Estimate wages for 1884 as..........		3,000
Expenses, interest and bad debts....		135,827
		$696,044
Against this place the sales for 8 1-5 years	$652,906	
Stock in trade, Nov. 5th, 1890	25,083	
		677,989
A face loss of		$ 18,055

"The statement of affairs submitted to the meeting of creditors, places the face loss at $21,523, but the accommodation transactions are shown therein, and the losses on the portion in the hands of secure creditors are deducted. Anything like exactness cannot be expected, but it will be seen that substantially the two showings agree."

Purchases from 31st December, 1882, to 5th November, 1890..		$491,633 27
Wages, same period..............		58,592 08
Total of purchases and wages....		$550,225 35
Sales, same period..............		652,906 00
Margin between these aggregates		102,680 65
Interest and discount	$31,656 69	
Travelling expenses ..	32,223 57	
General expenses.....	38,000 46	
Partners' drawings ...	22,165 17	
Bad debts	11,781 08	
Total outgo, apart from wages	$135,826 97	
Deficiency......................		$32,146 32

A NEW LIFE COMPANY.

The latest comer in the well-traversed field of life assurance is the Cosmopolitan Life Association, a mutual company, with head office in Toronto. Yesterday brought us a copy of its pamphlet, Facts, Figures, and Instructions on Life Insurance; also Explanations of the plans and workings of the Cosmopolitan Life. It had been known for some months that J. B. Carlile was getting up a new company, but we venture to think that few expected to see such a list of directors as he has got, and fewer still to have the company's advent signalized by such a clever, attractive, and ingenious pamphlet.

The company is to be conducted upon what is substantially the Sheppard Homans system, as stated on the last page of the pamphlet. "The mortuary premiums, *i. e.*, the cost of carrying the risk, should be regulated according to, and gradually increase with, the age of insured; or if the premium is to remain uniform, then the amount of insurance at risk must decrease as the age of the insured increases."

There are set out on various pages comparisons between the natural premium plan and the level premium plan; dissections of old-line or level whole-life premiums; joint life policy explanations; hew the pension fund, a new form of mortuary reserve, an ingenious device of the manager's, is to be worked, and so on. An especially interesting table is the one on page 28. The payments of premium are to be made every two months, in the case of the Cosmopolitan, which will issue risks on women, also by joint policy on business partners or on husband and wife. Its mortuary and pension funds are to be deposited with the Toronto General Trusts Company.

There is no doubt that Mr. Carlile has a genius for making life insurance attractive; still less can we doubt that he has a tremendous fund of energy; we see that he has in this case secured the names of a number of very desirable men as directors or officers. It is to be hoped that directors, advisory boards and manager will stick together, cemented by the persuasive energy of Mr. Carlile, and thus give the Cosmopolitan that permanency which is so desirable in any life assurance society.

TORONTO HARBOR.

The report for 1890 of the Toronto Harbor Commission is out. The receipts of the year have been $12,763.17, and the disbursements $14,795.17. We do not include in this money borrowed from the bank. Of the receipts, harbor dues brought in $9,740.27, and the C.P.R. paid $3,000. Of the expenditure, $3,359 went for a new breakwater and $6,773 for dredging. New works at the western channel have been begun.

It is reported by the Harbor Master that 91 more vessels and steamers arrived in 1890 than during the previous year. The increase was in steam craft, for in sailers there was a declin e Divided into side-wheel steamers, propellers, and schooners, the figures are as under:

	1890.	1889.
Steamers arrived............	1,211	966
Propellers "	190	184
Sailing vessels "	1,003	1,163
Total arrivals................	3,404	2,313

Coal receipts show an increase over 1889, but vessel receipts were less than in the previous year by 6,174 tons. The anthracite came all by vessel across Lake Ontario. Receipts by rail and vessel show a total of 461,282½ tons, which is 4,968 tons more than the previous year. The quantities were as under:

	Anthracite.	Bitumin us.
Coal by rail......	120,639 tons.	180,521½ tons.
" " vessel....	160,132	
Total	280,771	180,521½

The report announces the receipt from the Dominion Government of the patent for the lot at the Queen's Wharf filled in by the commissioners; this lot is now leased to the C.P.R. Company for a term of twenty-one years, renewable. Another paragraph states that "As the people at the last elections have voted in favor of the reclamation of the marsh lands by a syndicate, and as that part known as Ashbridge's Bay is legally part of Toronto Harbor, and therefore under the jurisdiction of the Harbor Commissioners, before any plan is adopted in regard to it the concurrence of the commissioners should first be obtained."

Owing to the gradual increase of dredging on the bar, the Trust decided to construct a breakwater along the northern edge of the bar, south of the Queen's Wharf, to arrest the encroachment on the channel. The breakwater will be 1,500 feet in length and 20 feet in width and height, loaded with stone and planked.

THE DECEMBER FIRE IN LONDON.

The great fire in London, England, on December 30th last, to which we have already made reference, made a huge hole in some blocks of buildings in the very heart of the city, and gave a great fright to the inhabitants. The low temperature made it very difficult to fight the flames. The fire broke out at 227 Queen Victoria street, about 1 o'clock p. m., apparently in the paper warehouse of Messrs. Davidson & Co. It had been smouldering some time before discovered. It then spread to the adjoining warehouse of Frankau & Co., fancy goods manufacturers, and to the Victoria luncheon rooms next door, and next Messrs. Revillon's wholesale fur warehouse took fire. A brisk north-easterly wind assisted the spread of the flames, and by 2 o'clock all these warehouses were blazing. Close by stands the Welsh church of St. Benet's, and the woodwork of its tower caught fire.

Inadequate as the appliances of the London brigade are, from an American point of view, the firemen worked faithfully and well. Some twenty-five engines, of all kinds and calibres, were in requisition for some hours, and finally got control of the flames about three o'clock, but not before the three warehouses first named had been gutted, and three or four other buildings much damaged. The church, too, was badly injured. The fire was still burning at four o'clock, but all danger of its spreading was then over. It proved to have been one of the greatest fires since the tremendous conflagration in Wood street.

A correspondent sends us the following partial memorandum of the estimated losses on the occasion by insurance companies doing business in Canada; Phœnix, £11,000; Norwich Union, £6,000; London & Lancashire, none; Guardian, £13,000 net; Sun, £20,000 or £12,000 net; Commercial Union, £5,000.

MORTALITY IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATIONS.

According to the census of Great Britain the mortality in the various occupations of the population is as follows:—

Number of Deaths in each 1,000.

Church of England clergy	10·2
Nonconformist clergy	10·1
Roman Catholic clergy	15·7
Physicians...........................	12·6
Surgeons and apothecaries............	18·7
Barristers-at-Law	10·9
Attorneys	16·2
Provision curers	16·8
Butchers.............................	17·4
Poulterers	21·1
Fishmongers	17·4
Iron miners	13·7
Coal "	14·8
Lead "	20·3
Copper "	24·7
Iron manufacturers...................	12·7
Paper "	13·0
Tin "	13·1
Nail "	13·2
Brass "	13·8
Glass "	15·8
Copper "	18·5
Lead "	19·3
Earthenware	19·7
Blacksmiths	13·8
Coppersmiths	17·1
Plumbers	18·3
Railway officers	12·8
" laborers	14·2
" porters	15·2
" engineers	16·3
Domestic gardeners...................	7·9
Grooms	9·8
Coachmen	14·7
General servants	13·6
Beer sellers	20·6
Wine merchants	23·3
Licensed spirit retailers............	23·9
Inn and hotel keepers	26·8

Why there should be one-tenth of one per cent. difference between the English Church clergy and the dissenting ministers we do not know, and especially why that fraction should be in favor of the dissenter. We should have guessed the relative longevity to be the other way, if good living has anything to do with the result. Then again, how comes it that a "physician" lives longer than a surgeon or an apothecary? That 16·2 attorneys in the thousand die while only 10·9 barristers do so seems a curious dispensation of Providence, and should serve as a warning to some one. The moral of the whole table is that if we wish to live long in the land, we should all go and be domestic gardeners or grooms, or else barristers and clergymen. Do no printers or book-binders die, we wonder?—or why are these important occupations not listed?