A FIRE AT CROWELL BROS'. STORE, Halifax, N. S., took place on 8th inst., doing heavy damage. The building was insured in the Commercial Union for $4,000. The insurance on the stock was as follows :

L'pool. L. and Globe....	$900	Scott Un. and N'l	$2,500
Western	1,200	Anglo-Am..............	2,500
British Am..............	3,000	Phœnix, Hartford	1,000
N. British and Mer......	1,000	Phenix, Brooklyn......	2,200
Quebec..................	2,500	Ins. of N. A...........	3,200
Ætna, Hartford..........	3,000	Acadia................	2,000

GASOLINE is reported to be coming more and more into use in this city. The dangerous nature of this article ought to be made more generally known. Gasoline reveals its danger usually by killing some incautious victim or victims, who had no knowledge of its fatal powers as an explosive. To place a tank of gasoline in a dwelling where it is in charge of a domestic, or some inexperienced member of the family, is almost criminal negligence.

NEW YORK is evidently on the down grade in regard to its exports of wheat and flour. An official statement is out showing that from 1893 to 1900 and in 1901 the exports of New York were the following percentages of the total for six of the chief American ports: 1893-1900, flour, 40 per cent.; 1901, 28 per cent.; 1893-1900, wheat, 52 per cent.; 1901, 33 per cent. If earlier years are taken for comparison the falling off is shown to be about 50 per cent. Montreal exports have been growing while those of New York have been falling away.

FIRE BUSINESS in following States, in 1901 is thus summarized by the "Weekly Underwriter."

States.	Risks Written.	Premiums Received.	Losses Paid.	Losses to Prems.
Illinois..........	$1,286,139,337	$14,894,0[illegible]9	$7,980,709	53.8
Iowa.............	285,717,099	4,121,685	2,348,548	56.9
Michigan.........	427,572,100	5,367,434	3,159,304	58.8
Missouri	505,642,430	5,345,799	4,096,914	76.6
Tennessee........	150,741,607	2,508,452	1,602,522	63.9
New Jersey.......	579,850,580	4,845,249	2,901,563	59.8

WHEN INSURING A CHURCH an English rector in "The Insurance Observer", observes that the following should be considered :—

(1) That whereas a building of good brick or sandstone may be "burnt out" without any great damage to its main walls, a similar fire in a building of limestone would probably utterly destroy it, and (2) great care ought to be taken to divide the insurance properly according to the value of the different parts of the building; and also all fittings, screens, bells, painted glass, organs, &c., &c., ought to be separately valued and mentioned. If these points are attended to and the whole value estimated on a liberal scale, there need be no more "crushing weight" to fall on any parish.

MESSRS. FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO., Patent solicitors, Canada Life building, furnish us with the following weekly list of patents granted to Canadians in the following countries. Any further information may be readily obtained from them direct :—*Canadian Patents.*—H. Peck, camp fire cranes; J. Bain, suspenders; B. A. Brewster, grain separators; P. Johnson, railroad turn tables; A. Keane, carpet needles; J. Plouffe, portable acetylene lamps; J. C. Leclerc, shoe boxes; T. S. Kath, scrapers for disc harrows; D. A. B. Stoddart, revolving book cases; F. H. Marchand, car fenders; F. Beattie, stove pipes; J. Harding, brushes; T. N. Huddlestone, car braces. *American Patents.*—John Clark, agricultural machinery; Wm. L. Marshall, vehicle gear; John Montgomery, grain car door; Robert P. Robinson, suspenders.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., March 12, 1902.

The trading in the Dominion Steel issues dominated and almost monopolized this week's business, and the volume of transactions was far and away in excess of the total business in the rest of the list, despite the fact that there was more than the average business done in the other stocks. The market was buoyant, and prices in general show an advance over last week's quotations. C. P. R. has been in fair demand, and is slowly but steadily advancing in price. Twin City has also been fairly active and shows a good advance on quotation, and Toronto Railway has gained in price and has been more active than for some time past. Nova Scotia Steel, although the business was not large as compared to that in Dominion Steel Common, had the most sensational advance of the week; the price gaining 15 points between the closing quotation on Thursday and the opening on Friday morning. Dominion Coal Common has not been so active as in the past weeks, but during the buoyancy and excitement on Monday's active market it scored a new high level. The dealing in Dominion Steel Common stock, however, has been the feature of the market this week and the interest of the general public has been evident. The Bonds have also been active and in good demand. Rumours of warring interests and a fight for the control between two strong factions have been current to account for the rapid advance in this stock. Another story is that the option on Dominion Coal is about to be exercised. The possibility that the rise has been engineered in order to float the new $10,000,000 issue of Common Stock is also a suggested cause for the rise. As a matter of fact the general public and, at least, the majority of the brokers are utterly in the dark as to the cause of the present state of affairs. The brokerage houses are to-day simply executing orders received in Dominion Steel Common Stock and do not attempt to give any opinion or advice. It is a peculiar situation, but from the present indications it is quite possible, and almost probable, that higher figures will be reached in the course of a reasonable time. But there are likely to be sharp fluctuations.

In contrast to the activity and upward trend of our market, the trading in New York this week has been dull and the prices inclined to react to a lower level. Several spurts have taken place, but a sagging is evident in the majority of quotations and prices generally are lower than a week ago.