From the same publishing house comes a cheaper manual respecting assessment assurance, entitled "Pocket Register of Assessment Life Associations, 1897." This is an annual pamphlet of 60 pages full of figures, showing the membership, income, death cost, assets, etc., of about two hundred assessment societies of all grades, operating in the different States of the American Union. We copy a portion of what it tells about two of the oldest of the above societies for six years past :—

	Year	Members.	New Insurance.	Total in Force.	Death Cost.	Expenses.
American	1890	62,574	$12,522,500	$176,523,500	$13.10	$37,209
Legion	1891	61,355	10,717,000	160,551,500	15.40	64,409
of	1892	60,554	11,193,000	163,607,000	16.40	92,922
Honor,	1893	60,076	11,233,000	159,473,000	16.50	76,202
Boston,	1894	56,060	7,049,500	142,901,500	16.00	58,854
Mass.,	1895	53,210	4,966,000	136,263,000	18.40	71,201
1878.	1896	36,028	2,315,500	89,888,500	21.80	88,016

An increase of net death cost, per $1,000, in six years, from $13.10 to $21.80, has occurred, and the "new blood," which was so much depended upon to keep the death-rate down, has almost ceased to come in. On the other hand, the expenses have nearly doubled. For every $1,000 of new certificates issued six years ago, the expenses were only $3, while now they are close upon $40. Therefore, both the new blood theory, and the much vaunted cheapness of the assessment plan, have broken down in the hands of the Legion. It has quite a respectable surplus fund still in hand of $745,203. For 36,028 members this is $20 apiece, or almost the same as Dr. Oronhyatekha boasts of in the Independent Foresters. But that $745,203 is too small a sum to hold the Order together, and in spite of it nearly half of all the certificates in force a year since have dropped out. There can be no doubt that those now left in the Legion are mostly the aged and infirm, who may be justified, perhaps, in hoping that the final crash will come after, and not before, their death-claim papers are duly honored.

Turning from the Legion of Honor, let us look at the Knights of Honor, which commenced five years earlier, in 1873, and had attained double the size of the Legion in 1890, but whose healthy members are also now in a state of inglorious stampede, as the following figures will show :

	Year.	Members.	New Ins.	Total in Force.	Death Cost.	Expenses.
Knights	1890	135,213	$20,436,000	$260,338,500	$14 30	$55,987
of	1891	132,499	19,013,500	253,394,500	15.50	71,573
Honor,	1892	127,073	13,217,000	241,045,000	15.80	73,435
Supreme	1893	123,354	15,212,000	232,769,500	16.50	76,388
Lodge,	1894	119,785	15,618,500	225,422,500	16.40	81,988
St. Louis, Mo.,	1895	112,212	14,032,500	215,258,500	17.60	80,279
1873.	1896	96,633	11,217,000	178,027,000	20.20	106,945

The "new blood" taken in during the past five years foots up $108,746,500. Add this to the $260,338,500 previously in force, in 1890, and the total is $369,085,000. Deduct the $24,450,000 of death claims paid and

We have in 1896....................................	$344,635,000
Which should now be in force, instead of only ..	178,027,000
Thus showing a lapse in six years of............	$166,608,000

If money be made by lapses, then the Knights should be getting on swimmingly, for this is a tremendous amount of lapse. It is more than most societies have ever had on their books all told. Evidently the "lapse" theory is gone, as well as the "new blood" and "economy" fads with which so many fraternal ignoramuses have heretofore been tickling the public ear.

TARIFF PROS AND CONS.

WHO ARE PLEASED AND WHO ARE HARD HIT.

It is inevitable that changes in a protective tariff must cause chagrin to some manufacturers. A lowering of duty on such goods as he makes gives the ordinary manufacturer the blues. Some there are, however, who by alterations and economies can still manage to swim along. Since receiving the opinion of manufacturers and merchants printed in our last issue, a number of other Canadian industries have been heard from, most of them in a despondent tone. Others find encouragement in the provisions of the new tariff.

The firm of James Pender & Co., makers of wire nails in St. John, N.B., declares, through its senior member, perfect satisfaction, in fact they have made up their minds to increase the output of the factory very largely. The conditions would make the profit somewhat less, but they would greatly extend operations and thus be able to manufacture more cheaply. The competition from the United States, Mr. Pender says, is not the cause of the present low price of nails so much as the cutting of rates amongst the home manufacturers.

The iron pipe manufactory near Montreal of Messrs. J. & C. Hodgson is to be reopened in the near future. The factory has been closed during the last four years, owing to the duty on their raw material being too high ; but under the present rating they hope soon to be in active operation. The firm will soon commence rebuilding the furnaces and putting the machinery of the plant in running condition.

As to the bicycle industry, the secretary, Mr. Dusseau, of the Gendron Manufacturing Company, in Toronto, says : "The bicycle manufacturers generally in Canada will be greatly disappointed at the tariff arranged by the Government, so far as it relates to the duty on manufactured bicycles, which remains at 30 per cent. ad valorem, the same as before. The protection is certainly not sufficient, especially on low grade wheels, which will be sent in from the States."

In the opinion of Mr. John McClary, of the McClary stove and tin works, London, their firm will not be affected unless the minimum tariff applies to Germany, in which event their enamelling department will be severely injured.

We have already noticed that the barb wire makers will be effectually wrecked. Word comes from Winnipeg that the four barbed wire factories in that city have closed for the season, and, owing to the new tariff, will probably not be reopened again.

The manager of the Penman Mills at Paris, which make knitted goods and other wares, considers the new tariff a serious matter for those works. "Under the proposed discrimination in favor of Great Britain, by 1898 our present protection of about 35 per cent. will be reduced to 25 per cent. or under."

Even more pronounced was the opinion of Mr. Wiley, of the Paris wincey mill, who declares that that factory, which employs over a hundred hands, will have to close. He adds : "Well, in twelve months the duties on our goods will be down to 25 per cent. and we cannot run at all at that figure. Even at the former rate of 35 per cent. English competition has proved our chief trouble, and we cannot compete with them under that figure."

The makers of shirts, collars, overalls, etc., at Montreal, Berlin, Toronto, etc., are much disturbed, and declare their business will be ruined, and that Troy and other American cities will supply the Canadian market.

Another industry affected is the Canada Chemical pany,Com which is declared to have been dealt a severe blow by the new tariff. The president, Mr. William Bowman, intimates that if the present schedule stands the industry will have to be closed.

The Garden Tool Co., of Brockville, and the edge-tool makers of St. John, Messrs. Fowler & Rankin, and others, are about representing to the Government that the change in the tariff would mean an increase in price of about 50c. per dozen in their axes, and would give United States manufacturers a great advantage. In the first place, the duty on axes is reduced from 35 to 25 per cent. But a more serious matter is the change in the duty on cast steel from $10 per ton to 15 per cent. ad valorem. Fifteen per cent. on axe steel, which is not made in Canada, means a duty of $18 to $37.50 per ton, according to quality.

And the Gananoque Spring and Axle Works is dissatisfied in that while springs and axles have been deprived of the protection of specific duties, the raw material is heavily taxed in that way. His works having been deprived of the protection of specific duties, Mr. W. G. Matthew told the *Journal* it was doubtful if any reduction in wages would enable them to keep the establishment open and meet the American competition. They used to have protection of one cent a pound and 20 per cent., but now they have only 30 per cent.

The rice milling company in Montreal, who closed their factory some months ago though retaining their hands at half pay, have now notified all their employees of their dismissal. The tariff was too much for them. A strong deputation, which included William Hamilton, jr., of the William Hamilton Manufacturing Company, of Peterboro, and a representative of the Jenckes Machine Co., of Sherbrooke, appeared at Ottawa on Tuesday, urging the Government to restore the duty of 27½ per cent. on all mining machinery manufactured in Canada.