

Quarry of Lucan; Jas. Wilson, saw mill, Blythe; J. M. Brown, hotel, Allandale, to E. H. Armistage; C. D. Bell, drugs, Westport; Daoust & Brisbois, general store, Winnipeg, to W. P. Guillette; Allan Bros, hardware, Port Rowan; D. A. McLeod, boots and shoes, Stratford; A. Williamson & Co., and Wm. S. Foster, Stratford, to A. G. McKay & Co.

The following have lately started business:—M. Dewyre, hotel, Brampton; W. S. Willett, general store, Hopewell Corners, N.B.; J. N. Wilson, commission, St. John, N.B.; Jas. T. Harley, boot and shoe manufacturer, St. John, N.B.; Ford & Grant, cabinet makers, Blenheim; R. W. Dawson, lumber, Paris, Ont.; McCorquodale & McQuig, agricultural implements, Woodville; P. E. W. Moyer, *Daily News*, Berlin; J. W. Fisher, sewing machines, Berlin; C. Beyer, boots and shoes, Berlin; Jos. Fox, grocer, Allandale; Lawrence & Simms, agricultural implements, Palermo, Ont.; S. Whitfield, grocer, Smithfield; Wm. Schuler, pottery, Tavistock; John Hall, grocer, Welland; R. J. Williams, clothier, Welland; W. Gibbs, baker, Selkirk, Man.; C. Armstrong, printer, St. John N. B.; S. C. Moynes, dry goods, Belleville; Jas. McCarty, produce, Caledon East; Alex. G. Duncan, grocer, etc., Elora; Jno. Monteith, boots and shoes, Stratford; Jas. Ennis, grocer, Wyoming; and Moyer & Detwiler, button factory, Berlin.

The following are commencing business:—Frs. Kinnard, cabinet maker, Blenheim; Shepherd & Tighe, general store, Bothwell; W. N. Gleason, stoves, Bothwell; G. K. McCraney, grocer, Bronté; F. L. Scheurman, general store, Berlin; Blundon & Osborne, dry goods, Sarnia; John Morrow, auctioneer and commission, Barrie; Foster & Reed, millinery and dry goods, Belleville; Thos. Tighe, hotel, Caledon East; Chas. Hunter, tailor, Hamilton; Brown, McMaster & Co., foundry, Ridgeway; Robt. Buchan, dry goods, Walkerton; Wm. Clarkson, tailor, Winnipeg; Jas. Stevens, merchant, Mount Elgin; H. W. Allan, hardware, Port Rowan; Wm. Currie, St. Mary's; and Citizens' Milling Co., Toronto.

Geo. Draper, stoves, Berlin; H. Dixon, hotel, Galt; Abram Smith, waggons, Lowville; Thos. Schlenker, grocer, Ridgeway; Mrs. Ann Havi-laud, hotel, Caledon East; J. H. Ross & Co., lumber, London, Ont.; E. Sewell, grocer, Men-ford; and Outberson & O'Donnell, stoves, Bothwell, are out of business.

Jno. Pindar, mills, Harmony; J. Dines, hotel, Springfield, Ont., and C. E. Moyer, woollen mills, Berlin, are offering their business for sale.

New co-partnerships:—Whitley Bros., leather, Montreal, composed of Frederick A. G. Whitley; Prescott & Harper, general store, Baie Verte, and Garman, Wiswell & Co., commission, Halifax.

The following have failed:—H. Paquet, dry goods, Quebec; Jno. Taylor & Co., Halifax; N. Lamontagne, general store, Lewis; H. M. Moore, dry goods, St. Mary's. H. Winterhalt, shoemaker, Hespe'er, is on the verge.

Thos. Craun & Son, boots and shoes, Acton, are asking an extension. R. W. Lendrum, general store, Vankleek Hill, has removed to Alfred; Wm. Smith, grocer, Port Rowan, to Spring Arbor; R. C. Commander, general store,

St. Ann's Ont., to Ireland, Ont.; J. M. Adams, stoves, Toronto, to Park Hill; J. Worthing-ton, waggons, Kibler Ice, to Lowville; John J. Johnston, agricultural implements, to Millor; and J. Siddall & Sons, bankers, to Galt; L. Connors, general store, Woodstock, Ont., intends closing present business.

L. Towers, washing machines, Berlin, has compromised at 30 cents on the dollar; Wm. Anderson, hats, at 50 cents on the dollar, in 3, 6, 9 and 12 months; Gingras & Langlois, gro-cers, Quebec, at 7s. 6d. on the pound; J. & J. Woodley, boots and shoes, Québec, at 8d., at 3, 6, 9 and 12 months; Jas. Emamey, car-riages, Port Perry, at 40 cents on the dollar, at 8, 12 and 18 months, secured; Edw. Park, planing mill, Simcoe, at 25 cents, cash; and Jas. Andrews, hardware, Aurora, at 75 cents in 3, 6, 9 and 12 months unsecured and without in-terest.

Heffernan Bros., dry goods, Quelfh, are asking an extension. The banking business formerly carried on in Lucknow by J. Siddall & Son, who have lately removed to Galt, is now continued by Cameron & Campbell; Walter Trelevan, saw and grist mill, Lucknow, has opened a flour and feed store; Wilson Bros., planing mill and forming implements, Richmond Hill, have open-ed a branch at Markdale. C. Ribighini & Co., oil brokers, Petrolia; Milton, McDonald & Co., leather, Montreal; and N. McEachran, tailor, Toronto, have called a meeting of creditors.

THE HAND-IN-HAND FIRE INSURANCE Co.—The fifth annual report of this company on another page presents but few changes from that of 1876. The total income shows an increase of \$1350, but claims paid have increased about \$6,000. The total amount at risk has been lessened nearly \$100,000. The ratio of assets to liabilities remains quite satisfactory, al-though slightly less than for the previous year. The surplus carried forward amounts to \$31,154. The management is to be congratulated that in such exceptional times, when so many insurance companies have been severely tried, the system put forth in the Hand-in-Hand has proved itself so satisfactory, a sufficient testimony to the value of the experiment.

—In the Committee on Industries in the Quebec Parliament, presided over by Mr. Cham-pague, an important letter was read on Friday last from a Mr. Prévost, of St. Hyacinthe, who has been engaged in the smelting of iron in France, recommending the testing by the Go-vernment in this Province of the system used in his native land for smelting purposes. This system consists chiefly in the employment of carbonic acid gas to economize the fuel required for smelting. Hitherto the cost of the enormous quantity of fuel consumed in the smelting of the very refractory iron of this Province has debarr'd manufacturers from the possibility of competing with any degree of success with English dealers. The project has been taken in hand by Mr. Gauthier, M.P.P. for Charle-voix, who has very large interests in the St. Urbain mines, and it is more than probable that the Committee will report to the House in favor of a small vote to aid the making of the neces-sary experiments in the matter.

STADACONA FIRE AND LIFE INSUR-ANCE COMPANY.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Stadacona Fire and Life Insurance Company, held at Quebec on the fifth day of February, 1878, were present:

Messrs. J. B. Renaud, Jos. Coté, Ls. Dussault, P. B. Casgrain, M.P., Frs. Barrette, Ed. Allard, Damase Turgeon, D. C. Thomson, Alex. Le-Moine, N.P., P. X. Coté, Ol. Leclerc, J. N. Bureau, Girce Têtu, P. V. Valin, J. A. Charle-bois, Théophile LeDroit, Geo. LaRue, N.P., Alphonse Pouliot, Jos. Cantin, Onéz Paquet, Ls. Vézina, Joms Gosselin, Phylidme Ferland, Jos. Rosa, J. B. Michaud, G. N. A. Fortier, N.P., R. J. Devins, P. Bidegaré, Hon. Mailloux, Theo. Brouard, Benj. Campbell, Capt. A. Baquet, B. Pouliot, Ls. Marcotte, T. Shea, Rev. H. Têtu, Rev. J. N. Bernier, Thos. Bileaud, Cléophas Leclerc, Isaac Laplante, Pierre Dugal, Jos. Huard, Jos. Gilbert, F. X. Routhier, Jas. Shea, Ls. Ed. Couture, Théodule Foisy, Isidore Voyce, C. A. Collet, S. V. LaRue, Ed. Ruel, Dr L. LaRue, Jos. Carrier, Thomas Bernier, Isaac Fortin, Frs. Falardeau, Geo. Brousseau, Hon. Vézina, A. H. Falardeau, Gaspard LeMoine, Jos. Desroches, Urbain Leclerc, Noël Beaudoin, Oct. Montminy, Geo. Demers, M. McLaughlin, O. Leger, Jos. Lachance, and others.

Mr. Renaud was called to the Chair, and Mr. Crawford Lindsay requested to act as Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. Pouliot, seconded by Mr. Gaspard LeMoine, and

Resolved,—That Messrs. Girce Têtu and Annibal Baquet be appointed Scrutineers of the election of Directors about to be held ac-cording to law.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and of the Special General Meeting of the 19th July last were approved.

The Secretary read the following Report and Statement of Affairs in French and in English:

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS OF THE STADACONA FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COM-PANY.

For the Year ending 31st December, 1877.

The Directors beg to submit to the Share-holders of the Stadacona Fire and Life Insur-ance Company their Fourth Annual Report and Statement of Affairs to 31st December last. In the Fire Department, the Fire Premiums, less Cancellments and Re-insurance received up to end of June, at which date the Company ceased accepting new insurance, were \$84,131.61. The losses to end of June were \$304,680.64; since June to end of December, \$22,900.07; in all, \$417,580.71. The losses occurring since June, which have been adjusted and found satisfac-tory, were paid in the usual time and according to the conditions of the policy. It will be noted with satisfaction that the Statement of Assets and Liabilities shows a balance of \$113,720.38 in favor of Assets. The items composing these Assets have all been rigidly scrutinized, the Stock Investments still unpaid in being con-sidered good for \$213,587.00, are valued upon a careful analysis of our stock list. A compari-son between the present statement and that given in July last shows an improvement in the balance to credit of Assets in the Fire Branch of \$16,055, and the Directors are of opinion that the Company has sufficient available funds to enable it to pay all present liabilities and leave a balance to credit, exclusive of the Government Deposit for this Department.

As already stated at the Special General Meeting in July, the large fire on 20th June in St. John, N.B., in which the Stadacona, in common with many other Companies, suffered so severely, necessitated the calling up, in four calls, twenty per cent. of the unpaid Capital, but, as the Company's Charter requires that calls be made payable with an interval of three months between each call, after the first, and the Company's then estimated loss exceeded \$350,000, it was deemed prudent to cease taking new risks, and also proper to permit parties desirous of so doing to re-insure elsewhere, the Company guaranteeing them the return pre-miums. This permission was withdrawn on