

RESULTS OF FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES 1896.

Compiled for THE CHRONICLE by a special correspondent in the United States.

	Premiums.	Loss Ratio.	Expense Ratio.
Aetna	\$3,620,305	47.56	33.61
Atlas	607,084	40.8	35.3
* British America	961,733	54.9	34.3
Caledonian	1,230,698	59.4	30.3
* Commercial Union	2,430,031	51.1	30.3
Connecticut	1,724,851	52.06	35.60
Hartford	5,790,787	51.5	35.8
Imperial	1,105,008	55.7	36.1
Lancashire	1,872,989	53.6	37.1
Lion	551,558	58.0	37.3
Liverpool & London & Globe	5,370,686	51.1	31.6
London & Lancashire	1,750,496	48.3	35.8
London Assurance	916,748	44.2	36.4
Manchester
North British & Mercantile	2,345,617	56.5	32.5
Northern	1,136,017	53.5	35.9
* Ins. Co. of No. America	3,979,596	51.8	31.4
Norwich Union	1,512,745	54.3	34.8
Palatine	2,247,450	61.5	36.9
Phenix of Brooklyn	3,213,212	58.1	38.3
Phoenix of Hartford	2,952,791	58.98	36.36
Phoenix of London	2,032,645
Queen	2,152,791	51.3	30.5
Royal	4,745,632	55.9	32.2
Scottish Union & National	2,324,678	54.4	33.2
Sun	1,557,675	50.5	35.7
Union of London	914,623	42.6	30.7
* Western	1,461,608	56.8	33.9

* Fire business only.

The above table, furnished us by a special correspondent in the United States, shows the business of the fire insurance companies to have been on the whole favorable for the past year. There were premiums received for \$7,809,856, subject to a loss ratio of from 42 to 48 per cent.; \$30,814,579 subject to a loss ratio of from 50 to 55 per cent.; \$17,606,184 subject to a loss ratio of from 55 to 59; and \$2,247,450 subject to a loss ratio of 61.50. The average ratio of losses last year to premiums will, we believe, work out to be under 55 per cent. for the companies in above schedule.

PHOENIX INSURANCE CO. OF HARTFORD.

The 85th semi-annual statement of the Phoenix of Hartford shows the assets to have increased last year from \$5,246,519 to \$5,320,265, an addition to these funds of \$73,746. The net surplus at close of 1895 was \$424,943, at close of 1896 the surplus was \$730,511, being an increase in the year of \$305,568. The premium income last year was \$2,952,792, rents and interest on investments raising the total income to \$3,153,725. The disbursements were \$1,691,705 paid for losses, \$280,000 dividends, and \$1,074,750 for expenses. Since its organization in 1854, the Phoenix of Hartford has paid out \$39,739,174 to its policy-

holders for losses, the average annual payments being over \$900,000. Yet with this steady outlay to meet its current engagements the company has gone on adding to its assets and surplus, which are now so large as to give the amplest security for the policy-holders. The President, Mr. D. W. C. Skilton, has the highest reputation for business talent and probity; his colleagues are also men of marked ability and high character. Messrs. Smith & Tatley, the Managers of the Canadian branch, have an excellent record, and may be relied upon to maintain the honorable reputation of this strong company.

THE MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The statement of the above Company presented at the annual meeting in Toronto, on 28th January, justifies the congratulations of the directors to the stock and policy-holders, as the following table of comparisons will show:—

FINANCIAL MOVEMENT.

			Increase + 1896.
Premiums.....	\$ 332,018	\$ 368,573	+ \$36,555
Interest and rents.....	39,141	44,867	+ 5,726
Total income.....	371,159	413,440	+ 42,281
Pays to policy holders.....	50,405	77,808	+ 27,443
Expenses and dividends.....	134,274	147,001	+ 12,727
Total outgo.....	184,739	224,809	+ 40,070
Excess of income over outgo.....	186,426	188,631	+ 2,205
Total assets.....	1,012,569	1,200,951	+ 188,382
Policy reserves and other liabilities.....	817,717	988,629	+ 170,912
Surplus to policy holders.....	194,852	212,322	+ 17,470
Divisible surplus.....	97,532	85,002	+ 17,470

The total insurance in force, increased last year by \$717,665, the total amount being \$11,362,686. The increases over the business of 1894 were very considerable. In that period the insurance in force has increased by \$2,348,569, the premium income has been enlarged by \$91,177; while to the assets has been added \$379,631. The Company appears to have exercised rigid oversight over applications for policies, as no less than 132 were rejected. The death claims of the year 1896 amounted to \$53,599, of which the company's interest and rents provided 84 per cent. The total income was \$413,440, which provided for all expenses, payments to stock and policy-holders, and left \$188,382 to be added to the assets. These funds now amount to \$1,200,951 and the uncalled stock is \$493,680. The report is signed by Mr. George Gooderham, the President, whose name is a tower of strength to any enterprise with which it is associated. Mr. J. F. Junkin, the General Manager, has every reason to feel much gratified at the result of his management.

The assessment of Manitoba for last year exceeded \$71,000,000, that of the rural sections was 44 millions. The Province was practically unknown fifty years ago.