

shall be entitled to subscribe at par an amount equal to one half of what he may have held, at that date, or in other words, to add fifty per cent to his stock.

4. An instalment of ten per cent on the amount of new stock thus subscribed will be payable at the time of subscription, but no further calls will be made on it unless it should seem to the Directors that the interests of the Bank require it, and then only in instalments of ten per cent with at least three months interval between the payment of each instalment.

5. No transfer in the Books of the Bank of the New Stock will be permitted unless the whole amount of the shares desired to be transferred is previously fully paid up, with accrued interest from date of last dividend.

6. Shareholders may at any time make such payments as may be convenient for them on account of this New Stock, provided such payments be in equal instalments of ten per cent., and may pay up in full from time to time such number of shares as they may desire, with interest from date of last dividend.

7. Such shares on being paid up in full with interest may be transferred to the credit of the Shareholders in the Stock Books of the Bank and will then carry full dividend.

8. Pro rata dividends will be paid at the regular period on all stock partially paid up.

9. Such shares of this new stock as may not be subscribed within the time and under the regulations prescribed by the Directors, may be disposed of by them as they shall see fit for the interests of the Bank.

10. The Directors will advertise in one or two newspapers the dates when the Books of subscription to the new stock will be opened, and will also intimate the same to the Shareholders by sending to their address printed notices through the post office.

To the first resolution Mr. Crawford moved an amendment to the effect that the consideration of an increase in the stock should be deferred. This was seconded by Mr. Fraser and lost on a division by a large majority.

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF NICHOL.—The annual meeting of this company was held in Ennottville, Ont., on the 7th June, Mr. A. W. Flewelling in the chair. The chairman having briefly explained the object of the meeting, the Secretary read the following report of the Directors for the past year:—Your Directors in presenting their tenth Annual Report have much pleasure in stating that another year has passed without any loss having been sustained by fire—being the third year in succession that the company has been so fortunate. The unprecedented dry season of 1868 very materially increased the risk of fire amongst farm buildings, and many companies insuring this description of property sustained heavy losses, although our institution escaped. One hundred and seventy-eight policies, including renewals, have been recorded during the past year—covering property to the amount of \$200,160. There are 385 policies now in force, covering property to the amount of \$305,720. The available premium notes amount to \$7,944.76, and the balance at credit of the Company is \$402.79. A portion, however, of this balance (\$85.32) is represented by promissory notes, &c. Of late several mutual insurance Companies have abandoned the premium note system and collected the whole premium in cash. It is not the province of your directors to criticise the management of other companies, but they deem it their duty to warn their brother farmers that there is not so much safety in the cash system as appears at first sight. The following extract from an editorial in the *Monetary Times* shows very clearly the danger of the system:—"It appears, therefore, that the various mutual companies have been gradually leaving the premium note system. There is no doubt that there is on the part of the insured a

preference for the cash system and its exemption from liability and in order to compete successfully for business, the Mutuals have been compelled to depart from the true mutual principle. But this breaking loose from premium notes deprives the insured of that security for payment which he naturally looks for. In the absence of a guarantee capital, there is no security at all but the honesty and good management of the directors. It may be said that they confine their business to narrow circles, but the contrary is becoming the case, and we find Mutuals branching out in all directions and competing successfully with Stock Companies. We know the note system may have abuses attached to it, such as in one case we have heard of, where the agent taking risks gets \$2 a policy and the company gets nothing until an assessment is made. But that is no sufficient answer. Where the note system prevails there is a show of security, at the least, but in the cash system there may be neither shadow nor substance. Under such circumstances, we conclude that some remedy should be applied to state of affairs manifestly wrong." The report was adopted and the members of the late board were all re-elected, viz.—Messrs. David Allan, Alexander Watt, William Robinson, Francis Cassidy, Alexander Burnett, J. Bonnalie and A. F. Sherratt. The board met the same evening and re-elected David Allan, Esq., president.

UNION BANK.—The annual meeting was held in Quebec on the 5th July, Charles E. Levy was called to the chair, and N. H. Bowen acted as Secretary. The directors report the result of the business of the past year as follows:—The profits after the payment of all charges and provision for losses amount to \$105,445.04; to which is to be added the balance of the account of profit and loss brought from the former year \$1,567.95; making 107,012.99; which has been thus appropriated:—To two dividends of per cent. each \$80,390.22; vote to President at last annual meeting \$1,000; reserve for doubtful debts \$8,000; reduction of the account for preliminary expenses \$2,000; addition to reserve profits \$15,000; total \$106,390.22; leaving \$622.77 to be carried forward to the account of profit and loss.

The directors are glad to report that the operations of the year have been attended by very little loss. Ample provision has been made for this, and a further sum of \$8,000 has been reserved to meet a possible but it is hoped improbable loss on a claim, the value of which cannot now be ascertained.

The directors thought it well to procure during the last session of the Parliament of the Dominion an amendment of the charter of the bank affecting the election of Directors in the case of vacancies at the Board. The act is now submitted to the shareholders, and will take effect only after their approval.

The following directors were elected for the ensuing year:—Charles E. Levey, Hon. Thos. McGreevey, Hon. Geo. Irvine, Colonel Rhodes, Jas. Gibb, John Sharples and Geo. H. Simard. And at a meeting of the newly elected Directors, held the same day, Messrs. Charles E. Levey and Thos. McGreevey were elected respectively President and Vice-President for the ensuing year.

CANADA COMPANY.—The ordinary general meeting of this Company was held in London, England, June 24. The report stated that the net profit for the half-year had been £32,932, of which £15,299 was made applicable to the repayment of capital, leaving £17,633 available for distribution, out of which the Directors recommended a dividend of 30s. per share, free of income tax. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the business of the Company had fallen off during the last half-year, consequent upon the commercial depression in the colony, but from the last accounts received the Directors anticipated that in the current half-year business would again

be restored. The Directors had felt it their duty to aid the emigration movement, and had subscribed £100 from the Company's fund to the East-end Emigration Committee. They had also directed their agent in Canada to expend a similar sum in providing for the emigrants on their arrival. He thought the recent discovery of gold on the Company's estate might prove valuable to them.

Insurance.

FIRE RECORD.—Kincardine July 2.—A telegram says, the planing mill and factory and a block of three-frame tenement buildings, belonging to Messrs. McKerricker & Evans, builders, were totally destroyed by fire. Mr. Rastall's new frame building in the course of erection was considerably damaged, and a large quantity of lumber destroyed. Loss about \$4,000; insured for \$1,500.

Carleton, N. B., July.—Fire broke out in John Hanna's three-story house, opposite Clarks mill, Carleton, and it was speedily burnt to the ground. There was \$1,000 insurance upon it.

Kentville, N. B., June 30.—A despatch says a fire broke out in a building owned by Daniel Moore, and occupied by T. L. Dodge as flour store. Store and goods entirely destroyed. No insurance. The fire spread itself to the adjoining house of Geo. E. Masters, and notwithstanding all efforts made to subdue it, the house and part of the furniture were consumed. No insurance. The further progress of the fire was stopped by the pulling down Lockhart's blacksmith shop. The goods of W. H. Tighe & Co. were considerably damaged by hasty removal from fear of the fire spreading. A correspondent at Kentville states that the loss is about \$10,000.

Woodstock, July 10.—The boiler of Clarke & Davidson's steam grist mill, at the east end of the town, exploded, damaging property to the extent of two or three thousand dollars. Fireman John Eddy was badly burnt and had the back of his head cut. No lives were lost, and the doctors think the fireman will recover. The windows in the mill were nearly all smashed, and the windows in the Woodstock Hotel across the street were broken. The mill was stopped at the time. No damage was done to the chimney.

St. Catharines, July 13.—About one o'clock this morning, a fire broke out in the stable attached to Edward McCarthy's blacksmith shop. The stable and a horse in it, owned by Mr. E. Goodman, was burnt. The shop and a new dwelling in the course of erection by Mr. McCarthy, was injured by the fire. The stable was insured for thirty-five dollars. The fire was evidently the work of an incendiary, it having broken out in the manger at the horse's head.

St. John, July 10.—An obliging correspondent writing under the above date says:—In your paper of the 1st inst., the Hon. A. McL. Seeley's mill is valued at \$360,000 instead of \$30,000. The insurance, is stated to be \$10,000, should be \$16,000, viz: \$12,000 in the "Liverpool, and London, and Globe," and \$4,000 in the "Royal." The cause of the fire arose from the common practice, in this Province, of placing the boilers, &c., in a wing, with a low slanting, unprotected roof. The constant heat, after some years, seems to cause some chemical change in the nature of the wood, so that a single spark will set in flames. This was seen to occur in a mill burnt about 2½ years ago. The watchman tried to put it out, when the fire was only about the size of his hand, but the fire ran away from him. A high roof, over the boilers, protected with sheets of zinc, would, I am convinced, save mills from being burnt in the way I have described.

INSURANCE STOCKS IN HARTFORD.—These have somewhat advanced under the stimulus of handsome July dividends, which have been declared as follows: The *Ætna* quarterly of \$6 per share; the *Phoenix* \$5 and the *City* \$3. The Hartford and Merchants have each made a semi-annual dividend of \$10 per share, and the Connecticut of