

**THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE CO.**

The annual statement of the Manchester, presented in another column, on the business of 1892, is a very satisfactory one, which is getting to be the fashion with that company since Mr. Moffat took the helm four years ago as manager. The first year of his management showed premium receipts amounting to \$816,840, increasing in 1890 to \$1,001,020, in 1891 to \$1,770,395, and in 1892 to \$2,579,010. Each year has shown a good margin of profit on underwriting account, the excess last year of premiums over losses and expenses being \$218,275, and adding interest to premiums, the excess was \$287,185. Considering the unusual fire losses of 1892, the Manchester's loss ratio of 58.6 per cent. may be considered as exceptionally favorable we think. After paying a 12½ per cent. dividend to shareholders, the snug sum of \$193,435 was left from the year's transactions to carry to the reserve fund, which now amounts to \$1,568,495, an increase since 1889 of \$1,126,595. In the meantime the paid-up capital has been increased from \$500,000 to \$750,000. The total assets on December 31st last had grown to the very comfortable sum of \$2,762,190. The United States business of the company has been well handled since its advent there, and has yielded a very fair margin of profit. Of the Canadian business the same may be said. With a premium income last year of \$120,091, the losses incurred were \$68,570, or about 57 per cent. of the premiums, which certainly is a creditable record, as compared with the general average of all companies in the Dominion of about 63½ per cent. Mr. James Boomer, the Dominion manager, has shown commendable per severing enterprise, and has justified the expectation of his many friends. We regard the future outlook for the Manchester as a very hopeful one indeed.

**NEW YORK FIRE INSURANCE REPORT.**

From the recently issued insurance report of Superintendent Pierce of New York we present the following general summary and comparisons of business:—

**GENERAL SUMMARY.**

At the close of the year 1892, the fire, fire-marine and marine insurance companies doing business in this State were possessed of \$256,535,520 of admitted assets, not including assets held abroad or premium notes of mutual companies, an increase of \$8,115,163 as compared with 1891. The liabilities of these companies, excepting scrip and capital, were \$127,567,741, an increase of \$8,509,756 over the return of the preceding year. The receipts were \$144,534,697 and the disbursements \$154,852,181, an increase, as compared with 1891, of \$13,518,002 in receipts and of \$11,210,835 in disbursements. The whole number of companies reporting in 1892 was 154, being one more than reported in 1891.

**BUSINESS OF 1891 AND 1892 COMPARED.**

The following tables show a comparison of the business of 1891 with the business of 1892, viz:—

**New York Joint-Stock Fire Companies.**

	1891.	1892.
Number of companies.....	42	40
Assets.....	\$ 62,997,565	\$ 63,947,365
Liabilities, exc. scrip and capital...	30,862,270	32,020,448
Capital.....	17,000,000	16,650,010
Surplus.....	15,132,239	15,369,559
Premiums received.....	28,489,972	31,459,897
Total receipts.....	30,906,103	33,966,572
Losses paid.....	17,304,644	19,762,918
Dividends paid.....	1,679,767	1,628,442
Total disbursements.....	30,307,728	33,526,496
Risks in force.....	5,250,431,822	5,174,587,394

**Joint-Stock Fire Cos. of Other States.**

	1891.	1892.
Number of companies.....	62	65
Assets.....	\$ 107,104,700	\$ 112,072,902
Liabilities, exc. scrip and capital..	46,692,005	50,935,914
Capital.....	34,732,200	35,435,075
Surplus.....	25,683,721	25,719,531
Premiums received.....	46,200,305	51,684,773
Total receipts.....	51,275,827	56,647,093
Losses paid.....	28,937,175	32,233,832
Dividends paid.....	4,037,956	3,846,031
Total disbursements.....	49,287,412	53,969,750
Risks in force.....	5,919,658,194	5,893,152,212

**Foreign Fire Companies of Other Countries, United States Branches.**

	1891.	1892.
Number of companies.....	25	25
Assets.....	\$ 52,827,407	\$ 56,324,823
Liabilities.....	33,847,612	37,711,227
Deposit capital.....	5,000,000	5,000,000
Surplus.....	13,979,795	13,613,596
Premiums received.....	35,870,768	40,941,680
Total receipts.....	37,346,919	42,695,459
Losses paid.....	22,765,634	26,437,409
Total disbursements.....	35,169,329	39,954,593
Risks in force.....	5,176,303,733	5,730,781,480

**THE PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE.**

This company enters upon its nineteenth year under favorable auspices, as indicated by its annual statement for 1892, which we print elsewhere. The new insurance written was \$19,517,516, under 6,734 policies—a gain over 1891 of more than \$3,000,000. The total income was \$1,902,222, of which \$1,851,299 was from premiums and \$50,923 from interest and rents. The total expenditures, including \$1,181,498 paid to policyholders, were \$1,645,640. The excess of income over disbursements was \$256,582, showing a very large gain in this respect over the previous year. Very naturally we look for an increase in the assets, and find \$1,287,010 given as the sum total, against \$1,084,791 for the previous year, a gain of \$202,219. The evidence of the steady growth shown for some time past will be very gratifying to the friends of the company who admire its capable president, Mr. Sheppard Homans. The company has certainly been fortunate in the service rendered it in Canada under the management of Mr. R. H. Matson, who is deservedly popular with agents and with policyholders, and to whose skill and industry it owes the steady growth achieved the past year which, like preceding ones, shows results better than its predecessor. We learn that the income on the Canadian business last year handsomely increased, the total being about \$70,000, and the increase in new insurance over \$500,000. We are not surprised to learn that the company's business for the first quarter of 1893 is largely in excess of the corresponding period last year.

As an episode of the "investigation" set on foot by the populist party in Kansas, designed to throw mud at their political opponents, Insurance Superintendent McBride is charged with dereliction in duty and incompetence. Mr. McBride claims that the Mutual Reserve Fund Life, which he refused to admit to do business in the State, is back of the hostility to him. It is also stated by the newspapers that it will be shown by evidence that the president of the Mutual Reserve offered last fall to pay a large sum into the Republican campaign fund if Superintendent McBride would agree to admit his company. This Mr. Harper denies.