

and \$2,810,936.49 for total expenses, including dividends paid, \$250,000.

The company's system, perfected in the course of years, and the management entrusted to underwriters of long and extensive experience and eminent capacity, sustain its high reputation as a leading fire institution of the age, and shield its important interests in all the vicissitudes to which the American fire underwriting is subjected, and which have swept scores of fire insurance companies out of existence and compelled others to submit to absorption by stronger or more successful corporations. When, therefore, a change takes place in the official staff of this great company, general anxiety is felt to learn whether the officers withdrawing will have their places supplied by others equal in ability and fully capable of discharging their heavy responsibilities.

We are happy to state in this connection that the retirement of the company's distinguished secretary, C. B. Whiting, elected president of the Orient of Hartford, has been followed by the promotion of R. C. Royce, formerly assistant secretary, trained for many years in the same school as his predecessor, and, like him, in attainments and natural talents worthy of his elevation, and qualified in an eminent degree to fulfil its duties to the perfect satisfaction of all interested in the company's management and welfare. In pursuance of the same principle, so inciting to zeal and fidelity of service, Mr. Thomas Turnbull, who in a subordinate position has won the confidence of the Hartford Fire's officers and directors by his intelligence, industry and merit, has been appointed assistant secretary. According to this fair order of advancement, the company's estimable president, George L. Chase, Esq., has been assigned two tried and trustworthy officers on whom he can safely and confidently rely, and who will, as he has always done, identify themselves with the true interest of the company, and devote their mental force and ability to sustain its time-honored name and steadfast prosperity.

This old and reliable company has agencies in the prominent cities and towns of the Dominion. Mr. Wm. Henderson, Toronto, is its inspector and adjuster for Canada.

NORTHWEST TRADING COMPANY.

The adourned meeting of the shareholders of the Northwest Trading Company, in which Hon. Dr. Schultz is a leading spirit, was held at their office on Saturday last. From the chairman's reports is gleaned the fact that the directors of the company, which was incorporated in 1875, for trading purposes only, found in 1882 that, from the disappearance of the buffalo and the diminution in the catch of their furs, as well as their great depreciation in price, it was expedient to obtain additional powers so as to economize the lands already acquired by the company, which comprised salt springs, fishing stations, as well as arable and grazing lands. Supplementary letters patent were obtained in August, 1882, granting the company all the powers of an incorporated land company, but since that time, owing to the continued illness of the president and death of one of the directors, little has been done other than winding up the different fur trading outfits and the securing and developing the company's lands.

The report of the chairman being adopted it was decided that as the present capital of the company was only \$100,000, it was expedient to increase it to \$1,000,000, and to allot its stock in payment of suitable Manitoba lands, and also to change the name of the company to that of the Manitoba Lands Colonization and Improvement Company (Limited.) It was also decided that the board about to be elected should only retain office till the unallotted stock is taken up.

Suitable resolutions and by-laws were passed by the shareholders' meeting and that of the newly-appointed directors, held immediately afterwards, to carry out these objects, as well as to issue debentures for the purpose of improving and colonizing the lands of the company. It is understood to be the intention of the company to deal with lands within easy reach of Winnipeg, and to make active efforts to induce their immediate occupation and improvement.—*Manitoban*, 7th September.

—The *Carlton Sentinel* says 42,998 quarts of blueberries were exported to the United States

from three stations on the New Brunswick Railway, between McAdam Junction and Welsford, during August.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, September 15th, 1886.

ASHES.—Receipts continue small, the figures for the month so far being only about 90 brls. The market shows another advance, the few sales of No. 1 pots transpiring being at \$3.75, seconds at \$3.25 to \$3.30. A few pearls have sold at \$5.50. Shipments to Britain have been very small of late.

CEMENTS, FIRECLAY, &c.—Stocks of cements are getting within narrow compass, and this with the rise in London freights, has caused a sharp advance, \$2.60 to \$2.75 being asked for round lots of Portland; Roman \$2.75 as before; Canadian \$1.75; fireclay \$1.50 per bag; firebricks \$22.50 to \$24.00 per thousand.

DRY GOODS.—Last week's business was a very fair one for the time of year, and this week so far has kept up pretty well. Quite a few buyers from the Ottawa Valley and east of Kingston have been in town and bought fair sorting orders. Travellers in Toronto report comparatively few business men as having visited that city's Exhibition so far, but say they have secured some fair orders. City retail trade maintains its activity, in fact has been good all summer. Collections continue on the slow side. Manufacturers of Canadian woollens have at last thought it time to put up prices; they decline to receive new orders at old figures, and an advance of 10 per cent. may be considered as established on flannels, blankets and in fact all lines of Canadian woollens. Imported cashmeres continue to get dearer, and the advance at date may be put at from 70 to 80 per cent. on March prices.

FISH.—Cape Breton herrings are in very light supply and are firm at \$5.75 to \$6.00. A cargo of Labradorers has been wrecked on Anticosti, and the catch is reported a comparative failure; \$6.00 will likely be the asking price for first arrivals anyway; dry cod \$2.75 to \$3.00; green do. \$3 for No. 1. Salmon in

light supply at \$16, \$15 and \$13.50 for Nos. 1, 2, and 3 respectively.

FURS.—The season is approaching for this line of merchandise, but as yet there is little enquiry being made as to prices for raw furs. For raw furs wanted for local trade good prices will be paid, but the unsettled state of affairs in South Eastern Europe and Russia—which latter country absorbs about three-fourths of the American catch—will likely affect prices of shipping furs adversely.

GROCERIES. Business has shown no falling off since last report, and the number of enquiries being made show that goods are wanted pretty generally in the country parts, though many dealers are deferring orders till stocks of new fruit are to hand. Teas continue to show strength, and are firmer the world over, without question; teas offered quite lately f. o. b. in Japan at 14c., are now held at 17½c., and several lots re-shipped to New York from here have been sold at from 1½ to 2½ cents better than could be got here. Blacks are firmer in London and cable offers at slight reduction on quotations have been decidedly refused; the arrivals of greens to date are light, and values show an advance. White sugars are off an eighth cent, bright yellows still unobtainable, but refiners expect to have some in a few days. Low and medium grade syrups still hard to get. Barbadoes molasses firm at 22c. in lots. Rice steady at late advance. New Valencia raisins are at hand, and will quote at 9½c.; the quality is said to be very fine; all old fruit is pretty well cleaned out. Canned goods continue to receive a good deal of attention; mackerel now cost \$3.40 in 100-case lots; for salmon \$1.50 per doz. is being asked on Pacific Coast; lobsters \$5.50 to \$6.00 a case; tomatoes \$1.20 a dozen at factory.

LEATHER AND SHOES.—Shoe men are still pretty busy, not having finished delivering fall orders and travellers are getting out on the sorting trip. Payments maturing beginning of this month were well met. In leather there is a fair steady business being done, and

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