written and in force referred to business in Canada only. The Connecticut Report embraces the following showing of the *total* business of these two American Companies:—

	In force, Dec. 31, '97. $	New business written, '98. $	Terminated during '98. $	In force, Dec. 31, '98. $
Mutual Reserve.	301,567,101	32,027,390	64,425,170	269,169,321
Covenant Mutual.	86,562,075	22,018,925	49,743,000	58,838,000
	$388,129,176	$54,046,315	$114,168,170	$328,007,321

Fifty-four millions written; one hundred and fourteen millions terminated! There is no need for comment.

It may be claimed, however, that the movement of business in only two Companies does not prove the conclusions arrived at above to be correct. Perhaps not, but a further examination of the facts, taking into account all the Assessment Companies reporting to the Connecticut Insurance Department (and there are ten of them), shows an average even worse than is presented by these. The terminations as per above table represent a trifle over 29 per cent. of the amount in force at the end of 1897; if the terminations in the ten of them be considered, the showing is nearly 31 per cent.

Note.—The figures above are from the Connecticut Insurance Report. And it is fair to the Companies named to say that the Report issued by the New York Insurance Department is rather more favorable in its conclusions. For instance, the list of disbursements contained in the Connecticut Report of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association contains an item of $200,000.00 for "Agents' balances charged off," which in the New York Report is not treated as a disbursement, but as a depreciation in the value of assets. Further, by excluding from the liabilities of the same Company the death claims which have been reported but not paid, amounting to $1,777,384, the New York Department increases by that much the item "Balance to protect contracts," as shown by the Connecticut Report, as per above table.

RECENT FIRES.

The fire of 9th May in the Alaska Feather and Down Company's establishment, on Guy street, caused damage to contents, estimated at about 50 per cent. of the policies. Insured as follows:—

Liverpool and London and Globe	$3,000
Imperial	3,000
Atlas	3,000
Norwich Union	3,000
Phoenix of England	5,000
Union	9,000

The damage to building is estimated at 25 per cent. of the policies:—

Guardian	$2,500
Caledonian	2,500
Royal	5,000

FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR APRIL, 1899.

(ESTIMATED).

DATE.	LOCATION.	RISK.	TOTAL LOSS.	INSURANCE LOSS.
April.				
1	Huntsville	College	$10,000	$10,000
2	Montreal	Stores	40,000	35,000
6	do	Metal Works	40,000	40,000
5	Orangeville	Store	5,000	5,000
7	Toronto	Trunk Factory	46,500	40,700
9	Petrolia	Storehouse	2,000	1,700
11	Lanark	Store	4,000	Nil
11	Port Hope	Printing Office	3,500	3,500
13	Norwood	Dwelling	5,000	4,500
13	Toronto	Billiard Table f'y	5,000	5,000
14	Carman	Commercial bl'k.	35,000	25,000
16	Pembroke	Stores	1,000	1,000
15	Cote St Paul	Dwelling	1,500	1,300
17	Fort William	Round House & Engines	25,000	20,000
19	Belleville	Barns	1,000	1,000
11	French River	Dwelling	3,000	2,200
20	Almonte	Dwellings	2,500	2,200
22	near St. Thomas.	Saw Mill	3,000	Nil
19	Halifax	Commercial bl'k.	45,000	35,000
23	Quebec	Stores	1,100	1,100
24	do	Dwelling	2,000	1,700
28	Sudbury	Hotel	3,000	2,100
29	Lachine	Steam Tug	1,500	1,500
30	Montreal	Commercial bl'k.	62,000	57,000
29	Chatham	Storehouse	1,000	1,000
			$348,600	$297,300

Add 20 per cent. for unreported losses and losses under $1,000	$69,720	$59,460
Totals	$418,320	$356,760

SUMMARY FOR CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF 1899 COMPARED WITH 1898.

	1899.		1898.	
	Total Loss.	Insurance Loss.	Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.
For January	$1,221,240	$ 622,080	$ 434,280	302,160
" February	1,120,920	625,560	960,240	531,360
" March	347,040	222,440	558,000	392,760
" April	418,320	356,760	411,960	265,080
Totals	$3,107,520	$1,826,840	$2,364,480	$1,491,360

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

In dissecting the annual report of the British Empire, reviewed in THE CHRONICLE of last week, we find the following changes in the financial position of the company:—

	1897.	1898.	Increase + or Decrease −
Premiums net	$1,354,061	$1,357,906	+ $3,845
Interest, &c	601,561	804,734	+ 203,173
Total Income	1,955 622	2,162,640	+ 207,018
Payments to Policy hol.	1,115,100	1,081,340	− 33,760
Expenses, &c	249,363	230,045	− 19,318
Total Outgo	1,364,463	1,311,385	− 53,078
Excess of Income over outgo	591,159	851,255	+ 260,096
Total Assets	13,212,699	13,841,333	+ 628,634

The growth in income and total assets and the reduction in expenses are the salient features of the year's business record.