

The North British and Mercantile Insurance Company have subscribed £250 towards the fund being raised for the relief of the sufferers by the late disastrous fire in Kingston, Jamaica. The Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company have also subscribed £250 to the same fund.

J. W. Edmand, who has for several years represented many of the leading fire insurance companies in Galt, Ont., has left that town for the States.

Inattention to business and devotion to more pleasurable pursuits, will probably account for the failure of one who in his time has proved a good agent to many first class companies.

The late Mr. Percy M. Dove, formerly manager of the Royal Insurance Company, gave evidence before a select Parliamentary Committee of the fire protection, which sat in 1867, and he was strongly in favor of judicial inquiry into the origin of fires. He stated that of the fire claims on the Royal in two years, then recent, about 57 per cent. were satisfactorily accounted for, about 38 per cent. were of unknown or unsatisfactory origin, about 4 per cent. from suspicious causes, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. only from downright and proved incendiarism.

The Travelers' Record says that the following letter, addressed to the General Agent, was actually sent to a Hartford Life Insurance Company lately :

Will you send me a few circulars showing the workings of your company. I have been work. Some Mutual Companies, But they are not Shure, if a subject dies you do not no if you are going to get anything or not if you do meby it is ten per cent. My wife's Mother is living with us and She is 82 years old and is harty I would like to put her in Some good Company if it don't cost too much, one that I Would be Shure of getting Money when She died let me hear from you by return mail.

We learn that **Mr. Chas. Freeman, Barrister, of Hamilton**, whose death by drowning occurred on the evening of 13th inst., had his life insured in the following Companies :

North American Life Co., Toronto.....	15,000
Canada Life.....	8,000
Accident Company of North America.....	10,000
Travellers.....	8,000
Citizens.....	5,000
United Workmen.....	2,000
Other Societies.....	3,000

\$51,000 in all

Mr. Freeman was driving on the ice on Burlington Bay, and in the dusk of evening got off the road, driving into an open water space left unguarded by ice-cutters. young, recently married and a universal favorite, his melancholy end has saddened many hearts in the city.

The Late Mr. McMurrich.—At the meeting of the Board of the Fire Underwriters' Association, held yesterday, and which was numerously attended, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :—Moved by R. N. Gooch, seconded by F. A. Ball, "That the Board of the Fire Underwriters' Association at this their first regular meeting since the announcement of the demise of the Hon. John McMurrich, who for many years was an active member and at one time President of this association (in which from its inception he had evinced a lively interest), desire to place on record their very sincere regrets at the loss which, in common with the community at large, they have sustained in his removal from amongst us; and also, to express to the family their deep sympathy with them on this solemn occasion. That the secretary do communicate to Mrs. McMurrich a copy of the resolution; and that this board do now adjourn."

The Annual Meeting of Fire Underwriters for the Dominion was held in Toronto on Wednesday, January 31st, and following days.

The greatest harmony prevailed, but the practical remedy for "low rates and big fires," though ably discussed, was not yet discovered to the entire satisfaction of the meeting.

Several gentlemen, representing Montreal and Toronto, subsequently visited London on 3rd inst., and held a conference with the local agents in that city, at which the following resolution was adopted :

"That after due consideration and examination of the London tariff, and comparing the same with those of other places, the representatives of the head offices here present desire to record their general approval of the same, but to remove any feeling with regard to the manner in which the specific tariff now in operation was framed, be it resolved that a disinterested and experienced person be forthwith employed by the head offices to examine and if necessary amend the present ratings."

On the following Monday a similar conference was held in Hamilton, and the general result of the annual meeting and the two conferences seems to be that there are signs of more harmonious action among the Companies than has been the rule for the last few years.

WATER WORKS NOTES.

Guelph laid 2,204 feet of new water mains during 1882. The daily average number of gallons of water pumped is 193,667, and the daily average amount of coal consumed is 1,927 lbs.

Woodstock, N B., has voted money for Water Works, and we hope to record the completion of a good system of protection to guard against repetitions of conflagrations from which this town has been a sufferer.

Hamilton.—The revenue during the year 1882 amounted to \$107,730, and the expenditure (including running expenses, general construction account and street watering) was \$49,334. The amount paid for interest on water-works debentures is not stated, but it is considerably less than the surplus revenue. 636½ tons of coal and 1,907 cords of wood were used to pump 781,046,750 gallons of water against a head of 185 feet. The pumping machinery was changed during the year, consequently the normal consumption of fuel cannot be calculated from these figures. There are now 59.82 miles of main pipe within the city limits, with 473 fire hydrants, 220 main stop valves, and 8,150 house services. The pumping house, reservoir, and city are connected by an 18-inch and a 20-inch main.

Yorkville, now St. Paul's Ward, Toronto.—The Toronto Water Works Department took formal possession of the water in the new Ward of the City (lately Yorkville Village) on the 6th inst.

The Engineer reported that the works consist of a pumping house and collecting basin just below the Davenport Hill west of Avenue Road; a reservoir on the top of the hill facing on Avenue Road, capable of containing from a million to a million and a quarter of gallons, with an elevation of about 100 feet above Bloor-street; about 7½ miles of pipe of which seven miles will be available. There were about 500 house services. There was a small pumping engine capable of delivering something like a million gallons per day. He recommended that connection be made as soon as possible with the distribution, in order that the same supply of water may be given to the city. It was proposed to pump the small reservoir full, and shut it off, leaving the engine and everything about the works as they are at present.

Toronto.—The local papers state that the water-works are taxed nearly to their utmost capacity, and that 9,000,000 gallons are being consumed lately.

The Water Works Committee of the city council state that the works should be made self-sustaining, that more pumping power is required, and that a new reservoir should be constructed on Well's Hill.