

million. Lumber forwarded, shipments by way of Georgian Bay were 4,110,891 feet. Local shipments [we presume by rail], 2,019,010 feet; also some 18,260 maple blocks. Coal received by C. P. R., 9,950 tons.

The reports having been adopted, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. Parker having decided to retire from the presidency, after long service, Mr. James McLaughlan was unanimously chosen president. For the vice presidency, Mr. Wm. Keough was proposed, but declined, proposing in turn Mr. B. Allen for the office, who was elected. The secretaryship was resigned by Mr. J. R. Brown; the proposal was made that Mr. J. H. Rutherford be secretary; others proposed Mr. Wm. Wilson. The office was given to Mr. Rutherford. A ballot being taken for members of council, it was found that the following ten members were elected: S. J. Parker, C. Eaton, J. C. Paterson, W. B. Stephens, S. Lloyd, M. Kennedy, W. Kough, John Wright, R. Wightman, W. Brown. The board of arbitrators appointed were: D. R. Dobie, Geo. Inglis, R. Edgar, John Harrison, R. J. Doyle, George Price, D. Rutherford, John Rutherford, H. H. O'Reilly, Jas. Wait, J. W. Redfern, and R. McKnight.

GODERICH BOARD OF TRADE.

The annual meeting of this board was held on the 13th February. It appears from the report that no meetings of the board had been held between March, 1892, and January, 1893, commercial matters requiring attention being dealt with by the executive committee. It is recommended to the town council that the steam fire engine be sold and a chemical engine purchased. A memorial had been sent to Government asking for a new survey of the easterly shore of Lake Huron, also the south shore of Manitoulin and Cockburn Islands. Improvements to the harbor are shortly to be begun. The general review of trade made in the report says that "trade has been healthy, failures unknown." Fully 40,000 barrels of apples were shipped from the town in 1892. While, as the report declares, eight pans such as are in use at Goderich would make all the salt that could be sold in Canada, there are to-day 24 manufactories in the following places: Goderich, Clinton, Seaforth, Kincardine, Blyth, Wingham, Brussels, Parkhill, Courtwright, Exeter, Hensall, Sarnia and Port Frank. The total consumption of salt in Canada is about 900,000 bbls. The total sale of Canadian salt is 300,000, leaving about $\frac{2}{3}$ for Canadian producers; the balance or $\frac{1}{3}$ is imported from England and the United States. The output of Goderich salt in 1892 was 80,000 barrels. A sensible recommendation is made that the natural beauty of the town should be added to by street improvement and the planting of trees, and it is urged that the salubrity of Goderich, its mineral waters and the artesian water works system, render it a desirable site for a great summer hotel.

QUEEN CITY FIRE.

When the company was started many years ago its subscribed capital was \$100,000, but of this only \$10,000 (ten thousand) was paid up. It is a wonderful showing, that, without calling in another dollar from stockholders, the paid capital has been increased by earnings to \$50,000 paid up, and a Reserve Fund of \$75,000 has been accumulated. And year by year the shareholders got a dividend, the amount of which annually of late has been 25 to 50

per cent. of what they originally paid up. The Queen City has now accumulated over and above the needed re insurance reserve, more than \$150,000 in real estate, bank stock, first mortgages and cash, besides which it has \$50,000 of uncalled capital. This exhibit of surplus assets is in strong proportion to the risks in force. The year's income was \$27,403 and the losses only \$3,995. With some apparent satisfaction the president referred to the fact that the Queen City had never been forced into a court of law. It is the boast of the managers of this company that they underwrite or refuse to underwrite properties upon their merits.

FIRE INSURANCE EXCHANGE.

The Fire Insurance Exchange, while it has not increased its business to the figures expected, gives a very good account of the result of the business it did last year. With risks under \$1,200,000, and a premium income of \$28,000, it placed to Profit and Loss a credit balance of \$13,396, its fire losses being only \$8,421. The President was able to make the announcement that the combined fire loss and expense ratio of the company since it began has been only 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., which is a most exceptionally low rate. The list of the company's guarantors includes, we observe, the names of more than forty well-known professional and business men, who appear satisfied that they are getting cheap insurance.

NEW STYLES OF SHOES.

The Parisian styles for spring shoes are more fanciful than ever. Clearly the season is to be marked by gorgeous and bizarre effects in footwear. A "Botte Mercure" is used for fancy balls. It is made of cardinal red leather. Wings of gold set with rubies and precious stones, sweep around the quarter. The boot is high cut, and a band of precious stones is at the top. The "cothurne Tunon" is a sandal whose sole is thickened with cork and the quarter is gilded leather embossed with roses. Gold straps cross the instep, which is entirely open; the toes and front of the foot are undressed. These two styles are reproductions of those of ancient Greece. A "Soulier," Louis XV, is a Moliere shoe with long, square tongue. The upper is mouse color, the heel bright red. This is a revival of a fashion two hundred years old, but yet modern as compared with the first two described, which are such as formed the footwear of Cleopatra. An Egyptian slipper is odd in style. The sole is moccasin shape, turns up around the foot. The toe is peaked and turns up. A little ball of fluffy silk is fastened to the extremity of the toe. Cloth in Oriental design and high colors forms the upper. Another shoe of blue silk, embroidered, is cut high at the back, and has only vamp enough to cover the toe. This is a party shoe to be worn without stockings! says, with dreadful emphasis, the modest *Shoe and Leather Reporter*.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE of Politics, Science, Art and Literature. Ontario Publishing Co., Toronto.—This is a good magazine. Not only is it plainly printed and well proof-read, not only is it free from the thick padding of disagreeable advertisements—to put its minor (though to some people they are not minor), attractions first—but, it is well written. Some

good people write for it; they have something serious to say, and say it well, while there are lighter contributions of the nature of sketches, from life or fancy. For example of the latter, "An Open Window" is a strong story; "The Regenerators" has a pleasing, present-day flavor about it. Professor Clark's paper on "Conduct and Manner" is just what we should have expected of him, scholarly and kindly in its treatment of the theme, with, however, a firm tone where blemishes in national conduct or manner need to be dealt with. The New York Nation has admitted that, thanks to "the delusion that to maintain his Republican equality an American has to be seriously or indifferent after the manner of hotel clerks and expressmen, or too often that of salesmen and 'sales-ladies' in stores, we [i. e., the Americans] have probably the worst-mannered children in the civilized world." And the professor asks whether these remarks have any application to us Canadians? Unfortunately, as he shows, and as we know, they have. A paper by D'Alton McCarthy, M.P., discusses the present attitude of the Canadian Privy Council towards the Manitoba School Law with some asperity. The writer comments upon "the novel and unexampled proceedings now pending" before the body mentioned, "with a view, if it be possible, to find a reasonable pretext to overturn the decision of the Judicial Committee, which affirmed that the Act was constitutional." But the raciest thing we have found in the issue is Principal Grant's arraignment of our rulers at Ottawa for their unpardonable tax upon knowledge in the shape of the import duty on books. He searches the countries of the Old and New World, but without avail, to find a parallel to this excrescence upon our much-vaunted National Policy. "Why," he asks, "is a tax continued that is so useless as a means of raising a revenue, and useless as a protection to native industry, that is contrary to the object the National Policy professes to aim at, injurious to the best interests of the country, odious to the instinct of every educated man, and opposed to the practice of the civilized world? I cannot answer—I have never been able to get an answer." The Canadian deserves to succeed.

INSURANCE NOTES.

No more pitiful thing can well be conceived than the slow, steady, relentless burning of a wooden town on the prairies, which has no fire appliances. This is the fate which seems to have overtaken, on this night week, the new and growing village of Wawanessa, on the N. P. & M. Railway, in South Manitoba. The place had no adequate means of fighting fire, and so store after store, and house after house, took fire and burned before the eyes of the villagers.

An evidence of German thrift was exhibited in the main office of the Mutual Life the other week, when a good-natured representative of the Fatherland appeared with two large tobacco boxes filled with silver coin. They contained \$102 in half and quarter dollars. He said: "I pays dot premium efery week. I puts in two tollars a week into der box."

A life man tells this story: "The holder of an endowment policy for \$2,000 in our company came to the cashier's window last week and secured a cheque for its face and the additions. Said he: 'Do you know I took this policy just to get rid of the agent? I might as well have taken \$50,000 as \$2,000; I could have paid for it. I thought I could invest my