

# The Canadian Monetary Times

## AND INSURANCE CHRONICLE,

DEVOTED TO FINANCE, COMMERCE, INSURANCE, BANKS, RAILWAYS, NAVIGATION, MINES, INVESTMENT, PUBLIC COMPANIES, AND JOINT STOCK ENTERPRISE.

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1868.

SUBSCRIPTION,  
\$2 A YEAR.

### Mercantile.

**C. F. Reid & Co.**  
IMPORTERS and Dealers in Wines, Liquors, Cigars and Leaf Tobacco, Wellington Street, Toronto, 28.

**Childs & Hamilton.**  
MANUFACTURERS and Wholesale Dealers in Boots and Shoes, No. 7 Wellington Street East, Toronto, Ontario, 28.

**John Fiskin & Co.**  
ROCK OIL and Commission Merchants, Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

**Lyman & McNab.**  
WHOLESALE Hardware Merchants, Toronto, Ontario.

**L. Coffee & Co.**  
PRODUCE and Commission Merchants, No. 2 Manning's Block, Front St., Toronto, Ont. Advances sale on consignments of Produce.

**W. D. Matthews & Co.**  
PRODUCE Commission Merchants, Old Corn Exchange, 16 Front St. East, Toronto Ont.

**E. C. Hamilton & Co.**  
PRODUCE Commission Merchants, 119 Lower Water St., Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**J. & A. Clark,**  
PRODUCE Commission Merchants, Wellington Street East, Toronto, Ont.

**John Boyd & Co.**  
WHOLESALE Grocers and Commission Merchants, Front St., Toronto.

**W. & R. Griffith.**  
IMPORTERS of Teas, Wines, etc. Ontario Chambers, cor. Church and Front Sts., Toronto.

**Reford & Dillon.**  
IMPORTERS of Groceries, Wellington Street, Toronto, Ontario.

**Thos Griffith & Co.**  
IMPORTERS and Wholesale Dealers in Groceries, Liquors, &c., Front St., Toronto, Ont.

**J. B. Houstead.**  
PROVISION and Commission Merchant. Hope bought and sold on Commission. 82 Front St., Toronto.

**Hurd, Leigh & Co.**  
GILDERS and Enamellers of China and Earthenware, 72 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont. [See advt.]

**Parson Bros.,**  
PETROLEUM Refiners, and Wholesale dealers in Lamps, Chimneys, etc. Waterrooms 51 Front St. Refinery cor. River and Don Sts., Toronto.

**Sessions, Turner & Co.,**  
MANUFACTURERS, Importers and Wholesale Dealers in Boots and Shoes, Leather Findings, etc., 8 Wellington St West, Toronto, Ont.

**Thos. Haworth & Co.**  
IMPORTERS and dealers in Iron, Cutlery and general Hardware, King St., Toronto, Ont.

**D. Crawford & Co.,**  
MANUFACTURERS of Soaps, Candles, etc., and dealers in Petroleum, Lard and Lubricating Oils, Palace St., Toronto, Ont.

**Alex. W. Scott,**  
INSURANCE AND COMMISSION AGENT, 37 Bedford Row, Halifax, Nova Scotia. 1-4f

### Meetings.

**GORE DISTRICT MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**—The annual meeting of this Company was held in Galt on the 13th inst., John Davidson, Esq., President, in the chair. The following report was read by the Secretary, Thomas M. Simons, Esq.:

The number of policies issued was 1186, insuring \$1,039,234, and the amount of premium notes thereof was \$82,573.69.

The number of policies in force was, at the end of the year, 2,227: insuring \$1,945,053, and the premium notes then amounted to \$153,357.50.

The amount received in cash premiums was \$559.15.

The number of claims during the year was 49, amounting to \$33,907.

The actual expenditure of the company was over \$1,200 less than it was during the preceding year; the number of policies issued, more by 118; the amount of premium notes in force more by \$9,229.11; and the amount of the sums insured more by \$144,921.

The Directors have resisted the payment of one claim during the year on grounds which, in their opinion, fully warranted them in doing so. The case is not finally disposed of, but there is every reason to believe that it will terminate in favor of the company.

The company has passed through a period of more than ordinary difficulty, for not only were the losses sustained by it excessive, but the general stringency imposed upon all banking transactions materially affected its financial operations.

As a natural result of heavy losses, the current expenditure of the company and its interest account exhibit much larger figures than they would have done had the losses been more proportionate to the previous yearly average while had it not been for the change from a yearly to a daily assessment, the difficulty experienced in financing could hardly have been overcome. But the system of assessing each policy yearly from its date, has resulted in the collection of \$26,393, of which under the system of annual assessment, (when each policy was assessed to a certain day) \$15,000 could not have been collected until 1st September, 1868.

The rate of assessment during the year has ranged from 29½ cents lower, to 12 cents higher in the dollar, than what the cost of insurance in a proprietary company would have been. For six months the assessment rate was higher than what the cost of insurance in a proprietary company would have been. But during the three years ending 31st May, 1868, the average yearly cost of insurance has been 18 6-10 cents in the dollar less than what it would have been in a proprietary company.

In order to avert a repetition of loss similar to that which obtained during the months from June to December of last year, every precaution has been made use of, and re-insurance effected in another company whenever it was thought advisable to do so. The average single risk is now reduced to \$856.29.

The special act which the company obtained from the Local Legislature has greatly simplified the mode of assessment, and enabled it among other things to issue policies for cash premiums and to apportion one half of the profits resulting therefrom to a "reserve fund." The Directors have therefore been enabled to offer the option to insure on either of the following plans:—

1st. On the ordinary plan of giving a pre-

mium note upon which not less than 7½ per cent. shall be paid in cash, such payment to be credited on the next assessment.

2nd. On the insurer giving a premium note for a term of three years and paying in advance thereon 20 per cent. each year.

If, at the expiration of that time, the cost of the insurance shall have been found to be less than what he shall have paid, the difference shall be returned to him; if more, then he shall pay the difference.

3rd.—On the cash system, the insured giving no premium note, but paying for an insurance of one year, a cash premium equivalent to one-fourth the premium note rate of the company, less a discount of 7 per cent.

4th. On the cash system, also, the insured giving no premium note, but for an insurance of one year a cash premium equivalent, as in the previous instance, to one quarter of the premium note rate of the company, and at the end of the year being allowed one-half of the profits realized on his payment.

Had the second plan been generally in vogue during the last three years, the cost of insurance in this company would have been less than it would have been in a proprietary company by twenty cents in the dollar in each of the first two years, and by 15 8-10 cents in the dollar in the last. Moreover, there would have been hardly any necessity for bank accommodation.

One of the largest losses which the company experienced last year, the causes were of such a nature as not likely to occur again. And as the assessment, since the 23rd December last, to the date at which this is written only amounts to \$682 per \$100 of the premium notes or to about half the annual cost in a proprietary company, it may fairly be inferred that a low assessment this year will fully compensate for the high one the last."

Mr. McLean, the inspector, reported that the losses of the past four years have been principally on frame stores and contents, frame taverns and tanneries. In analysing the losses of the past year he had found that about \$20,000 of the losses resulted from fires originating in buildings insured in this company, and about \$8,500 from fires originating in adjacent buildings.

In moving the adoption of the secretary's report, Mr. Davidson referred to the fact of a report having gone abroad that the Gore Mutual had met with very heavy losses during the past year, and that the cost of insuring in the company was greater than that of insuring in a proprietary company. This was not the case, as was proved by the report just read. It was matter for congratulation that although the business of the company exhibited a considerable increase over that of the preceding year, the expenses of management had exhibited a considerable decrease, thus: the number of policies issued had been more by 118, the amount of premium notes more by \$9,229, and the amount of the sums insured by \$145,000, while the actual expense of management had been about \$1,200 less than it was during the year. Again, although, as a proof that the Gore was cheaper than a stock company, he might say that the assessment had ranged from 29½ cents lower, to 12 cents higher in the dollar, that the cost of insurance would have been in a stock company. For three years commencing 14th June, 1865, the cost of insurance in this company had been 18½ cents less than stock company's rates.

One other matter, the system of daily assessments, inaugurated by the secretary had resulted in the collection of \$15,000, which, un-