

Cottolene

A SHORTENING.

Down the street through the busy way
A lady passed on marketing day.
Who, pausing at a grocery store,
Stepped quickly in at the open door.
With bated breath and anxious mien
She queried: "have you COTTOLENE?"

The grocer, leaving off his work,
Interrogated every clerk;
But none up to that time had seen
An article called "COTTOLENE."

"What is it?" said he to the dame,
"That answers to this curious name.
What is it made of? What's its use?
My ignorance you'll please excuse."

"You're not the merchant for my dimes,
I see you're quite behind the times.
For COTTOLENE, I'd have you know,
Is now the thing that's all the go,
An article of high regard;
A healthful substitute for lard.
Its composition pure and clean;
For cooking give me COTTOLENE."

As from his store the lady fled,
The grocer gently scratched his head—
On his next order, first was seen,
"One dozen cases COTTOLENE."

Ask Your Grocer for it.

Made only by
N. K. FAIRBANK & CO.,
Wellington and Ann Streets,
MONTREAL.

All the nourishment of

Prime Beef

is rendered available to the
Invalid and Convalescent

BY

JOHNSTON'S FLUID BEEF

which embodies the virtues of Prime
Beef in an easily digestible form.

Sold by all Grocers and Druggists. Prepared by
The Johnston Fluid Beef Co., Montreal.

Whittaker's "Protestant Episcopal Church Almanac" for 1894, which has just appeared, contains a number of new features that make it more than ever a necessary handbook for Episcopalians. During the last year 327 men were ordained to the ministry, a gain of 36 over the previous year. The number of communicants is given as 566,812, an increase of 17,957. The grand total of contributions was \$13,885,757.50, being an increase of \$320,711.19. A decrease is reported of 3,731 baptisms, 1,185 confirmations, 481 marriages, 1,266 burials, 205 Sunday school scholars and 29 mission posts.—New York Tribune.

Brown's Bronchial Troches give prompt and effectual relief in all Throat troubles. Mr. Amos R. Peachy, Hungerford, Berkshire, England, writes: "Change of climate (from South Africa) nearly cost me my life, as it produced the greatest prostration from Ulcerated Throat and Bronchial Inflammation. My friends are astonished at the remarkable change in my health from the time I commenced using BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES."

Although many inventions of suitable solder for aluminum have been reported in the last few months, there is a tendency among experts to doubt whether the problem has yet been solved satisfactorily. An Englishman who has been experimenting in this direction advises the use of soldering blowpipe, and alloys his aluminum with some fusible metal, so that it will "sweat" when heated, and thus give the solder a better grip. One great inconvenience experienced in this sort of work is that aluminum transmits heat so rapidly that by the time one end of a strip nine inches long is hot enough to take the solder the other is too hot to hold with comfort.

Are you troubled with bad taste, belching, burning in throat? Take K. D. C.—the king of Dyspepsia Cures. All druggists. K. D. C. Company Ltd., New Glasgow, N.S., Canada, or 127 State St., Boston, Mass.

Many men's thoughts are not acorns, but merely pebbles.—Charles Buxton.

Minard's Liniment for Rheumatism.

British and Foreign.

Rev James Kilgour has been elected as minister in charge of the South congregation, Strathmiglo.

Martial law will cease in Brazil on Feb. 26, and the Presidential election will take place on March 1.

Bulgaria recently sent 20 common school teachers to Switzerland to investigate educational methods.

Lord Roberts says he has under his command in India 14,000 British soldiers pledged to total abstinence.

The Church of England contributed four-fifths of the London Hospital Sunday Fund last year; other churches the remaining fifth.

The Free Presbytery of Scotland have given six bursaries, amounting to £63, to students attending Belfast and other colleges.

The death occurred last week of Mr. Andrew Aikman, of St. Andrews, a prominent citizen who did good local work for the church in 1843.

Rev. F. A. G. Groth, who for many years was a prominent member of the Joint Synod of Ohio, died recently in Luebeck, Germany, aged 73.

The call from Paisley-road Church, Glasgow, to Rev. John Hall, of Cullen, is signed by 658 out of 712 members, and by 293 adherents.

Rev. John Bell, the oldest minister of the English Presbyterian Church, died in Newcastle on 26th ult., from the result of a fall three weeks ago.

The street preaching in Cork of Rev. F. W. Ainley has led to great rioting, he and his wife being pelted with mud on one occasion by an enormous mob.

A Congregational Temperance Association for Ireland has been organized with Rev. W. Newman Hall, a nephew of Rev. Dr. Newman Hall, as its secretary.

Rev. Wm. Peters, M.A., of Kinross died on 26th ult. in the 74th year of his age and 49th of his ministry. He was held in high esteem by the parishioners.

The Rev. Dr. Talmage, of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, contemplates starting on a tour of the world, preaching and lecturing at his principal stopping places.

The *Kearsage*, the historic United States corvette which sunk the *Alabama* in 1864, has been wrecked on Roncador reef, 200 miles off the coast of Nicaragua.

The papal revenues show a large decrease, which is partly accounted for by the displeasure of the French royalists. The Pope, however, looks to the United States to put things right.

An English Lutheran Church Extension Society has been organized in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn. The object is to care for the English young people of the Missouri Synod.

The annual report of Bridge-of-Weir church shows a revenue of £718, exclusive of the endowment, a reduction of £288 on the manse debt, and an addition of £20 to the stipend.

Rev. John Glasse, of Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh, in proposing the health of Prof. Pfeiderer at the Edinburgh Burns Club dinner, spoke of him as the greatest theologian in Europe.

Rev. F. A. Conradi, pastor of the Eastern Avenue German church, Baltimore, Md., has introduced English services every other Sunday. In this way he is enabled to hold the young people.

The death of Sir Gerald Portal removes one of the most capable men in the diplomatic service. He was but thirty-six, and had already come to be looked on as a successor to Lord Cromer in Egypt.

By the will of the late Sir Thomas M'Clure, Bart., a share of the residue of his estate is left for the promotion of religion and education in conformity with the principles of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland.

Rev. Ivie M. MacLachlan, who was the first minister of Uddingston Church, died on the 24th ult., at Bothwell, where he took up his residence after resigning his charge eight years ago owing to weak health.

Two hundred and four years ago George Fox, the founder of the Quakers, died in White Hart Court, Grace Church Street. A few days before he preached in the adjoining meeting-house, at that time the only Quaker resort in London.

Mr. Eugene Wason, M.P., speaking recently in Ayrshire of disestablishment, said he was lost in amazement that a sensible body of men should not seize gladly the present opportunity to put an end to the wretched squabble that was injuring the cause of Christianity in Scotland.

A Gentleman

Who formerly resided in Connecticut, but who now resides in Honolulu, writes: "For 20 years past, my wife and I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor, and we attribute to it the dark hair which she and I now have, while hundreds of our acquaintances, ten or a dozen years younger than we, are either gray-headed, white, or bald. When asked how our hair has retained its color and fullness, we reply, 'By the use of Ayer's Hair Vigor—nothing else.'"

"In 1868, my affianced was nearly bald, and the hair kept falling out every day. I induced her to use Ayer's Hair Vigor, and very soon, it not only checked any further loss of hair, but produced an entirely new growth, which has remained luxuriant and glossy to this day. I can recommend this preparation to all in need of a genuine hair-restorer. It is all that it is claimed to be."—Antonio Alarrun, Bastrop, Tex.

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR

When writing to advertisers please mention THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Shareholders of the above Company was held at its offices at Toronto on Thursday, 22nd February, 1894. Mr. A. M. Smith, President, occupied the chair and Mr. J. J. Kenny, Managing Director, was appointed to act as secretary to the meeting. The secretary read the following:

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

The Directors have pleasure in presenting herewith the Forty-Third Annual Report of the Company, with the revenue and expenditure and profit and loss accounts for the year ending 31st December last and statement of assets and liabilities at the close of the year.

In conformity with the resolutions passed at the special meeting of Shareholders held on the 22nd of February last the paid-up capital of the Company has been increased to \$1,000,000 and the total cash assets now amount to \$2,412,642.63.

In regard to the business transacted during the year, it will be noted that the premium income shows a moderate increase over that of 1892; but while the rates of premium obtained have, as a rule, been such as, judging by past experience, would have been ample to yield a fair profit in an ordinary year, they have not proved sufficient to meet the exceptional losses which this Company—in common with others doing business in Canada and the United States—has sustained during 1893. Your Directors consider, however, that the causes to which no inconsiderable proportion of the excessive destruction of property by fire during the past twelve months is attributable, may be regarded as of a transitory nature, while its effects are likely to be experienced in succeeding years in the maintenance of adequate rates to fully reimburse companies for the losses they have sustained. The experience of this company in the past, as will be seen by a reference to its annual reports, confirms this opinion, and at the same time demonstrates the wisdom of accumulating in prosperous times an ample reserve to meet the demands of adverse years. In this connection it may not be out of place to refer here to the fact that from the earnings of the five years preceding the one under review we have been able, after paying dividends at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, to carry \$315,000 to our reserve fund; and although in a business such as that we are engaged in no reliable forecast can be made of the probable outcome of any one year, your Directors feel that they have every reason to anticipate that the future experience of the Company will prove at least as favourable as its record in the past.

The Directors feel that the thanks of the Shareholders are due to the officers and agents of the Company for their work in a year which has been a particularly trying one to all concerned.

Summary of Financial Statement.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.	
Total income.....	\$2,525,808 09
Expenditure (including appropriation for all losses reported to 31st Dec., 1893).....	2,426,776 93
Total assets.....	2,412,642 63
Reserve fund.....	1,000,000 00
Surplus for policy-holders.....	2,098,086 68

The President, in moving the adoption of the report, said:

In the report you have just heard read, the Directors have placed before the Shareholders what I think must be regarded as a clear and intelligible statement of the transactions of the Company for the past year, and of its financial condition at the close of 1893. We have referred to the experience of the Company in the past and to our anticipations for its future, and briefly alluded to the exceptional conditions which have prevailed throughout the financial and commercial world; but it may not be inappropriate for me to extend my observations somewhat, and call your attention for a few moments to the general experience of companies, during the trying times through which we have passed, in the

business in which we are engaged. Insurance has been called the hand-maiden of commerce, and it must be admitted that without the protection it offers, the trade and commerce of the country would become paralyzed. Upon the security afforded by insurance companies every merchant and manufacturer is largely dependent, and upon this same protection our banks, loan companies and other financial institutions rely for immunity from the risk of loss by fire and marine disaster; in fact, underwriters may be regarded as endorers, in a limited sense, of almost every commercial and financial transaction of the business community. With these intimate relations existing it might naturally be supposed that insurance companies could not fail to be affected in no slight degree by the disturbed conditions prevailing in all branches of trade during 1893, and a few extracts from the statements of the companies which have been published in Canada and the United States, will afford conclusive evidence that this has been the case. The thirty-seven companies licensed by the Dominion Government to do business in Canada report total premium receipts for the year of \$6,740,958 and total losses of \$4,970,266, a ratio of losses to premium of 73½ per cent., or 12 per cent. in excess of the average ratio of the preceding six years; and in the United States, although the total figures of all the companies doing business there have not yet been compiled, we find in the report just issued by the New York State Superintendent of Insurance, unquestionable evidence that the business of the country has been done at a considerable loss to the companies. This report embraces the statements of one hundred and twenty-eight American and foreign companies doing fire and marine business in the United States, and shows a shrinkage of nearly \$10,000,000 in the combined surplus funds of these companies compared with that which they had a year ago, due to the extraordinary losses of the past year and to the decline in the market value of many of their assets.

Turning from these figures to our own experience we find that our loss ratio in Canada is nearly ten per cent. below the average of the companies as a whole, and that in the United States we compare favorably with the American and foreign companies doing business there. I feel, therefore, that I may sum up the result of our year's business by saying that, comparatively speaking, we regard it as a favorable one when we consider the general experience as demonstrated by the figures I have quoted.

In presenting the last annual report to the shareholders a year ago I pointed out that in the preceding twenty-seven years, during which I had the honor of occupying a seat at this board, we had, notwithstanding the adverse experience of several years in which expenditure exceeded income, been able, out of the earnings of the business, to pay \$1,015,000 in dividends to Shareholders, and to carry nearly \$900,000 to our reserve fund; and before resuming my seat it may be well for me to state briefly the grounds upon which the Directors base the opinions expressed in their report, and at least an equally favorable record may be looked for in the future.

First, let me say that our business is subject to elements largely beyond human control, as well as sensitive to the fluctuations and disturbances of the commercial world, and that we cannot reduce it to anything like an exact science nor estimate with any degree of certainty the losses which are likely to occur in any one year. Nevertheless the history of fire insurance shows—and our own records confirm this—that, notwithstanding the fact that we occasionally meet years which are liable to upset our calculations as to rates which should yield a profit, if we take a period (say of five to ten years) sufficient to equalize fluctuations such as I have referred to, we find that the premiums are sufficient to yield a profit to the companies after paying all losses and expenses. Further, we believe that the present rates of premium, speaking generally, are such as are likely to prove remunerative, and that with these maintained, as they doubtless will be, and a return to anything like a normal fire record, companies will be reimbursed for the loss of 1893, and I am glad to be in a position to say that during the past few months losses have steadily diminished and that thus far in the present year we have nothing to complain of in this respect. Our confidence in the future is also largely based upon the present strong financial condition of the Company, possessing as it does assets of upwards of \$2,400,000, which must continue to command for it a liberal share of the best business of this continent.

The Vice-President seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the President and the Board of Directors for their services and attention to the interests of the Company during the year.

The election of Directors for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted in the unanimous re-election of the old board, viz: Messrs. A. M. Smith, Geo. A. Cox, Hon. S. C. Wood, Robt. Beatty, G. R. R. Cockburn, M.P., Geo. McMurrich, H. N. Baird, W. R. Brock and J. J. Kenny. At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held subsequently, Mr. A. M. Smith was re-elected President and Mr. Geo. A. Cox Vice-President for the ensuing year.

Pure aluminum is too pliable for some of the uses to which it has been proposed to devote it, but experiments in alloying it will unquestionably increase the serviceability and applications of that metal in time. Chromium, the addition of which has such a good effect in hardening steel, has lately been tried abroad with aluminum. The result is gratifying, but the difficulties of effecting the combination are great. Wolfram, a mineral containing tungsten, iron and manganese, has also been alloyed with aluminum, and the product has lately been placed on the market in England. This metal is almost as light as pure aluminum, but more ductile and harder. It can be worked like mild steel.

Mr. P. D. Gallagher, Dominion Cotton Mills, Brantford, Ont., writes under date of Sept. 25th, 1893: "My ankles were much swollen with rheumatism, and looked ready to burst; in fact my stockings were removed with difficulty, and I suffered much pain. St. Jacobs Oil was applied, which eased the pain at once, and the use of one bottle performed a permanent cure."