HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL

OF CANADA

THOS, GILROY, Mgr. Man, and N.W.T. F. S. BAKER, Cushier

POSITION OF COMPANY 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

ASSETS \$6,388,144 66 INCOME FOR 1896 - -1,886,258 00 LIPE ASSURANCE IN FORCE 38,196,890 92

A STRONG AND POPULAR HOME COMPANY

Offices: Over Moison's Bank WINNIPEG, MAN.

Hardware and Paint Trade

Seal oil has advanced 2 1-2c at Montreal, to 421-20 per gallon for round

Canadian refined petroleum has made a further decline of ic pergallon markets, car lots being in eastern markets, car lots being quoted as low up 11 to 11 1-20 as far east as Montreal. There is sharpeutting in the market.

The American Steel & Wire Co. has of \$87,000,000, this being the largest amount of any company in the United States. It is really a combine of old companies, under a new name.

A Toronto report says: The demoral ed condition of the green wire cloth, arket in Canada is largely due to the failure of the makers in the United States to arrive at an agreement respecting prices. The price at ment respecting prices. The price at which wholesalers in Toronto are now which wholesalers in Toronto are now selling green wire cloth is \$1.15 cash on \$1.20 four months. The figures now ruling are slightly under the cost of the United States article, freight and duty paid. The duty is 30 per cent. The price of green wire cloth is about 11 per cent, lower than the ruling wholesale figures of last year and about 35 per cent below those of 1896. 1896.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Cable advices on nutmers are firmer and quoted at prices le higher, at 31 3-4c for 105s to 110s.

Cable advices quote a further advance in currants, good Provincials being quoted at 20s 3d in Patras.

Zanzibar cloves are higher at New York. Sales were made at 6c, but at the close there were no sellers at under 61-4c.

· A Smyrna letter says: Sales of Sultana raisins for the past fortnight layo exceeded 1,000 tons. This has enabled dealers to obtain an advance of 1s 6d; the low grades showing most appreciation. Stocks are much reduced, and we can with difficulty trace the existence of some 3.300 tons, which ds a very small stock for this season. Last year at the same time over 8,-000 tons remained in the country.

Japan rice promises to be scarce this year, says the Montreal Gazette. Reports give the shortage at from 10 to 20 per tent. As a result Japan mills are not preparing any for export, and advices from Japan state that the crop is late and prices are high. All this makes it difficult to predict as to how prices will rule. Some of the

THE SUN LIFE The Confederation Life Association HEAD OFFICE TORONTO

OFFICE 467 MAIN SRREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

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J. K. MACDONALD, Man. Director

Man., N.W.T. and B.C.-Winnipeg Office, 467 Main St.

C. E. KERR, Cashier

D. McDONALD, Inspector

of Canada

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Head Office for Manitoba and the Territories: Winnipeg, Man.

J. S. WALLACE, General Agent

D. H. COOPER, Manager

Eastern importers are of the opinion that the present high prices in Japan are caused by the speculation of European parties, and as a result they are slow in putting offerings in the mar-

The Montreal Commercial Gazette says of teas. The real strength of the Japan tea market is shown this week by an advance of half a cent to one cent. Buyers have been holding off, but the shortage of the crop has not only recitations. maintained, but again increased values. We hear of a sale of a round lot of Japans amounting to between 500 and 600 packages, which was closed at 13 1-2c to 14c, but within an hour at 13 1-2c to 14c, but within an hore a telegram arived putting up the price a cent. The market is in good shape for holders, and the merchants—who bought heavily at the opening of the bought heavily at the opening of the new season have now a good margin to count on beyond their ordinary profit. China teas remain firm, and a round sale of blocks for western ac-count is reported at 12c. Cerions are also very firm, and prices are July maintained.

Grain and Milling News.

Letters patent of incorporation have been issued to the Pipestone Milling Co.

Geo. V. Hastings, inanager for the Lake of the Woods Milling company at Winnipeg, returned on Thursday from an eastern trip, and later left for a visit to the company's mill at Portage la Prairie.

Wm. Dunn, of Chicago, has secured a verdict of \$8,610 against the Pres-

cott Elevator company, of Prescott, Ontario, for alleged careless handling of grain, by which it was depreciat-ed in value and loss sustained in the British markets.

The Lake of the Woods Milling company have refused to allow their mills and elevators to be rated for mans and elevators to be rated for capacity, in the compilation published in the annual report of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, as they claim that the ratings generally are not correct.

The Montreal Gazette says: The continuot active demand of late for Man-itola, bran and shorts, coupled with the large experts of Ontario grades to foreign markets, has created a sharp advance in prices. Sales of Man-itoha bran have been made to-day at north and west points at prices equal to \$15 to \$16, and shorts at \$17 to \$18 here, including bags.

Dry Goods Trade.

Manufacturers of shirts, collars and culfis, will endeavor to secure higher duty in their favor. Tooke and Sketton, of Montreal, and Shaw, of Berlin, Ont., have laid the case before the government. They say that they pay 35 per cent on cotton and are only protected with the same figure on shirts, collars and cuffs, so that in reality they are placed on an equal reality they are placed on an equal footing with English manufacturers.

At a meeting of the Toronto board of trade on January 18, Elias Rogers was elected president, and G. E. Kemp, vice-president, by acclaimation.