



William Hendry and the Mutual Life

TO the late William Hendry, the Company is indebted for laying the foundation of the institution upon a scientific basis. At first the premiums were inadequate, but provision was made in the policies issued for an additional assessment in case the mortality should require it. From the beginning of his incumbency, Mr. Hendry realized that this would be neither correct nor safe. In consequence, one of his first steps was to secure the advice of Hon. Elizur Wright, of Boston, the consulting actuary of the young company, and together they evolved a table of adequate premium rates. Upon his return the new manager undertook the task of commending this new scale of premiums to the policyholders and the public. To accomplish this he added to the heavy duties of his position the work of lecturing in the towns of Western Ontario on the true principles which underlie the practice of life insurance. In the end he succeeded in establishing the Company on a firm and lasting basis and his subsequent studies and experience made him one of the most prominent life underwriters of his day in Canada.

In coming years, if tablets should be erected to the memory of those who have served the Company in the past, the first to be set up should be those of Cyrus M. Taylor and William Hendry. It was Mr.