

## NEW YORK JOINT STOCK FIRE COMPANIES.

	1893.	1894.
Number of Companies.....	39	38
Assets.....	\$ 62,131,403	\$ 63,097,374
Liabilities, except scrip and capital....	33,371,099	32,471,290
Capital.....	16,350,000	16,150,000
Surplus.....	12,201,052	14,292,517
Premiums received.....	32,937,972	31,910,238
Total receipts.....	35,417,789	34,467,658
Losses paid.....	21,906,980	19,537,666
Dividends paid.....	1,613,635	1,647,416
Total disbursements.....	35,852,074	32,789,866
Risks in force.....	5,263,062,328	5,227,641,332

## JOINT STOCK FIRE COMPANIES OF OTHER STATES.

	1893.	1894.
Number of Companies.....	64	60
Assets.....	\$108,936,236	\$110,923,597
Liabilities, except scrip and capital....	53,323,356	51,627,870
Capital.....	34,913,075	33,580,875
Surplus.....	20,737,911	25,716,377
Premiums received.....	52,481,254	51,218,327
Total Receipts.....	57,530,162	56,065,280
Losses paid.....	36,295,695	30,912,634
Dividends paid.....	3,733,033	3,622,405
Total disbursements.....	58,308,590	52,161,104
Risks in force.....	5,897,129,452	6,094,494,863

## FOREIGN FIRE COMPANIES—UNITED STATES BRANCHES.

	1893.	1894.
Number of Companies.....	24	23
Assets.....	\$57,455,875	\$57,472,479
Liabilities.....	39,883,106	38,180,090
Deposit capital.....	4,800,000	4,600,000
Surplus.....	12,772,770	14,692,389
Premiums received.....	42,539,311	41,490,805
Total receipts.....	44,419,998	43,344,166
Losses paid.....	29,740,758	25,638,889
Total disbursements.....	43,746,501	39,128,216
Risks in force.....	5,847,968,183	5,629,097,157

## THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The Canadian International Exhibition is now an assured event. What measure of success it will have depends largely upon the people of Canada. The opportunity is theirs to make or to mar, as they are guided by patriotism, intelligence, public spirit and enterprise, or misled by narrow jealousies, by indifference to the country's welfare, or blindness to the great possibilities the Exhibition will afford. Some city must be selected for such a display. The only question worth notice in this connection is, whether Montreal is wisely selected? We see no answer possible to this but a decided affirmative. There will be heavy consignments of goods from abroad, which can be landed here at the very gates of the Exhibition,—a convenience which was recognized as an important factor in other similar enterprises, notably so in those of London, Dublin, Kensington, Antwerp, and at other cities situated on great water-ways. This city is the main entrepot of Canadian commerce. It is the largest Canadian city; it is known abroad better than any other of our ports; it has especial transport facilities for landing goods from all parts of the world; and pre-eminent conveniences for accommodating the vast concourse of visitors that will be drawn to the Exhibition. The duality of languages in use here is also a point of advantage when so many continental exhibitors are expected. The enterprise has secured the active support of the presidents and the general managers of the leading banks of Canada, with the co-operation of the Mayor, the President of the Board of Trade, and other citizens of wealth and influence, who will be the incorpor-

ators of the Company upon whose financial arrangements the scheme will, in a monetary sense, be built up and secured.

It is significant that one history of England, in its epitome of the early years of the present reign, says: "Great advance in commerce made by the development of railroads, steamboats and Exhibitions." An earlier history attributes the revival of Art in Great Britain to the Art Exhibitions of 1759. That these displays have given an invaluable impetus to the commercial activities of places where they have been held is beyond dispute. We could name one town in England which has risen in living memory from almost a village to being the largest centre of one manufacturing industry, solely from the stimulus of a local display, on a small scale, which opened the eyes of the people to an opportunity of development they had not before realized. Had the people there been apathetic, had they been content to ask sleepily: "What's the good of an Exhibition?" that place would have gone on dreaming its village life as it had done for centuries, whereas now its goods are found in almost every civilized home. It is difficult for Canadians to realize how densely ignorant of Canada the people of the Old World still are about this Dominion. Having no foreign Consuls, our trade achievements and capacities are not advertized as are those of lands where such officials are found. In American papers there are frequent statements from its Consuls as to the openings for trade in foreign countries, openings as promising to Canada as to the States. An International Exhibition in Canada would do a great work in making our country and its resources familiar the world over. Montreal would benefit from this, but the advantage would, in our judgment, be more to other cities and centres of industrial enterprise. Toronto and Ontario would probably be far more helped than Montreal and Quebec, but the Maritime Provinces would feel the stimulus of, and share in the benefits of, placing Canada in a position to be observed and studied. Do not Manitoba, the North West Territories, and British Columbia need, greatly need, to be more widely known? Are they not wanting settlers and capital to develop their natural resources, and would not those resources by an International Exhibition be made a household word in millions of homes.

We are not disposed to regard the shortness of the time for preparing goods for display as a serious question. The goods shown should be rather selections from stock than those made purposely for exhibition, they should be "samples," not curiosities, and of such samples Canada could make a display that would challenge rivalry, and almost certainly widen her markets for sales. The Toronto annual exhibition is an object lesson in this regard. Surely if manufacturers find it advantageous to show goods to their more immediate neighbors, they would enlarge such advantage by having their goods brought under the notice also of a large concourse of foreign visitors. If Canada needs foreign trade, she must make her wares and her capacities known to outsiders. By no mere local fairs can this be done; but if the people of Canada throw themselves heart and soul into an International Exhibition, they will, as it were, hang out a "shingle" which will challenge the world's attention.