

into the Shareholders, that the Board has thus far been able to steer through the many difficulties incident to the times, without making a second call. While other companies in Canada, established long before ours, have been obliged to call in stock to an embarrassing extent to their Shareholders, your Directors have been enabled to carry on business without being driven to that undesirable result. The total receipts of your Company for the past year is \$88,792.48, while the fire losses actually paid amount to the sum of \$52,743.18. This large sum, together with the expense of management \$42,354.49, has exceeded the receipts by the sum of \$6,305.19, notwithstanding that the working expenses have been reduced during the past year to the extent of 14 per cent. Your Board have had thus to encroach upon the balance at the credit of the profit and loss account to the amount of \$6,305.19. This your Directors feel is not encouraging; but when they inform the Shareholders, that the Board has exercised, in the management of its affairs, a reasonable economy in every department, they must leave the rest in your hands. The actual expenses of management have been 47 per cent. during 1877, as against 61 per cent. for 1876. During the year we have issued 11,365 policies, the premiums amounting to \$89,759.49, as stated elsewhere. This shows a decrease in the policies issued of 399, as compared with last year, in consequence of our endeavors to obtain a higher average rate, and there has been an actual increase in the premium received of \$6,747.92, showing that we are gradually working into a better paying business. The rate has now reached the average of 1 per cent., a rate which it has been the aim of your Board to arrive at before the close of the year, and were it not for the exceptionally large losses by fires, your Company would to-day be in a more prosperous condition. The Balance sheet, with detailed accounts to date, and the Auditors' Report, are herewith submitted, and, as promised last year, have been printed for your information, and are now laid before you. All necessary details it is believed are included in the printed sheets, but anything further required will be gladly given. There are now 23,196 policies in force, and as many of the three years policies will expire in August next, and the renewals will be then coming in freely, your Board confidently anticipate a large increase in the latter part of the year from this source. The Company is now well established and its management well in hand, and as it is beginning to reap the benefit of the enforcement of higher rates, and a curtailment of the note system, your Directors confidently anticipate for the current year a greater degree of prosperity. They indulge the hope, that, with the co-operation and assistance of other Fire Insurance Companies similarly situated, the old system of underwriting for a term of not longer than 12 months will be inaugurated, and thus one of the great hindrances to successful Insurance business reached. In conclusion, and in giving up the trust reposed in them by the Shareholders, your Directors may be permitted to say, that up to the present time the Board has given entirely gratuitous services in the working of the Company's affairs. A small fee for each meeting has been paid to the Local Board in Montreal; this your Board feel has been money well spent. The whole, however, is now left in the hands of the Shareholders, and is respectfully submitted.

J. SKEAD, *President.*

Office of the Ottawa
Agricultural Insurance Co.,
Ottawa, 31st Dec., 1877.

Receipts.

Recd.—For Premiums on 11,365 Policies issued during the year.....	\$89,759 49
Less—Cancelled Policies and refunded Premium account.....	3,470 42
	\$86,289 07
Balance—Interest account.....	2,503 41
Balance at debit of Profit and Loss account.....	6,305 19
	\$95,097 67

Expenditure.

Paid for fire losses.....	\$52,743 18
Placing stock.....	604 00
Commission to Agents.....	19,599 83
Salaries of Inspectors.....	3,133 50
Salaries of Head office.....	4,281 68
Stationery and printing.....	4,971 17
Agents—postage, telegrams, &c.....	1,214 30
Rent—Head Office, Postage, telegrams, law expenses, tin plates, sundry persons adjusting claims, rents of Branch Offices, Policy stamps in Prov. of Quebec, &c.....	8,449 01
	\$95,097 67

Assets.

Deposit with Government of Canada.....	\$50,000 00
Cash in Bank of Ottawa.....	1,528 33
Office Furniture.....	1,497 21
Bills Receivable account.....	27,771 80
Balances in hands of Agents.....	9,636 78
	\$90,434 12

Liabilities.

Amount due Stockholders.....	\$60,025 15
At Credit of Profit and Loss account, 31st December, 1876.....	\$36,714 16
Less—Loss in 1877.....	6,305 19
	\$30,408 97
At credit, 31st Dec., 1877.....	\$90,434 12

Ottawa, January 26th, 1878.

To the President and Directors of the Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Co.

GENTLEMEN,—The undersigned beg to report that they have examined the books, vouchers, receipts, &c., of the Company for the year ended the 31st December, 1877, and have found them correct, and agreeing with the annexed statements which show the balance at the credit of profit and loss on 31st Dec., 1877, to be \$30,408.97, or a reduction from the amount at credit at the same date in 1876 of \$6,305.19. Your Auditors have also pleasure in certifying that the books of the Company have been well and systematically kept.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES LINDSAY, }
JAS. CUNNINGHAM, } *Auditors.*

After some considerable discussion the report was adopted. The directors for the old year were re-elected.

HAMILTON PROVIDENT AND LOAN SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS—ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

The annual meeting of the Hamilton Provident and Loan Society was held yesterday afternoon at their offices. Hon. Adam Hope, president, occupied the chair and Mr. Cameron was appointed secretary of the meeting. The following gentlemen were present besides those mentioned; John Muir, John Crerar, Alex. Turner, W. E. Sanford, Charles Gurney, J. Bagwell, Rev. W. P. Wright, Mathew Leggat, William Harris, John Riddle, Geo. H. Gillespie, Alex. Harvey, R. K. Hope, John Harvey, J. M. Gibson; William Cary, D. H. McGarvey, A. Henry Hope.

The following is THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HAMILTON PROVIDENT & LOAN SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1877:—

In submitting the Sixth Annual Statement of the affairs of the Society, the Directors have again the pleasure of congratulating the shareholders on the successful result of another year's business.

After paying the usual semi-annual dividends on permanent stock, and placing to the credit of accumulating shares similar dividends, all at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, the Board has been enabled to carry \$24,000 to the credit of Reserve Account, which makes in all at the credit of this Account the sum of \$87,000, or equivalent to 14 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the Society.

The Board would call attention to the gradual and satisfactory progress of the Society in the continued confidence of the shareholders and of the public, as evidenced by the increase for the year in the paid-up capital of the Society of \$139,108.89, and in that of the deposits of the Savings Bank, and in the amount realized from the sale of debentures, of \$239,929.25, or in all amounting to the sum of \$379,038.14.

The treasurer and solicitor of the Society, when in Britain during the past summer, were authorised by the Board to arrange for increased facilities in negotiating the sale of debentures, and it is gratifying to report that the exertions of these gentlemen were attended with the most satisfactory results, and fully justified the Board in the expense which they ventured to incur in the prosecution of such an important matter.

During the last session of the Dominion Parliament a Bill was introduced in the Senate, and ultimately became law, increasing the borrowing powers of all societies incorporated like our own under the Building Society Act of Upper Canada, and authorizing them to borrow money by way of deposits and debentures to an amount not exceeding double the amount of their paid-up capital. The opinion, strongly expressed by the promoters of the Bill, with whom your Board were in communication and in perfect accord, was to the effect that these increased powers were amply sufficient, and that the Bill should, in fact, be regarded as a final limitation to the borrowing powers of all such Societies.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ADAM HOPE,
President.

Hamilton, 4th February, 1878.

Financial Statement for the year ending 31st December, 1877.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Liabilities.

<i>Liabilities to Stockholders.</i>	
Permanent stock.....	\$615,500 00
Accumulating stock and interest.....	132,361 08
Contingent fund.....	1,230 77
Reserve fund.....	87,000 00
	\$836,091 85
<i>Liabilities to the Public.</i>	
Savings Bank Deposits.....	\$309,258 29
Debentures.....	238,418 02
Interest on do. accrued to 31st December, 1877...	4,095 22
The Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	5,770 02
Sundry accounts.....	2,434 58
	\$600,016 13
	\$1,396,107 98

Assets.

Cash value of mortgages and other securities.....	
	\$1,388,249 45
Consolidated Bank.....	4,384 90
Cash on hand.....	3,473 63
	\$1,396,107 98
	H. D. CAMERON, <i>Treasurer.</i>

Hamilton, 2nd February, 1878.

We hereby certify that we have examined the books, accounts, and vouchers of the Hamilton Provident and Loan Society, and have found the same correct. We have also examined the securities, and find them in perfect order and correct, as set forth in the above statement.

JAMES WATSON,
R. KNIGHT HOPE,
Auditors.

Hamilton, Feb. 4, 1878.