

Balance from last year.....	5,891 50
Profit for the year as above.....	99,030 98
	\$104,422 48
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>	
Capital Stock paid up.....	\$ 500,000 00
Losses under Adjustment.....	141,854 76
Dividend payable Jan. 9th, 1888.....	25,000 00
Reserve Fund.....	\$775,000 00
Balance, Profit and Loss.....	817 81
	775,817 81

<b>ASSETS.</b>	
United States Bonds.....	\$ 547 210 00
Dominion of Canada Stock.....	116,297 25
Loan Company and Bank Stock.....	120,590 00
Company's Building.....	65 000 00
Municipal Debentures.....	74,268 91
Cash on hand and on Deposit.....	202,889 10
Bills Receivable.....	58,176 75
Mortgages.....	25,850 00
Re-Assurances due from other Com- panies.....	25,556 23
Interest due and accrued.....	5,498 64
Agents' Balances and Sundry Accounts...	171,840 69
	\$1,442,172 57

A. M. SMITH,  
President.  
J. J. KENNY,  
Managing Director.

Western Assurance Offices,  
Toronto, February 14th, 1888.

#### AUDITOR'S REPORT.

To the President and Directors of the Western Assurance  
Company:

GENTLEMEN,—We hereby certify that we have audited the books of the company for the year ending 31st December, 1887, and have examined the vouchers and securities in connection therewith, and find them correct, and the above statements agree with the same.

R. R. CATHRON,  
JOHN M. MARTIN, } Auditors.  
Toronto, February 14th, 1888.

The president in moving the adoption of the report offered his congratulations to the shareholders on the prosperous statement which had just been read by the managing director, to whose unceasing energy and care, assisted by a thoroughly loyal and experienced staff, they were largely indebted for the satisfactory report just put in their hands.

It would be noticed that the net premiums were some \$245,000 over those of the previous year, the business in each branch showing a considerable increase, and while the net profit was not equal to that of 1886, he thought he was quite safe in saying that the statement, comparatively speaking, was a better one than that presented at the last annual meeting, for it must be borne in mind that the fire losses in Canada and the United States have exceeded by several millions those of the preceding year, while marine disasters on the lakes during the fall months were exceptionally numerous and heavy. It was, therefore, with no little satisfaction that he presented his report showing a profit balance on the yearly transactions of close upon \$100,000. While the directors had continued their policy of requiring a thorough inspection and supervision of the business of the Company, believing judicious expenditure in this direction to be true economy, it would nevertheless be gratifying to the shareholders to note that the ratio of expenses to premiums was a fraction lower than that of last year, being thirty and one-half per cent, a figure which compares favorably with that of other companies transacting similar business. It was, he thought, unnecessary for him to refer to the amount written off the value of securities to bring them to their market value at the close of the year, which, considering the extent of the Company's investments and the general reduction in values since the last report, must be considered a very moderate sum. The total assets are now \$1,442,172, of which nearly \$700,000, or close upon one-half, are invested in Canadian and United States Government securities; a financial exhibit which he was sure the shareholders would agree with him justified their pride in the Western as a Canadian institution, and most commend for it an increasing share of the patronage of the insuring public so liberally bestowed upon it in the past.

Mr. William Gooderham, the Vice-President, seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously, and on motion of Mr. James Scott, seconded by Mr. Robert Thompson, a vote of thanks was passed to the President, Vice-President and Board of Directors for their services and attention to the interests of the Company during the past year.

Messrs. F. J. Stewart and William Anderson having

been appointed scrutineers, the election of Directors for the ensuing year was proceeded with and resulted in the unanimous re-election of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. A. M. Smith, Wm. Gooderham, Hon. S. C. Wood, Robert Beaty, A. T. Fulton, Geo. A. Cox, Geo. McMurrich, H. N. Baird, J. J. Kenny.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held subsequently, Mr. A. M. Smith was re-elected President and Mr. William Gooderham, Vice President.

—The great life-giving St. Leon Mineral Water is still working wonders in our midst. How the fatigued bowed down with sickness are relieved of their weary burdens. See to-days advertisement.

Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., London, says: "For diseases of the throat and air passages, also in the case of singers and public speakers, I regard them as extremely valuable." So says everybody that has used the water off and on for the past year, all are rugged, hale and happy.

#### THE MINISTERING CHILDREN'S LEAGUE.

CANNES, France.

The following letter to the young members of the above league, from the Countess of Meath, has been kindly sent us for publication in the DOMINION CHURCHMAN: "Your friend Mrs. Boomer, my dear young folks, has asked me to write you a letter. I am delighted to do so, both because, as she has been a helper to the Ministering League in which I am deeply interested, I am very grateful to her, and also because I love to think sometimes of our dear members of the "M. C. L.," who lives thousands of miles away from us in old England, but who are anxious to join with us in trying to lessen the great big heap of trouble which there is in the world. You will see from the above address that I am not writing from our home but from France, and I hope, if all is well, to meet my husband in a few days, and to go on with him to Egypt and, perhaps, the Holy Land. If we can do this we shall be very fortunate people, and I hope we shall learn much which shall be hereafter very useful. I am told that you, dear children, have been busy bees, and that when your work was sold it brought in quite a lot of money. How nice! We are apt to waste so much time, that it is a happiness to be able to look back upon time usefully spent, and I hope you won't tire of your work, but do more and more as you grow up. I trust that you have, as members of our Ministering League, been doing another kind of work, too, and that not less important (perhaps more so) than that other work which you have already done so successfully. I hope you have been good little servants at home; you know, some of you, that "ministering" means serving, and you cannot, consequently, be a real, true member of our Society unless you are good servants, joyfully helping father, mother, brother and sister, and others, whom you may meet at home or in school. I heard something about what our League was doing at Gibraltar, which was very delightful; I heard that homes were made happier in consequence of children belonging to it! I wonder if your homes in Canada are happier because the League has found its way there! They will be if you are in earnest in trying to be kind, and if you do not neglect to ask God to give you loving hearts. I hope you often use our sweet little League prayer, which binds us all together whether we live in Canada, the United States, old England, or even in India, for there, too, we have our Society established. If we are to travel on through life faithfully striving to do our duty, we must "work and pray," and if we do our "ministering" here on earth, we may hope that God will take us home at last to minister in Heaven. Good-bye dear little unknown friends! Lately a friend of mine went with me to a room where many sick people were lying, my companion was singing to them, and when we were leaving, one said: "The Lord Almighty love you." I thought it such a sweet blessing. I'd like to say the same to you to-day; may that Almighty love so fill your hearts, that it will be a joy to you to serve others, and to follow in the steps of our Dear Lord who went about doing good.

Your sincere well-wisher,  
M. G. MEATH.

#### Central Secretary of Ministering League.

Mrs. Boomer in forwarding the above, remarks: There are branches of the M. C. L. in the dioceses of Toronto, Ontario and Quebec, and the sweet influence of the lesson impressed upon those very little ones, of unselfish service for others, is already bearing fruit. The Ministering Children's League Society, is a nursery, as it were, for little workers of older growth. The Memorial Church branch is barely a year and a half old, and began by a gathering together of 12 children only, by Mrs. Archer and Mrs. Ford in the Infant school-room. These now number between 70 and 80, an increase for which these two earnest workers bless God and take courage. The motto of the League is "No day without a kindly deed to crown it," and its object to "Promote kindness, unselfishness, and the habit of usefulness amongst children, and to create in their minds an earnest desire to help the needy and suffering."

The children to whom Lady Meath's letter is addressed are prepared to furnish a small room in the Convalescent House about to be established in London, and also to provide \$5 a month towards the support of an inmate therein.

WHAT IS NEEDED by every man and woman if they desire to secure comfort in this world is a corn sheller. Putnam's Corn Extractor shells corns in two or three days and without discomfort or pain. A hundred imitations prove the merit of Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor, which is always sure, safe, and painless. See signature of Polson & Co. on each bottle. Sold by medicine dealers.

#### HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

**BAKED BREAD PUDDING.**—Fill a deep dish of the required size, with stale bread cut into small cubes. Put in sugar, a piece of butter the size of an egg, a pinch of salt, two eggs. Fill the dish with milk and grate over it enough nutmeg to cover lightly the top. Stand in a cool place for an hour in order that the bread may become thoroughly soaked, then fill up again with milk and bake in a moderately hot oven. If the oven be too hot the milk will curdle.

**SAUCE.**—To one-half cupful water add one-half cupful sugar, small piece of butter, juice of one-half fresh lemon, teaspoonful corn-starch dissolved. Let this come to a boil.

**SCALLOPED ONIONS.**—Boil, and if large cut into quarters. Put into a shallow dish, cover with white sauce and buttered crumbs, and bake until the onions are brown.

#### THE BABY.

Another little wave  
Upon the sea of life,  
Another soul to save  
Amid its toil and strife.

Two more little feet  
To walk the dusty road,  
To choose where two paths meet,  
The narrow and the broad.

Two more little hands  
To work for good or ill;  
Two more little eyes,  
Another little will.

Another heart to love,  
Receiving love again;  
Oh, let not all Thy grace,  
Father, be spent in vain!

Thou didst Thine only Son  
For my child freely give;  
May he henceforth be Thine,  
For ever to Thee live.

IF THE SUFFERERS FROM CONSUMPTION, Scrofula and General Debility, will try Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, with hypophosphites, they will find immediate relief and a permanent benefit. Dr. H. V. Mott, Brentwood, Cal., writes: "I have used Scott's Emulsion with great advantage in cases of Phthisis, Scrofula and Wasting Diseases. It is very palatable. Put up in 50c. and \$1 size."