

THE BANK OF TORONTO.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY, 17th JUNE, 1891.

The Annual General Meeting of The Bank of Toronto (being the Thirty-fifth since the commencement of business) was held, in pursuance of the terms of the Charter, at the Banking House of the Institution, June 17th, 1891.

On motion, George Gooderham, Esq., was called to the Chair, and Mr. Coulson was requested to act as Secretary.

Moved by HENRY COVERT, Esq., seconded by ALFRED GOODERHAM, Esq., and

Resolved,--That Messrs. Walter S. Lee and T. G. Blackstock be appointed Scrutineers, and that at the close of the poll they report to the Cashier the names of those Stockholders elected Directors for the year.

By request of the Chairman, the Secretary then read the following

REPORT.

The Directors of The Bank of Toronto beg to present to the Stockholders the Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Bank's affairs.

Notwithstanding the feeling of uncertainty that prevailed so widely, and the unfavorable conditions under which many branches of business have been suffering during the past year, your Directors have pleasure in reporting that the net profits of the year have been maintained.

After making full provision for all losses and deducting expenses, interest accrued on deposits and rebate on current discounts, the Net Profits amount to the sum of

.....	\$282,449 94
The balance at credit of Profit and Loss, on 31st May, 1890, was.....	23,808 67
	<hr/>
	\$306,258 61

This sum has been appropriated as follows :

Dividend No. 69, Five per cent.....	\$100,000 00	
Dividend No. 70, Five per cent.....	100,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$200,000 00
Added to Rest Account.....	100,000 00	
Carried forward to next year.....	6,258 61	
	<hr/>	106,258 61
		<hr/>
		\$306,258 61

The addition to the Rest thus reported makes this fund amount to \$1,600,000.

The Directors desire to avail themselves of the provisions of the Banking Act authorizing the formation of an Officers' Guarantee Fund. A resolution will be submitted for your approval authorizing them to establish this Fund and to contribute thereto out of the funds of the Bank.

A Branch of the Bank has been opened in the Town of Brockville under favorable auspices.

The Directors cannot close this report without referring to the loss the Bank has sustained in the decease of their late colleague, W. R. Wadsworth, Esq. Mr. Wadsworth was one of the charter members of the Bank, and by his sound judgment and experience at all times rendered it good service.

To fill up the vacancy the Directors, acting on the powers conferred upon them, elected John Leys Esq., of Rice, Lewis & Sons (Limited).

The various Officers of the Bank have fulfilled their duties to the satisfaction of the Board.

The whole respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

GEORGE GOODERHAM,

President.

GENERAL STATEMENT

30th MAY, 1891.

LIABILITIES.

Notes in Circulation		\$1,394,219 00
Deposits bearing interest	\$5,634,350 80	
Deposits not bearing interest	1,563,219 22	
		<hr/>
		7,197,570 02
Balances due to other Banks		123,689 76
Unclaimed Dividends	120 00	
Half-yearly Dividend payable 1st June, 1891	100,000 00	
		<hr/>
		100,120 00
		<hr/>
Total Liabilities to the Public		\$8,815,598 78
Capital paid up	\$2,000,000 00	
Rest	1,600,000 00	
Interest Accrued on Deposit Receipts	\$47,235 00	
Rebate on Notes Discounted	86,553 00	
		<hr/>
		133,788 00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account carried forward		6,258 61
		<hr/>
		3,740,046 61
		<hr/>
		\$12,555,645 39

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver Coin on hand	\$333,493 89	
Dominion Notes on hand	749,432 00	
Notes and Cheques of other Banks	213,077 95	
Balances due from other Banks in Canada	72,571 83	
Balances due from Agents of the Bank in Great Britain	273,757 49	
Balances due from Agents of the Bank in the United States	281,663 63	
Municipal Debentures	82,532 66	
		<hr/>
Total Assets immediately available		\$2,006,529 45
Loans and Bills Discounted	\$10,416,911 09	
Overdue Debts, (estimated loss provided for)	5,207 44	
Real Estate other than Bank Premises	6,997 41	
		<hr/>
		10,429,115 94
Bank Premises		120,000 00
		<hr/>
		\$12,555,645 39

(Signed)

D. COULSON, *Cashier*

TORONTO, *May 30th, 1891.*

After the reading of the above the President, George Gooderham, Esq., addressed the meeting as follows:

GENTLEMEN,

In moving the adoption of the report, I ask your indulgence while I make a few remarks in enlargement of the topics contained in it.

The past year has been, as you are doubtless aware, an eventful one in financial centres of two continents. Unwise if not reckless investment and speculation in questionable securities resulted in enormous losses and lock-up of capital and threatened disaster unparalleled in extent, which was only averted by measures as unique as they were successful. Happily we in Canada were interested mainly as onlookers, yet during the time this apprehension and uncertainty prevailed those having your interests in charge had additional cares and anxieties.

In our own surroundings little has transpired that seems to call for lengthy comment from me.

The crops were only fair, although somewhat better than the preceding year. Enhanced prices, however, made up in a measure for the deficient yield. Fortunately the increased duty imposed by the McKinley tariff on our barley imported into the United States did not come into force until the bulk of the crop had been shipped, and we have yet to experience the full effect of this legislation on this large and important crop.

The cheese industry, I am happy to say, experienced a successful and prosperous season, the production and export being the largest in the history of the trade. Prices were good, and the farmer, factory man and dealer all made money.

The export of cattle was very active; the number shipped largely exceeded that of any former year. Prices were good, and caused a large and active circulation of money. Farmers and feeders did well; the shippers, however, barely held their own during the early part of the season, and experienced considerable loss towards the end.

The results of the year in the timber and lumber trades were unsatisfactory. In Britain prices were much depressed, and very unremunerative returns were received by manufacturers and shippers, while shipments to the United States were delayed owing to the impending tariff changes, which did not take place until too late in the season to permit of any considerable movement.

The results to merchants and manufacturers cannot, I think, be said to have been satisfactory. Speaking generally, profits have been small and losses much in excess of an average. Of this there is ample evidence, in the large increase in numbers and importance of failures that have taken place.

The bank has not come through the year without its reverses, and while we have benefitted by the conditions that were productive of increased activity in business, we have also met with more than the usual amount of losses. But reviewing the business as a whole, I think we can congratulate ourselves on the results of the year's operations. We have been faithful in endeavouring to ascertain the full extent of the bad debts and in writing them off, in addition to making provision for possible losses in cases where doubt and uncertainty seemed to exist; and having done this we are still able to report profits somewhat in excess of last year.

As a result of investigation made, the Board decided to open a branch of the Bank at the Town of Brockville, and we are justified in saying that up to this time the results have exceeded our expectations.

You will all share in the regret which is expressed in the report regarding the death of the late W. R. Wadsworth, Esq. He was one of the petitioners named in the Act of Incorporation, and his name also appears in attendance at the first meeting held for the purpose of organizing the Bank. In all the preliminary steps he took an active part, and shared in the duties and responsibilities of the provisional committee. He has, therefore, had a longer connection with the Bank than any of our number, and his interest in the Bank's affairs continued to be manifested throughout this long period of over thirty-five years.

The Directors have had under consideration the establishment of an Officers' Guarantee Fund in connection with the Bank, to which the officers should contribute. The rule has been to take the bonds of private parties as sureties indemnifying the Bank against loss from the want of fidelity on the part of the employes. This rule has on the whole worked well, but the absolute enforcement of it has been in some cases attended with difficulties, and we have thought that it might be supplemented by the establishment of a fund of this character. The Bank has been singularly free from irregularities on the part of its officers, and it is anticipated that a light assessment made upon the salaries of the employes, together with contributions made by the Directors out of the Bank's funds will in a few years form a sufficient guarantee against the possibility of loss accruing to the Bank from this source, and also prove to be of advantage to the staff. As the Banking Act requires that your authority be given to the Directors to make contributions of this character, a resolution dealing with the matter will be submitted to you.

I have at times in my remarks on these occasions called attention to the steady increase that is taking place in the Bank's business, and the changes shown by the figures presented in these annual statements, and I have again had prepared a comparative statement, showing the position of the Bank as presented at the annual meetings in the years 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891.

CAPITAL, REST AND PROFITS RESERVED.

	Capital.	Rest & Profits Reserved
Annual Statement, June, 1861.....	\$ 789,570 00	\$ 79,993 04
“ “ 1871.....	1,400,000 00	555,661 85
“ “ 1881.....	2,000,000 00	934,506 66
“ “ 1891.....	2,000,000 00	1,740,046 61

Increase in Rest and Profits reserved in last 10 years, **\$805,539 95.** Over **86** per cent.

CIRCULATION.

In 1861 our Circulation was.....	\$ 571,674 00
“ 1871 “ “.....	1,157,364 00
1881—Owing to the Government having withdrawn the right to issue \$1's, \$2's and \$4's, it was reduced to.....	864,364 00
But in 1891 it had risen to.....	1,394,219 00

An increase of over **60** per cent. in ten years, and I may further add that the circulation during the past year reached the sum of **\$1,800,000**, being **\$300,000** greater than the highest point reached in any previous year.

DEPOSITS.

The deposits in 1861 were.....	\$ 478,467 05
“ “ 1871 “.....	2,328,055 91
“ “ 1881 “.....	3,162,293 23
“ “ 1891 “.....	7,197,570 02

The increase in the last 10 years being **127** per cent.

DISCOUNTS.

The Loans and Discounts in 1861 were.....	\$ 1,407,318 42
“ “ “ 1871 “.....	4,612,967 64
“ “ “ 1881 “.....	5,964,498 49
“ “ “ 1891 “.....	10,422,118 53

An increase of **75** per cent. in the last 10 years.

In no decade has the increase been so marked as in the last one. Circulation, deposits and loans have grown steadily, and we can look forward hopefully, feeling that we have the confidence of the public, and believing that we are justified in expecting a continuance of that confidence.

The report concludes with expressing satisfaction with the way in which the officers of the Bank have discharged their duties. I can only say in addition to this that the increase in business and the continuance of such statements as have been presented from year to year are largely due to the care and watchfulness exercised by the Cashier and Managers, and the assistance rendered by the other officers of the Bank.

With these remarks, Gentlemen, I beg leave to move, seconded by the Vice-President, W. H. BEATTY, Esq.

That the Report of the Directors, which has just been read, be adopted, and that printed copies thereof be distributed amongst the Stockholders.

The resolution was adopted.

It was then moved by WALTER S. LEE, Esq., seconded by HENRY GOODERHAM, Esq., and

Resolved,—That the Directors are hereby authorized to establish a guarantee fund for the officers and employees of The Bank of Toronto, and to contribute thereto from time to time out of the funds of the Bank.

Moved by T. G. BLACKSTOCK, Esq., seconded by ALBERT E. GOODERHAM, Esq., and

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Stockholders be hereby tendered to the President, Vice-President and Directors for their care and attention to the affairs of the Bank during the past year.

Moved by HENRY CAWTHRA, Esq., seconded by JOHN LEYS, Esq., and

Resolved,—That the ballot be now taken for the election of Directors for the year, and when at any time five minutes shall elapse without a vote being tendered, the Scrutineers may close the poll.

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINEERS.

We, the undersigned, who were appointed Scrutineers at the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of The Bank of Toronto, held to-day, declare that the following-named gentlemen have been unanimously elected Directors for the year:—

GEORGE GOODERHAM,
WM. H. BEATTY,

ALEX. T. FULTON,
HENRY COVERT,
JOHN LEYS.

HENRY CAWTHRA,
WM. GEO. GOODERHAM,

(Signed) WALTER S. LEE, }
T. G. BLACKSTOCK, } *Scrutineers.*

TORONTO, 17th June, 1891.

The new Board met the same afternoon, when GEORGE GOODERHAM, Esq., was unanimously elected President, and WM. H. BEATTY, Esq., Vice-President.

By order of the Board,

(Signed) D. COULSON,
Cashier.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

TAKEN FROM ANNUAL REPORTS OF

THE BANK OF TORONTO.

CAPITAL, REST AND PROFITS RESERVED.

	Capital.	Rest and Profits Reserved
Annual Statement, June, 1861	\$ 789,570	\$ 79,993 04
“ “ 1871	1,400,000	655,661 85
“ “ 1881	2,000,000	934,506 66
“ “ 1891	2,000,000	1,740,046 61
Increase in Rest and Profits Reserved in last 10 years, \$805,539 95. Over 86 per cent.		

CIRCULATION.

Annual Statement, June, 1861	\$ 571,674
“ “ 1871	1,157,364
“ “ 1881*	864,364
*Owing to Government having withdrawn the right to issue \$1's, \$2's and \$4's, it was reduced in 1881.	
“ “ 1891	1,394,219
Increase in last 10 years, \$529,855. Over 60 per cent.	

DEPOSITS.

Annual Statement, June, 1861	\$ 478,467 05
“ “ 1871	2,328,055 98
“ “ 1881	3,162,293 23
“ “ 1891	7,197,570 02
Increase in last 10 years, \$4,035,276 79. Equal to 127 per cent.	

DISCOUNTS.

Annual Statement, June, 1861	\$1,407,318 42
“ “ 1871	4,612,967 64
“ “ 1881	5,964,498 49
“ “ 1891	10,422,118 53
Increase in last 10 years, \$4,457,620 04. Equal to 75 per cent.	

