

of last year of \$15,068.02. The membership last year numbered 1,419; this year it was 1,749, an increase of 330. The only drawback to the harmonious working had been the unfortunate action of the late secretary, Mr. C. Riley, who left the city in April last, leaving a deficiency in his accounts of \$1,739.08. The Association, however, held the bond of the Citizens' Guarantee company of Montreal for \$1,000 of this amount. The cash received for certificates during the year, together with interest on their investments, amounted to \$19,287.26, and a net profit for the year of \$15,068.13 was shown. Not one fatal accident had occurred to a member of the association during the past year, only three had been removed by death, viz., Wm. Sim, R. D. Brunskill, and on the 22nd. inst., at Los Angeles, California, one of their directors, A. H. Munro. The scheme of insurance for the members had been submitted to the Hon. Adam Crooks, who gave his opinion that the association had ample power under its Act of Incorporation to dispose of its funds in the way proposed. The sum of \$1,426.06 had been paid for accident insurance during the year, of which \$1,000 was on a claim of the year 1880.

Mr. Allworth moved and Mr. Wylie seconded the adoption of the report which was unanimously agreed to. The chairman referred to the pleasant relations existing between the members of the C.T.A., and the railway authorities, which he took as showing that the former "realized that as members of this association realized that they had a duty to perform in maintaining its honor at all times."

Mr. Hugh Blain, the treasurer, presented his report, showing receipts of \$17,710.90, and expenditures of \$3,955.27, leaving a balance of \$13,755.63. The assets of the Association now amount to \$48,739.10, against which are liabilities of only \$500. Not only was this report carried, *nem. con.*, but Mr. Blain was requested to sit for an oil portrait, which should adorn the new and handsome rooms of the Association. The meeting then went into committee of the whole to consider the insurance scheme, which was approved, and the directors authorized to seek the legislation needful to give effect to the new by-law thereanent.

An evening session was held, at which it was agreed to tender to Mr. J. C. Black an engrossed address, accompanied by a gold watch, for his labor in maturing the insurance scheme adopted; and \$25 was voted to Mr. Rodden to recoup him for disbursements in connection with his insurance scheme, which he withdrew. The directors were instructed to purchase a suitable testimonial for Mr. McCabe, in recognition of his services in relation to the mortuary by-law, said testimonial to be paid for out of the funds of the association. On motion of Mr. Finlayson, a committee was appointed to draft a resolution of condolence with the friends of the late Mr. A. H. Munro.

The election of officers for 1882 resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen:

President,—Wm. F. McMaster.
First Vice-President,—James C. Black.
Second " —J. Bonnick.
Treasurer,—Hugh Blain.
Directors,—F. E. Maulson, A. A. Allan, W. G. H. Lowe, H. A. Galbraith, John Burns, A. Ansley, A. Finlayson, A. E. Belcher, John Allan. Hamilton Board—E. A. Dalley, J. D. Stewart, M. Macfarlane, Geo. E. Hamilton, J. H. Herring, John A. Orr.

It was a happy thought to have the annual dinner at Hamilton, and a more happy choice for chairman could not have been made than that of Mr. Adam Brown, vice-president for Hamilton. With ample experience, whether as a merchant or as a host, Mr. Brown is as eloquent as he is genial, and his tact contributed greatly to the undoubted success of the banquet at the Royal Hotel. The 1st vice-chair was occupied

by Mr. J. C. Black, Toronto; the 2nd by Mr. Hugh C. Blain, Toronto, and the 3rd by Capt. J. H. Stone, Hamilton. About one hundred and eighty gentlemen sat down, the Lieut.-Gov. of Ontario and Mayor McMurrich, of Toronto, and Messrs. Kilvert M. P., and Gibson, M.P. for Hamilton, being placed respectively on the right and left of the chair. In response to the toast, "the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada and Kindred Associations," Mr. W. F. McMaster, of Toronto, the president elect, who was received with tumultuous cheers, responded.

Mr. McMaster said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen: I thank you for the honor you have done me. I have been called upon to-day to fill a position as president of your association, which I look upon as one of the most honorable a man could be called upon to fill in the country. No matter how well managed a business may be in the house, it will not be successful unless the house avails itself of the energies and skill, the judgment and discretion of its commercial travellers. This, at least, has been my personal experience. I did not imagine, gentlemen, when I allowed myself to be nominated that politics were to be admitted into the Association. (Alluding to the facetious reference to politics by Lt. Col. Gibson) If they are, I hope to be able to magnetize some of you into the right way of thinking. At the same time, my own view and impression of it should not be so; that no civil or moral questions should be brought before you except such as properly belong to the association. One point I would like to mention. I have read a portion of the by-laws concerning the scheme of life insurance, and may say I heartily approve of the scheme. I shall do all in my power to carry out that scheme for the benefit of the families of those who may be unfortunate enough to lose their lives in the discharge of their duties. (Applause.)

Mr. Brown, in his closing speech in response to the toast of the chairman's health, said: In the position in which he had recently been placed by the association he would endeavor to uphold the hands of the worthy president. He felt it was well that the merchants should come to feel the difficulties their travellers met with in their business.

DOMINION COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

On the 29th ult., over 300 members and guests of this association assembled at the annual dinner in the Windsor Hotel, Montreal. Among the guests were His Worship Mayor Beaudry, Ald. G. W. Stephens, M.P.P.; Col. Dyde, C.M.G., A.D.C.; Mr. M. P. Ryan, M.P.; Rev. A. J. Bray; Thos. White, M.P.; C. J. Coursol, M.P. and Mr. F. W. Henshaw, President of the Board of Trade.

The chair was occupied by Mr. A. Gowdy, President of the Association, and the vice-chairs by Messrs. Fred. Massey, Geo. Boulter, Geo. Sumner, J. P. Beal, B. Reed, Chas. Hutchison and A. A. Brown.

After the usual loyal toasts, Capt. Fred. Massey proposed the toast of the "Commercial interests of the Dominion," to which Mr. Fred. W. Henshaw responded. Mr. Thos. White, M.P. spoke of the great field opening out for travellers in Manitoba and the North west. He said that three years ago the imports from Canada into Winnipeg amounted to \$1,300,000. Last year the imports from Canada to Winnipeg reached the enormous figure of \$5,300,000.

Mr. Geo. Sumner, Treasurer of the association, proposed the toast of the "Railway and Forwarding interests of the Dominion," and in doing so made a statement of the financial position of the association, and its work during the past year. Mr. Patterson and Rev. A. J. Bray responded to this toast. The former gentleman delivered an exhaustive address on the increased facilities for exportation and the prospects of the country when the railway schemes at present under consideration have been matured. Rev

Mr. Bray spoke of the importance of the commercial element as being paramount, and expressed the hope that some means should be taken to increase emigration to this country.

"Our Sister Societies" was responded to by Messrs. J. K. Adams and J. Rodgers, and "Our Guests" by Ald. G. W. Stephens, M.P.P., Messrs. Taillon, M.P.P., and McShane, M.P.P.

WESTERN ONTARIO COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

This society held its annual meeting in the new Board of Trade rooms, London, on the evening of the 30th ult. Mr. W. Lind the president, occupied the chair, and, together with the secretary, Mr. J. Atkinson, there were present a large number of members. The report submitted showed that the membership has increased to 366, being 110 over last year, and the surplus has increased from \$2,754 to \$4,188.33, most of which has been invested at remunerative rates in Loan Societies' stocks. The treasurer's statement showed the receipts to have been \$5,569.33, and the expenditure \$4,335, including an investment of \$1,808 in stock. The balance in hand was \$1,234.33 for the year, which made the available surplus of the association \$4,188.33. This was considered a very fair showing, and on the motion of Mr. J. Watson, his report was adopted without dissent.

Adjournment was then made to the Tecumseh House for supper. The chair was occupied by Mr. Lind, the vice-chairs being occupied by Messrs. Dromgole and Watson.

The toast of "The Mercantile and Manufacturing interests," proposed by Mr. Watson was responded to by Mr. Thos. Ballantyne, M.P.P., and by Mr. Thos. Muir, or the Ontario Car Works. Mr. Atkinson proposed "The Railway Interests," coupled with the name of Mr. Roche, of the G.T.R. freight department at London. Mr. Roche also turned out to have been a commercial traveller at one time, and thus he was at home. He spoke of the fields that had been opened by the G.T.R. in Canada. He kept on the track all the way through.

FAILURES IN 1881.

The statistics of failures in Canada and the United States during the year 1881 have been sent us by Messrs. Dun, Wiman & Co. The exhibit for Canada, as compared with last year and especially with the four years which preceded it, is very satisfactory indeed. The total number of failures is given as 631, with liabilities of \$5,675,807 against 902 failures, \$7,447,063 in amount during 1880. A decrease is here shown, from the figures of 1880, of 271 in number and \$1,771,256 in amount. The following is the record, by provinces, compared with the preceding year:—

	No.	1881.	No.	1880.
Ontario	404	\$2,603,733	496	\$3,944,827
Quebec.....	110	1,250,430	231	2,413,759
New Brunswick..	35	274,200	65	527,012
Nova Scotia.....	71	1,249,850	68	322,318
P. E. Island.....	9	278,094	22	103,500
Manitoba.....	2	19,500	20	130,647
Total	631	\$5,675,807	902	\$7,447,063

According to Messrs. Dun, Wiman & Co.'s lists, the total number of persons or firms in business in Canada in 1881 was 59,116, the number of failures 631, being one in every 93; the amount of liabilities \$5,675,807 being an average of \$9,507, against in 1880 the total number in business 57,000; the number of