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SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AGRICULTURAL MUTUAL

Assurance Association

OF CANADA,

[FORMERLY THE MIDDLESEX MUTUAL.]

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DEC., 1865,

PRESENTED AT A GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS HELD AT THE
CITY HALL, LONDON, ON THE 15TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1866,
ALSO A

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF SAID MEETING.

LONDON, C. W.,
PRINTED AT THE "EVENING ADVERTISER" OFFICE, DUNDAS STREET.

1866.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1866.

CHAS. G. CODY	Township of Dereh.
WILBER R. VINING	W. Niagara.
DONALD SEATON	Lebo.
CROWELL WILLSON, M.P.P.	London.
DANIEL BLACK	Yarmouth.
JOHN W. VANWORMER	Genl. of London.
RICHARD BIDDULPH	Township of Westminster.
SAMUEL ECOLES	Yarmouth.
HAMILTON DUNLOP	Metcalfe.

HONORARY DIRECTORS.

HON. J. S. MACDONALD, M.P.P.	General.
J. P. WELLS, M.P.P.	North York.
ABRAM S. CLEMENS	City of Waterloo.
HENRY MUNRO, M.P.P.	Bushy.
JOHN MURPHY	Addington.
WM. COTTINGHAM	Victoria.
JAMES NIMMO	Lennox & Addington.
GEORGE CUNNINGHAM	E. Edwards.
GEO. JACKSON, M.P.P.	Gregg.
SALOMON WIGLE	Essex.
PETER PEARCE	Pedernoch.
JAMES BROCKELBANK	Bruce.

OFFICERS.

CROWELL WILLSON, M.P.P.	President.
W. R. VINING	Vice.
WILLIAM NILES	General Agent and Inspector.
F. F. CORNISH	Secretary.
J. G. HARPER, Manager Commercial Dept.	Under-Secretary.
A. P. SMYTH, Auditor, City of London.	Acting Secretary.
JAMES HAMILTON	Acting Secretary.
ALEXANDER MACDONALD	Acting Secretary.
D. CAMPBELL MACDONALD	Acting Secretary.

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SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Agricultural Mutual Assurance Association of Canada.

At a General Meeting of the Members of the above Company, held for the election of Directors, at the City Hall, London, C. W., on the 15th day of February, 1866, the President in the chair, and D. C. McDonald, one of the Secretaries, acting as Secretary, the following Report was presented:

To the Members of the Agricultural Mutual Assurance Association of Canada:

The Board of Directors report as follows:

This Report, for 1865, is the sixth annual one of the Company, and in presenting it, the Directors feel some regret that it is not as favorable, in one respect, as could be wished. Last year has been another of heavy losses—but this Company is not the only one that has suffered. Probably its losses have been smaller, in proportion, than those of any other Company, approaching to an average magnitude, in the Province. A fire epidemic has raged all over for better than two years. It seems to be abating now, however.* It is to be hoped the improvement may continue.

During the past year there were, so far as reported, 108 fires affecting property insured by this Company. Of these, 99 have been paid for, amounting to \$33,209 22. As regards the others, three are still under investigation, and six were refused payment of.

The whole amount paid for losses the past year is \$36,365 96; of that sum, \$3,156 74 was for losses that occurred previously, but had not been paid for.

Appended will be found, in tabular form, full statements of the pecuniary affairs of the Company. They have been examined thoroughly by the auditors, and their correctness certified to. It will be seen that the Institution is in a highly flourishing condition. Everything has worked well, except that the losses, as has been stated, have been heavy.

The Directors some months ago saw that if losses continued in the same ratio as for the foregoing two years, 75 cents would not suffice to cover a three years' risk on \$100 over ordinary farm property; so, after much anxious deliberation, they decided on preparing for the worst, and accordingly raised the rate to 90 cents for

*Up to the date of going to press, (28th February,) the losses reported for this year (1866) are 12 against 23 for same time last year. The amounts claimed, too, are smaller. D. C. McD.

that period, assessing for 65 cents instead of 50 as heretofore. They might, perhaps, by floating paper, have tided over the difficulty, hoping for easier times in the future. But they deemed this course would be prejudicial to the high reputation the Company has attained for stability and solvency, and which they are determined to keep up beyond the possibility of a cavil. Their course, they are happy to say, has been approved by the members generally, as they judge from the readiness with which the increased rate, the cause for which was explained, has been paid, and the almost total absence of complaint on that head. The Directors hope the members to-day present will be of the same way of thinking. In no well established Company has insurance been had cheaper—in hardly any one so cheap; on ordinary farm property, 90 cents per \$100 for a three years' risk.

That incendiarism has been at work to a lamentable extent throughout the country, is beyond a doubt. That several of the fires that occurred within the scope of the Company's business, were raised *in the interest* of the assured, there is too much to suspect. But the experiment does not always succeed, as this Report shews, and several self-devoted victims feel. A fraudulent attempt of the kind, knocked on the head, does much to repress such burnings, shewing that the speculation, even in a material point of view, is not always a desirable one.

It is altogether likely, at the same time, that some claims have been paid that did not deserve to be. This, of course, is an evil—besides the loss of money it tends to further fires. But all Insurance Companies are liable to suffer in this way, and no human watchfulness can guard against it at all times.

A far greater evil would be the refusing or long delaying payment of an honest, valid claim, as to which, however, some shade of suspicion may have been suggested. This would be doing a wrong the Directors desire by all means to avoid. It is not easy, in every case, to distinguish with precision the dividing line, on one side of which it is a virtue to pay—on the other, to withhold payment. When much doubt even prevails, justice would seem to say, pay.

The Directors give deep attention to this matter, and their decision is not always, as from the existing state of affairs might be supposed, favorable to the views of the claimant. Since the last annual meeting, three suits have been decided in the Company's favor, one in Chancery and two at common law. Together they involved claims rising to nearly \$2,000. No suit has gone against the Company. There are now five pending, which the Directors have every hope the Company will win. Such members as the EVIL PRINCIPLE may by chance whisper to, to try their luck at a burning, had better make a note of these facts. All those suits were brought to enforce claims the Board considered ought not to be paid, and therefore refused payment.

At the last annual meeting a resolution was passed, "recommending the doing away with voting by proxy." It was communicated to the President of the Company, who was then attending his Parliamentary duties in Quebec. It so happened that a bill was then before Parliament, introduced by a member of the Upper House, having that very object in view. But it was withdrawn, as it met with but little countenance. The Legislators could see no fitness of things in a few members of a Mutual Insurance Company who reside near the head office, and therefore can with

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case attend the annual meetings personally, seeking practically to disfranchise tens of thousands of other members as much interested in the Company as themselves, but who, residing at a greater distance, cannot, therefore, conveniently give their personal attendance. They seemed to think it would be a crying injustice.

As the law is at present, every member in good standing, insured for \$400 or upwards, has at least one vote in the election of Directors; and he may exercise the privilege or not, just as he pleases, depositing his ballot, if he votes, either in person or by proxy. All members are alike in that respect. No one has any advantage over another. And so it must continue till the law is changed.

If the distant members were practically disfranchised they would, out of self-respect, refuse to renew their policies. The Company, now of such fair proportions, would speedily dwindle to a mere local, rickety affair. Losses would some years, as sooner or later occurs to every weak Company, (a weak Company is never a safe one,) become grievously oppressive; and the chances are that before a great while one other "Mutual" would be found travelling the road already gone over by so many ill managed starvling affairs.

It will be seen that the Company has increased the last year by 1,241 policies. On the 1st January, 1865, the number in force was 26,582; on the 1st of January last, 27,822.—8,118 were issued on the premium note system and 1,337 on the cash one, in all, 9,455.

To recur to the matter of losses. One of the best preventatives against them is to keep valuations of property from being put too high. Agents are specially instructed on this head as follows:—"See that you assign an intelligent value to all buildings; be very careful to avoid any thing like over-valuations; be under rather than over the mark. High insurance most surely begets fires." If any member should happen to know of an over-insurance, or, in fact, of anything else objectionable in a risk, he is requested to communicate the fact to the Secretary, giving particulars. If the matter is presented in anything like an authentic shape, the Inspector will attend to it. The informant's name, if he desires it, will be withheld. Members, generally, are interested in repressing abuses. It is to be hoped, however, that no one will write on light, intangible grounds, or from mere personal pique.

By a resolution of the Board, members of the Company erecting new buildings, may insure them for an additional sum, not exceeding \$200, without the intervention of an Agent, on making application to the Secretary. Also, additional insurance may be had, to a reasonable amount, on contents of buildings in like manner, the new Policy to expire at the same time as the already existing one, the insurance to be on the Cash System, and no premium taken less than \$1.50.

A copy of this Report will be mailed to every member, of course, prepaid. Many members complained that last year they did not receive their Reports. The fault was not with the Company. Many Policies, too, mis-carry, and Duplicates have to be made out. There is something very wrong in the management of the post office as regards transmitting printed matter, which it would be well that the postal authorities would look to.

Members are earnestly requested, for their own sakes, to put a stop to smoking, or using uncovered lights in and about their out-buildings; to prevent their chimnies and stove-pipes becoming foul, and the accumulation of moss on the shingles, especially of their dwelling-houses. The Directors have reason to know that many fires occur from these causes.

Members are respectfully informed that, if they do not pay up their dues or assessments within 30 days after their maturing, they can, legally, claim no benefit under their policies, while at the same time they are not released from the payment of said dues. Such is the law. They are recommended to pay promptly, and not place themselves at the mercy of the Directors.

Members are also reminded that a Reward of \$200 is still offered for information that will convict any one of incendiarism, by which the Company suffers. It would be cheerfully paid, if earned.

A vacancy having occurred at the Board the past year, the Directors filled it up by the appointment of Mr. Donald Seaton, of Lobo, a qualified member of the Company. He will hold office till the next annual meeting.

Three Directors now retire in rotation, according to the Statute. These are Messrs. Hamilton Dunlop, Richard Biddulph, and T. H. Buckley. The two first are eligible for re-election; the last one is not, having ceased to be a member of the Company.

All which is respectfully submitted.

D. C. MACDONALD,
Secretary.

CROWELL WILLSON,
President.

February 15th, 1866.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING.

After the reading of the Report, it was moved by E. V. Bodwell, Esq., of Dereham, and seconded by W. Y. Brunton, Esq., of London, that the Report be received and adopted.—Carried.

After a short debate, touching the progress of the Company, in which G. G. Magee, E. V. Bodwell, James Evans, Esqs., and other prominent members of the Company, took part, the meeting proceeded with the election of Directors, when the Scrutineers appointed declared the following gentlemen unanimously elected, viz: Richard Biddulph, of Westminster; Samuel Eccles, of Yarmouth; and Hamilton Dunlop, of Metcalfe.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the Chairman, and a similar one to the Directors, Officers, and Agents, and the meeting adjourned.

At a meeting of the Board held subsequently, Crowell Willson, Esq., M. P. P., was unanimously re-elected President; W. B. Vining, Esq., Vice-President; and the other officers appointed, whose names appear on 2nd page of cover.

To the Board
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AUDITORS' REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Agricultural Mutual Assurance Association of Canada—

GENTLEMEN,—

In accordance with our duty we herewith submit the Annual Statement of Accounts of the Company, for the year ending 31st December, 1865, which we have carefully audited and found correct, as therein set forth.

We are pleased to observe that you have acted on our suggestion, of enforcing the collection of unpaid assessments Nos. 1 & 2, by placing the same in suit. We would now urge the speedy collection of No. 3 assessment in like manner, so that the worthless portion, if any, may be written off. We also notice, that you have raised the rates on "Third Class" buildings in the Cash System, which we consider a step in the right direction. We beg leave to congratulate you on the great success attending your labours to place this Company first in the list as a substantial and liberal "Farmers' Insurance Company," which reflects great credit on you for careful management, and the energy and zeal of your staff of officers and agents.

Respectfully submitted.

London, C.W., 13th February, 1866.

A. G. SMYTH,
ALEX. S. ABBOTT, } Auditors.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

The amount of Premium Notes on hand has considerably declined, in proportion, since last Report—This arises from there now being none of the 2 per cent. notes on hand which the Company at one time took for a three years' risk on ordinary farm property. That rate was abolished—a 1½ per cent. rate having been substituted

Amount available of Premium Notes.....	\$174,316 11
" due by Agents, secured by Due Bills from members of the Company.....	11,147 22
" Cash in Treasurer's hands.....	12,793 82
" Secretary's hands.....	29 31
" due on Assessments Nos. 1, 2 & 3, in course of collection.....	9,850 47
Value of Office Furniture, paid on Real Estate, &c.....	2,498 28
Total amount of Capital.....	\$210,135 21
Liabilities estimated at not exceeding.....	3,000 00

Audited and found a correct abstract from the Company's books.

London, C.W., 13th February, 1866.

A. G. SMYTH,
ALEX. S. ABBOTT, } Auditors.]

No. of Policies in force, 1st January, 1865.....	26,582	
" " issued previously, but came in force during the year.....	180	
" " during 1865, P. N. System.....	8,118	
" " " " Cash System.....	1,337	
	9,455	
Of these not yet in force.....	170	9,285
		36,047
Less lapsed and cancelled Policies.....		3,225
Remaining in force.....		27,822
Amount covered by Insurance.....		\$18,728,806 00
Average amount of each Policy.....		673 16

AGENTS.

The following are the names of the principal Agents who worked for the Company in 1865, given in order according to the amount of work done by them. Those taking less than forty risks are omitted.

George W. Kiley, Leslie Johnson, W. B. Swift, A. Willis, James A. Ferguson, William Smyth, William T. Kiley, J. N. G. Lodge, Robert Ferguson, Jr., M. H. Ferguson, James Ferguson,	R. G. Hall, George Wilson, George Gardiner, Robert Ferguson, Sr., Leonard Armstrong, Peter J. Allison, Wm. Moore, John McDonald, Matthew East, W. C. Read,	Donald McKenzie, E. S. Jones, James Black, James Gardner, Jos. A. Armstrong, Archibald McIntyre, Wm. Latimer, Wm. Fleming, Wm. Stafford, John Davey,	R. McPherson, Angus Campbell, Robert Mulholland, John A. Hartley, John Campbell, Hugh Drain, A. McTaggart, T. H. McAulay, Moses Cook, J. G. Hamilton.
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LOSSES PAID IN 1865.

Name of Party.	Residence.	Amount of Loss.	Date of Fire.	REMARKS AS TO CAUSES OF FIRE.
William Sinclair*	Tuckersmith	108 08	Mar. 11 1864	Barn, shed & contents—damaged by lightning
Donald McDiarmid*	Stanley	160 00	Mar. 28 "	Driving-house—damaged by lightning
M. H. Thomas	Peel	120 00	Sept. 11 "	Dwelling—incendiarism
Margaret Transon and Hiram Ellis	Blenheim	390 67	Nov. 4 "	Barn and contents—incendiarism
George E. Argue	Cavan	666 66	Nov. 6 "	Barn and stable, alleged set fire by vagrant stealing poultry—supposed incendiarism
William Brown, Jr.	Madoc	443 33	Dec. 27 "	Barn, shed and contents—unknown
Manasseth Leeson	Garafraxa	1050 00	Dec. 29 "	Barn and contents—incendiarism
William Gee	N. Dorchester	180 00	Nov. 30 "	Contents of barn—incendiarism
William T. Crisp*	Dereham	6 00	August "	Barn damaged by lightning
Philip McKey	Delaware	10 00	Sept. 25 "	Damage to dwelling house
John Birch*	Clark	22 00	July 9 1863	Dwelling house damaged by lightning
Robert Steen	Toronto	18 50	April 17 "	Portion of contents of dwelling—supposed by sparks from servant's candle
Fwen McPherson	E. Williams	396 05	Jan. 3 1865	Dwelling and contents—defect in chimney
William Higgins	Dummer	53 00	" 3 "	Incendiarism
William L. Lindsay	London	294 00	" 10 "	Defect in chimney [chimney]
William Shaw	Walsingham	265 00	" 12 "	Dwelling and contents—supposed defect in stove pipe
Nicholas Thompson	Camden	60 00	" 19 "	Dwelling and contents—supposed defect in stove pipe
Thomas Tate	Windham	342 01	" 21 "	Dwelling house—incendiarism
Asa Fordyce	Yarmouth	500 00	" 25 "	Dwelling house and contents—supposed defect in chimney [pipe]
Samuel Barclay	Ancaster	400 00	" 26 "	Dwelling house—supposed defect in stove pipe
John Campbell	N. Norwich	400 00	" 27 "	Barn and contents—supposed by sparks from lantern
Hector McQuarrie	Colborne	346 62	" 30 "	Contents of barn and stable—incendiarism
James Churchill	Goderich	438 50	" 31 "	Barn, shed and content—incendiarism
Frederick Sovereign and Robert Shannon	Charlotteville	244 75	Feb. 1 "	Contents of barn—supposed to be set fire to by persons stealing grain
Joseph Tweedale	Charlotteville	100 00	" 1 "	Barn—supposed incendiarism
Joseph Gimley	Derby	483 66	" 3 "	Barn, stable, granary and contents—supposed sparks from lantern [lantern]
John Hillen	Clarke	900 00	" 7 "	Barn and contents—supposed sparks from Dwelling and contents—unknown
Joseph Iredale	Downie	36 00	" 9 "	
William Daniels	Adelaide	422 00	" 12 "	Barn and contents—supposed incendiarism
William Stafford	N. Norwich	200 00	" 16 "	Contents of barn—supposed sparks from lantern
James Carroll	"	200 00	" 16 "	Barn—supposed sparks from lantern
William D. Simpson	Brighton	600 00	" 26 "	Dwelling house, barn and contents—supposed defect in chimney [lantern]
Joseph Rutledge	Goderich	850 92	Mar. 2 "	Barn, shed and contents—upsetting of a Contents of barn and shed—unknown
Alexander Byron	East Oxford	12 07	" 4 "	
Chancey Johnson	Longeul	400 00	" 1 "	Dwelling—supposed took fire from candle carried by small child in cellar
William Kennedy	Loughboro	130 00	" 7 "	Barn—unknown
John Little	Clarke	200 00	" 7 "	Dwelling house—unknown [ney]
Elijah Switzer	Earnestown	400 00	" 7 "	Dwelling house—sparks from kitchen chimney
William M. Baker	Camden	155 00	" 8 "	Barn and contents—supposed sparks from lantern or chimney [chimney]
George Brodie	Markham	250 62	" 9 "	Dwelling and contents—supposed defect in Dwelling and contents—supposed defect in stove pipe [stove pipe]
Abraham Clemehegg	Adelaide	100 00	" 10 "	Dwelling and contents—supposed defect in stove pipe [stove pipe]
William Askew	Mersea	476 78	" 19 "	Dwelling and contents—from fire in board-Dwelling and contents damaged—supposed by matches left in candle-stick
Joseph Fraser	Brantford	30 50	" 20 "	
Jacob J. Carson	Egremont	236 30	" 21 "	Dwelling and contents—supposed from persons smoking at tea-party
Archibald Nelson	Otonabee	330 00	" 24 "	Dwelling—supposed incendiarism
Asa Miller	Malahide	24 00	" 24 "	Dwelling and wood-shed—smoking meat in barrel in shed [stern]
Abraham Knapp	Oxford, Grenville	881 47	" 25 "	Barn and sheds—supposed sparks from lan-Dwelling house—unknown
Joseph Dulong	Cayuga	60 00	April 5 "	
William Percy	Pickering	350 00	" 14 "	Barn and contents—unknown
Martha Davison	Warwick	636 90	" 18 "	Dwelling and contents—defect in pipes or chimney
Adam Crow	Dover East	40 25	" 21 "	Stable and store-house—supposed sparks from chimney of dwelling
L. G. Sovereign	Windham	400 62	" 27 "	Dwelling house—incendiarism
Mary Orchard	Ionisfil	10 00	" 3 "	Damage to dwelling—unknown
Francis Dixon	Hamilton	120 00	May 19 "	Dwelling and contents—unknown
Mrs. P. Moore & John Moore	Yarmouth	25 00	" 1 "	Dwelling damaged—defect in chimney
Dunham Jones	Augusta	25 00	" 9 "	Dwelling and contents damaged—sparks from kitchen chimney
Isaac Asseltine	Camden	249 05	" 10 "	Barn, shed, stable and contents—unknown
Joseph Calloway	Stanley	838 17	" 22 "	Barn, shed and contents—unknown
Carried forward		\$17089 78		

MEM.—The first twelve occurred prior to 1865, and those marked with a star (*) were cases of damage by lightning, without burning, which could not be paid till the law in regard thereto was changed by the Legislature.

Name of

Brought for
Catherine O'Neil

John Dowling ..

Cicero Tomlinso
Mary Barbour ..
George Hutcher
Robert Johnson
John Bamberge
Richard Dell ...
William Sinclair

Enoch B. Piper
William Young
Alexander Brad
Adam Esbaugh
David Hosie...
Thaddeus Brick

Wesley Abbel..

William W Woo
Edmund Chute
James Booth...

Robert P Irwin

David Daniels ..
Peter Bruner ..
Donald McKay
Henry Allen ..
J H Lockhart ..
Matthew Deane
William Murray
George Welsh ..
James Riddell.
Colin Leitch...
Robert McQuay
Joseph B Lucas

Thomas Lewis
Hugh Cameron
Abraham Scott
James Hodgins
John McGillis ..
James O'Ragan
John Hurdle ..
Joseph A Ray ..
Robert & Willis
Benjamin Barn
Solomon Hare.

John E Hilton.

John Fleury ..

John Niblock ..
Mahlon B Wils
George Fisher.

Trustees S S N

Nelson Hicks ..
Singleton Gibb

Anson G Mabe

Gilbert Curtis ..
John Young ..
John Cleavelan
Alexander Mitz
Elizabeth Gran
Henry Willis
Thomas Jermj
Peter Pettit...
Thomas Howse

LOSSES PAID IN 1865—CONTINUED.

FIRE.	Name of Party.	Residence.	Amount of Loss	Date of Fire	REMARKS AS TO CAUSES OF FIRE.
	<i>Brought forward</i>		\$ C. 17089 78		
by lightning	Catherine Callaghan.....	Emily.....	320 34	May 31 1865	Dwelling house and contents—defect in stove pipe
	John Dowling.....	Caledon.....	13 00	" "	Contents of dwelling damaged—carelessness with candle
by vagrant incendiary	Cicero Tomlinson.....	Markham.....	240 00	" "	Dwelling house—unknown
own	Mary Barbour.....	Esqueuing.....	50 00	June 3 "	do do do
	George Hutchcroft.....	Edwardsburg.....	238 00	" 25 "	Barn, stable and contents—lightning
	Robert Johnson.....	Marlyboro.....	250 50	" 13 "	Barn—unknown
	John Bamberger.....	East Zorra.....	154 30	" 15 "	Barn and contents—lightning
	Richard Dell.....	Windham.....	170 24	" 16 "	Barn, stable and contents—unknown
	William Sinclair.....	Middleton.....	294 00	" 23 "	Barn and contents—sparks from burning log heap
lighting	Enoch B. Piper.....	Oxford.....	98 00	" 23 "	Dwelling house—sparks from chimney
g—supposed	William Young.....	Erant.....	208 00	" 24 "	Barn and contents—lightning
lie	Alexander Bradley.....	Clarke.....	544 33	" 27 "	2 Barns and contents—unknown
chimney	Adam Ebaugh.....	Wellesley.....	50 25	" 15 "	Dwelling house damaged—lightning
chimney	David Hosie.....	Moore.....	11 50	May 19 "	Barn damaged—lightning
and defect in	Thaddeus Brickon.....	Windham.....	101 33	July 4 "	Dwelling house, shed and contents—sparks from fire in yard
and defect in	Wesley Abbl.....	Beverley.....	302 00	" 7 "	Barn, shed and contents—fire from pipe of stranger burnt in barn
ts—supposed	William W Woodruff.....	Niagara.....	1200 00	" 7 "	Dwelling house—defect in kitchen chimney
[pipe	Edmund Chute.....	Caradoc.....	9 00	" 11 "	Driving house damaged—lightning
ect in stove	James Booth.....	Innisfil.....	157 10	" 20 "	Driving house, barn, shed and contents—unknown
by sparks	Robert P Irwin.....	King.....	775 13	" 23 "	Barn, shed, driving house and contents—incendiary
incendiary	David Daniels.....	Dover East.....	200 00	" 25 "	Barn—sparks from a tug-boat
ndiarism	Peter Bruner.....	Gosfield.....	350 00	Aug. 2 "	Barn and contents—incendiary
be set fire to	Donald McKay.....	West Zorra.....	410 00	" 7 "	Barn, shed, stable and contents—unknown
	Henry Allen.....	Westminster.....	400 00	" 21 "	Dwelling and contents—defect in stove pipe
contents—sup-	J H Lockhart.....	Colchester.....	300 00	" 8 "	Barn and contents—lightning [stove
[lantern	Matthew Deane.....	Hops.....	200 00	" 12 "	Dwelling house & contents—fire from cook
sparks from	William Murray.....	Cayuga.....	350 00	" "	Barn, shed and stable—incendiary
own	George Welsh.....	Grey.....	86 00	" 1 "	Barn and contents—running fire
incendiary	James Riddell.....	Albion.....	100 00	" 16 "	Dwelling and contents—stove in cook house
sparks from	Colin Leitch.....	Orford.....	106 50	" 29 "	Barn and contents—burning fallow
	Robert McQuay.....	Montague.....	246 00	" 3 "	do do —running fire in woods
tern	Joseph B Lucas.....	Camden.....	7 78	" 30 "	Dwelling house and contents—sparks from stove pipe [playing with matches
contents—sup-	Thomas Lewis.....	Markham.....	300 00	" 31 "	Barn and contents—two small children
[lantern	Hugh Cameron.....	Finch.....	400 00	" 26 "	Barn, shed, stable and contents—unknown
setting of a	Abraham Scott.....	Leeds.....	355 50	" 10 "	Barn and contents—incendiary
known	James Hodgins.....	Kinross.....	76 33	" 10 "	Dwelling house and contents—incendiary
from candle	John McGillis.....	Loc.....	100 00	" 2 "	do do do —unknown
lar	James O'Ragan.....	Camden East.....	380 00	" 18 "	Contents of barn — unknown
[ney	John Hurdle.....	Southwood.....	965 00	Sept. 9 "	Barn, sheds, &c—incendiary
kitchen chim-	Joseph A Ray.....	Rochester.....	300 00	" 13 "	Barn and contents—do [incendiary
sparks from	Robert & William Clough.....	Seymour.....	1133 33	" 8 "	Dwelling house and contents—supposed
[chimney	Benjamin Barnes.....	Reach.....	500 00	" 12 "	Barn and contents—incendiary
sed defect in	Solomon Hare.....	Walpole.....	372 43	" 29 "	Dwelling house and contents—defect in chimney
sed defect in	John E Hilton.....	Otonabee.....	250 00	" 7 "	Barn, stables and shed—spark from chimney, or coal from smoking pipe
[furn's room	John Fleury.....	King.....	357 83	Oct. 9 "	Barn and contents—matches left in barn, and ignited accidentally
fire in board-	John Niblock.....	Leeds.....	400 00	" 10 "	Barn & contents—lightning or incendiary
ed—supposed	Mahlon B Wilson.....	Walsingham.....	185 78	" 10 "	do do —sparks from brush heap
ck	George Fisher.....	Clarke.....	200 00	" 12 "	do do —sparks from running fire or stranger sleeping in barn
sed from per-	Trustees S S No. 1.....	Dummer.....	150 00	" 17 "	School house and contents—carelessness of teacher leaving wood in stove over night
sm	Nelson Hicks.....	Ernestown.....	232 66	" 19 "	Barn, shed, stable & contents—incendiary
oking meat in	Singleton Gibb.....	Mosa.....	230 00	" 15 "	Barn—from straw stack, set on fire by a boy with matches
[tern	Anson G Mabee.....	Ameliasburgh.....	1030 00	" 27 "	Dwelling house and contents, barn, shed, and contents—burning chimney
urks from lan-	Gilbert Curtis Bogart.....	Richmond.....	666 66	" 23 "	Dwelling house—coals or sparks from stove
posed sparks	John Young.....	West Zorra.....	600 00	Nov. 16 "	Barn, shed and contents—unknown
	John Cleveland.....	Norwich.....	220 00	" 27 "	Cattle, shed and pig house—do
	Alexander Mitchell.....	Blanshard.....	100 00	" 28 "	Stable and contents do
	Elizabeth Grant.....	Hope.....	400 00	Dec. 3 "	Barn and contents do
aged—sparks	Henry Willis.....	Blanshard.....	153 33	" 8 "	Barn and contents—incendiary
	Thomas Jermyn.....	Biddulph.....	358 00	" 9 "	do do —unknown [stove
ts—unknown	Peter Pettit.....	Wainfleet.....	259 37	" 11 "	Dwelling house and contents—coals from
nown	Thomas Howson.....	Dummer.....	523 66	" 18 "	Barn and contents—supposed sparks from lantern
	TOTAL		\$36305 96		

of damage by legislature.

CASH ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

Dr.	\$	c
Balance from last Report	9141	05
Received from Agents.....	17,307	69
" " Assessment No. 3.....	4,448	83
" " " " 4.....	32,659	71
" " Agents in fees.....	2,113	38
" " " in Commission (Cash system)	669	05
" " " in Postages.....	195	26
" " Interests on Deposits.....	2,977	69
" " Insurance money for Safe burned	273	50
	319	00
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	\$67,607	47

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cr.	\$	c
Losses paid	33,365	96
Bank Agency paying losses.....	28	71
Expenses investigating losses	831	43
	860	14
SALARIES.—		
Secretary and Clerks.....	3724	25
" on acct. of Sal. for 1864.....	1178	61
General Agent	800	00
Treasurer	100	00
Auditors.....	200	00
	6002	86
Directors' Fees.....	619	05
Law Expenses.....	257	99
Postage on Policies.....	472	75
" " Reports.....	267	62
" " Assessment No. 4.....	475	00
General Postages.....	584	69
Stationery	190	69
Printing Reports	230	00
Printing and Advertising.....	921	66
Fuel and Light.....	57	04
Office Furniture and Repairs	127	52
Rent and Taxes	163	00
Discount on Stamps Sold.....	64	73
Agents' Fees paid.....	4856	00
" Commission (Cash System).....	669	05
Discount (Interest on Bills payable)	272	86
Expenses in Northcott's Suit.....	60	00
Paid to Agents for Special Attendance on Board.....	74	50
" Treasurer Co. Middlesex for filing Bonds.....	21	00
" on Real Estate (Companys' Offices).....	1098	28
Incidentals	23	05
Balance in Treasurer's hands.....	12,793	82
" " Secretary's	29	31
	\$67,607	47

Having carefully compared the above statement of Receipts and Disbursements with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, we certify the same to be correct.

LONDON, C. W., 13th February, 1866.

A. G. SMYTH, }
A. S. ABBOTT, } Auditors.

The rates on 3rd class property under the Cash System have been altered and now stand as follows:—

3rd Class.	
Rate No. 1.	Rate No. 2.
1 year 38	44
2 " 70	80
3 " 100	115
	130

For other rates, and for distances, &c., see the Policies. The alteration above referred to has not yet been made in the editions of Policy we are using—they were printed before the change was made.

No. 1.

MEMORANDA (A.) This Company, as a general thing, insure, if desired, up to two-thirds the value of property, buildings or contents: that is, it requires every member to be his own insurer to at least one-third the value of the property at risk, in order to give him a direct and tangible interest in taking care of it. The Farmers of the County of Middlesex who started the Company and who have no privilege beyond any other members, were of the opinion this was the correct principle to go on—they are of the same opinion still, and no objection has been elsewhere raised to it when properly explained. But regents of some other companies systematically take this one, in that respect, representing, among such other fanciful things as their imaginations may suggest, that in no case does it pay more than two-thirds the amount of the sum insured. A more truthful assertion could hardly be uttered.

(b.) On the other hand, an advantage presented by this Company to its members, which they would not receive from every one, is that one covers the "ordinary contents" of outbuildings with a 40 feet of each other, embracing *Iron Produce generally, Live Stock, Farming Implements* (including *Carriage, Harness and Saddlery*), together with threshed grain in a granary situated anywhere on the farm (supposing it of course to be exposed by any more hazardous risk). A very marked advantage to the insured over the system practised by many other *Mutuals*, some of them represented, probably, by the impracticable agents above referred to.

(c.) Those companies place a separate sum on "hay and grain," another on "Live Stock," and another still on "Farming Implements;" and if there be more than one outbuilding and the contents of all insured, they make a still further extension of separate sums. As for instance, so much on Hay and Grain in Barn No. 1, so much on Live Stock in Barn No. 1, so much on Farming Implements in Barn No. 1—then so much on each of these items in Barn No. 2. And then again as to other outbuildings, if there be any more, and their contents insured.

(d.) We will, for illustration sake, put a case—not at all an improbable one, taken from many more similar ones that might be put. Suppose a party insured with one of those Companies for \$200 on hay and grain, \$200 on Live Stock, and \$200 on Farming Implements, in all \$600, and suppose, not an improbable thing either, that the Barn is burned from lightning or any other casualty for harvest with hay and grain in it amounting to \$600 or \$700; but no other contents, which is not unlikely at that season of the year. In that case all the insured can claim is only \$200, although he has been paying for the whole \$600.

(e.) Suppose, or the other hand, a party insured with us in a like case for \$400—that sum covers all the above items without distinction—and a loss occurring as above, he would be entitled to receive the whole \$400—the entire

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amount he was insured and has been paying for. Thus under the system we pursue it may be better to be insured with us for \$400 than with one of those Companies for \$600, or even, it may be, much more, on the same property.

(F.) Again, while their system is often injurious to an honest member, it,—in a part of it,—furnishes great facilities for the successful operations of rogues, otherwise what reason can be given that the losses of some of those Companies exceed ours for the past year, proportionably, by at least two to one? At any rate this is the view to a certain extent the writer hereof takes of the matter. He does not desire war against any Company. The managers of each have a right to do as their Judgment guides them. It is only in self defence he makes the above representations.

(G.) The mis-statements of the agents referred to have no appreciable effect on the business of this Company, which is nearly as great as can be conveniently attended to—but they greatly affect the amount of work (which is not little) the writer has to do. They raise suspicions in, and disquiet, the minds of members at a distance, who are but little conversant with insurance, and they write to this office complainingly, and give great trouble in answering their letters.

(H.) With reference to part of paragraph (B), it should be stated that there is an exception made as regards *Threshing Machines, Reapers and Mowers*, which must be separately and specifically insured, but they may be kept in any out-building on the farm, the proper rate of which does not exceed that which said implements are insured at.

No. 2.

It was notified in the Report for 1864 that the Company had ceased insuring unoccupied dwelling-houses—the losses in that class of property having been inordinately large; subsequent experience has tended to confirm the wisdom of the step. If a building be worth insuring it ought to be worth taking care of.

No. 3.

Members writing in regard to their Policies ought, in every case, to give its number. See Notice on back of Policy. There is not an alphabetical Index kept in the Office, only a numerical one—and hunting up a particular name, with no information pointing towards its number, would most frequently involve a sacrifice of time that cannot be afforded.

And parties who have insured but not received their Policies in due time, should, when writing in regard to that failure, give the name of the agent by whom, and the date at which, the risk was taken. Many Policies miscarry in the Post-office. In all cases of miscarriage duplicates are sent without charge.

No. 4.

Please bear in mind that Members making repairs or alterations involving Carpenters' or Joiners' work, do so at their own risk, unless they have paid 10 per cent. additional on the amount insured—such payment confers the privilege for two months and no longer.

No. 5.

Hay and Grain in Stacks may be insured situated anywhere on the farm, if 20 rods or more from uncleared land and ten from any building where fire is used.

No. 6.

Read your Policy attentively over. Pay attention to all the Conditions, so that you may comprehend exactly the footing you stand on.

D. S. M.