

Ancaster, Aug. 10.—The stables of Mr. Edward Henderson's hotel took fire this a. m. Three horses were burned, and several wagons and harness. The hotel itself took fire and was destroyed. The loss is roughly estimated at \$8,000 to \$10,000; insured in the Galt Mutual for \$4,000. The hotel was formerly known as Philip's Hotel, and an attempt was made to burn it three years ago, but failed. A fire occurred in the same place nine months ago.

Hamilton, Aug. 11.—Joseph Lee's frame stable, corner York and Hess streets, was burned, with two horses and several tons of hay. Loss \$500 to \$600. Robert Addison's planing mills took fire later on the same day, and were much injured. Valuable machinery, which amounts to about \$3,000, was destroyed. Mr. Evans, who was the owner of the building, loses \$2000; the insurance is very trifling. Mr. Inkson lost one frame dwelling, a barn and wood shed, being a total loss of \$800. Mr. Brown's loss of a house will foot up to, at least, \$300, and incidental losses may be set down at \$500—making a total loss of nearly \$7,000. The fires are both supposed incendiary, and P. S. Castell has been arrested and jailed on suspicion of the offence.

Fitzroy, Aug. 10.—The steam mill here was burned down last night; 100,000 shingles and laths and some lumber destroyed. Loss \$4,000. No insurance. Fire supposed incendiary.

Brantford, Aug. 12th.—The barns and granary on James Brown's farm, Johnson's Settlement, were discovered to be on fire. The granary contained 800 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of oats, and 40 bushels of clover. There were also destroyed threshing and reaping machines and other farm machinery. Loss about \$3,000. The property was insured for \$2,000 in Brant County Mutual. The fire is supposed to have been caused by tramps.

Three Rivers, Aug. 11th.—In the large steam saw mills in this city, owned by Ross, Ritchie & Co., were discovered dense volumes of smoke issuing from the engine room. The fire made such headway that the whole building was speedily in flames and beyond the reach of all efforts to save it. The machine shop adjoining, the boilers, the drying shed, and the large stock of sawn lumber were saved. The mill is insured as follows: Royal of England, \$8,000; Hartford, Northern, Imperial, and Aetna, \$5,000 each; Commercial Union, \$4,000; Canada Fire and Marine, Lancashire, Citizens', \$2,500 each; Phoenix, Hartford, Queen, Lanore, N.Y., \$2,000 each; Shawmut, \$1,500; First National, New York, \$1,000. Total, \$48,000; loss, \$44,000.

Milford, Ont., Aug. 12.—On Saturday night Mr. Vincent's saw and shingle mill was burned with all its contents. Loss \$3,000, no insurance.

Hamilton, Aug. 11th.—A fire broke out on Mr. Wm. Syer's premises, on the 3rd concession of the Township of Barton, and in a short time a barn, stable, seed house and their contents were totally destroyed. The buildings were insured in the Victoria Mutual for \$1,700 in all.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 7.—Oland's brewery at Turtle Grove, Dartmouth, was totally destroyed by fire last night. Insured for \$2,000 in the Imperial, and \$13,000 in the Northern of London. Office and house furniture insured in the Canada Fire and Marine for \$1,500.

Meetings.

THE BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of this company was held at their offices, corner of Front and Scott streets, Toronto, on Wednesday, Aug. 14. Among those present were the Governor, Deputy Governor, Messrs. Gault, Kinghorn, G. J. Boyd, Hon. G. W. Allan, Ridout, Ramsay, Osler, Howland, McDonell, Rev. C. W. Pater-

son, Rev T. Paterson, Rowsell, Duggan, Gamble, Forbes, Priestman, Geo. Boyd, Mulock, John Smith, Hooper, Rev. Dean Grasett, and the Manager. Mr. L. J. Smith, Agent, New York City, was also present.

On motion of Mr. M. H. Gault, the Governor was called to the chair, and the Manager acted as Secretary. The minutes of the last annual meeting having been taken as read, the annual and auditors' reports, respectively, were read, as follows:—

Report.

The Directors of the British America Assurance Company have much pleasure in laying before the proprietors the subjoined statement of the company's transactions during the year which ended 30th June, 1878.

The depression in general business referred to in last year's report has continued unabated, and a still further shrinkage in values, a diminished volume of premiums of insurance and increased competition have been the result.

It will, however, be observed on reference to the statement, that, notwithstanding the drawbacks, there has been a considerable increase in the receipts of the fire department.

The directors regret to report their disappointment that no increase of rates followed the severe losses in Canada during the year, which closed 30th June, 1877, believing as they do that, although the business of the year under review has been more satisfactory than that of the previous year, the rates are inadequate. The company's receipts from the Canada fire branch would have been much larger had current rates been accepted on all business which offered.

In the United States efforts are being made to establish State and Local Boards with a view to an improvement of the business, which has become somewhat demoralized since the disruption of the National Board, and it is hoped the movement may be successful.

No profit, on the contrary a small loss, has been made on the marine business of the company, and the directors have felt it necessary to discontinue the insurance of inland hulls for the present.

On the whole, however, there are reasons for congratulation. The income from investments exceeds the amount of dividends by \$4,556.32. The gross surplus has been increased by the sum of \$40,140.63, and the net surplus has been raised from \$194,021.51 to \$212,275.19. With these results the directors believe the shareholders will be satisfied.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. PATERSON, Governor.

F. A. BALL, Manager.

Toronto, 30th July, 1878.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 30TH JUNE, 1878.

Assets.

Cash on hand and in Banks.....	\$ 42,035 53
Dominion Stock.....	51,750 00
Debentures and Mortgages on real estate	99,676 99
Bills receivable	27,293 93
Sundry accounts receivable	6,921 72
Agents' balances.....	55,059 50
Real estate	112,643 21
Bank and other dividend paying stock.....	209,703 82
United States registered bonds ..	456,700 00
Office furniture, head office and U. S.....	5,743 64
	\$1,067,528 34

Liabilities.

Capital stock	\$ 500,000 00
Losses under adjustment	56,474 28
Dividend No. 68 (balance)	1,713 01
" No. 69.....	24,982 36
Balance	484,358 69

\$1,067,528 34

Profit and Loss.

Fire losses	\$ 337,181 77
Marine Losses.....	63,986 12
Agents' commission and other charges.....	244,426 73
Profit and loss (written off).....	8,422 31
Premium on re-assurance.....	31,016 89
Balance	89,942 63

\$ 774,976 45

Interest on investments.....	\$ 54,358 32
Premiums received—Fire Dept. ...	631,260 11
" —Marine " ..	89,358 02

\$ 774,976 45

Surplus Fund.

Dividend No. 68	\$ 24,819 64
" No. 69	24,982 36
Balance at credit of Surplus Fund	484,358 69

\$ 534,160 69

Re-insurance Liability.

Balance at credit of Surplus Fund	\$ 484,358 69
Reserve to reinsure existing Risks	272,083 50

Net surplus over all liabilities .. \$ 212,275 19

AUDITORS' REPORT.

Frederick A. Ball, Esq., Manager British America Assurance Co., Toronto, Ont.:—

SIR,—We have the honour to report that we have examined the books and accounts of the British America Assurance Company, for the period ending 30th June, 1878, together with the balance sheet, and the statements, comprising the assets and liabilities, and profit and loss accounts, submitted to us, and we have certified the same as correctly extracted from the books, and have appended our signatures in testimony thereof.

In the course of our audit we have verified the Bank balances, cash on hand, bills receivable, Dominion stock, municipal debentures, and other dividend paying stocks and securities, and find them intact, and agreeing with the ledger accounts.

All of which is respectfully submitted by
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) WM. GAMBLE,
R. CATHRON,

Toronto, July 30, 1878.

Auditors.

The following resolutions were then unanimously passed:

Moved by the Governor, seconded by Mr. Gault, "That the report now read be received and adopted, and that it be printed for distribution among the shareholders."

Moved by the Rev. Dean Grasett, seconded by Mr. Mulock, "That the thanks of the shareholders are due, and are hereby tendered to the Directors for their attention to the interests of the Company during the past year."

Moved by Mr. McDonell, seconded by Mr. Forbes, "That in consideration of the services rendered by the Governor, Peter Patterson, Esq., the thanks of the stockholders be presented to that gentleman, with the sum of three thousand dollars."

Moved by Mr. Kinghorn, seconded by Mr. Ramsay, "That the thanks of the shareholders be presented to the general agents and agents of the Company, and to the members of the office staff for their efforts in promoting the interests of the Company."

Moved by the Deputy-Governor, seconded by the Rev. Dean Grasett, "That the thanks of the stockholders are hereby tendered to their Manager, F. A. Ball, Esq., for his untiring zeal and energy in promoting in every way the interests of the Company."

Moved by Mr. Hooper, seconded by Mr. McDonell, "That Messrs. Osler, Duggan and