

possibly have given the plaintiffs more than they were entitled to, on any view of the facts as alleged by them," so that it could scarcely be said that the judgment of this court (all the judges being unanimous), passed off as has been sometimes alleged by the opponents of this company upon a mere technicality, and it might be further added, that since this judgment had been delivered the price of gas had been still further voluntarily reduced by 15 cents per 1,000 cubic feet.

In speaking of the satisfactory results of the past year's operations, and of those of the long preceding years, culminating in the present Jubilee year, the president referred in eulogistic terms to the great value of the services rendered by the manager and his efficient staff.

The motion for the adoption of the report was seconded by Mr. George Gooderham, and was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the president, vice-president and directors of the company, for their services during the year, was moved by Mr. Walter S. Lee, seconded by Mr. W. H. Evans, and carried unanimously.

A resolution of thanks to the general manager and secretary and the other officers and employees of the company, which was moved by Capt. D. F. Jessopp, seconded by Mr. Walter S. Lee, was also carried unanimously.

The manager, in acknowledging the compliment, and referring to the progress and prosperity of the company, mentioned, amongst other matters, that the output of gas for the past year was nearly double that of 1887, over three times greater than in 1884, and more than four times greater than in 1881. The number of meters in use in 1881 was 4,327; in 1884, 6,088; in 1887, 9,004; in 1891, 14,838; in 1893, 17,702; in 1897, 22,951, and in 1898, 24,257.

This increase in the number of meters, he observed, would doubtless have been larger during the past two years, were it not that the company was now supplying but one meter for both light and fuel instead of two meters as formerly, the price of gas being the same for both purposes.

The increases in the output of gas were especially gratifying in view of the facts that in 1891, 2,200 street lamps out of about 3,500, were discontinued, and that a number of the company's largest consumers are now using electricity, in some instances generated on their own premises, and in others furnished at exceptionally low rates. The company has also been handicapped by the high price charged by the Auer Incandescent Light Co., for their burners and mantles, the same being fully three times greater than is charged for similar burners and mantles in the United States. The Auer Light Company are enabled to make these excessive charges owing to their having an exceedingly broad patent, which prevents the use in Canada of nearly all other incandescent gas lights.

The increase in consumption was mainly attributable to the following causes: Cheapness and good quality of the gas, its increased use for fuel, extension of mains into the suburbs, and the more general use of gas in the smaller class of houses, both for fuel and light, and to the increasing prosperity of the city. It was gratifying to be able to state that the price of gas in Toronto, 90 cents per 1,000 cubic feet was lower than that charged in other cities more favorably situated than Toronto in regard to cost of materials, the price in Buffalo being \$1, in most of the other large American cities from \$1 to \$1.25, and in Montreal \$1.20 to ordinary consumers for light, and \$1 for fuel (in addition to meter rent).

This company possessed the decided advantage of having a very small capital for the amount of gas supplied, it being not more than one-half of that of many Ameri-

can companies, and not one-third of that of some of them with a not much larger output. The capital stock of this company for the quantity of gas sold, was probably the lowest of any company on the continent of America. The manager then referred to the future prospects of the company, and remarked that in view of the increasing demand for gas for fuel, and its adoption by occupants of smaller houses, and of the fact that two years ago there were still 18,000 houses in the city, which were not supplied with gas, and of the growing prosperity of the city, the outlook of the company was certainly very promising. He concluded by acknowledging in high terms, the services of the other officers and employees of the company.

Messrs. W. E. Sampson and J. C. Copp were re-appointed auditors for the current year.

Messrs. Walter S. Lee and C. C. Baines were appointed scrutineers, and as a result of their scrutiny reported the following gentlemen to have been unanimously re-elected directors for the ensuing year: Samuel Alcorn, J. L. Blaikie, Henry Cawthra, G. R. R. Cockburn, M.A.; I. C. Gilmor, George Gooderham, James Henderson, M.A.; Thos. Long, Larratt W. Smith, D.C.L. Q.C.; Hon. Sir Frank Smith, A. J. Somerville, and Thos. R. Wood.

At a board meeting, subsequently held, Dr. Larratt W. Smith was unanimously re-elected president and Sir Frank Smith vice-president for the ensuing year.

IROQUOIS CANAL INSPECTED.

A despatch from Iroquois says: "The Hon. A. G. Blair, Minister of Railways and Canals; Sir Henri Joly, Minister of the Interior, and Mr. C. Schrieber, Chief Engineer, visited and inspected the work on the canal and lock here to-day (11th). They found everything satisfactory, and the progress made beyond their expectations. There is now no doubt but this work will be completed at the time specified. The contractors, Larkin & Sangster, have made a record in lock building beyond anything previously accomplished in Canada, as 12,534 yards of masonry were laid in September, and fully as many in October. The lock, which is the second largest in Canada, and the wing walls, are equal to a continuous wall a half mile in length; 37½ feet in height, and of an average thickness of 13 feet. It was begun in July and is now nearly finished. If vessels drawing fourteen feet cannot be passed through the canals next season, it will not be due to any lack of energy on the part of the contractors here.

These gentlemen have been over the St. Lawrence canal system, along with Chief Engineer Rubidge. They visited the works being rushed to completion by the contractors at various points, and left steamer for train at Cornwall."

—In view of the prevailing desire to learn the probable yield of the wheat crop of Manitoba, it may be mentioned that, according to the Free Press, actual threshing returns from Red River valley points between Winnipeg and the boundary lines disprove the statements that the wheat crop in that district has been badly damaged. "Around Morris and St. Jean, the wheat is turning out well, and the damaged grain is confined entirely to the few sheaves topping the stacks." A Winnipeg traveler, who has been through the West during the past week, gave a Free Press reporter the following threshing returns: "From 600 acres, John Graham, of Morden, threshed 12,000 bushels of wheat; another Morden farmer secured 13,000 bushels from 460 acres; Ralph Todd, of Indian Head, threshed 4,050 bushels from 100 acres."

MISDIRECTED CLEVERNESS.

—The sea captain who subsisted luxuriously on sails when the appropriation for salt junk was exhausted, has been beaten by Andrew J. Daily, of Brooklyn, who has been faring sumptuously for several months past on a dress suit, a pair of lace curtains, a carpet and an upholstered chair. Some time last April Daily wrote to the Merchants' Insurance Company, of Newark, to the effect that his little girl had been playing with matches, had set the curtains on fire, and that the fire had also damaged the other articles already enumerated. The result was that the company paid Daily \$73. In May the little girl got hold of another box of matches, and the lace curtains and other articles cost the Royal \$90. The damage done to Daily's indestructible furniture and effects in June was estimated by the Norwich Union at \$85; in July they cost the German-American and Germania \$175; in August the Liverpool and London and Globe, the Continental and the Home companies adjusted the loss for that month for \$262, and in September the Phoenix of Brooklyn, the London and Lancashire and the Williamsburg City settled the loss for the current month for \$310. But there is a limit even to the possibilities of a pair of lace curtains, a dress suit, a carpet and an upholstered chair. In an evil hour for Daily two adjusters of the Phoenix, of London, and the Merchants, of Newark, exchanged experiences, and about ten days since Daily received his last check, this time from the Pinkerton Detective Agency. He is now in safe lodgings, where there are no lace curtains, carpet or upholstered chair, and no need of a dress suit. But who will dare maintain that the fire companies raise difficulties in the settlement of losses?—Investigator.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, 16th Nov., 1898.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Closing Prices.		Average, 18
				Sellers.	Buyers.	
Montreal	249	247	11	250	241½	237
Ontario	120	118	99	120	118	99
Molson's	205	204	199	205	204	199
Toronto	245	245	21	250	235	227
Jac. Cartier	183	183	33	189	175	180
Merchants	148	147½	24	146	140	133
Commerce	177	177	50	180	175	178
Union	95½	94½	25	97½	96	108
M. Telegraph	279½	278	3997	279½	279½	232
R. & O. Nav. ...	274½	273½	882	274½	274½	230½
Street Ry.	194½	193½	1061	194	198½	187½
do. New.	84½	83½	4340	84½	84½	84½
Gas	110	110	109	110	110	109
C.P.R.	55	55	62	55	55	62
Land Grant bds.	173½	173½	110	175½	173	172
N. W. Land pref	168	168	3	168	168	168
Bell Tele.	168	168	3	168	168	168
do. new	168	168	3	168	168	168
Mont. 4% stock	168	168	3	168	168	168

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UNIQUE STORY OF A FIRE.

The Boston Herald says: "A very interesting story follows the burning of one of the barns of Dr. O. G. Cilley, of this city, at his summer estate in Hamilton, from some unexplained cause, which occurred October 6th. The insurance was through the agency of Mr. William A. Muller, Central street, and was promptly adjusted. In discussing the adjustment, the doctor expressed regret at the probable loss of his watch-dog, which had not been seen since the fire, and to which he was much attached. In the conversation, the doctor gave the dog a flattering obituary, saying, among other things: 'If you were about there, and the dog had