

success and permanence have been attained it is well to remember the efforts to which these are due. Mr. Wm. Elliot was the first president, Mr. Hugh Miller the first vice-president, Mr. W. H. Dunsbaugh was treasurer, Mr. H. J. Rose secretary, Mr. Jno. Henderson, corresponding secretary. From the address of the president at the recent gathering we learn that of all who constituted the first association there are but four remaining members, viz: Neil C. Love, Hugh Miller, Geo. Hodgetts and Prof. Shuttleworth. The gentleman last named has been a faithful supporter of the project, was examiner for many consecutive years, and is to-day the well-known and competent editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*.

No one can help admiring the new premises of the College; it is pleasantly situated and well adapted for the work to be done. Its fittings have profited by the liberality of several wholesale houses, Messrs. Lyman Bros. & Co., for example, have fitted up the laboratory free of expense, Messrs. Northrop & Lyman have furnished the Board Room, and Messrs. Elliot & Co., and Milburn & Co. have likewise contributed towards putting the other portions of the building into such shape as will best subserve the purposes of the College.

LIFE INSURANCE IN 1886.

The Superintendent of Insurance at Ottawa, Mr. W. Fitzgerald, has sent us his preliminary abstract of the business of Canadian Life Assurance Companies for the year 1886, prepared in accordance with the revised Act of last year. From this it appears that eleven home companies transacted life business in Canada last year represented by the following figures. We compare them with those of the previous year:

	1886.	1885.
New Premiums.....	\$ 2,498,453	\$ 2,091,986
Number of Policies..	11,011	
New Insurance.....	20,168,000	14,942,000
No. Policies in force..	53,900	
Net amount in force..	88,904,000	74,591,000
Claims paid	777,600	

The figures of American and British companies are not yet issued by the Department. The relative share of different companies in the above totals is thus given on page 11 of the abstract. The business of the Canada and the Sun outside of Canada is included.

	Premiums	Net Amount in force.
Canada Life.....	\$1,124,917	\$39,630,522
Confederation	427,618	14,586,107
Sun Life	302,659	9,398,971
Ontario Mutual	268,412	9,603,543
North American.....	166,161	5,299,805
Federal	69,681	4,954,677
Citizens.....	56,109	2,008,629
Dominion	41,035	2,677,000
London	32,368	1,350,817
Temperance and General, part of year....	9,493	394,000

DRY GOODS NOTES.

Among the cargoes landed at Philadelphia the other week was an importation of 1751 bundles of hard, dried wire grass from Africa, sent there at a venture for upholstering work. This grass was gathered by the native Algerians and carried down the mountains to Oran, where it was shipped on the bark "Edwin" to that port. It is claimed that the resisting power of this grass is equal to the best tempered steel springs and that it does not carry disease.

The imports of dry goods at Toronto for January last were some forty per cent. greater in value than in the corresponding week of

1886, the figures being \$756,803, against \$549,147. In millinery, hats, caps, bonnets and fancy goods, the increase was from \$134,000 to \$179,000; in woollens from \$202,000 to \$285,000, and in cotton goods from \$212,000 to \$302,000.

The first thing, writes a correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald*, that strikes any intelligent business man who comes into contact with the mercantile community at Aden is the complete absence of the British merchant. If he ever existed in that settlement he has evidently gone the way of the Dodo. It is difficult to understand why this should be the case. It can hardly be the climate, as we find enterprising John Bull settled in many a worse place, and somehow thriving there. The only distinctive British enterprises located there are the P. and O. Company and one of the coaling companies. The Americans, it appears, are gradually but surely beating English and Bombay grey goods out of the market both at Aden and on the Somali coast, and it is said to be due to the 'cuteness of the "ignorant savage," who soon finds out which cloth gives most wear and full measure.

We read in the *Press* of the 7th inst., that the lockout of clothing cutters and trimmers, which was declared by the Philadelphia Clothing Exchange, will be felt by not less than 10,000 other hands, who depended on the cutters for the preparation of their work. They comprise men, women and girls, who mostly do the work of making up the goods at their homes. Each cutter is estimated to cut out enough cloth to keep fifteen or twenty persons busy. The lockout will be felt by these, it is stated, in a week, and, if it continues any length of time, they will be thrown entirely out of work. Although the cutters themselves will probably receive the support of the local assemblies to which they belong, the 10,000 others—most of them not Knights—will have no support from the order in case they fall into distress and poverty.

BOARDS OF TRADE IN CANADA.

LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DU DISTRICT DE MONTREAL.

Such is the name chosen for the French Board of Trade in Montreal, an account of which we gave in December. At a meeting held on Saturday last the constitution was adopted and it was decided to call the new organization, The Chamber of Commerce of the District of Montreal and to fit up a reading room and exchange for the members. Ald. Jacques Grenier was elected President and Mr. Dufresne Vice-President. Resolutions demanding that canal tolls on grain be reduced to 2½ cents per ton, and demanding the deepening of the channel and the widening of the canals were adopted. *Le Moniteur Du Commerce* was made the official newspaper organ of the chamber.

BRANTFORD BOARD.

At the annual meeting of the Brantford Board of Trade held on the 1st instant, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Geo. H. Wilkes re-elected; Vice-President, W. F. Cockshutt, re-elected; Secretary, Mr. Blackader; Council: Messrs. W. Buck, R. Henry, Geo. Watt, Wm. Grant, J. K. Osborne, Hatley, S. G. Read, J. N. Shenston, Creighton.

PARIS BOARD.

The Paris Board of Trade at a meeting last week chose the following officers: President, W. J. Robinson; Vice-President, Hy. Stroud; Secretary-Treasurer, John H. Fisher; Council, R. Montgomery, R. C. Jennings, W. R.

McClung, John Allan, Thos. O'Neil, T. G. Watson, G. P. Buchanan, J. T. Monteith, C. H. Roberts.

WINNIPEG BOARD.

The Winnipeg Board of Trade now numbers 148 members in good standing.

INSURANCE NOTES.

A noted insurance case has just been settled in St. Louis, Mo. In 1872 Mrs. Wackerle's husband died and was buried in Shreveport, La. An insurance policy on his life was held in the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and to prove his identity, Mrs. Wackerle went to Shreveport and had the body exhumed. She then presented her claim to the company, which refused payment, giving as its reason for so doing that Mr. Wackerle still lived. In support of this refusal, when the case came to a trial, a witness was introduced who swore that he was the plaintiff's husband. His testimony, however, was discredited and the jury decided the case in favor of Mrs. Wackerle. The company then took the case to the appellate court, where the decision was affirmed. An appeal was then taken to the Supreme Court, where the case has ever since been pending until recently withdrawn by the Mutual Life paying over the amount of the policy—\$8,000. The action of this company will make it possible for Mrs. Wackerle to collect the amounts of the policies in other companies which refused payment on the same ground as did the New York company. Mrs. Wackerle has been living in poverty all these years, but will now be made comparatively wealthy by the payment of her claims, which in all amount to about \$25,000.

Three propellers have been totally or partially destroyed on the lakes recently through the slacking of lime, which constituted the cargoes.

Mr. Pagnuelo, Q.C., presented several motions before the Court of Appeals, Montreal, last week on the part of members of the Canada Agricultural Insurance Company, against whom actions have been taken for the payment of calls due. The Court is asked to issue an order to suspend all proceedings in cases now going on, until the assignees have shown a statement of the affairs of the estate.

It was with no desire to slight the staunch old Guardian that the names of its representatives were left out of the list of those present at the January meeting of the Toronto Board of Fire Underwriters'. Their omission was a pure inadvertence, which we regret. Mr. E. A. Lilly, of the Montreal agency, and Mr. H. D. P. Armstrong, the Toronto agent, were both at the meeting.

It is no longer considered respectable or thrifty, says the *Christian World*, for any business man to go without life insurance. Every man who cares for those who may survive him counts insurance premiums as part of his yearly financial provision, just as rent, clothing, or other matters which must be paid for.

"Every shoe manufacturer," says the *Boston Commercial Bulletin*, "should know, if he does not already, that one of the most prolific causes of shoe-factory fires is the spontaneous combustion of cutting-board scrapings. This oily refuse is very inflammable and should be thrown into the stove or out of doors away from the building."

An important difference between industrial and co-operative life insurance is pointed out by the *Insurance Guardian* of London, thus: "When a great mining accident or other