

land and in the States most favorably to Canada, so what the banks have lost in profits they have gained in prestige, and honor of this kind is usually an expensive article. Navigation is closed, and all indications point to a quiet, uneventful winter, to be followed, we trust, by better times next year.

#### MR. GRINDLEY RETIRES.

For several years it has been an open secret that Mr. Grindley, the popular general manager of the Bank of British North America, resident in this city, was feeling a desire to retire from this very responsible position, to enjoy a rest well earned by long years of devotion to duty. The Court, or, as we say, Board of Directors, in London, were averse to parting with so valued an officer; but the announcement is now made that Mr. Grindley has retired. This is received with very mingled feelings by his host of friends, they are glad at anything which will tend to preserve his health and add to his comfort, but will very much regret to have him absent from the bank, and trust that he may still be identified with it in another connection. Since 1854 Mr. Grindley has been in the service of this eminent institution in Canada. On arriving from England he was for about ten years manager of the branch at St. John, N.B., from whence he was promoted to Montreal, where he has resided some eighteen years, gaining for the bank a very high reputation: for himself as manager, the esteem and confidence of the customers and the commercial community, and, in his more private relations, such regard for kindness, geniality and courtesy as made him exceedingly popular in a large circle of friends, who most heartily wish him many, many years of health and strength to enjoy a life free from business anxieties.

#### MR. H. STIKEMAN.

The position vacated is to be occupied by Mr. H. Stikeman, a well tried and experienced banker, who entered the London office in 1869. He has since then represented the bank in New York, a position of great responsibility, and, after making himself familiar with Canadian business at various points, was removed two years ago to Montreal. Mr. Stikeman is no stranger to financial circles in Canada, and has already become very popular, and his appointment is regarded therein with much favor as one that will maintain the prestige of the Bank of British North America.

#### THE LEWIS INSURANCE CASE.

A very interesting insurance case has just been decided in the Supreme Court at Halifax before Chief Justice McDonald and a jury. This was an action brought by John Lewis against the Caledonian Insurance Company to recover \$2,000 insurance on the stock of John Lewis, in the store 158 Upper Water st., in the

city of Halifax, which was damaged by fire last March. There was also \$1,500 insurance in the Scottish Union.

The plaintiff set forth his loss as follows:

Clothing, \$1,872.

Jewellery, \$653.

Gents' furnishings, etc., \$1,372.

The jury, after being out nearly four hours, brought in the following answers to questions which were given them to deliberate on:

1. Did Lewis conspire with Reyno to set fire to the place?

No.

2. Did he make an over-valuation of the property damaged?

Yes.

3. Did he make fraudulent claims to the insurance company?

Yes.

4. Were the declarations thereof wilful misstatements?

Yes.

5. Were the declarations made to deceive the Company?

Yes.

The jury valued the stock as below:

Gents' furnishings, \$1,186.10.

Clothing, \$394.45.

Jewellery, \$175.

Shortly after the fire, John Lewis, Samuel Lewis and John Reyno, a clerk in Lewis' employ, were arrested for setting fire to the premises. John Reyno, the clerk turned Queen's evidence, and gave some startling evidence, and the accused were put back for trial. They were subsequently tried before the County Court Judge under the Speedy Trials Act, and were acquitted.

Messrs. Drysdale & McInnis acted as solicitors for the Caledonian Co. in the above cause. Mr. Drysdale's address to the jury was very highly commented on.

#### MEETING OF THE "INSURANCE HOCKEY LEAGUE."

The general meeting of the League was held on 24th November. The following officers were elected:—

*Hon. President*—R. Wilson Smith.

*President*—F. C. Budden, Phoenix of London.

*Vice-President*—Bert Watt, Guardian.

*Secretary-Treasurer*—G. Jacoby, Royal.

Companies represented by above League are Royal, North British & Mercantile, Phoenix of London, Guardian and Standard Life.

These will during the season play "single teams" *i.e.*, teams selected from one office only.

During Hockey Season, Mondays, from 8 to 10 p.m., the "Prince Arthur Skating Rink" has been secured.

#### MEETING OF "THE INSURANCE LEAGUE OF AMALGAMATED COMPANIES."

At a meeting held Wednesday, 25th November, in the Imperial office, the following officers were elected:—

*Hon. President*—B. Halloween Brown.

*President*—W. J. Forbes.

*Vice-President*—G. C. Hiam.

*Secretary-Treasurer*—Allen Dods.

Four teams have been formed representing the following companies:—

1. The Imperial & Phoenix of Hartford.

2. The London & Lancashire Life and Atlas & National.

3. The Northern and Aetna.

4. The United Fire and Queen.

This is an independent League playing teams selected from one or more offices, in contra-distinction to the "Insurance Hockey League" which plays teams each representing one office only.

We wish success and "good sport" to both organizations in this gayer "insurance field."