have resolutely continued the system (in which this Company still stands alone) of setting aside the expected amount of claim, without any reference to the actual mortality; the present statement shows the large sum thus reserved, but it may be required this year, and certainly the greater part cannot long remain in our hands.

The vote of the last General Meeting of £260 as Directors fees had certainly been beneficial in its result, the attendance of the members of the Board had been both larger and more regular, and, although some might have stayed away in consequence, he believed that during the current year even those gentlemen would attend regularly.

In the statement of the "Receipts and Expenditure" it would be observed that the sum of £216 19s. 4d., paid as profit to the assured in the Mutual Branch, had been this year divided into 3 different heads, corresponding to the various ways in which the members were at liberty to receive their profits. For the first time the Company had been called upon to pay Reversionary Bonuses, and he wished to show the effect of selecting this method of receiving profits. Policy No. 54, for £500, issued in the first year, had become a claim—six premiums amounting in all to £80 2s. 6d. had been paid upon it, and yet the family of the assured had received a Bonus of £35 1s. 1d. in addition to the sum of £500, secured by the Policy. There was no doubt but that this would, generally speaking, prove to be the best mode of receiving profits.

In the distribution of the balance in hand there was also a change; in former years this return had shown, under one head, that which to-day it had been thought better to divide into two, the items being of a different character, and it being desirable now, (as so much discussion had arisen in England regarding Life Companies and their modes of