

to have been very satisfactory on the whole, and we think that not only they, but the jewelry trade of the United States have good cause for rejoicing in the fact that since the organization of the league, burglary has become almost unknown amongst its members. The first annual report of the Alliance, issued last June, is very interesting, and we give it in full to our readers.

"During the months of March and April, 1883, the necessity of combined effort to prevent the frequent robberies of jewelers' safes became apparent to a number of the manufacturers and jobbers of New York, and after a number of preliminary meetings for discussion, and the appointment of Committees to prepare Constitution, By-Laws, etc., THE JEWELERS' SECURITY ALLIANCE was organized at a meeting of the trade, April 25th, 1883.

At their first annual meeting, May 6th, 1884, the Executive Committee report having held 90 meetings for admission of members and the transaction of a large amount of routine work, inseparable from the complete organization and perfecting of such an institution.

While our growth was slow during the first three-quarters of the year, owing in part to the difficulty of making known to the trade the benefits of the Alliance in case of burglary, and also the fact that by many it was considered an experiment requiring time to determine its feasibility, the following exhibit of members for each quarter of the year we think most convincing proof of its ultimate success.

Members received	quarter ending	Aug 1st,	52
"	"	Nov 1st,	71
"	"	Feb 1st,	74
"	"	May 6th,	182

From the experience of the past year it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that the principles and mode of operation adopted by the Alliance are correct and entirely practical.

The conviction of the burglars concerned in the "Ellenville" robbery, and their sentence to States Prison for a term of five years, has been of immense benefit, not only to the Alliance, but to the trade at large, and, thus far, thieves have been very careful to avoid all safes protected by an Alliance Certificate.

The cost of membership is \$15.00 for the first year, and \$5.00 per annum thereafter.

The Executive Committee are authorized to levy assessments, but in view of the large and rapid increase of members, it is not probable that any assessment will ever be called for.

The Alliance is a strictly mutual organization. Its officers neither receive nor desire any compensation for their services.

All persons engaged in the jewelry or kindred trades are eligible to membership, and all such are urgently requested to join the Alliance. The readiness with which watches and jewelry can be converted into cash make the safes of retail jewelers especially tempting to burglars, of whom so many have escaped punishment, that their numbers are rapidly increasing. It is the purpose of the Alliance to put a check upon their depredations, by employing skillful detectives to ferret out and bring to punishment the

perpetrators of every robbery committed upon its members.

The cost of such detective work and criminal prosecution will be borne, so far as is expedient by the Alliance, whereby the burden and expense will be transferred from the individual robbed to his many associates. It is intended by this means to so intimidate burglars that they will pass members of the Alliance by unmolested.

This cannot be done, however, without our united effort, and it is therefore earnestly urged upon the trade to send in their application to the Secretary as early as possible.

The Alliance will assume the cost of investigating any robbery of safes that may occur in places of business covered by certificates, and of prosecuting the thieves, as provided for in the Constitution and By Laws of the Alliance.

With a membership of nearly 400 for our first year, and not one of whom has been molested, we unhesitatingly recommend the Alliance to the trade, and solicit for it the support that it merits.

From this it will be seen that the 'American Jewelers Protective Alliance' has proved itself "a good thing," and knowing this, some of our prominent Canadian Jewelers have for some time past been trying to get that Alliance to extend its workings to Canada. After mature consideration, the American Alliance finally decided that it would be unadvisable to do this, but expressed their sympathy for their Canadian brethren, and their willingness to help them in any way that lay in their power. The jewelers of Canada were thus placed in such a position that they must organize a similar association of their own, or do as they have done heretofore, allow the burglar craft to work at will on them. After some consultation amongst several Toronto Jewelers, it was finally decided to call a preliminary meeting, and if things looked promising to form such an Alliance for Canada. At this preliminary meeting but four persons were present, but, feeling the importance of the undertaking, they decided on going ahead and making a canvass of Toronto, and if they met with reasonable success that they would put the thing through. The result of the canvass was, that in Toronto alone in two days nearly fifty names were secured as members, and the success of the scheme assured. A second meeting was called for the purpose of organizing the Alliance, the particulars of which will be found in another column, by which it will be seen that the JEWELERS' SECURITY ALLIANCE of Canada is now an accomplished fact.

So much for the history of the present undertaking. The Alliance having been

organized, it now remains for the trade throughout the country to give it their hearty and loyal support. It is a good thing in itself, and it aims entirely to benefit its members in a direction in which they can hardly, as individuals, help themselves. What it wants now is members. Every jeweler who joins it, makes it a more powerful and dangerous opponent of burglars, and consequently a greater benefit to its members. The only jewelers in Canada who can afford to stay out of it, are those who have safes that are absolutely burglar-proof, (an impossible thing to get) or those who are so wealthy that they can afford to lose all the goods that the enterprising burglar is smart enough to secure. Outside of these, all others ought to join.

We trust that the trade will give a hearty response to the circular that the Alliance is issuing, and that before its first year closes, it can boast of, at least three hundred members.

CHEAP WATCHES.

The present is a phenomenal time in the history of American watch movements, because the supply of cheap movements is equal to the demand, although the demand, on account of last year's poor crops greater than usual. The readers of THE TRADER will remember that more than a year ago we predicted this very state of things, simply because the price of watch movements, like everything else in the commercial world, is governed by the inexorable law of supply and demand. For the past few years trade has been good in the United States, and, as a result of this general prosperity, the demand for American watches exceeded the capacity of the manufacturers. The trade had to have watches, and this was the golden opportunity that the manufacturers were not slow to take advantage of. Being masters of the situation, they dictated terms to the trade which the latter were forced to accept, amongst the principal of which was, that they would only sell a limited number of cheap movements in proportion to the number of high priced ones used. Time, however has its revenge, and as soon as a bad year came, as last year undoubtedly was, the situation was changed, and business being generally dull, the trade could hardly consume more than half of the movements used by them in good times. The effect of this was to compel