

appearance of that section of the country. He thought it specially suited for the raising of sheep and cattle; he also referred to the necessity of opening up new roads, and to the progress being made in that work. He also spoke of the rich mineral products of that district in a somewhat lengthy and very interesting speech. Mr. Blomfield, who introduced the Company's representatives from England, spoke of the progress of the settlement in the way of building mills, completion of roads, &c. We shall be glad to learn that Mr. Blomfield's persistent efforts to get a wooden railway into that section have been rewarded with success. Such a road would soon repay the outlay, in the increased price of produce raised in the back townships, and in the enhanced value of the settlers' and company's lands.

THE CITIZENS' INSURANCE COMPANY (OF CANADA.)

Subscribed Capital 1,000,000

Especially empowered by Act of Parliament, and fully authorized by Government under the Insurance Bill.

HUGH ALLAN, - - - - - PRESIDENT.

Life Department.

THIS sound and reliable Canadian Company—formed by the association of nearly 100 of the wealthiest citizens of Montreal—issues policies on all the Modern Plans, including—Limited Payments, Endowments, Part Credit Premiums (without notes), Income Producing System; and several new and valuable plans.

A comparison of the very Low Rates, and of the liberal and unrestrictive nature of this Company's Policies, with those of any other Company, British or American, is especially invited.

All Life Policies are absolutely Non-forfeitable. Persons intending to assure their lives are particularly requested to first examine the Prospectus, List of Shareholders, and Policies of this Company, which, together with all information concerning the constitution of the Company, the working of the various plans, &c., may be obtained at the

Head Office, Montreal—No. 71 GREAT ST. JAMES STREET,

EDWARD RAWLINGS, Manager.

Agent for Toronto: W. T. MASON. Agent for Hamilton: R. BENNER.

The Canadian Monetary Times.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1869.

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO'S.

We give this week the official statement for the year 1867-8, of the affairs of the Mutual Fire Insurance Companies of the Province of Ontario. The period covered is from June 1867 to June 1868. The returns made by the Companies vary somewhat in date, but for all practical purposes, the table given elsewhere furnishes a pretty accurate idea of what the Mutuals have been doing. According to the official figures, the Mutual Fire Companies of Ontario have at risk \$56,507,013, while the stock companies of Ontario and Quebec have \$144,224,449.

There are twenty Mutual Fire Companies doing business in the Province of Ontario. The assets, including \$1,092,777 of premium notes, give a total of \$1,296,340, against liabilities \$330,736: This last sum includes \$213,715, of a re-insurance fund, for outstanding risks, but it does not appear at what rate this calculation is made. The total premium income was \$228,267, made up of \$131,594 assessments on notes, and \$96,173

cash premiums; 30,213 new and renewal policies were issued, in amount \$21,826,717. The losses paid during the year were \$144,550; those in suspense \$17,002; those resisted \$13,709; total \$175,261.

THE EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The withdrawal of this Company from Canada after the passage of the Insurance Act, which required a deposit with the Government as a condition precedent to the continuance of its license to do business, is a matter on which many Canadians have, doubtless, good reason to congratulate themselves. The Company did a large business here in its guarantee branch. By a Dominion enactment (31 Vic. c. 37, sec. 16) the Governor in Council was empowered to authorize the "bond or policy of guarantee of the European Assurance Society" to be accepted as security for the due performance of their trust, and accounting for public monies by the officers of Canada. The Ontario Legislature passed an Act (32 Vic., c. 29, s. 16) similar in terms. Various public companies throughout the country held their policies of guarantee. How many of such are still in existence, we cannot tell, as we believe the Citizens' Assurance Company of Montreal took over the greater part of the European's business on the withdrawal of the latter.

The European was established in 1854, and since then has absorbed no less than 33 other companies. Its guarantee branch was based on a special Act of the Imperial Parliament (22 Vic. cap. 25) which provided for the creation of a reserve fund in Government securities, specially applicable to such guarantees. In 1865, doubts were entertained respecting the soundness of the Company, and attention was publicly directed to the state of its affairs, but at a general meeting of shareholders in March last, "there was," says the *Times*, "perfect unanimity in denouncing the statements and motives of every one who had questioned the position of the Society, and votes of thanks to all concerned were passed with acclamation." As usual the Directors were all honorable men. According to the *Times*, "it is not the last lamentable part of the affair that the Board of Directors comprises the names of men of whose individual honor and intentions there can be no doubt." In spite of the honorable character of the Directors, and of the unanimous denunciation of those who had pointed out the real condition of the Company, the European has now the honor of figuring in the Court of Chancery on an application to have it wound up. The petitioner stated that £100,000 were due on policies and no means were available to meet the liabilities. The subscribed

capital is £780,000 in shares of £2 10s. each, on which 16s. 6d. per share is paid up; this 16s. 6d. having been composed of 10s. originally paid, 1s. 6d. credited to the shareholders as a profit bonus, and 5s. from a call made about a month ago. The assets applicable to the life assurances were stated on 31st December last, at £490,729. The outstanding policies are stated to be about eleven millions sterling; in addition to which the Company is under contract for the payment of annuities amounting to £16,000 per annum. The Company had also a large guarantee business about £40,000 out of an annual premium income of £338,294, coming from that source. The following is the balance sheet on December 1, 1868:

Dr.	
Subscribed capital	£779,349 11 0
Sundry accounts	18,248 5 0
Life assurance fund	490,729 9 3
	£1,288,327 5 3
Cr.	
Amount invested in Consols and Indian Government bonds	£42,550 0 6
Do. in foreign Gov't funds	41,602 9 8
Do. in Colonial securities	6,650 2 7
Do. in mortgages, life interests, reversions and balance of purchase of business account	348,880 6 11
Do. in loans on the Society's policies and half credit premiums	106,696 9 9
Lease of premises, furniture and fixtures	13,083 4 2
Premiums in course of payment at chief offices, agts' balances and sundry accounts	33,155 17 9
Balance at Banker—	
Deposit accts. £36,959 4 6	
Current accts. 13,144 12 8	
	50,102 17 2
Cash in hand	54 2 9
Capital at call	595,550 14 7
	£1,288,327 5 3

The *Times* thus comments upon the array of figures—

"The account for the year 1868 is of much worse character, and the Society were evidently driven to frame it in a new form, so as to prevent the figures from being too readily contrasted with those of its predecessor. Accordingly, where in the first account the share capital was properly put at the amount paid up, namely, £182,754, the 'subscribed' capital was now placed, amounting to £779,349, an opportunity being thus given for the insertion of an item on the credit side of £595,550, under the designation of 'capital at call'—a total which some shareholders or assessors, in their profound credulity, may even have looked upon as money lying at call at bankers' and discount establishments, instead of understanding that it simply represented the uncalled amount for which the shareholders were still liable. The true figures of this report for 1868 show that the assets had actually experienced since 1857 a diminution of £65,091, while among these diminished assets was a new and most questionable item of 'Foreign Government funds, £41,602.' Meanwhile, with rapidly diminishing assets, there is understood to have been a large and constant increase of liabilities on new policies and annuities grant-