary to Nanaimo would some day lead to the establishment of other great industries besides coal mining, and that it is not to the interior of British Columbia altogether that we must go for the riches of the earth.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE

	1892.	1892.	<i>Corresponding Week 1891</i>	
<i>For week ending</i>	Clearings.	Balances.	Clearings.	Balances.
November 3	\$11,576,197	\$1,959,530	\$13,141,876	\$2,042,130
November 10	12,562,316	1,556,474	10,955,512	1,212,876
November 17	15,596,822	—	14,231,909	1,807,087
November 24	14,616,731	1,779,148	12,100,106	1,596,904

TORONTO CLEARING HOUSE. (1)

	1892.	1892.	<i>Corresponding Week 1891.</i>	
<i>For week ending</i>	Clearings.	Balances.	Clearings.	Balances.
November 3	\$7,376,079	\$1,123,863	\$6,921,062	\$790,322
November 10(2)	6,593,905	1,009,888	5,830,874	579,247
November 17	7,472,087	1,084,051	7,828,560	893,291
November 24	7,415,882	1,171,479	7,014,847	918,368

HAMILTON CLEARING HOUSE.

<i>For week ending</i>	Clearings. 1892.	Clearings. 1891.
November 3	\$874,114	\$481,082
November 10 (2)	732,743	733,698
November 17	946,437	817,110
November 24	707,051	766,798

HALIFAX CLEARING HOUSE.

<i>For week ending</i>	Clearings. 1892.	Clearings. 1891.
November 3	\$1,372,298	1,422,094
November 10 (2)	953,097	1,134,361
November 17	1,286,820	1,134,364
November 24	1,009,934	1,194,763

The banks in London, O., have under consideration the opening of a Clearing House.

(1) Of which the Bank of Toronto is not a member.

(2) One Holiday this week

BANKING AND FINANCIAL NEWS,

AND

MISCELLANEOUS BANKING AND FINANCIAL
ITEMS.

The deposits in the Government Savings banks for October were \$275,855, and the withdrawals \$312,098. The balance at the credit of depositors was \$17,136,943.

Dominion notes in circulation on the 31st October amounted to \$18,647,063, an increase of \$147,121 for the month. Notes in circulation a year ago were \$16,841,409.

The statement of exports for the month of October shows no falling off in the steady increase over last year's figures, which has so far characterized the returns for the present fiscal year. The total for the month is \$13,466,438, of which \$11,982,463 is the produce of Canada, and \$1,483,975 the produce of other countries. This shows an increase over October, 1891, of \$1,277,987 in goods the produce of Canada, and a decrease of \$676,749 in products of other countries, leaving a net increase for the month of \$601,238. For the four months of the fiscal year the total exports have been \$53,260,513, an increase over same period last year of \$7,587,872 in produce of Canada and a decrease of \$1,200,571 in produce of other countries, leaving a net increase of \$6,378,301, as shown by following statement for the four months:—

	1891-92.	1892-93.
Mine	\$3,012,960	\$1,979,229
Fisheries.....	4,725 762	4,056,642
Forest.....	11,853,496	15,081,266
Animals and their product.....	15,669,745	17,500,177
Agricultural produce.....	9,396,323	11,114,349
Manufactures.....	2,543,663	3,155,666
Miscellaneous.....	134,940	199,416
Coin and bullion.....	145,323	173,768
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$46,882,212	\$53,260,513

The following statement shows the value of goods entered for consumption during the month of October :—

Dutiable	\$5,550,408
Free goods.....	3,349,511
Duty collected.....	1,676,752
Coin and bullion.....	86,610
Total.....	\$8,986,529

The statement of revenue and expenditure for the month of October shows that the former still continues to increase and the latter to decrease, as compared with last year. The revenue for the month was \$3,340,210, and expenditure \$2,272,138, as compared with \$3 253,358, and expenditure, \$2,830,675 in October last year. For the four months of the fiscal year the receipts and expenditures have been as follows :—

	1891-2.	1892-3.
Customs.....	\$7,142,954	\$7,243,893
Excise.....	2,463,902	2,768,173
Post-office.....	775,000	815,000
Public works, including Railways.....	1,371,582	1,436,452
Miscellaneous.....	315,453	391,178
Total.....	\$12,068,891	\$12,654,696
Expenditure.....	8,664,560	8,026,084
Surplus.. ..	\$3,404,331	\$4,628,612

It will be noticed that there has been an increase in every item of revenue and a total increase during the four months of \$585,805, while the expenditure during the same period has decreased no less than \$638,476, making the total gain \$1,224,281, and increasing the surplus to the satisfactory sum of \$4,628,612.

The statement of the condition of the public debt on the 31st October is as follows :—

Gross debt.....	\$296,236,875
Assets.....	58,455,776
Debt on 30th June.....	\$237,781,099
	241,033,335
Decrease in four months.....	\$3,252,236

The expenditure on capital account for October was \$234,243, nearly all of which was for public works. There was no payment made on account of railway subsidies. The total expenditure on capital account for the four months has been :—

Public works, railways and canals.....	\$1,080,218
Dominion lands.....	17,977
Railway subsidies.....	266,353
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$1,364,548

The statement of circulation and specie for October shows the amount outstanding to be \$18,647,063, an increase of \$147,122, which is wholly in small bills.

UNITED STATES FINANCES.—The treasurer of the United States, Mr. E. H. Nebeker, has submitted his annual report for the year ended June 30, 1892. The net ordinary revenues of the Government for the fiscal year were \$354,937,784, a decrease of \$37,674,663 as compared with the year before. The net ordinary expenditures were \$345,023,330, a decrease of \$10,349,354. The surplus revenues were thus cut down from \$37,239,762 to \$9,914,453. Including the public debt, the total receipts for the year were \$736,401,296 and the expenditures \$684,019,289. As compared with 1891 there was a saving of upward of \$14,000,000 of interest, out of which a surplus was realized, notwithstanding the cutting down of the revenues by legislation. Analyzing the true condition of the treasury, and setting aside the trust funds, the treasurer shows that there was a working balance of cash and deposits in banks, amounting to \$207,110,452 at the beginning of the year, and to \$165,718,151 at the end. Of the former amount \$119,000,000, and of the latter \$114,500,000, was gold. The amount of the public debt is given at \$1,545,996,591 on June 30, 1891, and \$1,588,464,144 on June 30, 1892. The loans resting on the credit of the United States were cut down from \$1,005,806,560 to \$968,218,840, while those secured by full deposits in the treasury increased from \$540,190,031 to \$620,245,304. According to the revised estimates, the total stock of money of all kinds in the country on June 30 was \$2,374,334,049, an increase in the year of \$150,000,000. By eliminating that part of the paper currency which is purely representative, consisting of certificates of deposit and treasury notes,

the effective stock is found to have been \$1,753,953,745, an increase of \$70,000,000. The monetary history of the past year, however, has been peculiar, both in the movements of gold, which have been increased, and in the other changes that commonly occur with the changes of the seasons, but have this year been less marked. The increase of the effective stock of money from September to September was only \$50,000,000. Of the aggregate stock of money at the end of the fiscal year, \$771,252,313 was in the treasury and mints, leaving \$1,603,081,736 in the hands of the people. The holdings of the treasury increased \$50,000,000, and the amount in circulation \$100,000,000 during the year. The issues of United States paper currency amounted to \$376,762,583, exceeding those of any previous year. The nearest approach to this total was \$310,000,000 in the year before, and the next nearest \$291,000,000 in 1863. Of the whole amount \$298,000,000 took the place of like kinds and amounts destroyed, while \$78,000,000 consisted of fresh issues. There has been a slight decrease in the amounts of counterfeit silver coins and paper currency presented at the treasury offices. There was an increase of over \$20,000,000 during the year in the amount of United States bonds held for the security of national bank circulation, and a decrease of \$10,000,000 in the amounts held as security for public deposits. In proportion to the volume of national bank notes in circulation the redemptions continue heavy, having amounted to upwards of \$69,000,000 in the fiscal year.

THE MAVERICK NATIONAL.—The Comptroller has declared a further dividend of 5 per cent. in the case of the Maverick Bank. With the distribution of this dividend the bank will have paid 85 per cent. of the amount it owed its creditors at the time of its failure. The creditors can confidently rely on receiving another dividend, but just how large that will be it is impossible to say at this time. The officials of the Comptroller's office are very cautious about advancing an opinion, but at the time the first dividend was paid it was predicted by us that the bank would come very close to paying its creditors 100 cents on the dollar, and nothing has happened since then to change that opinion.

MONTREAL STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the Montreal Street Railway Company was held on the 2nd inst. The statement of the past year's business submitted showed a

net profit of \$93,880.21, as against \$60,264.77 the previous year. Out of this amount two dividends of 4 per cent. each have been declared, together amounting to \$71,095, \$22,784.44 being placed at the credit of Contingent account. The increase in travel on the company's lines for the three months ending October 31, 1892, compared with the same period last year shows as follows: August, 1892, 1,427,308; 1891, 990,740: increase for 1892, 436,628; September, 1892, 1,627,769; 1891, 1,121,999; increase for 1892, 505,770; October, 1892, 1,430,190; 1891, 902,824; increase for 1892, 537,366; increase for three months, 1,479,764. The company's engineer, Mr. G. C. Cunningham, reported that 16 miles of overhead trolley wire had been strung, 12 electric motor cars put into operation, and 30 more would be running by the end of November. He said 10 miles of streets would be kept clear of snow this winter, and probably Mr. Ross' suggestion would be carried out, viz., the melting of the snow in a house made for that purpose. The reports being adopted, a resolution was passed setting aside \$4,000 for the current expenses of the directors during the ensuing year. Dr. Hingston's resignation was also announced and the following new board elected: L. J. Forget, president; H. A. Everett, vice-president and managing director; R. B. Angus, R. W. Blackwell and G. C. Cunningham.

BANK CHANGES.—Our Banker's Directory SUPPLEMENT for December notes the following changes:—

Agencies opened:—

Dartmouth, N.S.,	Union of Halifax,	R. C. Wright, Mgr.
Montreal East, Q.,	Hochelaga,	O. Tessier, “
Vernon, B.C.,	British Columbia,	— Holt, “

Private Banks opened:—

Arthur, O.,	R. F. Smith.
Aylmer, O.,	W. Warnoch.
Chatsworth, O.,	John McDonald.
Dashwood, O.,	Snell & Co.
Grenfell, Assa.,	C. R. Tryon & Co.
Sarnia, O.,	Thos. A. Cook.
Moose Jaw, N.W.T.,	Hickcock & McCulloch.

Agencies contemplated:—

Brandon, Man.,	Nationale.
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Calgary, N.W.T.,	Nationale.
Regina, "	"
Winnipeg, Man.,	"
Winnipeg, "	Commerce.
Vernon, B.C.,	Montreal.

Agencies closed :—

Mahone Bay, N.S., People's of Halifax.

Private Bankers closed :—

Alvinston, O.,	Conn & Co.,	Assigned.
Moose Jaw, N.W.T.,	Lafferty & Moore,	Sold out.
Sarnia, O.,	W. J. Ward,	Sold out.

Changes in management :—

Almonte, C.,	Montreal,	F. J. Rogers,	Mgr.
Ailsa Craig, O.,	Commerce,	R. Macpherson,	"
Aylmer, O.,	Traders,	H. P. MacMahon,	"
Blenheim, O.,	Commerce.		
Brampton, O.,	Dominion,	M. E. Holden,	"
Brockville, O.,	Molson's,	E. F. Kohl,	"
Brussels, O.,	Standard,	W. D. Hart,	"
Calgary, N.W.T.,	Montreal,	W. B. Gravely,	"
Chatham, O.,	Standard,	P. Schofield,	"
Goderich, O.,	Montreal,	H. Lockwood,	"
Kingston, O.,	"	R. B. Crombie,	"
Parkhill, O.,	Commerce,	R. Macpherson,	"
Penetanguishene, O.,	Western,	A. F. Spring, act.	"
Picton, O.,	Montreal,	Geo. Drummond,	"
Ridgetown, O.,	Traders,	John Pool,	"

Errors corrected :—

Fraserville, Q.,	Jacques Cartier,	J. O. Leblanc,	"
Ormsdown, Q.,	Merch. of Halifax,	P. H. Somerville,	"
Vankleek Hill, O.,	Hochelaga,	C. A. Gareau,	"

Alexander Lang, assistant general manager, Bank of Montreal, will shortly leave for London, England, to take charge of the London branch of the bank during Mr. Ashworth's prolonged leave of absence. A. B. Broderick, late manager of the Molson's Bank, Brockville, has been promoted to the position of assistant inspector, Montreal. H. Markland Molson has been appointed assistant manager of the Montreal branch. T. G. Brough, manager of the Toronto branch of the Dominion Bank, has been

appointed inspector, in place of Walter Darling, deceased. W. W. Nation, of Brampton, will take Mr. Brough's former position. E. A. Begg replaces, as discount clerk, Mr. Holden, now manager at Brampton. E. G. Stewart, assistant accountant of the Union Bank branch at Smith's Falls, has been transferred to the branch at Wiaraton to assume a higher position.

HISTORY OF CANADIAN COMMERCE.—Wars, court pageantry, intrigue, religious movements *et hoc genus omne* have been the main theme of the historian, as well of the new as of the old world. The tendency of the present day, however, is towards recording the history of the cottager rather than that of the king, and shadowing forth the true life of the people. Commerce, the modern mainspring of the nation's energy and growth, has still to meet with its fitting consideration. The early history of few countries is so entirely that of trade as are the annals of Canada, for from its birth our country has been truly a nation of shopkeepers. Its pioneers were traders seeking the treasures of this world, and the history of its commercial ventures will be found to include that of its early wars, its politics and its later progress. Parkman in his most valuable works has given not a little attention to our commercial history, yet much remains for elaboration. We are pleased to learn that a well-known writer upon financial and commercial topics, as well as a *litterateur* of merit, contemplates the preparation of a series of volumes on leading Canadian industries. According to the *Week*, Mr. Arthur Weir, of this city, is now engaged in collecting material for monographs upon such subjects as "The Fur Trade," "Old Lumber Days and New," "Banking and Currency in Canada," "Landways and Waterways of Canada," "The Resources of the Dominion," etc., and other volumes of similar scope.

Few who have not given the matter careful study can realize the amount of invaluable and attractive matter now at hand for such a series as Mr. Weir contemplates; and, if he finds leisure to carry his project to completion, his volumes cannot fail to be among the most interesting and valuable of historical essays. In undertaking this work the writer will find himself face to face with difficult situations and heavy labor. His material is at present scattered to the four winds of heaven, and must be painfully secured and verified. Accuracy in statement will be a vital point, and accuracy

in deduction or opinion no less so. Our contemporary voices Mr. Weir's desire to be made the recipient of any information either as to facts or authorities on the subject matters above referred to. We gladly place our pages at his disposal for the same purpose. Lists of pamphlets free for consultation, details from participators in leading events of Canadian commerce, and especially old Blue Books of the earlier Legislatures, will, we are assured, be gladly availed of and acknowledged by Mr. Weir.

MISCELLANEOUS BANKING AND FINANCIAL
ITEMS.

QUEBEC.

The St. John Drain Pipe Co. wants to increase its capital to half a million by the issue of 3500 new shares at \$100 each.

We are advised of the proposal to incorporate the Waterloo (Que.) Wood Manufacturing Co., with a capital of \$20,000. The promoters are Messrs. G. W. Gilmour, Geo. E. Robinson, F. A. Bouchard, J. H. Lefebvre and T. A. Knowlton.

Notice is hereby given from Montreal of application to Parliament to incorporate the Ocean Fidelity Guarantee Co., for the purpose of carrying on a business of fidelity guarantee in all its branches, and of the Ocean Accident Co. for the purpose of carrying on business accident insurance.

Letters patent of the province have been issued incorporating Alphonse Bayard, of Cote de la Visitation, Hochelaga; Arthur Yale, Ferdinand Bayard of Montreal; Alfred Montreuil, and Guillaume Narcisse Ducharme, of Ste. Cunegonde, sub-manager of the Banque; Jacques Cartier, for the purpose of carrying on a general mining business in the Province of Quebec, by the name of the "North America Mining Co.," with a total capital stock of \$200,000.

It is understood that the Board of Trade has arranged with the New York Life Insurance Co. for a loan of \$300,000 on the first mortgage bonds issued by the board on their new building. The bonds are secured by a first mortgage on the property. They have thirty years to run, and bear four and a half per cent. interest. The building and land will cost about \$600,000. The bonds have been domiciled at the Bank of Montreal, Montreal, where principal and interest both are payable. The transaction is a very good one for the New York Life Insurance Co., and is considered as satisfactory to the Board of Trade. The bonds are taken at par.

An Automatic Telephone Company has been organized in Montreal, and it is their intention to begin operations in Windsor, just as soon as permission to erect poles can be obtained from the Council. Mr. Slater, of Montreal, an agent of the company, was seen this morning and said: "I expect Windsor will be the first city to have the automatic system in operation, and we will have it in every city in Canada inside of a year. Our system does away with a central office, and consequently we can give lower rates than the Bell company can. I don't yet know what arrangements will be made about connections with Detroit, but that will be made satisfactory."

It is stated on the street that the colored cotton combine, which controls all the colored cotton mills in the Dominion, excepting the Parks Mill of St. John, N.E., had also secured control of the latter, thus making the combine complete. Some weeks ago the Colored Cotton men went on a visit to the

lower provinces, ostensibly on a tour of inspection of their mills down there. It was suggested at the time that their visit had something to do with the purchasing of the Parks Mill, but there was no confirmation of the rumor. Arrangements are undoubtedly in progress for the purchase of the Parks mill by the colored cotton syndicate, but the matter had not yet been actually settled.

Allard, the Levis blacksmith, who claims to have discovered the lost secret of hardening copper, has returned from Springfield, where he had a small copper cannon cast, which after being subjected to his hardening process, he has just had tested at the Citadel under the supervision of the Commandant, Col. Montizambert, with the most satisfactory results. According to the certificate given him by Col. Montizambert, the weapon was subjected to the severest explosive tests, and resisted them all without showing the slightest indication of expansion or fracture. Allard is having a number of pulleys, springs and axles manufactured of copper and of aluminum, which, after being tempered by his process, he intends to exhibit at Chicago. He is still receiving the most tempting offers from American, English and other capitalists to sell them his secret.

The Bell Telephone Co. in this city has issued the following circular notice to shareholders:—Enquiries having been made regarding the issue of new stock by this company, the directors desire to put all the shareholders in possession of the facts. At the last annual meeting a resolution was passed, authorizing the directors to obtain power to increase the capital to \$5,000,000, "and to dispose of the new capital at such times, on such terms and conditions, in such amounts and generally in such manner as they may deem to be for the best interests of the company." In view of the large sums required for the changes in the system, made necessary in Toronto, Montreal and other places by the introduction of electricity for street railways, lighting, etc., it became necessary to arrange for funds, and the directors borrowed money from their bankers under an agreement that the first proceeds of the sales of new stock should be applied to the liquidation of this loan. Because of the small number of shares which it was necessary to sell this year, being but one in ten of the capital, the directors decided to sell 2,000 shares on the Montreal stock exchange. 1,625 shares have already been sold, at prices ranging from \$160 to \$168, resulting in a profit of over \$100,000 to the company.

ONTARIO.

Letters patent have been issued incorporating the Canada Oiled Clothing Company, limited.

The Paris branch of the Canada Bank of Commerce is now in the fine new premises, opposite the old building, corner of River and William streets, in that town.

A company is being organized to acquire the business of Mr. J. Morrison, of Toronto, and run it as the James Morrison Brass Manufacturing Company, limited.

The Ontario Canoe Company is to be amalgamated with the Peterboro' Canoe Company. A new charter is understood to have been obtained, fixing the capital at \$40,000.

Messrs. Pellatt & Pellatt, of 40 King street east, have secured the seat on the Toronto stock exchange which formerly belonged to Arthur G. Brown. The price paid was \$924.

Notice is given of application for letters-patent to incorporate J. P. Wiser & Sons (limited), with headquarters at Prescott and capital of \$1,500,000, for the purpose of carrying on a distillery, etc.

The Peterboro Medicine Company, Limited, has been incorporated with a capital of \$3,000. The letters-patent of the Tache Gold Mining Company of Ontario, Limited, fix its capital at \$500,000.

The Messrs. Rathbun, of Deseronto, have proposed to erect iron smelting works in Ontario provided the Ontario Government will give satisfactory aid. Mr. Mowat has promised his consideration.

John Monahan, Clarence J. McCuaig, Arthur Thompson, Franklin M. Gray and John McAndrew, all of Toronto, are applying for incorporation by letters-patent as the Ditton Gold Mining Company, limited, with office at Toronto, and a capital of half a million.

Mr. Powell, of Toronto, acting in the interests of the Temperance Colonization Company, had a conference with the officials of the Interior Department to-day. As a result the four sections of land held in abeyance were finally selected by Mr. Powell and formally transferred to the company.

The Smith's Falls Electric Power Co. (limited) has been incorporated by letters-patent of the province, with a capital stock of \$60,000. The chief promoters are Messrs. Francis Theodore Frost, Wm. Henry Frost, Charles Beriah Frost, Jas. Maitland Clark, Adam Foster and Frederick Arthur Bethune, of Smith's Falls. The company proposes supplying electricity for light.

P. H. Atkinson, G. Crichmore, G. B. Ryckman and S. W. B. Heath, of Toronto, and J. W. Hector, of Springfield on the Credit, are seeking incorporation as the National Automatic Binding Machine Company, of Canada, with headquarters at Toronto, and with a capital stock of \$40,000.

Something may yet come out of the action of the shareholders of the defunct Central Bank against the directors. An order has been made to-day for the examination by commission of Mr. A. A. Allan, who was cashier at the time it failed. Mr. Allan left soon after the bank went to the wall for Minneapolis, where he is to be examined. The suit, which is for one million dollars, is at the instance of Mr. Henderson.

Applications for legislation next session are very light so far. Application has been made to incorporate "The Canada North-west Land Company" (Limited), for the purpose of acquiring the assets and carrying on the business in Canada of the Canada North-west Land Company (Lim.), a corporation now existing under the laws of the United Kingdom and to incorporate a company to construct irrigation ditches or canals from the Bow and Elbow rivers in the North-west Territories, and to incorporate the Automatic Telephone & Electric Company of Canada.

At the annual general meeting of shareholders in the Consumers Gas Company of Toronto, held on Monday, 31st Oct., the following gentlemen were unanimously re-elected directors for the ensuing year: Samuel Alcorn, James Austin, M. Baldwin, G. S. C. Bethune, Henry Cawthra, George R. R. Cockburn, M.P., Isaac C. Gilmor, George Gooderham, James Scott, Dr. L. W. Smith, Hon. Frank Smith, Thomas R. Wood. At a meeting of the board held subsequently, Mr. Jas. Austin was re-elected president and Dr. Larratt W. Smith, vice-president.

The controlling interest in the British America Assurance Company, held by Governor Morrison, who resigned, has been bought by a syndicate composed chiefly of three directors in the Western Assurance Company. It is intended to make the interests of these two companies identical in some important districts in the Western States by uniting the agencies and pooling business, so that in this way a large amount of money, which it was necessary to deposit at a lower rate of interest, will be available for better investment. It is not intended to identify the business of the companies here in any way, but it is believed a large amount of money can be saved in agencies. The change will bring the companies practically under the same board.

Notice was given by Mr. A. G. McLean at the last meeting of the Young Conservatives, Toronto, that he would at the next meeting introduce a motion dealing with the question as to the advisability of the provincial government borrowing a large sum of money to be loaned to the farmers of the province at the lowest rate. Mr. McLean hopes to be able to lay down a practical scheme by which the Government will be able to borrow money at three per cent. and loan it to the farmers at four per cent., without loss to the Government. If the scheme proves feasible it would do away with the necessity of loan companies, but Mr. McLean asserts that the majority of the stockholders in the loan companies of this province are either American or English citizens, and consequently their interests need not be seriously considered.

During the past few months the funds of the Bank of Hamilton have suffered to the extent of \$40,000 to \$50,000 through forgeries, one of the culprits being C. H. Davidson, of the well-known nursery firm of C. H. Davidson & Co., of Burlington. Two Pinkerton detectives have been in the employ of the bank for some time endeavoring to bring about the arrest of

the culprits, but without success. The Attorney General's Department was communicated with, and Detective John Murray, who was given charge of the case, learned that Davidson was in Mexico. He started for that country, and a special despatch received on the 17th inst. announced the arrest of the forger at Ciudad Juarez on the Mexican Central Railway.

While in Mexico Detective Murray will also be on the look-out for another forger who depleted the Bank of Hamilton's treasury, Henry Charles Aitken formerly a private banker of Tottenham, whose forgeries it now transpires reached \$30,000. No trace has yet been received of George Pyke, the missing accountant of the Toronto branch of the Imperial Bank, but he is also believed to be in Mexico.

MANITOBA AND WEST.

The Guarantee Loan and Investment Association of Hamilton, Ont., has arranged to establish an agency in Nanaimo.

The *Times* Printing and Publishing Co. of Victoria have decided to increase their capital stock to \$100,000.

There is a project to start a steam laundry in Nanaimo with a capital of \$5,000, divided into one hundred fifty dollar shares.

A brewing and malting company is projected at Regina. W. G. Knight, of Swift Current, has been testing the water with a view to finally settling upon a site.

A private bank has been opened at Grenfell under the firm name of C. R. Tryon & Co. Mr. Murison, formerly of the Bank of Montreal, in Montreal, will manage the business.

The dividend of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba has been reduced to the rate of 6 per cent. per annum for the half year ended October, 7 per cent per annum having been previously paid.

Notice is given in the *Gazette* of a meeting of the British Columbia Iron-works Co., Vancouver, on Thursday, the 22nd prox., for the purpose of considering an increase in the capital stock of the company to \$250,000.

A gang of burglars are operating in Annapolis and Digby counties. A week or two ago, the Bank of Nova Scotia at Bridgetown, the Merchants' Bank of Halifax at Weymouth, and several stores were burglarized, but little was stolen.

The British Columbia Deposit and Loan Co. are going out of business, and will seek disincorporation. The company was organized about a year or so ago under the management of Mr. J. Keith Wilson, who was formerly in the employ of the Bank of British Columbia.

The incorporation of the Industrial Loan and Trust Co., of Vancouver, and of the Williams British Columbia Directory Co., of Victoria, is announced in the last issue of the *Gazette*. The capital stock of the latter is \$25,000, and the incorporators are R. T. Williams, Sidney Aspland, W. H. Bainbridge, and W. H. Ellis.

The Dominion Government Savings Bank transactions at Winnipeg for the month ending 31st October were :

Deposits.....	\$20,098 00
Withdrawals.....	24,254 86
Withdrawals exceed deposits by	\$ 4,156 86

The Brandon *Sun* says it has been decided to establish a woollen mill in Brandon. The stock has been placed at \$100,000. Only \$50,000 is being asked for now, and by this time it has almost all been subscribed. Those who have witnessed the enterprise of Brandon's business men will not need to be told that the business will be taken hold of in a way that will ensure its decided success.

A new and important industry has been undertaken in Vancouver. A company has been formed under the style of the British Columbia Cooperage and Jute Co. for the purpose of manufacturing barrels, kegs and gunny sacks of all kinds. The company has taken over the cooperage business of Watson Eastman, whose factory is near the Sugar Refinery, and they will shortly erect a two storey building with a wharf on the site. They will import the gunny cloth from Calcutta direct, and will make it into sacks and bags here, using machinery to cut out and sew the sacks. In the cooperage department all kinds of barrels and kegs will be made. At the present time the wood for the barrels used in the Sugar Refinery is imported, but in the future the company will only use British Columbia timber. The capital stock of the Company is \$50,000 in 5,000 shares of \$10 each. B. T. Rogers, manager of the Sugar Refinery, is president of the Company; Wm. Prentice, secretary, and Watson Eastman, managing director.

MARITIME PROVINCES.

It is announced that the Mahone Bay Agency of the People's Bank of Halifax has been closed.

It is stated by the *Chignecto Post* as a settled thing that the Harris car works will go to Amherst. A sufficiency of stock has been subscribed, and it is said the transfer will be shortly made.

The Annapolis Valley Orchard Company is being organized, its object being the growing, canning and preserving of fruit. The capital will be \$125,000, in shares of \$50 each.

The Directors' room of the Merchants Bank of Prince Edward Island was the scene, the other day, of the burning of \$63,000 of the old \$1 and \$2 notes. These notes are no longer current by the Bank Act, and had to be destroyed. It took the furnace of the Bank and another large fire three hours to destroy them.

The first English mail from China and Japan via Vancouver arrived at the post office here on the night of the 29th November, and was despatched

by the steamship "Labrador" on Saturday to its destination. The first mail from England for China and Japan was received at Halifax by the steamer due on Saturday, and was despatched on Monday to make connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway steamer leaving Vancouver on December 1 for the East.

UNITED STATES.

The first of the World's Fair half dollars was struck off at the Philadelphia mint on the 19th inst.

The hole in the ground on Silver Mountain, Idaho, for which an English syndicate paid \$1,000,000, has been pronounced absolutely worthless by mining experts. It was cleverly "salted" by Matt Graham, the former owner, before the sale.

The Fall River cotton mills earned an average of 16.16 per cent. on their capital of \$15,020,000 the past year. Cheap cotton made it an exceptionally favorable year, but with capital in other lines earning on an average less than half this per cent. the industry seems to be able to stand alone.

A certificate of the increase of the capital stock of the Western Union Telegraph Company from \$38,200,000 to \$100,000,000 has been filed in the office of the Secretary of State duly at Washington. The tax on such an increase was \$17,250. The certificate states that the amount of capital of said corporation actually paid in is \$100,000,000, and that the whole amount of the debts and liabilities of the corporation is \$15,254.

The *Financial News* thinks that the long expected boom in American railway securities may come now at any hour. The American speculators, it declares, have not grasped the potential source of traffic expansion that will be afforded by the Chicago Columbian Exposition. There is nothing extravagant in the estimate that \$250,000,000 of foreign money will be left in America as the harvest of the exhibition. Americans will be literally burdened with money seeking investment.

Captain Porter, of the United States Secret Service, warns the public against a dangerous counterfeit silver \$2 certificate. The bill is a Hancock certificate of the issue of 1882, check letter D. At first it deceived even the elect of the financial world, and experts of recognized ability differed among themselves as to the genuineness of the now acknowledged counterfeit. The specimen was printed on bond paper in good ink, and the pink and blue threads passed through the portrait and lettering as in the genuine bills. Persons can easily distinguish between the notes by observing that in the genuine the "J" of the signature of James W. Hyatt, Treasurer, stands midway between the "D" and "C" after Washington, but in the bogus bill the "J" is precisely under the "D."

Asa P. Potter, ex-president of the Maverick National Bank of Boston, Mass., having been indicted for making false certification of checks, Judge

Putman sustained the indictment, overruling demurrers. Col. Jonas H. French and Thomas Dana, ex-directors of the bank, escape under the new indictment. The court held valid the counts charging the illegal certification by Potter, but held invalid those charging him with aiding and abetting. Fifty-six counts were sustained out of the eighty-eight, and the remaining thirty-two were overruled. No questions were decided that were not raised by counsel. The indictments against Thomas Dana and Joseph H. French are held invalid and the demurrers sustained. The indictments charging Dana and French with making false reports to the controller, the court says, are not sustained. Dana and French were discharged from custody.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

Victoria craves to coin its own silver. Sir William Harcourt, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, promises favorable consideration to the proposal.

It is rumored that the British Indian Government propose to establish a State bank in India, with large capital and note circulation. The object is to facilitate State remittances and to establish sales of India bills.

The accounts of the London branch of the Bank of Australia showed liabilities of £980,000 in excess of the assets. The deficiency is due to large overdrafts in the Directors' books, which it is alleged have been doctored by the chairman, who is interested in certain companies which owed the bank the large sum of £600,000.

A startling innovation in the banking system of the country is proposed in Glasgow. The corporation of that city has appointed a committee to draft a scheme for a municipal bank to receive deposits from rate-payers and others. The bank will pay a moderate rate of interest on deposits. It will raise funds for public purposes and make loans on mortgages, etc.

Extraordinary reports have reached London of new mineral discoveries, tin and coal, in Australia. Rich lodes of tin have been found in Victoria, and immense beds of iron ore. The assistant Government geologist in Victoria reports, that besides black coal areas covering 300 square miles and containing some 30,000,000 tons, there are strata of brown coal with seams averaging 130 feet in thickness, amounting to many billions of tons. Government reports from New South Wales estimated enough coal within easy worked areas to permit an annual output of ten million tons for many years to come.

Far from any suggestion of adopting the decimal coinage, the latest contributor to the literature of British currency puts forward a plea for thirty shilling pieces—which might also be represented by a couple of coins. This writer is Sir John Evans, and his contribution appears in Longman's. Already there are ten shilling, twenty shilling, forty shilling and one hundred shilling gold coins, although the double sovereign and the five sovereign piece have never come into common use. The attraction which Sir John

Evans sees in the proposed thirty shilling piece 'is that it would be convenient for payment of amounts over a pound, and would be an economy to the mint.

The British Board of Trade returns for the month of October are unsatisfactory, as denoting a further contraction of trade. The imports amounted to £34,726,858—a decrease of £2,146,971 as compared with the same month of last year, while the exports amounted to £18,725,460—a decrease of £2,440,653 as compared with the corresponding period last year. For the ten months ending October, the total imports were £347,138,626, a decrease of £1,468,484, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, while exports amounted to £189,206,248, a decrease of £19,435,261 as compared with the first eight months of 1891.

The London & General Bank was registered in November, 1882. It had an authorized capital of £1,000,000. Mr. J. W. Hobbs, late mayor of Croydon, was originally connected with the Liberator Society, which was one of the few companies upon which the Bank was dependent for business. Mr. Hobbs's reputation for integrity led to many investments in the Society. He finally retired from the concern, but gave no reason for withdrawal. The suspension of the Bank on Sept. 1 was attributed to the failure of the Society, while on the other hand the downfall of the Society was declared to be due to that of the banking institution. Scenes of great distress among poor investors and depositors were witnessed on the day of the failure. The liabilities of the Society were said at the time to be only about £600,000, and the assets were said to be nearly as much; but the former have been steadily increasing and the latter diminishing.

The *Times* published a statement from what it deems a trustworthy source, intended to show that the present rise in cotton is without a precedent, except during the American civil war, and that the movement is wholly speculative. Middlemen, it says, are buying as fast as they can in the teeth of a bad state of trade and the strike in Lancashire, and in the absence of any proof of a diminution in supplies. The estimate of an American crop of 6,500,000 bales is probably, as was the case last year, greatly under-rated. The article continues: "A private telegram from a reliable house says the crops in Texas are much larger than is generally thought, the total visible supply of cotton being scarcely 100,000 bales under the yield of 1891." In conclusion the article says at least 5,000,000 bales must have changed hands in gambling operations during the past week.

The collapse of the Liberator Building Society simultaneously with the downfall of the London & General Bank is likely to prove one of the largest financial sensations of the generation. Rumors as to the great extent of the disaster have been current ever since the double failure was announced, in September last; but the figures presented at a meeting of shareholders and creditors of the Liberator Society recently held are astounding, even to those who have freely predicted that the wreck would be

one of the worst known in the history of such affairs. The official receiver said at the meeting that the Society owed the shareholders and creditors £3,313,000, while the reserve fund was only £90,000, and was little better than a mere book entry at that. The mortgages amounted to £3,423,000, and were at first supposed to be good assets, but investigation had shown that they were probably valueless, as £3,188,286 had been lent to three companies which are now in liquidation. There were virtually no free assets, there being only £50,000 in sight with which to meet a deficiency of £3,000,000. The bulk of the money had been lent upon nothing better than third liens. It was absurd to talk about possible reconstruction of the Society, for there was nothing to reconstruct. A stormy discussion followed the reading of this doleful report. The upshot of it was that a committee was appointed to co-operate with the receiver in the forlorn hope of saving something from the wreck. Everything points to the certainty that criminal prosecution of the directors of the concern will be the next thing in order. The ground of action will be the charge of fraudulent concealment of the operations of the Society. There is reason to believe that J. Spencer Balfour, M.P., the Vice-President and real head of the concern, together with several of the directors, have pocketed hundreds of thousands of pounds in the shape of commissions, which are now alleged to be illegal. The litigation which is in prospect will doubtless reveal numerous and extensive scandals of a financial character. A sad sequel to the failure was the attempted suicide a few weeks later of one of the directors of the London & General Bank, Mr. James Blewitt, who was found lying in Epping Forrest with his throat cut, having been led by excitement and worry to seek his own destruction.

FOREIGN.

The Banque de Paris et du Pays has advanced the Spanish Government another 25,000,000 francs. This makes 75,000,000 francs advanced by the Bank. In loaning, the Bank imposes a condition that the Cortes meet at the beginning of December, and authorize the Government to raise a large loan, part of which shall be used to repay the Bank. The Spanish opposition is organizing to compel a full discussion of the financial embarrassment and to prevent the ministers from pushing a loan bill through. If the debate is protracted it may end in the suspension of the payment of interest on the national debt, the Rothschilds having already declined to advance more money. They are now clamoring for the payment of advances made by them. It is estimated 4,000,000,000 francs in Spanish securities are held in France. Spanish bankruptcy coming on top of the collapse of the Panama Canal company would be a heavy blow to French industry.

BANKING AND FINANCE.

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OCTOBER BANK STATEMENTS.

	Oct., 1892.	Sept., 1892.	Oct., 1891.
Capital authorized	\$ 75,958,685	\$ 75,958,685	\$ 75,258,665
Capital subscribed	63,138,543	62,997,529	62,219,602
Capital paid up	61,809,372	61,652,233	61,025,204
Amount of Rest	24,832,474	24,826,594	23,194,784

ASSETS.

Specie	\$ 6,708,841	\$ 6,770,649	\$ 6,240,126
Dominion Notes	11,813,254	11,903,854	10,461,550
Deposits with Government for security of circulation	1,761,259	1,761,209	843,075
Notes and cheques on other banks..	8,954,339	7,899,713	6,932,279
Loans to other banks in Canada secured	150,000	150,000	208,573
Deposits payable on demand or after notice or on a fixed day in other banks in Canada	3,667,835	4,457,187	3,048,777
Balances due from other banks in Canada in daily exchanges	286,952	196,343	668,161
Balances due from other banks or agencies in foreign countries	22,792,466	24,211,305	18,923,915
Balances due from banks or agencies in United Kingdom	1,220,909	1,264,908	5,600,494
Dom. Govt. Debenture Stocks	3,328,496	3,328,421	2,577,791
Can. Municipal Securities and British, Foreign, Provincial or Colonial public securities (other than Dominion)	8,523,980	8,428,534	6,122,879
Canadian, British and other railway securities	8,137,590	8,068,091	3,904,605
Call Loans on bonds and stocks....	20,392,077	19,828,270	12,639,259
Current Loans and Discounts	194,123,365	188,167,135	188,660,305
Loans to the Government of Canada			
Loans to Provincial Governments..	2,372,527	1,296,351	536,153
Overdue debts	2,452,155	2,313,589	2,580,808
Real estate, other than bank premises, the property of the bank....	1,097,134	1,123,258	1,104,047
Mortgages on real estate sold by the bank	846,797	839,506	789,729
Bank premises	4,643,095	4,622,679	4,412,258
Other assets	1,643,493	1,514,723	1,599,940

Total assets.....\$304,917,753 \$298,133,431 \$277,854,911

LIABILITIES.

Notes in circulation.....	38,688,429	34,927,615	37,182,768
Balance due Dom. Govt. after deduct- ing advances for credits, pay lists, etc.....	2,524,785	2,516,627	2,162,254
Balance due to Provincial Govts....	3,993,381	2,934,747	2,782,574
Public deposits on demand	66,427,727	65,753,885	58,498,022
“ “ after notice.....	99,934,970	98,831,098	88,503,782
Loans from other banks in Canada secured.....	150,000	150,000	179,296
Deposits payable on demand, after notice or on a fixed day by other Canadian banks	3,102,931	3,491,261	2,673,353
Balances due to other banks in Canada in daily exchanges.....	207,910	126,002	276,425
Balances due to agencies of bank or to other banks or agencies in for- eign countries.....	140,977	139,343	127,898
Balance due to agencies of the bank or to other banks or agencies in the United Kingdom	4,321,180	4,373,087	1,951,954
Other liabilities	209,394	203,799	180,376
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total liabilities.....	\$219,701,774	\$213,477,549	\$194,519,484
Aggregate of loans to directors and to firms in which they are part- ners.....	\$ 7,088,150	\$ 7,034,794	\$ 6,106,141
Average specie for month.....	6,671,435	6,759,918	6,348,297
Average Dominion notes for month..	11,641,280	12,073,627	10,663,256
Greatest circulation during month..	39,024,285	35,446,396	37,595,775

WORLD OF FINANCE.

FACTS ABOUT MONTE CARLO.—Some remarkable facts ("not generally known," to quote Lamb's pattern paragraphist) were disclosed at the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Société Anonyme des Bains de Mer et du Cercle des Etrangers de Monaco. The total revenue from the tables during the past year has been a little over 23,000,000*f.*, or about £920,000, which is 1,000,000*f.* more than the receipts of the previous year. The capital of the society is 30,000 000*f.*, in 60,000 shares of 500*f.* Each share carries an interest coupon of 2*f.* per annum, or 5 per cent. upon the original value. The "dividend" is distributed early in May. This varies according to the "takings" at the tables. Last May it amounted to 165*f.*, making a total revenue of 190*f.* per share, 38 per cent. upon the original value and 9½ per cent. upon the existing value, which was then 2,000*f.* per share. The total revenue in 1891 was 180*f.*, and in 1890 160*f.* Monte Carlo stock may, therefore, be considered a paying investment for those who may be willing to take its risks. In 1913 the society will be able to reimburse its shareholders in full. During the past six years 1,000,000*f.* have been placed annually in a reserve fund for this purpose, so that, with interest, this, in 1913, will amount to quite 30,000,000*f.*, which represents the capital of the society. Since his marriage the present Prince has never touched the 1,250,000*f.* which the gambling society contracted to pay annually for the cession to the ruler of Monaco. This £50,000 per year has been spent in improvements to the palace, building the fine cathedral, erecting new schools and the like. When 1903 arrives the principality will have some stately edifices to call its own, and Prince and Princess will rule over a domain as magnificent in its outward semblance as it is beautiful in its natural position. In addition to £50,000 paid out as the Prince's share of the profits, the society bears all the expense of governing the principality. No less than 300,000*f.* £32,000, are spent annually in bribing newspapers and newspaper correspondents. One Paris newspaper alone gets £3,000, and several others in the capital receive £1,000, while the smaller provincial papers receive from £500 down to £50 per annum. Many newspaper correspondents are also on this "reptile" list, and I regret to say that the representatives of some English newspapers accept their yearly *douceurs*, not for anything they do for Monte Carlo, but for their policy of *laissez faire*. All that the society asks of these men in return for its money is simply this:—"Do nothing; say nothing; let us alone." Another item of expenditure is the pensionaries—those who have lost all their fortunes at the tables, and who are now being kept by the society. These poor unfortunates receive sums proportionate to the amount lost. One Englishman who left 2,000,000*f.* at the tables gets two louis per day. Some get 20*f.* per day, some 10*f.*, and others as much per week. This is the generous portion of the debit side of the balance sheet. A considerable sum is also given annually in railway fares to those who, having lost all their ready cash, are desirous of getting home without letting their friends know of their foolishness. In these cases the manager will pay the hotel bill, purchase a second-class

railway ticket, and give the victim 20 or 40*¢*. for his expenses en route, according to the length of the journey.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

BUILDING AND LOAN SOCIETIES.—The first Canadian Act referring to building societies was passed in 1846, and was “to encourage the establishment of building societies in Upper Canada.” It was soon followed by a similar Act for Lower Canada. In 1847 the Legislature of New Brunswick, and in 1849 that of Nova Scotia, passed Acts for the regulation of benefit and building societies. Since then half a hundred acts relating to these institutions have been passed by the several Provincial Legislatures and by the Dominion Parliament. The Act of 1874, passed by the latter, seems to have given these institutions a fresh start. Up to that date there were 31 in existence, one having been started in 1844—the Lambton Loan & Investment Co. Twenty-three of those now in operation were founded between 1874 and 1880. Seventeen of these existing institutions were founded in the “eighties.” No new institutions are reported as established in 1890 and 1891. There have been some amalgamations and some have ceased to transact business. These reasons account for the fact that there are 71 reporting institutions in 1891 and 76 in 1890. In respect to numbers the year 1882 was the boom year for building societies and loan and investment companies, 91 reporting institutions being on the list of that year. In respect to numbers, we have to go back in 1879 before we find a year with a smaller number of these institutions than in 1891. Formerly a good many of these institutions, having provincial charters, did not think it incumbent on them to report to the Federal authorities. In the province of Ontario there appear to be none not reporting in 1891 to the Department of Finance, and but one in the province of Quebec. Ontario holds its long established pre-eminence as the home of these institutions, 61 out of the 71 reporting being in this province, and of these 61, Toronto is the headquarters of 27. Thus 86 per cent. of these institutions are in Ontario and 38 per cent. of them in Toronto. The growth of these institutions since Confederation is remarkable. In 1868 there were seventeen of them with a paid-up capital of two and a half million dollars. In 1891, 71 had a paid up capital of \$34,660,000, an increase of 14 times the amount in 1868. In addition in 1868 they had no reserve funds, while in 1891 they had \$10,191,000 of a reserve. The deposits in 1868 amounted to \$673,790, and in 1891 to \$18,483,000, an increase of over 27 times the amount in 1868. The loans secured on real estate in 1868 amounted to \$3,067,680, and in 1891 to \$106,404,856, an increase of nearly 35 times the amount in 1868. The total loans in 1891 amounted to \$110,082,000, the difference between this sum and the amount loaned on real estate being made up of loans secured on Dominion, provincial and municipal securities, and of loans to shareholders on their stock—branches of the business of these institutions for particulars of which the returns do not go back to 1874. The value of the real estate under mortgage to these institutions in 1891 was \$223,000,000. Thus the amount loaned was equal to 47.7 per cent. of the value. In 1874 the loans were 42.7 per cent. of the value of the real estate under mortgage. Prob-

by the increase is accounted for by the greater care taken in procuring a conservative estimate of the value of the real estate. A very good indicator of the prosperity of the country is found in the amount of principal and interest overdue and in default on mortgages, just as in the overdue notes and debts of the chartered banks a good index of the condition of business men and borrowers from banks generally is found. In 1880 the amount in default was 8.60 per cent. of the amount secured by mortgage deeds, and in 1891 it was 2.04 per cent. In the same way the overdue notes and debts in the chartered banks in 1880 were 4.24 per cent. of the total amount borrowed, and in 1891 they were 1.03 per cent. The two taken together indicate that the condition of affairs in 1891 was a vast improvement on 1879.—*Toronto Empire*.

GOLD RESERVES.—In view of the present large amount of paper currency outstanding throughout the country, it will be interesting to consider the strength of reserve held against the issue. It is well known that the bank notes are a first lien upon the assets, and as the circulation on Oct. 31 was \$34,927,615 and the total assets of the banks \$298,133,431, there was over \$8.50 held to secure every dollar. The deposit with the Government, which virtually secures the bank individually, is included in this estimate. But without looking to the necessity to wind up the banks to redeem their notes, we may look to the items which would enable such redemption to take place without such a disturbance of the country. The banks on Oct. 31 held \$6,770,649 of specie, or over 19 per cent. of their circulation; they held \$11,903,854 of Dominion notes, or over 34 per cent. of the circulation, these two items alone aggregating over 53 per cent. of the total outstanding notes, an eminently satisfactory reserve, but one, it must not be forgotten, useful for other calls as well. In addition, they held \$7,899,713 of notes and cheques of other banks, an item forming 22 per cent. of the circulation, and the bulk of which would disappear in cross entries among the banks generally, so that of the total circulation, fully 75 per cent. is secured by securities held by the banks themselves. If, however, we include call loans, amounting to \$19,828,270, or over 56 per cent. of the circulation, we find the banks with immediately available assets of \$46,394,486 against \$34,927,615 of circulation, and even taking into consideration the other demands upon such funds in daily transactions, we cannot but feel that the banks are more than well situated as regards their power to redeem their notes. The item of Dominion notes forms a large proportion of the Cash Reserve, and we may now proceed to consider the basis of this issue. The total issue of Dominion notes on the date of which we are treating was \$18,647,063.66. In passing we may remark that the fact that the amount of \$1 to \$2 outstanding, and that of the \$5's, \$10's and \$20's, do not divide respectively by one or by five, calls for an explanation. Of the total Dominion note circulation only \$6,733,209 is held by the general public, the remainder being held in large denominations by the various banks, \$5,314,252 being held in Quebec and \$4,567,694 in Ontario. Ontario holds considerably more in proportion to its banking capital than does Quebec, since the capital in Quebec is \$34,534,370 against

\$17,413,195. The Dominion note is redeemable in specie, and by Act of Parliament, 1886, gold and guaranteed securities to the extent of 25 per cent. of the total outstanding shall be held, and not less than fifteen per cent. shall be in gold. The guaranteed securities are Canadian securities guaranteed by the Imperial Government. The remaining seventy-five per cent. of the notes are to be secured by Canadian debentures. As a matter of fact, the Government does not in its last statement sail so close to the wind with its reserves as the law allows. It held as security for its notes outstanding, some \$6,107,528 of specie, or over thirty-two per cent., that is to say, more than double the legal requirement. It held of guaranteed securities and specie \$8,054,195, or forty-three per cent., whereas the legal requirement is only twenty-five per cent. And it held \$14,250,000 of unguaranteed securities, or seventy-six per cent., the legal requirement being seventy-five per cent. As, however, the specie and guaranteed securities exceed forty-three per cent. of the issue, the unguaranteed securities held are virtually \$3,657,132 in excess of the amount practically required. It thus appears that the Dominion note is well secured.

A question of serious import, however, may be raised if we consider the Dominion Note Act, and the Government does well not to follow the letter of the law. The Act does not seem to us framed to meet stormy times, as a national currency should be. When the limit of circulation was \$9,000,000 instead of \$20,000,000 the gold reserve required to be held was 20 per cent. (Note Act 1870), and the same percentage might well have been retained in more than doubling the limit of issue. Bankers well know that the ratio between their reserve and their circulation should increase in considerably great proportion with the augmentation of their issue of notes since the likelihood of a demand for redemption is increased. The subject is still more complicated by the fact that the banks hold 63.8 per cent. of the total issue, and would look to the Government for gold if any serious and sudden emergency should arise discrediting the national currency as well as the bank circulation, a contingency remote but not impossible. The banks hold of Dominion notes \$4,434,053 more than the law requires, and while any serious demand from them would most probably be met by a counter demand for the Government deposit, these deposits amounting to \$2,516,627, they could yet by concerted action drain the Government of \$1,917,426 of gold, or nearly one third its total holding of that metal, and within \$879,629 of the whole amount of gold which the Government might hold, and yet be within the law. It thus appears that while the present position of the Government securities for its note circulation is quite satisfactory, the 15 per cent. ratio provided by law would be inadequate to protect the Government from serious embarrassment should the banks call upon it for the full amount of gold due them.—Montreal *Witness*.

DANGEROUS BANKING.—Under the above caption, the Montreal *Star* finds room in its editorial columns for the following piece of gratuitous advice on bank management: Only twice during the last thirty years have the banks of Canada had relatively such large sums of money loaned on stocks as they

have at the present time. The readiness to loan upon margins has been latterly, more than ever, a temptation to bankers—due largely to ease in the money market and the difficulty in procuring use for their surplus funds in more legitimate banking channels. This temptation carries its dangers with it, and these dangers have too often been emphasized in the banking disasters of the past thirty years to require more than a passing reference; but they impose upon the boards of bank directors a duty that is always apt to be overlooked when there is implicit faith in their managers and officials. It is verging upon crime, and should be fatal to their positions for bank managers to speculate in the stocks upon which their banks have advanced loans, especially when these loans have been placed solely upon the recommendation of the bank managers themselves. Yet there are the best of reasons for the statement that the manager and officials of more than one bank in Montreal are to-day speculators in the stocks upon which their banks have made loans. In times when inflation makes advances upon stocks hazardous, it is the bounden duty of bank directors to see that their loans of this character are secured upon margins of sufficient width to be in themselves ample guarantee, and in the second place to make stock speculation by their officials directly or indirectly a sufficient ground for dismissal. The large interest in bank stocks held by widows and orphans, and their aptitude for placing unlimited confidence in bank management, makes it the imperative duty of the directors to see that their banks are protected. The case of the Consolidated, the Metropolitan, the Exchange and the Mechanics Banks are warnings against laxity on the part of the bank directors. It is to be hoped that proper diligence will be exercised to the exclusion of risky banking at the present time, as the directors who neglect their duty in this respect should not expect to be excused on the score of ignorance. Loaning upon stocks has an ease and fascination about it that is natural, but it imposes upon Directors a necessity for personal enquiry and a resistance against a too easy acquiescence. It is more than probable that conservative, cautious banking during the next two years will turn out to be the better kind, and it is a good time to begin the exercise of extra vigilance without precipitate haste or impetuosity.

MEETINGS AND REPORTS.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

The general statement of the position of the Bank of Montreal on the 31st October has been issued, and shews as follows:—

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock.....		\$12,000,000
Rest.....	\$ 6,000,000	
Balance of profits carried forward.....	569,759	
	<u>\$6,569,759</u>	
Unclaimed dividends.....	3,130	
Half-yearly dividend, payable 1st Dec., 1892.....	600,000	
	<u>7,172,890</u>	
		<u>\$19,172,890</u>
Notes in circulation.....	\$ 5,662,892	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	8,366,327	
Deposits bearing interest.....	21,725,913	
Balance due other banks in Canada.....	4,860	
	<u>35,760,037</u>	
		<u>\$54,932,927</u>

ASSETS.

Gold and silver coin.....	\$ 2,221,906	
Government demand notes.....	1,836,768	
Deposit with Government for security of circulation	260,000	
Due by agencies and banks in F.C., \$12,574,163; due		
by agencies and other banks in G.B., \$581,645.....	13,155,808	
Government bonds, India stock, etc.....	1,834,000	
Notes and cheques of other banks.....	1,436,496	
	<u>\$20,744,979</u>	
Bank premises.....		600,000
Current loans and discounts (rebate interest re-		
served) and other assets.....	33,162,904	
Debts secured.....	278,648	
Overdue debts not secured (loss provided for).....	146,394	
	<u>33,587,948</u>	
		<u>\$54,932,927</u>

The earnings for the half year ending 31st October, compared with those for the same period of 1891, show as follows :—

	1892.	1891.
Balance of profit and loss account, 30th April, 1892...\$	565,615	\$ 439,728
Profits for the half year ended 31st October, 1892, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts...	604,144	666,642
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Dividend 5 per cent., payable 1st December, 1892...	\$1,169,759	\$1,106,371
	600,000	600,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance of profit and loss carried forward.....	\$569,759	\$506,371

The following is a comparative statement of earnings for the October half-year :—

1892.....	\$604,144	1886.....	\$765,228
1891.....	666,642	1885.....	662,765
1890.....	671,964	1884.....	662,994
1889.....	705,707	1883.....	692,668
1888.....	710,815	1882.....	736,718
1887.....	665,053	1881.....	661,891

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY COMPANY.

The half-yearly general meeting of the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada was held on Monday, the 31st of October, at the City Terminus hotel, London, Sir H. W. Tyler in the chair.

The president expressed his regret that the working of the past half year had not been more satisfactory. However, they had an increase of £104,000 in gross traffic and of £45,000 in net, a very much better result than many other railways in America had had at the same time. In order to earn this extra amount of receipts—of which £16,000 was from passengers and £88,000 from freight—they had had to carry a very large quantity of extra business—no less an amount than 110,000,000 tons carried one mile, of which 87,000,000 tons were eastward and 23,000,000 tons westward. They would have earned, of course, very much larger receipts and a still larger net profit if they had had the same rates to deal with, but unfortunately, the average rate at which this tonnage had been carried had decreased from .71 cent to .68 cent per ton per mile, and this constant decrease of rates was the source and origin of all their troubles. The rates of the Lake Shore & Michigan company had come down to even a lower point than those which the Grand Trunk company had received. The rates of that company in 1870 were 1½ cents per ton per mile, compared with .75 cent in 1880 and .628 cent in 1891. The passenger and freight traffic on the Grand Trunk Railway was in the proportion of 600,000 in the one case and 1,200,000 in the other. They might almost neglect the passenger traffic as compared with the great losses they had sustained in the former rates on

freight traffic. The reason why they had not of late been carrying so much traffic out of Chicago in proportion to the amount carried by other companies was because rates were so low, and the desire of their representatives was to carry as much as possible traffic which paid and to neglect traffic which did not pay. They had carried of late very little dressed beef traffic for the reason that the rates had gone down so much. The dressed beef shippers were not making as much profit as they used to do. He did not know, indeed, whether they were making any profit out of their dressed beef, but they were making very considerable profits on the running of their cars. So far as this company was concerned, they did not care now for this traffic, the rate having been reduced to so low a point, and they did not propose to pay any longer 1 cent per car per mile for the use of these cars. They had, in fact, stated that from October 1st they would not pay in future more than $\frac{1}{4}$ cent per mile per car for these cars. He believed that other companies were not unlikely to follow their example. Mr. Hubbard and he paid a visit this autumn to Canada, and they had gone thoroughly over the whole system and into every store and shop, and they had completely examined into everything connected with the railway to see if expenses could be further curtailed.

At Montreal there was a great deal to interest us. In the first place, there are the most magnificent works that you can see anywhere, all in perfect order and working most satisfactorily, and the officers there are trying to reduce expenses in every direction. The rolling mill, which you authorized to be built, is in full working order; and taking the price at which they can turn out bar iron, and the price we paid for it previously, they are saving the company, as I led you to expect, fully £7,000 a year. They have also made other savings—they are saving £5,000 a year by the manufacture of axles themselves, and they weld their own axles now in place of purchasing them, and they are saving £5,000 a year in that way, while they have made another saving of £2,000 a year, which I do not want more particularly to mention, for reasons which I shall not refer to. They have also made some other savings. There is an expenditure at the Bonaventure street station at Montreal. The municipality are going to expropriate a piece of our land, which will take away from us two tracks, and we have been obliged to buy some other land in order to make up for what they take from us. Some of that land will again go to the municipality, and we shall be paid for it. Of course, they will pay for what they take from us, but we shall have to remodel, to some extent, our Bonaventure street yard. We walked through the Victoria bridge over the St. Lawrence, upwards of a mile and a quarter long, and that bridge has been very much improved. It is a bridge on the model of the Britannia and Conway tubes. It is impossible to keep it painted at the top, as the sulphur from the coal goes so much to the top of the bridge. For that reason we have been opening the top and putting extra angle-irons to add to the strength, in order to make an opening all along the top to let out the fumes of the sulphur from the coal and to avoid annoyance to passengers. That has been to a great extent completed. Then we

went on Westward from Montreal along the double line to Toronto. The double line is of the very greatest use to the company, and saves the great delay that formerly occurred in the traffic. When fast trains had to pass slow trains, the latter were shunted into sidings and had to wait for a considerable period. All that is now done away with. The double line is in the most perfect condition for trains going any speed, and it saves an enormous deal of delay to trains, passing over it. We next went to Toronto, and there went round the belt line, which promises very well in future, but which has only been open for two or three months. We had, of course, a great deal to discuss in regard to the new station at Toronto. We have given you in the report the best estimate that can be made of it at the present time, by which I need only say we shall not only have better accommodation, but save money to the company. From Toronto we went on to Hamilton, and there we saw the wheel works. Hamilton was the old locomotive station of the Great Western Company, and there those works have been turned into wheel works for the use of the whole line. I told you when these wheel works were first established that we hoped we should save £6,000 a year by them. The wheels were then costing \$9.50 each; the price was in the first instance reduced to \$8.50, and it has been gradually going down, and now they are making their wheels at \$7.50 each, which means a saving in the first instance of £6,000, and then of another £6,000 a year to the company, because the output may be stated at something like 30,000 wheels a year, so that we have double the saving which we originally estimated from those works. Then we went on to Niagara Falls, where, I am happy to say, an electric railway is being constructed, which will be of great use in bringing the passengers from our station on to the Falls; and there are enormous works going on there, which I went to look at, for utilizing the Falls for the supply of electricity. There large canals are being made above the Falls for conducting the water to turbines, which are to be something like 170 feet below the surface, and this will supply 100,000 horse power, which the people who were constructing that will let out to manufacturing works that they expect to bring to the spot. I cannot but think that these works will bring considerably increased traffic to our system. Then we went westward to the Sarnia tunnel, which we found to be in perfect order, and working most satisfactorily. We had a search light put on the engine, so that in passing through it we might see whether there was a crack in the cement, with which the lower part of it is lined. There was not one single break in it, the whole of it being in the most satisfactory order. The approaches are also in a satisfactory condition, and it is doing thoroughly good work for us. We then went over the Chicago & Grand Trunk line to Chicago. At the works at Fort Gratiot, which are not far from the tunnel, they are also using every exertion towards economy. The storekeeper and the locomotive superintendent there are both intent on doing more than they have ever done before to work more economically, and as an earnest of that desire I may mention that they have taken to compounding their own oil and mixing their own paints, from which they save to the company £6,000 a year.

ECONOMIES EFFECTED.

As regards the savings which in our tour we have been able to look forward to, I may mention, besides those to which I have referred, that as regards the mechanical department, by transfer of duties and redistribution, we can see our way to a further saving of £3,000 a year. As regards the engineers' department for the whole line, by alterations in the *personnel* and by doing away with certain assistant engineers, we can see our way to saving £3,300 a year. As regards the office of superintendent of the line, we have given one gentleman now charge of the whole line without any extra remuneration, and he accepted it in the most cordial manner. By that means we shall save £3,000 a year, and in the stores department we shall save £1,500 a year, making altogether £10,800 a year. Besides those there are several savings which have recently been effected. When Mr. Seargeant was appointed, there was a saving of £2,500 a year. There is a gentleman who has left the service of the company by which we shall save another £1,400 a year, and in looking to the recent savings of every description we see our way to a saving of about £40,000 a year to the company.

THE QUESTION OF RATES.

He assured them that they were under great obligations to Mr. Hubbard; and he further desired to express their indebtedness to their officers, all of whom had accepted in the most cordial manner every proposal which had been made for introducing the economies to which he had alluded. Their officers, in fact, felt just as much as the directors that this was the time to economize. He expressed his conviction that nothing further could be done in the way of economy, and that if they attempted to do more the system would suffer. The most important question of all to them was that of rates. This was the only unsatisfactory feature of their working. Some of the American railways had, however, suffered in this matter far more than the Grand Trunk company, as he proceeded to show by referring to the results in the cases of the Baltimore & Ohio, the New York Central, the Erie, the Michigan Central, and the Pennsylvania companies. The Grand Trunk company was therefore by no means the only sufferer, and he thought that the time had arrived when this confusion and chaos of railway working should be put an end to. The great difference between American and English companies was this—that if English companies made agreements with one another, they went to Parliament and got them legalized, and then if the agreements were not carried out they could take each other before the court and compel the contracts to be acted upon. In America, however, the agreements which were made from time to time were entirely voluntary, and no company would carry them out unless it thought proper to do so. Unfortunately, a great many of these companies did not think it was proper to do so. It had, in fact, been said that no American company would carry out an agreement which it found to work against itself. He was glad to say, however, that a strong feeling was

arising in America, that this state of things ought not to be allowed to last, and that a bill ought to be brought into Congress for the regulation of railways and railway companies. The Inter State Commerce Act, which was passed some years ago, was supposed to render pooling illegal, and ever since then no attempt has been made for the pooling of money or the division of traffic; but the Inter-State Commerce Commissioners were now known to admit that further legislation was necessary, and that pooling should be reverted to. He had great hopes that before long a bill would be introduced into Congress with that object. If they did get an effective bill, and if the railway traffic of the country was properly regulated, they would have no cause to complain of the Grand Trunk system, which was in good order and prepared to take advantage of any rise in the rates. They could not hope to go back to the rates of 1883 in any circumstances. If they could, they would be able to pay a dividend at once on their ordinary stock. They might, however, hope to get back to the rates of 1890, and even with those rates they would in the past half year have made £112,000 more profit. He then referred to the proposal mentioned in the report for consolidating into the Grand Trunk system various subsidiary lines, and stated that the agreement included all the lines in Canada excepting the Toronto Belt line. It was not desirable to include that line, because there was still a good deal of litigation in regard to it which the Grand Trunk Company did not want to take upon themselves. Of course, the Sarnia tunnel was not included, nor was the International bridge at Buffalo, because half of each of those undertakings was in the United States. They had taken a great deal of pains in connection with the agreement, and the only difficulty they had had was in the case of the Midland company, which, therefore, they would not that day embrace in the agreement. The proprietors would be asked by and by to pass a resolution, also giving the directors authority to consolidate the American lines west of the St. Clair river, where the mode of proceeding would be more simple. He afterwards alluded to certain efforts which had been made by the directors with a view to appointing certain gentlemen outside the company to inspect the Grand Trunk system, and stated that they had endeavored, but ineffectually, to induce Mr. Albert Fink to undertake this office. A gentleman high in position in the New York Central company was also approached on the subject, but the Messrs. Vanderbilt preferred that he should not undertake the work. The question was whether, after the investigation which had just been made by Mr. Hubbard and himself, the proprietors thought that any outside inspection was necessary. In conclusion, he again referred to the question of rates, and stated that it was a most discouraging one, but that they could only keep "pegging away" at it. Every effort would be made to economize, but he was sure they would agree with him that their line must be maintained in proper condition, and that they must continue to make such small outlays as were necessary for improving the traffic and keeping themselves prepared for the time when the rates improved. He then proposed a resolution for the adoption of the report and the payment of a dividend of £1 2s 6d per cent. to the holders of the 4 per cent. guaranteed stock.

THE REPORT DISCUSSED.

An amendment was moved by Mr. Gilderstone to strike out those portions of the report relating to new capital expenditure and to the absorption of leased line.

Mr. Alexander Hubbard deprecated the attempt on the part of some of the shareholders to disparage the management in Canada, and remarked that while in that country he formed the highest opinion of all the company's leading officers. The directors, he added, were as anxious as the shareholders to curtail the expenses, but he advised the shareholders to improve the accommodation where it was necessary for the development of traffic. Then, with regard to our general manager, I am told that if you go to Exeter and South Devon, they will tell you what they think of Mr. Seargeant. Well, I can tell you what the opinion is; I was chairman of the South Devon Railway, Mr. Seargeant was general manager when I was there, and the opinion every one held, and of those who are alive now, is that they have the highest opinion of our general manager; and from what I saw when I was out there, there is no man I know of in Canada that I would rather trust with our affairs than our general manager, Mr. Seargeant. (Cheers.) I have known him for more than twenty years; I know his ability, I have travelled with him, I know his capability of making arrangements, I have seen him meeting other general managers in New York, and I have seen the position he took there; and I do hope while we have gentlemen of his position we shall not speak so disparagingly of them as we sometimes hear at these meetings.

After some remarks by Mr. Hogarth, Mr. Household and Mr. White, the chairman replied on the discussion. He said he would not advise the shareholders to have a president and board of directors in Canada, because he knew what it would lead to. He recommended them, whoever they might have on the board here, to keep the control of their finances in England. (Applause.) Mr. Jeffries of Ipswich, who had talked more loudly than anyone at these meetings about bad management and want of economy, was at present in Canada, and, having gone over part of the line, had sent a communication to the directors, in which he said:—"I am greatly surprised at what I have seen, especially as to the standard of men employed. . . . I am impressed with the energy and activity of the staff, and most agreeably disappointed in every respect." (Applause.) No gentleman who went over the works could say anything else.

The amendment was then put and rejected.

Mr. Baker and others demanded a poll, which was taken at the close of the proceeding, with the result that the amendment was lost by 129,360 votes to 60.

Mr. Batten, the scrutineer, stated that the voting power in the meeting, without counting proxies, was 1,845 for the directors and 60 against.

The original motion, on being put, was declared to be carried unanimously, the opposition having previously left the room. The chairman then moved a resolution accepting the agreement for the consolidation of fourteen leased and subsidiary lines into the Grand Trunk system.

STOCK QUOTATIONS.

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MONTREAL AND TORONTO STOCK EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Revised, according to the official lists up to the 30th day of the month. The following tables include all securities listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges: these are designated by the letters "M" and "T."

The Quotations indicate the last bid or asked price. Quotations marked * are the ruling prices, ex-dividend. The highest and lowest prices for the year 1891, actual sales, are given for comparison.

BANKS.

NAME.	Share Value.	Last Divid'd semi-annual.	Year 1891, Toronto.		Montreal.		Toronto.		
			Per cent. High.Low.		Per cent. Nov. 30, 1892.				
			High.	Low.	Bid.	Ask.	Bid.	Ask.	
Toronto.....	M & T	100	5	232	210			247	253
Commerce.....	M & T	50	3½	136½	124½	142*	143*	142½	143
Dominion.....	M & T	50	5 & 1	249½	225	...	...	263½	265
Ontario.....	M & T	100	3½	117	110	115	118½	116	118
Standard.....	M & T	50	4	171	146½	...	...	162	162½
Imperial.....	M & T	100	4	193	151½	...	...	182½	184
Traders.....		100	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hamilton.....	M & T	100	4	178	152	...	...	166½	170
Ottawa.....		100	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western.....		100	3½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Montreal.....	M & T	200	5	230	215½	229*	230½**	229	231
British North Am...	M	243	4	...	...	(London)	...	150	155
Du Peuple.....	M	50	3	...	...	108	110	...	...
Jacques Cartier...	M	25	3½	...	...	120	123	...	...
Ville-Marie.....	M	100	3	...	...	79	90	...	...
Hochelaga.....	M	100	3	...	...	123	128	...	...
Molsons.....	M & T	50	4	...	...	171*	172*	...	...
Merchants of Can..	M & T	100	3½	153½	150	160*	167*	162	165½
Nationale.....	M	30	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Quebec.....	M	100	3½	...	...	125	...	...	...
Union of Canada...	M	60	3	...	...	100*	...	...	...
St. Jean.....		...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Hyacinthe.....		...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern Townships.	M	100	3½	...	...	130	142	...	...
						(Halifax.)			
Nova Scotia.....		100	3½	...	...	166	...	...	...
Merchants of Halifax.		100	3	...	...	133½	...	...	...
Peoples of Halifax.		20	3	...	...	113	...	...	...
Union of Halifax.....		100	3	...	...	119	...	...	...
Halifax Banking Co		20	3	...	...	114	...	...	...
Yarmouth.....		75	3	...	...	120	...	...	...
Exchange of Yarmouth.		70	3	...	...	111½	...	...	...
Commercial of Windsor.		40	3	...	...	106	...	...	...
New Brunswick.....		100	6	...	...	253	...	...	...
Peoples of N.B.....		50	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Stephens.....		100	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Summerside.....		...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Commercial of Manitoba....	M.	100	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Columbia.....		£20	3 & 3	...	...	(London..)	192½	...	...

STOCK QUOTATIONS.

191

STOCK EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Revised according to the official lists up to the 30th day of the month. The following tables include all securities listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges: these are designated by the letters "M" and "T."

The Quotations indicate the last bid or asked price. Quotations marked * are the ruling prices, ex-dividend. The highest and lowest price for the year 1891, actual sales, are given for comparison.

LOAN COMPANIES—Continued.

NAME.	Share Value.	Last Dividend Semi-annual.	Year 1891. Toronto.		Montreal | Toronto.			
			Per cent. High.Low.	Per cent. High.Low.	Per cent. Nov. 30, 1892.			
					Bid.	Ask.	Bid.	Ask.
Toronto Land and Loan.... T	50	3						
Do Savings and Loan.. T	100	3	130	130			115½	
Union Ln. and Sav..... T	50	4	135	132½			137	
Western Canada Ln. and Sav. T	50	5	178	173			175	
Ditto 25 per cent... T	50		166	162			166	

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Accident of North Am.....	100	3						
British America.. T	50	3½	105¾	98			117	120
Canada Life	400	5						
Citizens of Canada.....	85	3					619	
Confederation Life Ass..... T	100	7½					297	
Guarantee of N. A.... M	50	3			100	102		
Quebec Fire.....	100	2½						
Queen City Fire.....	50	5					200	210
Royal Canadian.....	25	3½						
Sun Life.....	100	6			250			
Western..... T	40	5	152½	141			161¼	161¼

NAVIGATION AND RAILWAY COMPANIES.

Canada Shipping..... M	100	5						
Canadian Pac. Ry..... M & T	100	2½	92½	72¼	90	90½	89¼	90½
Rich. & Ont. Nav..... M	100				67	69		
Grand Trunk Ry. 1st Pref.. M								
Dul. S.S. & Atlantic pfd... M	100				29¾	30½	30	31
" " Common..... M	100				11¾	12¾	12	
Wabash Ry. Pfd..... M	100				24½	26		
" " Common..... M	100				10	12		

GAS AND STREET RAILWAY COMPANIES.

Consumers' Gas (1).... T	50	2½	180	166			190	191
Montreal Gas..... M	40	6			223	224		
Ditto New Stock..... M					200			
Montreal Street Railway... M	50	6			237	240		
Ditto New Stock..... M								

(1) Dividend Quarterly.

STOCK EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

Revised according to the official lists up to the 30th day of the month. The following tables include all securities listed on the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges: these are designated by the letters "M" and "T."

The Quotations indicate the last bid or asked price. Quotations marked * are the ruling prices, ex-dividend. The highest and lowest price for the year 1891, actual sales, are given for comparison.

TELEGRAPH, TELEPHONE AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANIES.

NAME.	Share Value.	Last Dividend Semi-annual.	Year 1891. Toronto.		Montreal.		Toronto.	
			Per cent. High.	Per cent. Low.	Per cent. Nov. 30, 1892.			
					Bid.	Ask.	Bid.	Ask.
Bell Telephone (1).... M & T	100	2	160	148	162	165	162½	165
Commercial Cable & T	100	1½	149½	122½	175½	176	175½	176½
Dominion Telegraph (1)... T	50	1½	95	86	.....	.....	100½	.....
Montreal do (1)... M & T	4	2	127	104½	153	155	.....	.....
Royal Electric 1..... M	10	.....	.....	.....	240	255	.....	.....
Toronto Electric Light..... T	100	3½	125	112	.....	.....	178	.....
Toronto Incandescent..... T	100	3½	.....	.....	.....	.....	129	130

COTTON COMPANIES.

Canada Col. Cotton.... M & T	100	3	.....	.....	110	111	.....	.....
Coaticooke Cotton.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dominion do (1)..... M	100	2½	.....	.....	133	130	.....	.....
Dundas do..... M	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hochelaga do..... M	100	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montreal do (1)..... M	100	1½	.....	.....	140	143	.....	.....
Stormont do..... M	100	3	.....	.....	115	.....	.....	.....
Merchants' Manf..... M	100	4	.....	.....	130	150	.....	.....

MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANIES.

Canada Paper..... M	100	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diamond Glass..... M	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	102	.....	.....
Sw England Paper.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Starr Manf.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Intercolonial Coal..... M	100	.....	.....	.....	24	31	.....	.....
Londonderry Iron..... M	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
National Cordage..... M	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.

Canada Nor.W. Land.. M & T	£ s d	4.17.6	.....	82½	70½	90	92½	89½	91½
Dominion Cattle Co.....	.....	.....	3½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Globe Printing Co..... T	\$	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ont. and Qu'Appelle Land....	.....	100	.....	65	60	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montreal City 4% Stock.... M	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....
Ditto 5% do..... M
Ditto 7% do..... M
Victoria Rolling Stock..... T	5000	5	160

(1) Dividend Quarterly.

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