

claims, amounting to no less than \$9,859,67, being the largest surplus in any one year since the organization of the Association. This is partly owing to the increase in Membership, and the small number of death claims we have been called upon to meet, the sum paid being \$6,400,00, or \$3,600,00 less than in the preceeding year.

The following comparative statement shows the increase in Membership for the past year :—

	Ordinary.	Associate.	Life.	Total.
Membership in 1886.....	1,643	30	11	1,684
“ 1887.....	1,820	32	10	1,862
Showing an increase of.....				178

While a large number of our members drop out every year, the loss is more than made up by the new Members, who number 378 for the year.

Eight members have been removed by death during the year, and the mortuary benefits were promptly paid to their widows or representatives, which in some cases proved to be the only insurance that had been left to those who were near and dear. In this connection we would recommend the Mutual Benefit Society under the auspices of this Association, as a very cheap means of providing Life Insurance.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to state that the Commercial Traveller's License, which has occupied the attention of the Association so long, has finally been overcome. The passage of a "Bill"