

insurance agent. Heretofore I have paid my subscriptions to your traveller, Mr. Oliver, who is an old friend, but I am after the 'Pocket Slate' this time, and was afraid I would be left out."

In answer to many enquirers, we would say that the souvenir was prepared, after our own design, by Messrs. Brown Brothers, wholesale stationers of this city.

TORONTO BOARD OF TRADE.

The annual meeting of the Board was held yesterday afternoon, and was numerously attended. Mr. John I. Davidson, the retiring president, delivered a voluminous address, after which Mr. H. N. Baird, the new president, took the chair. Both Mr. Baird and Mr. Hugh Blain, the first vice-president, thanked the Board for the honor of their election. The report of the council and that of the treasurer were adopted. The result of the voting for other officers than those mentioned was made known at a late hour last night. The following are the new officers:

President.—H. N. Baird.

First Vice-President.—Hugh Blain.

Second Vice-President.—S. F. McKinnon.

Council, in order of vote—Messrs. William Christie, D. R. Wilkie, W. R. Brock, W. D. Matthews, Warring Kennedy, A. A. Allan, Geo. H. Bertram, G. M. Bosworth, A. B. Lee, B. Cumberland, John Donogh, W. B. Hamilton, R. W. Elliot, S. Caldecott, John Earls.

Board of Arbitration—Messrs. George A. Chapman, J. H. G. Hagarty, W. Galbraith, Jos. Oliver, J. D. Laidlaw, R. J. Stark, R. S. Baird, T. Flynn, Chas. Pearson, Thomas McLaughlin, S. Crane, Wm. Spink.

Harbor Commission.—Messrs. J. T. Matthews and A. M. Smith.

Industrial Exhibition.—Messrs. James Carruthers, W. B. Hamilton, W. C. Matthews.

AMHERSTBURG BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

In October last the merchants of Amherstburg held a meeting and formed a provisional board of directors and temporary officers of a body to be known as a board of trade or business men's association. We now observe that at a meeting of Amherstburg business men, held on Tuesday, 13th inst., the report of a committee appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, reported in favor of naming the body The Amherstburg Business Men's Association. Between thirty and forty gentlemen were present. The report was read clause by clause and adopted. We regret that it is impossible to make room for it to-day. The objects are stated to be: To encourage well-directed enterprise; to promote the growth of the town and the extension of its trade; to increase acquaintanceship and foster commercial integrity; to take concerted action in matters pertaining to the general good where individual effort is powerless. The body is to meet twice a month, and the annual meeting to be held in January.

When it was proposed that the provisional officers and board should be the permanent officers for 1892, Mr. J. D. Burk modestly disclaimed the needful experience for the presidency of such a body. But his fellow merchants evidently thought him the man, for they made him president. The other officers, as named in our issue of Oct. 30th, were also confirmed in office. Verbal reports were then made by Mr. Auld and others as to the pros-

pects of the Lake Erie and Detroit River railway running to Amherstburg. The prolongation of the Windsor and Sandwich Electric road was also on the tapis. Mr. McGee was not committed to "the Walker Road," as the one first named is called, but was in favor of any road. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Mr. Walker. It was agreed also to take steps to open up trade between Amherstburg and Pelee Island, Lake Erie. On the question of reducing insurance rates owing to the new water system of the town, the reeve sensibly remarked that "we were hardly in a position to have the inspector at present."

BANK OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The annual statement of the Bank of New Brunswick shows the profits of that institution over and above expenses of management to have been \$99,961 last year. Six per cent. dividend was paid on half a million capital, and taxes \$6,892, also came out of the profits, which, by the way, were not so great by three and a half per cent. as in 1890. The overdue debts at the close of last year were \$13,112. The total of Rest and Contingent Fund now exceeds \$500,000.

INSURANCE ITEMS.

The Guarantee Company of North America gives notice of a half-yearly dividend of 3 per cent. The annual meeting of the company is to be held in Montreal on 27th inst.

A dividend of five per cent. for the half year is declared by the Quebec Assurance Company. The annual meeting for this old company is advertised for 1st February.

The Minister of Finance received a deputation last week consisting of Mr. Mark Cowen, president of the Ontario Underwriters' Association; Mr. H. G. Corthern, of the Quebec association; Mr. F. L. Junkin, of the Sun Life, Montreal, and Messrs. Junkin, Haycock and Oxley, of Ottawa. They presented a petition signed by the managers of nearly every old line life insurance company in Canada, asking for amendments to the Insurance Act to provide for the licensing of agents and the abolition of rebates. The amendments if carried out would be in the public interest, as tending to ensure stability in insurance agents. The deputation received promises of consideration.

"Will I get my thousand dollars if I die a natural life," was the question fired at one of the agents for an accident insurance company by a genial Irishman on the police force Friday night, says the London *Free Press*. The speaker saw the bull as soon as the other fellows, however, and was right in the first laugh.

"What's the extra about?" was the question I put to a smart little newsboy in Fourteenth street this morning, relates a New Yorker. "The prince from England is dead, sir. Two cents. Extra! Buy, sir? Eh!" "Where did he die?" I asked while fumbling for the change. "Don't know, sir; somewhere down town, sir. I think it was the Astor House. Two cents, sir. Thanks!"

We learn that the entire business of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of New York, has been reinsured by the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company, the contract taking effect from noon on Saturday, January 16th. The *Bulletin* says that the Standard's risks were very carefully selected, and the Liverpool & London & Globe therefore gets an unusually desirable reinsurance.

The annual statement of the Phenix Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, has just appeared. It shows total assets of \$5,187,267.60, including the following items: Cash capital, \$1,000,000; reserve for unearned premiums, \$3,392,273.91; reserve for unpaid losses and all other claims, \$284,272.50; net surplus, \$510,721.19. The company has declared a semi-annual dividend of five per cent.

Among the recent death claims paid was one upon the life of John W. Cumings, who for twenty-nine years carried a policy in the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, and whose death was the result of an accident. Moral, Keep insured.

A Boston letter says that Augustus N. Doe, ex-treasurer of the Bay State League, an endowment order having 22,000 members, was arrested on Thursday last, charged with the embezzlement of \$15,610 of the league's funds. The order is in the hands of a receiver.

The Massachusetts Benefit Association of Boston, having deposited \$50,000 with the Dominion Government, has begun business in Canada. We learn from the *Halifax Chronicle* that J. G. Foster, of that city, has been appointed solicitor and chief representative in Canada, but the head office is in Toronto under the management of Charles Punchard. Although a comparatively new concern, it claims to do the largest natural life premium business in New England members. "The charges on premiums are made proportionate to what is actually necessary for expenses, and a moderate amount to be added to the reserve fund."

"Your hotel is a regular fire trap, sir," said a guest to the proprietor. "If that is true it is a very poor trap, for it has never caught fire yet," was the reply.—*N. Y. Sun*.

On Saturday of last week was held in Winnipeg a meeting of the provincial directors of the Great Western Life Assurance Company. Those present completed two formal organizations of the company by passing the necessary by-laws and resolutions. Stock books will be opened at once and the stock allotted. It was decided to place \$300,000 of stock on the market, and it is anticipated that the bulk of this will be taken up in Manitoba and in the city of Winnipeg. These western men are "hustlers" when they undertake anything of this kind. Mr. Jeffrey Brock was appointed secretary. Messrs. J. H. Ashdown, Riley and McIntyre are a finance committee.

We learn that Mr. M. B. Clemens, of Berlin, has been appointed inspector for the Mercantile Insurance Company of Waterloo. He was well thought of as a citizen in Berlin, and is expected to prove a competent man for the company.

We observe that the Ontario Life Underwriters' Association holds its annual meeting in Toronto on Saturday next, to which all regular life insurance agents are invited. The business of the meeting, we are told, will be the discussion of matters of importance to the profession and the election of officers.

We learn that Mr. Wm. McBride has been appointed manager of the North American Life Insurance Company for Manitoba and the Territories, and enters upon his duties at once. This company has rented new offices over the Bank of Ottawa in Winnipeg.

At the annual meeting of the board of insurance underwriters in Winnipeg recently, G. W. Girdlestone was elected president and R. H. Hayward re-appointed secretary-treasurer. That board is debating the subject of re-rating western towns.