

## FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR AUGUST 1894.

DATE	LOCATION.	RISK.	TOTAL LOSS.	INSURANCE LOSS.
Aug 2	Bridgeworth	Saw Mill Steam	\$6,000	\$3,000
3	Tweed	Stores	7,000	5,000
4	Harrow	Flour Mill and Stores	25,000	14,000
"	Woodstock, N.B.	Carriage Factory	20,000	7,100
5	Alton, Ont.	"	8,000	3,000
"	Balmoral, Man.	Flour Mill	9,000	5,000
"	Leod, Alberta	Saw Mill	6,000	3,500
1	Owen Sound	Laundry	2,500	1,200
3	Toronto	Slaughter House	1,200	1,000
"	Shelby, Man.	Cordwood	2,300	2,300
1	Romney Tp.	Steam Saw Mill	18,000	11,000
9	Strathroy	Hotel Stables	2,000	1,300
10	Tp. Drumbo	Farm Property	3,000	1,700
13	Port Arthur	Steam Saw Mill	30,000	11,500
10	Tottenham	Hotel	4,000	2,600
"	Forest	Grain Elevator	6,500	5,000
14	Tp. Sidney	Farm Property	6,000	3,600
"	Belleville	Stores	8,000	5,400
16	Montreal	Steam Laundry	40,000	31,000
15	Quebec	Dry Goods	5,000	5,000
"	Sarnia	Racing G'nd St'nd	1,500	1,000
"	Berlin	Livery Stables, &c.	7,500	5,000
"	Scotland	Farm Property	4,000	2,800
17	Winnipeg	Grain Elevator	20,000	17,500
"	Toronto	Stores	7,000	3,600
"	Tp. Dumfries	Farm Property	3,900	3,000
18	Gananoque	Hay Barn	5,500	4,000
17	Brandon	Flour Mill	30,000	23,000
20	Montreal	Plumber	9,000	9,000
21	Pierreville	Stores and Dw'ing	18,000	7,000
"	Little Glace Bay, C. B.	Store	3,500	2,800
22	New Castle	Farm Property	2,000	1,300
"	Plattsville	Flour Mill	10,000	6,000
23	Lachute	Dwellings	10,000	6,400
"	Beaverton	Bakery and Stall	6,000	3,000
24	Midland	Steam Saw Mill	25,000	17,000
26	Ottawa	Lumber and School	50,000	44,000
27	Wellesley	Farm Property	3,000	2,000
28	Montreal	Coal Yard	5,000	5,000
"	St Vincent de Paul	Dwelling	4,000	3,400
"	Wallaceburg	Livery Stable	3,000	2,400
30	Cote St. Louis	Farm Property	3,500	1,600
"	Collingwood	Hotel Stables	1,500	1,000
			\$142,700	\$295,000

## SUMMARY FOR EIGHT MONTHS.

	1893.		1894.	
	Total Loss.	Insurance Loss.	Total Loss.	Insurance Loss.
For January	\$402,000	\$301,900	\$391,300	\$269,600
" February	722,800	449,100	598,800	276,350
" March	671,030	533,830	352,000	193,000
" April	661,900	501,700	746,400	470,600
" May	310,500	197,400	578,200	373,100
" June	1,060,800	382,500	526,200	348,200
" July	279,500	167,000	294,400	210,700
" August	678,300	496,500	442,700	295,000
Totals	\$4,786,830	\$3,029,930	\$3,930,000	\$2,436,550

## BANK AGENCIES IN OTHER COLONIES.

The prospect of a considerable extension of our trade with other colonies—which is becoming more and more hopeful—has raised a question of much interest, one too which will be of increasing importance as intercolonial trade begins to develop. Those who have hitherto not shipped goods to such distant markets as Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, are often deterred from pushing business in those markets from ignorance of the conditions under which commerce with such places is carried on. To ship goods to a Canadian customer and to draw upon him are part of the daily routine of business houses; but what puzzles many is how to secur

orders for goods from customers so distant, and how to arrange the financial part of the transactions is a mystery. As to the securing of orders, we believe there are arrangements under consideration by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in concert with the Colonial officials, which will bring the merchants and manufacturers of Canada into such contact as is needed for each class to negotiate business with the others. We have the highest authority for stating that the representatives of the different colonies are thoroughly satisfied that when all the arrangements they contemplate making are complete, a Canadian house will have no difficulty in discovering what goods it can profitably import or export, nor in making any purchases or sales that promise to be advantageous in those little known markets. The question is now under consideration as to the methods to be adopted in financing such transactions. At present our banks have no direct connection with those of the other colonies. Whatever business of a banking character has hitherto been done has been transacted through London agencies of banks in this country, and those of Australia and other places. Settlements of all kinds have been and are made by this, what we may call, triangular course, as they are in our dealings with some other nations. London is the great exchange market of the world, it acts as the clearing house of international commerce, money for transmission to any point is more promptly and cheaply procurable there than anywhere, and there too can drafts on any other country be more speedily and economically sold than elsewhere. Hence the rate of exchange in London is the ruling factor in the vast mass of international trading transactions. While this is so we believe that it would be an appreciable convenience to our traders were some of our leading banks to open up direct agencies in other colonies. We are betraying no secret, we believe, in saying that one bank, whose head office is in Toronto, has been considering such a step, the utility of which has been urged upon it by one who is actively engaged in promoting intercolonial trade. We are not very sanguine about any large profits being likely to accrue from such agencies for a length of time, as we doubt any sudden extension of the business which suggests them. But in trade "the day of small things" must not be despised. If this plant is ever to grow, it must have all favorable conditions; it is wiser to get the trade developed in its early stages in the soil which is best adapted for its healthy expansion. We see no reason why whatever banking has to be done by us arising from colonial trade should not be done directly as a rule, and indirectly whenever that course is more desirable. Drafts, with bills of lading attached, drawn on a house in Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland, Cape Town, or elsewhere, might, we submit, be most conveniently negotiated in Canada, and sent direct to the agency of one of our banks in these places. It would be a great help to our traders to have direct advices to their own bankers as to the credit of customers, or would be buyers, in the far away colonies, and a help to bankers to have direct communication with banks at points where their customers were doing business. When the new Pacific