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The revenue statement of receipts for the first half of the fiscal year, ending December 31st, 1897, shows as follows,

ompared with the same period in 1896 :-

1896.	1897.	Increase or Decrease.
ś	\$	\$
Customs 9,389,185	10,071,231	+ 682,016
Excise 4,138,036	3,464,951	- 673,085
l'ost office 1,415,000	1,760,000	+ 345,000
Public works, in- cluding railway.1,973.203	2,008,364	35,161
Miscellaneous 527,421	629 ,42 9	† 102,00S
Total\$17.452.847	£17,933,974	

It will be noted that the increase in Customs of \$682,046 was offset by a decrease in Excise of \$673,-085, leaving in these two leading sources of the public revenue only a net increase of \$8,961. The continued decrease in Excise will be somewhat of a surprise to the Finance Department, and it will be interesting to analyse the respective details of Customs and Excise receipts to ascertain whether, and if so, to what extent the enlarged Customs receipts were caused by operations which caused a decrease in Excise. There is an opinion prevalent that the Canadian distilleries have reduced their make and output to a large extent, owing to the increased consumption of foreign spirits. Should this belief prove to be based on facts, the increased taxation imposed on the Canadian product coincident with the decrease in duties on British spirits will turn out to have been of no benefit to the public revenue. How far it is in the public interest to promote the consumption of foreign liquors to the detriment of the makers of Canadian products is a question we leave to others to discuss. The increase in Post-Office revenue was largely caused by the large profits made by the issue of Jubilee stamps, as an enormous number are being held as souvenirs of that event and for speculative purposes. Doubtless, however, the improvement in trade has had some effect in enlarging the Post-Office revenue. It can hardly be expected that the second hali of the fiscal year will be as favourable to the revenue as the first half has been. The expenditures on Capital account were as follows:-

Public Works, Railways	1896. \$	1897.	Increase or Decrease,
and Canals	1,198,309	1,634,425	+ 526,119
Dominion Lands	32,067	37,557	+ 5,490
Railway subsidies	218,555	566,219	+ 347,664
Militia	526,508	124,604	- 401 ,9 04
N. W. T. rebellion	3,895	554	- 39341
Total	\$1,070,236	\$2,362,362	

The net increase of expenditures on Capital account was \$384,026. The expenditures on Consolidated Fund account were \$13,488,170, which is \$573,236 below the amount in same period 1806. This, with an increase in income, gives a promise of the year closing with favourable results.

The children's game of "Tit for Tat," which is a playful form of retaliation, represents, minus the playfulness, the conduct of the United States and France towards each other. It is worth noticing as an illustration of what Tariff retaliations lead to. It is a contest between pot and kettle, but in this, as in a celebrated case, "The kettle began it." The Dingley Tariff placed increased duties upon French imports into the States. This was resented by the sister Republic, which "countered" by a blow at American imports into France, especially by duties on meat products from the United States. This seems a very natural and quite a fair policy. The meat products exporters of Chicago and those of other western places think quite otherwise. Their view is that the United States has a clear right to exclude foreign goods from American ports, but that, if any foreign nation retaliates by imposing heavier duties on American imports, it is committing an outrage. Hence, the American Government is proposing to retaliate on France for defending itself by imposing an increase of duties on French imports into the States, equal in amount to those recently imposed on American products by France. This step is likely to be resented, and the final outcome will practically be a declaration of commercial non-intersourse between France and the United States. We in Canada can sympathise with France, as every step taken by this country to merely

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protect our own interests from the hostile legislation of the States has been denounced as unfriendly. Indeed the most prominent newspaper in Chicago recently denounced Canada in violent terms for daring to guard her lumber interests against American aggression. This journal said: "Canada is an intolerable nuisance," our only offence being a determination to stop our forests being stripped to furnish raw materials for Michigan saw mills. While France and America are fighting their tariff battle. England, Germany, Italy and Canada are having increased chances of increasing their trade with both combatants.

According to the new Tariff regulal'ersecution tions of the States, no seal fur garment, by Tariff. or skip can be imported into America unless it bears a stamp indicating that the scal which furnished the fur was killed on the Pribyloff Islands. or a Consul's certificate to that effect. These islands are leased to an American Company, to which by the new Act has been given an absolute monopoly of the right to supply scal-fur to the people of the United States. It would be interesting to know how much this Company has paid for the monopoly, for that it is a free gift is not credible. The first illustration of the working of this Act was the temporary confis ation of a scal-skin jacket worn by an English visit or to New York, who, however, managed to recover it by proving it was purchased before the Act came into force. But what must be thought in Europe of the intelligence of American legislators, when the garments of ladies who visit the States are hable to be confiscated unless the material of which they are made can be proved to have been brought from a particular part of American territory? What, too, must intelligent American Indies think of their Government prohibiting them from buying any seal furs except those provided by one American Company? They will justly regard it as a mean form of social persecution, petty enough to be the act of an Eastern despot. Ladies in Europe and in Canada to whom a seal fur jacket or cloak is an ordinary article of clothing in winter will give the United States a wide berth. American ladies who own a garment of this class will fear to wear it, as they will render themselves liable to arrest, and to an official examination to test whether their furs are to be confiscated, or themselves heavily fined for wearing an article not the product of the Pribyloff Islands. Fancy the annoyance cause I to a lady who is proposing to visit the States by her being compelled to get a Consul's certificate authorizing her to take her furs to that country! American Consuls are usually very courteous; they show an auxious desire to encourage the visits of outsiders, but they will feel hampered in this by having to grant lady visitors a premit to wear their jurs on the trip. Such petty, inquisitorial interferences with the costume of lady visitors to their country will be sharply resented and condemned by the intelligent classes in the United States.

Arrangements are all but complete f Knards of holding a Conference of the difference Trade and Insulvency. Boards in the Dominion for the pa pose of considering the question of insolvency legi-The accessity for this has been urgent lation. pressed by The Chkonicle, which has shown ho imperative it is for the maintenance of the mercanti credit of Canada that the present, the confused an wholly inadequate legislation of the different Pri vinces affecting insolvent estates should be replace by a well devised Dominion Act. Our foreig creditors, to whom Canadian commerce is deeply in debted, have again and again protested against th difficulties and the losses imposed upon them, owin to the absence of some uniform procedure in dealing with their Canadian debtors. It has been decided to hold a Conference of Boards of Trade early new month at this city, at which it is hoped the Prenad and the Minister of Trade and Commerce will be present. The plan is proposed to allow each Boar of Trade one delegate for each 100 of its members A memorandum is to be sent to each Board of Trad stating the general lines on which it is thought desirable that insolvency legislation should proceed This will enable the delegates to consider the quetion and to come with some definite ideas as to the business of the Conference. We look with comidence to this gathering of representative business me from all parts of Canada resulting in the formulation of the general outlines of an Act which will be adoped by the Government and pressed forward until passed next Session.

Notes must be presented

American Banker as to whether a payabie. banker is liable on a note sent to him for collection which was made payable at a town 23 miles distant. We presume there was no bank in that town, as the collecting banker satisfied himself by notifying the payer by mail and requesting him to call at his office and pay the note. The banker dil not protest the note as he says: "On account of its being payable at the place named," that is 23 miles away. Presentation of a note to the payer by mail is not a strictly legal presentation. In fact a notice by mail is no presentation at all, for the note is held by the banker who sends the notice to the paver that he is holding it for payment. In several parts of the old land drafts are now and again, but rarely, sent to a bank for collection which are payable by persons in a remote district, the formal presentation of which would involve the expense and waste of time of a clerk riding many miles. In Derbyshire trips of this kind in summer have often been taken as a recreation. It used to be customary to have all such drafts marked "Not to be protested," or a written guarantee sent holding the collecting bank not responsible for any failure to present, as it would be intolerable to have any responsibility for present-

A query was recently addressed to the

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a note involving, as in above case, a trip of 23 es. "The failure of the holder to present a note the place of payment named is available as a dece by the maker, so far as he was ready to make ment and has suffered loss through, or incurred its of suit by the holder's neglect. Proof of the ker's readiness and ability to pay the note at its turity at the places named in the note for yment will release him from the payment the costs of the suit. Of course, he would be liable the principal of the note." The Banker is right saying this, but even this view has limitations. A ver might make his note payable at a place which is accessible when it matures, or at a very distant ice, where he will be when the note matures, as at lumber camp in Ontario, or at a farm house in the brth West, which is a day's trip from any wn or railway. If suit were brought for payment such a note, would the holder have to pay all costs cause he failed to present the note where it was ade payable? No Court of Equity would punish man for neglecting to do what was practically linssible or unreasonably expensive and difficult. ukers, as a rule, decline to handle notes payable at place difficult to reach, and traders should take re when receiving notes to see that they are payle at a chartered bank or in the place where one located.

The improved conditions under which Hetter Conditions of the business of the British Fire Offices ire insurance is being done afford an example Rusiness. hich might be followed with much advantage elsehere. They are thus described by the Post Magane & Insurance Monitor in a review of the fire inrance record of last year: "Examining the broad tures of Fire business, we discover that the old der is indeed rapidly vanishing, giving place to a der and more liberal understanding. Competition hongst the Offices is as keen and energetic as ever. at we believe we have a right to assume that it is pdly, orderly competition, and not the infatuated re of former years, when even the goal was forgoth in the eagerness of the pursuit. The leading idea the present is to obtain the best, not the biggest siness, to regulate everything in the interests of the ole, and not to handicap or overreach rivals. And roughout the past year the benefits accruing from s healthier aim have been abundantly manifest every direction. There have been fewer complaints m aggrieved agents, practically no agitations reding commission, and less claudestine tampering th rates in defiance of experience. As a conseence, the public have been more satisfied, and, ring the whole year we have had less of that large County Council and other outside schemes of surance." A change of methods which has ren better results to the companies and more

ion to the public, along with a check being

the agitation for municipal insurance, only

at, when their mutual affairs are wisely mane interests of insurers and insured are re-

by both to be not antagonistic.

THE LAW INVOKED AGAINST UNDERWRITING "ANNEX'S."

A new complication has arisen among fire under-, writers in the United States, which has deservedly attracted general attention, growing out of "underwriters' agencies," or alliances. As our readers are aware, for several years, two or three of these combinations-notably the "New York Underwriters' Agency," formerly composed of the Hartford and the Hanover, but for some time past of the Hartford alone, and the "Philadelphia Underwriters," composed of the Insurance Company of North America and the Fire Association, have done business unchallenged. During the past year other combinations of a similar character have been made until there are now some sincen in the field. In most of these cases two or more companies have united under some descriptive title in which "Underwriters" is the principal term in the nomenclature, and in two cases a single company has issued "underwriters" policies through separate agencies, distinct-for the most part from the issues of the company under its corporate name.

ALL THESE COMBINATIONS HAVE AGENCIES

separate from and in addition to those of the individual companies composing the combination. As in most of the larger cities the tariff associations and underwriters' boards limit the number of agencies, which each company shall be allowed to have in the particular jurisdiction, it will be readily seen that two companies represented, under the rules, by their designated agencies and also by an agency or agencies credited to the "underwriters" alliance, have a decided advantage over those companies which are without these "annexes," as they are expressively For example, we believe the Chicago Underwriters' Association or Board restricts the companies comprising it to three agencies each; hence, two companies with this "annex" feature have nine agencies when as distinct, individual companies they would have but six or three each, the limitation which applies to all the companies not having an "underwriters" attachment. The existence of this fact has had much to do with the inquiry set on foot lately by the insurance commissioners of four or five states, resulting in decisions adverse to the transaction of business and the issuance of policies by the various "underwriters" alliances.

The inquiry began and a ruling was made, first, a few weeks ago in Massachusetts, when Commissioner Cutting's attention was called to the provisions of the law defining

THE STATUS OF INSURANCE CORPORATIONS.

That law, as in most of the other States, provides that business must be transacted and the policy contract issued only in the corporate name of the company, and the Commissioner so ruled. Wisconsin, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Illinois then took up the question, and it was found that under the express pro-

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visions of the insurance laws no organization or association not regularly incorporated as an insurance company, as provided in the law, could be recognized as entitled to assume contract obligations. In other words, the attempt of incorporated companies to form a third unincorporated alliance, by whatever name, and to exercise the functions of a corporation as underwriters, is *ultra tires* and contrary to the express provisions of the law. It has been agreed by all the above departments, we believe, that the best legal authorities have always held that two or more corporations cannot legally enter into a partnership, expressed or implied. They have also all held that the issue of a joint policy by two or more companies may be permissible, provided it is clearly expressed in the policy that each for itself assumes distinct and separate liability, and is the recipient of a stated portion of the premium. The Wisconsm. Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts' Insurance departments do not prohibit, where a joint policy, proper, is issued, the companies from using the term "underwriters" or "associated underwriters" on the back or, in a subordinate line, on the top of the policy, simply to designate the combination acting as an agency in the transaction.

THE COMBINATION CANNOT BE RECOGNIZED however as having contract powers or as a corporate entity in any sense whatever.

In Illinois the Insurance Superintendent goes further however, and announces that, under the statutes governing insurance corporations, no designation by two or more insurance companies of a combination to procure business or to issue policies can be allowed at all other than the corporate names in severalty. A few days ago the superintendent issued a lengthy

RULING ON THE "UNDERWRITERS" QU'SHON quoting the provisions of the law as to insurance corporations, their rights and limitations and sundry court decisions applicable to the subject. He summed up his conclusions as follows:

First—That insurance companies may combine and issue a joint policy, provided such combinations and the issuing of such policies do not constitute partnership contracts.

Second—That combinations in which the premium receipts constitute a common fund, from which losses and expenses of the business are paid and the net profits shared among the companies composing the combination, constitute partnerships of such corporations and companies and are in violation of law.

Third—That the use by adoption or otherwise by a single company or by several companies of a different name from the corporate name of said company or companies in procuring and carrying on business is in violation of law and must be discontinued.

An addendum to the decision was issued four or five days later in response to naquiries by companies, to the effect that not only on policies, but on advertising matter, the use of any name or title other than

the corporate name of the company or compan will be strictly prohibited as contrary to the pl provisions of the statute. It will readily be seen a the rulings of the Illinois assurance superintend are far-reaching and comprehensive beyond ex the rulings of the other insurance departments, so long as the decision stands the "annex" meth of prosecuting fire underwriting cannot be emplor in Illinois, while the decisions given in the of States above named, all important States, are su ciently pronounced to practically prohibit the succe ful conduct of the business under the "underwriters device as recently employed. Other states are pected soon to take action similar to that alread taken in the five States named, and as, practical there is no chance for successful appeal from the cisions of the insurance departments, it would see that the combination method, heretofore employ so extensively, must cease, save where joint police may be issued under the existing forms of law. The "annex" question is undoubtedly a pretty live of over the border, and we shall keep our readers formed of the developments pertaining to it from a to time.

THE EFFECT OF POPULISM IN KANSAS OF INSURANCE INTERESTS.

The irritating attitude assumed by the Insura Superintendent of Kansas towards the insurad companies transacting business in that State is spired by the spirit of populism. This at the root simply a manifestation of that unreasoning jealor and hatred which a certain class of ignorant per entertain towards all men in a better pecuniary el dition than themselves and all corporations and stitutions which are more prosperous than those w which they are in any way associated. Populis 19 1 Socialism, Communism are the three heads of Cerberus of discontent. The march of the Coa army of tramps to Washington exhibited this ci temptible and highly mischievous spirit on a izbut not original scale, as it was an absurd imital of the movement at Blackheath in 1450, led by Ja Cade, whose Standard motto:

"When Adam del'vd, and Eve span,

"Who was then a gentleman?"
well expressed the idea of Populism. That me ment was, however, not so unreasonable as so fancy, as it grew out of the operation of the the Statute of Labourers passed in 1440, which, according to modern ideas as to personal liberty, ideas a bodied in our laws, was tyrannously oppressive offence of the insurance companies which are be harried and sought to be driven out of Kansas simply their financial strength. Punch once has cartoon showing a well-dressed visitor in a colfivillage passing a group of roughs, one of whom claims, "Here's a stranger, let's 'cave 'alf a brick him." The leading insurance companies are excited the same spirit in Kansas; they are strangers, t'ey

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to do, therefore, they are regarded as proper ims of the "falf a brick" treatment. There has en a legal complication in regard to the law by ch insurance companies are in future to be regud in Hausas, which recalls an incident in the hisof the present American tariff, into which a use was surreptitiously introduced by one or two the Tariff Committee without the cognizance of ir colleagues. It is now believed, on highly probe evidence, that the insurance law of Kansas passed 1880 was tampered with after being passed. The covery of this outrage is likely to have an importbearing upon the dispute going on between the ansas State Insurance Department and the life surance companies of New York. It is alleged at, after the Bill was signed by the Governor, there re alterations made, which if proved may invalidate e Act. It would appear that, acting on this law, originally understood, Judge Williams ruled that e Superintendent of Insurance had no right to rese his certificate, or license, to any solvent insurance empany. The New York Companies, of course, sire this judgment to be sustained. Should it. bwever, he disturbed they are likely to take proedings to have the Act under which it was given clared null and void on the ground that it was impered with after being passed. It is reported the ttorney-General is not inclined to believe that the ct was fraudulently altered; in regard to this, howcr, we doubt whether an Attorney-General would ive so decisive an opinion as he is credited with ttering on a question which is to be investigated by a Supreme Court. The question will be raised by roccedings against the Mutual Life of New York. his Company in order to rid itself of the annoyance nd persecution of the Kansas Insurance Department Emounced its intention to withdraw from that State t the close of last year, following in this step the xample of the Travelers, of Hartford, and the roposed action of several other insurance companies. Topeka correspondent of The Spectator Although the theory of populism is that their part: most prosperous when business conditions are at heir very worst, the people of Kansas are indulging n frequent and bitter criticism against McNall and he State administration for driving these companies ut of the State. The right-thinking people of the tate, and there are thousands of them, have taken hese matters home and will repay the arrogant and injust officials for their inexcusable conduct in these natters at the polls next year." The misfortune is hat "the right thinking people," the people who have ufficient intelligence to form a wise judgment on public questions, are in the minority in the United States, or we should not have such exhibitions of 'opu'ism as the American Alien Labour Law and other legislation directed against the expansion of remational trade, and inimical to the establishment i permanent friendly relations between Canada and

CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS. WHAT IS A CIVIL ENGINEER.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers was held in this city on the 11th inst, and following days. The title "Civil Engineer" is quite modern. It arose from the profession being at one time almost exclusively comprised of military men, a section of the Army being specially trained for engineering duties, which often take a wide range, both constructive and destructive. There is no work requiring engineering talent, training and experience. which cannot be most efficiently performed to-day by the engineers of the British Army and by the trained staff of European armies. The veteran ex-President of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, and one to whose liberality it is much indebted, Colonel Sir Casimir Gzowski, K.C.M.G., A.D.C., to the Queen, received his education as an Engineer when a military student at Warsaw. When civilians entered the profession, they were distinguished from those in the Army by

THE TITLE "CIVIL ENGINEER,"

which, as the profession is an open one, is adopted by some whose qualifications are not very pronounced. The practice in Great Britain, up to a recent date, was to article a youth to one in the profession without any preliminary collegiate training of an engineering character. He was understood to be a pupil-assistant, who had to learn his business by actual work, supplemented by private study, the latter of which was voluntary, and therefore only engaged in by those who were ambitious of rising in the profession. With a capable and conscientious principal, a youth or young man so articled received a practical training of inestimable value, as he had opportunities of watching, and sharing in, the work of the chief Engineer, both in the office and on the ground. He learnt principles by observing their practical application, not merely from books. In later years the system was modified by the prospective Engineer first taking a Collegiate course in science, and then entering himself as

ON ARTICLED PUPIL-ASSISTANT

to a professional Engineer to whom was paid a heavy fee: we have known it to be as high as \$1,500, with only pocket money for several years. The great costliness of such a training made, and still makes, the profession of Civil Engineer a very exclusive one in the old land, where those in this calling hold a high social position. These pupils often are sent to assist in works in foreign lands, by which they acquire a wide knowledge of the world, and are able to learn one branch of their profession which is essential to eminence, that is, the financing of constructive works. their actual cost, and their prospects of being a pecuniary, as well as a scientific success. Book learning does not teach these essentials, nor give such experience as is acquired by observations made in various fields of labour, especially in foreign countries where an Engineer is thrown so much upon his own resources and has to improvise appliances which at home are easily procured, and at times invent new methods to meet local emergencies. The Canadian Society of Civil Engineers has for its main object the raising the standard of the profession in this country up to that which it holds in Great Britain. Its efforts have been much furthered by the scientific course now open to

STUDENTS AT THE MIGHAL COLLEGE,

which enables a student to lay a foundation for building up the superstructure of a professional reputation. That course, however, lays only the foundation, for the superstructure there needs to be practical experience under the eye and direction of one who is a master of the Engineering profession. If a student enters the calling to practice it on his own account. only equipped by theoretic or book knowledge, he will very rarely advance beyond the position of clerk in an Engineer's office, whose range of observation is quite narrow. He is thus in imminent danger of seeing his College foundation work left unbuilt upon as he lacks the varied equipments of one who has been thoroughly drilled in practical work, and learnt the business part of his duties, such as, the getting out of estimates, calculations of costs, of risks, of prospective results, etc., and, what is of great importance to an Engineer, the art of managing work men, and utilizing their labour, and that of materials, to the best advantage. The problem of, how best their College work of building Engineers, may be supplemented by practical work, is a problem the Society of Civil Engineers will in time wisely solve. from which solution will come a body of Civil Engineers wholly trained in Canada, who will do honour to their country, wherever they serve as projectors, designers, supervisors, or managers, of engineering works.

MUNICIPAL AUDITING IN ONTARIO.

The Legislature of Ontario passed an Act two Sessions ago for the appointment of a municipal auditor for the Province who is charged with the duty of investigating the financial affairs of the various municipalities in Ontario. He is at the call of any corporation to give advice on its book-keeping, etc., and, under certain conditions can be appealed to by rate-payers who suspect irregularities. His first Report has just been presented. He found irregularities in three places, in only two of which there was manifest fraud, the third being simply defective book-keeping. These places were County of Simole. County of Frontenae, and town of Niagara—Falls.

Investigations were also held in the town of Nagara, the townships of Manvers, Roxborough, St. Joseph and Ridgetown Collegiate. "A great deal of my time," says the auditor, "has been taken up in the preparation of municipal cash books. These books are intended for villages, towns, townships,

counties an I cities under 15,000, and their use is conpulsory.

"The bank account is fully displayed, and there a column for each important class of receipts and dispursements. On the first of every month the basines should be struck and carried forward to the next and if a monthly extract is insisted upon by the manicipality, as should be done in every case, a fraultment entry should be detected at once."

The auditor suggests some changes in the presentation as follows:—

- (a) All municipalities should have the same proleges as towns and cities, that is, of appointing on skilled auditor.
- (b) Auditors should be compelled to have a stang to be used when passing accounts.
- (c) Auditors should be appointed in November of December.

Considering, the enormous amount of money passing through the hands of municipal officials every year it is highly creditable to them and to the admirable system of municipal self-Government established in Canada that so few irregularities have occurred.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE ON UNITED STATE CURRENCY SYSTEM.

The Report of the Conference on the U. S. curreny system, which has been held at Indianapolis, is a document of the highest value. American literature of this class is marked by rhetorical redundance, find language being in the proportion of Falstaff's sark to his allowance of bread. It is, therefore, gratifying to read a lengthy Report, like the one before us, is which the wholesome "bread" of argument is the staple and the "sack" only sufficient for washing r down.

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THE RE-APPEARANCE OF MR. W. J. BRYAN on a public platform as an agitator for free silver, involving the abolition of a gold standard, along with the publication of a journal specially devoted to the cause, and the re-issue also of pro-silver tracts on large scale, all indicate there being a movement vi foot to counteract the effort to establish the national banking and currency system on a sound basis. The abusive language used by the promoters of free silve towards bankers and capitalists reminds us in its ferocity of the denunciations of the moneyed classwhich are found in the speeches of the French revolutionary leaders which inspired the terrible deels which a century ago deluged France with blood. A the present revived agitation evidences its being back ed by large monetary resources, presumably owner of silver mines, whoever are finding the sinews of war are using a boomerang weapon which may recoil to their serious injury. The Report points out the defects of the present system, with much perspicacity We condense them as follows. They are, the inadequate provision for maintaining the gold standard;

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lack of any means of increasing the currency to t increasing demands at particular seasons; the

UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENCY

ch creates widely ranging rates of interest in erent localities; the use of silver coins so far betheir bullion value as to encourage counterfeit. The second and ninth defects read in full as

The continuance in circulation of Government omises to pay, which, when made a legal tender, astitute a forced loan, which are secured only by the resources as the exercise of the taxing power a render available, and which are payable only at will of the debtor.

The circulation of a National bank currency sed upon Government bonds presupposing a continuing issue of those bonds, diminishing the loanable has of the banks, and, by reason of their bonds, incapable of increasing in volume with a tentrary demand for more currency, and of decreasing with the cessation of that demand.

To meet the assertion of those who are inciting e lower classes against the gold standard, the Report states that: "All history is evidence that the tople who suffer most from a degradation of the andard are not the rich but the poor." This statement is not open to question, but we qualify it by lying that the indirect injury done to the less well do classes by a degraded standard is enhanced by the disturbance to credit, and hence to trade, which mishes employment to the poor, from which arises the direct injury inflicted on the rich by a degraded andard. That

SOME STANDARD OF VALUE IS A NECESSITY

admitted, we believe unconsciously even by bimetlists and free silverites. The very phrase "16 to 1" any other relation of the currency values of silver gold necessarily involves some fixed standard of helpe being given to the 1 (one) in regard to which e other metal, silver, stands in the proportion of 16 1. When we say that a pint is one-eight of a allon, we imply that the capacity of the gallon is ked, it has a standard of capacity. If the gallon variable in capacity, it is absurd to speak of a pint hving any fixed proportion to it, for we cannot deare the proportion which exists between one thing nd another when the capacity of the object in reand to which the comparison is based is unknown. wo is half of four, when four means four units, but "four" means sometimes four and a half, or five mis, or six, then the proportion to it of "two" is hascertainable, or, it may be known by declaring that hatever "four" is at any time, then "two" is half of Whichever way we twist this problem we see he necessity of some one thing being a fixed standrd and the phrase "16 to 1," as applied to silver and implies that gold is the standard of value by h the value of silver has to be estimated. When, crob re, the silverites, or bimetallists, demand that

similarly standard of value, but that the

value of silver shall always have a definite proportion to that of gold, they are demanding what is a contradiction in terms. They admit gold to be the supreme regulator, or standard of value, by insisting that silver shall be valued at a certain proportion of, or to, the value of gold. When one ounce of gold will buy a five bushels of wheat, they demand that sixteen ounces of silver shall buy the same quantity. They forget, however, that the seller of wheat can demand payment in whatever currency he desires, and he can refuse to part with his wheat unless payment is tendered in a form of money which he is willing to accept, and he can fix his price according to his judgment as to the value of what is tendered in payment. We contend that this goes to the very root of the currency question, not in the States only, but everywhere. If the standard of currency value is degraded, then sellers of goods demand more of it than when it is at par, until, as occurred in Paraguay, a gold dollar may become worth \$4.50 of each the Government's paper dollars. In that State the paper money became so degraded in value it was wiped out, and the entire Government currency was declared irredeemable and worthless. The American people had a sharp

OBJECT LESSON IN 1893

and at other periods as to the disturbance of confidence, which is the very life of trade, caused by fears as to whether the national obligations were certain to be redeemed in gold. The public securities were rushed in for redemption; public credit was upset; trade was paralysed; thousands were ruined; and tens of thousands thrown out of work. Yet the American Government during all this time had an enormcus stock of silver on hand, of which its creditors, practically, took no account as to them; it was not an acceptable form of money, and, therefore, was unavailable for the redemption of securities. Had the value of that silver been held in gold, there would have been no panic, for the disasters of which the vicious currency legislation was responsible had been chiefly caused by an enormous lock-up of public money in a metal that cannot be used for redeeming obligations due to foreign creditors.

THE CONFERENCE AT INDIANAPOLIS RESOLVED that the means necessary to establish and preserve popular confidence in the continued maintenance of the gold standard are:—

- 1. An explicit legislative definition of the gold standard and a pledge that it will be maintained.
- 2. A requirement that all obligations, public and private, unless otherwise stipulated in the contract, shall be payable in conformity with that standard.
- 3. The adoption of a plan for the gradual retirement of the note issues of the Government.

The suggestion is made to issue further silver certificates for small denominations, say of \$1, \$2 and \$5, in order to retire United States' notes, Treasury notes of 1890, and National Bank notes of those amounts. As these certificates are as properly ex-

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changeable at oar, for gold, as the United States notes, their increased issue would necessitate an increase in the gold reserve for their protection.

RETIREMENT OF GREENBACKS.

The Conference recommends the annual retirement of 20 per cent, of the greenbacks, and that no note once paid to be re-issued except in exchange for gold. It is pointed out that "The United States have a total volume of \$008,728,087, all resting for its value on the credit of the Government, except in so far as the bullion in the silver dollar has value. Its great gold reserve is an open mine free to all who bring As the entire monetary system of the country bangs upon that one reserve, the situation is one of uncertainty and hazard against which no insurance is possible, and which is bound to continue while the Government demand obligations are extant in so large a volume. It would go far to relieve the strain upon and strengthen our financial position at home and among nations to transfer this burthen to the banks and other moneyed institutions."

BANQUET TO MAYOR R. WILSON SMITH.

On the evening of the 12th inst., a public Banquet was given by the leading citizens of Montreal, to Mayor R. Wilson-Smith as a token of the appreciation they entertained of the services he has rendered to the City, while occupying the office of Chief Magistrate, for the past two years. The Banquet was held in the Windsor Hotel, the dining-room of which was brilliantly illuminated for the occasion. event had a dignity and importance exceeding the record of its kind in the annals of this City. The President of the Board of Trade presided, the nine vice chairs were filled by, Mr. G. F. C. Smith; Mr. George Hague, Alderman Prefontame, M.P., Mr. A. F. Gault, Senators Drummond and Forget, Mr. James Crathern, Mr. Joseph Contant, and Mr. R. D. McGibbon. The Banquet was honoured by the presence of His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada. Other distinguished guests were, Sir Adolphe Chapleau, Lt.-Governor of Quebec; Right Honble, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier of Canada; His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal; the Venble, Archdeacon Evans, representing the Rt. Revd. the Lord Bishop of Montreal; the Hon. J. Israel Tarte, M.P., Minister of Public Works; Chief Justice Sir Alexander Lacoste; Acting Chief Justice Sir Melbourne Tait; the Hon. Justice Wurtele; Hon, Justice Davidson; Hon, Justice Doherty, Hon, Sir William Hingston, Senator; and Senators, the Hon, Jas. O'Brien, Hon, G. A. Drummond, Hon, L. J. Forget, Hon, J. R. Thibeaudeau, Hon, Alp. Desjardins, Hon. J. O. Villeneuve, and Hon. A. W. Ogilvie.

Among the subscribers who were present at the diner last night were the following:--

A.R. B. Angus, Andrew Allan, C. John Alloway, H. B. Am Hon, A. W. Atwater, H. Montagu Allan, Fred. R. Alley, C. Ale ander, A. A. Ayer, L. J. Archambault, Ald. Jos. Archambault,

B-H. Barbeau, R. Bauset, John Beattie, Hon. T. Berthiaun L. H. Boisseau, A. J. Brown, B. Hal Brown, G. R. Burian Lieut.-Col. Jeffre, H. Burland, David Burke, Lieut.-Col. T. Butler, J. C. Beauchamp, Z. Benoit, Ald. Jos. Brunet, J. Hunt Balfour, Lewis S. Black, F. L. Beique, Q. C., Tancrede Bienver Henry Birks, S. S. Bain, E. L. Bond.

C-Chas, Cassils, Licut.-Colonel Caverhill, Jos. Contant, Al R. Costigan, E. S. Clouston, James Crathern, A. M. Crombie, Scirk Cross, J. P. Cleghorn, G. J. Crowdy, Robert Craik, M. D., A. B. Connaughton, Ald.T. Charpentier, Colin Campbell, Stewart Cap bell, F. W. Campbell, M. D., L. G. A. Cresse, T. H. Christmas, Chase Casgrain. R. Charlebois, A. Cote, E. J. Chambers, J. P. Casgrain.

D.-H. Dalby, L. O. David, Peers Davidson, Thos. Davidson, A. Desjardins, W. M. Doull, Geo. E. Drummond, Thos., Drummond, C. A. Duclos, David Denne, H. W. DeCourtenay, R. Deschamps, Ald. 14. Dupre, Robert Dalglish, Arthur Danseres J. P. Dawes, G. N. Ducharme, W. E. Davis, Chas. E. Dodw. Hon. Justice Davidson, J. E. E. Dickson, J. Try Davies.

E-Rev. Canon Ellegood, L. J. Ethier, Fred. W. Evans, W. Ewing, A. S. Ewing, Wm. Euard, S. H. Ewing, J. U. Emard, E. A. Ekers.

F-Hon L. J. Forget, Geo. G. Foster, R. Forget, O. Faucher, Aler Falconer, Wim. Farrell, E. M. Fulton, The 12s Fyshe, Samuel Find A. J. Ferguson, M. M. J. Flanagan.

G.—A. F. Gault, Charles E. Godfrey, Hugh Graham, J. O. Gra-Hon, C. A. Geoffrion, L. H. Gault, C. E. Gault, Lachlan Gibb, A. T. A. Grothé, J. N. Greenshields, Q.C., R. A. E. Greenshields, Charles Garth, R. R. Grindley, Arthur Gagnon, E. Kirk Greene, The Gauthier.

H-George Hague, Edwin clanson, J. Cassie Hatton, E. P. Her. C. P. Hébert, E. N. Heney, Sir Wm. H. Hingston, Jonathan Holson, C. R. Hosmer, Lieut-Gol. G. A. Hughes, Chas. M. Hays, K. J. Edgard Hill, W. C. Hinshaw, T. H. Hubson, Chas. W. Haggangus, W4Hooper, Frank J. Hart, Ald. J. Harper, Henry Hans Wm. Hanson, Chas. Harman, E. F. Hand, Danl. Hoctor.

J-W. J. Joseph, C. R. G. Johnson, Ald. L. A. Jacques, He. Joseph.

K-H. J. Kavanagh, J. L. Kerr, W. S. Kerry, G. R. Kenis Ald. T. Kinsella, F. Kennedy, A. Kleezkowski, Thos. Kerr.

L. Ald. H. Lapoite, R. M. Liddell, Hon. Justice Lorange, A. Lilley, Hon. P. E. LeBlane, J. B. Learmont, W. J. Learmo Lansing Lewis, E. H. Lemay, Robt. K. Lovell, James Law, E. Lachapelle, M.D., A. Lionais, John W. Loud, Z. Lefebvre, Cr. Laurin, Jos. A. Laurin, Jos. Lanctot, M.D.

M-L. T. Marechal, J. W. Marling, G. H. Meldrum, H. Meredith, James Morgan, Chas. Motton, T. L. Morrisey, J. Molson, Paul G. Martineau, Lt-Col. Fred. Massey, W. de M. Mark Ald. G. Marsolais, D. Morrice, W. J. Morrice, Robt. Mere-lith, Markland Molson, Robt. Meighen, T. B. Macaulay, F. S. Maclena Robt. Mackay, J. F. Mackay, D. Macmaster, Ald-Jas. MacBride, D. McGibbon, J. McKergow, H. Mackenzie, R. W. MacDougall, Grence J. McCuaig, Alex. McArthur, Thos. McDougall, Jas. U. McCall, John J. McGill, W. M. Macpherson, Wm. McMaster. L. Markey, Jas. McGregor.

N-Hon, G. A. Nantel, Wm. F. Notman, T. H. Newman, O-Hon, A. W. Ogilvie, W. W. Ogilvie, John Ogilvie, All. L. Ouimet, Hon. James O'Brien.

P-E. L. Pease, J. N. Perreault, Charles S. J. Phillips, All. Prefontaine, Lt.-Col. Hector Prevost, Frank F. Parkins, R. Ma Paterson, F. Paul, Thomas Peck, Ald. F. X. Prenoveau, All Goff Penny, J. W. Palmer, G. Sewell Page, James W. Pike, Ki Paton, Hugh Paton, John A. Pillow, Geo. R. Prowse, S. P. P. A. Peart.

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R.-W. M. Ramsay, Ald. H. B. Rainville, Chas. Rainville, Chas. lines, R. Roy, Q.C., Hon. J. Royal, G. A. Roberts, W. S. bertson, Edward Rawlings, J. C. Robert, Hon. J. E. Robidoux, mes Rodger, Ald G. Reneault, W. Robb, Alphonse Racine, E. G. kert, A. F. Riddell, T. G. Roddick, M. D.; George B. Reeve, E. Raddy, Alex. Robertson.

S-S. O. Shotey, C. F. Sise, E. A. Small, G. F. C. Smith, i.t.ol. George R. Starke, Ald. A. A. Stevenson, David Stewart, A. W.
tevenson, Percival W. St. George, Harry Stikeman, E. N. St. Jean,
A. L. Strathy, George Simpson, John Scanian, R. R. Steven in,
has, F. Smith, Ald. J. R. Savignac, Ald George W. Sadler, R. C.
mith, T. G. Shaughnessy, F. D. Shallow, George H. Smithers, C.
Slorey, H. C. St. Pierre, Wm. Strachan, F. Clifford Smith, L. J.
Surveyor, Sergt. P. Steams.

T-John Torrance, Noel H. Torrop, Thomas Trimble, A. A. hibaudeau, Robert W. Tyre, J. W. Tatley, Ald. R. Tarner, D. G. hompson, J. B. Tressider, Hon. J. R. Thibaudeau, F. Wolferstan Thomas, D. W. Telford.

V-1'on. J. O. Villeneuve.

W-W. McL. Walbank, W. Wallace, Lt.-Col. E. A. Whitehead, Richard White, Walter Wilson, David Watson, Hon. J. S. C. Wurele, P. M. Wickham, Ald. J. B. Wilson, W. Weir, Godfrey Weir, B. Williamson, Wm. Wainwright, W. J. White, L. A. Wilson, Y-H. B. Yates, M. D.

The following Address was presented to the Mayor, which was read by Mr. B. Hal Brown, Secretary of the Banquet Committee. The Address was brilliant-by illuminated, and enclosed in a handsome album.

To His Worship, R. Wilson-Smith, Esq.,

Mayor of Montreal.

Sir,

"We, the undersigned citizens of Montreal, desire upon the completion of your two years' term of office as Chief Magistrate of the Metropolitan City of Canada, to express our appreciation of the services you have rendered to the City with great credit to yourself and with great advantage to the community.

Five years ago, you were invited to enter Public Life as an alderman, to which office you were twice elected by acclamation. In the discharge of the duties of that office you displayed a thorough grasp of the principles of municipal finance and it was chiefly, owing to your persistent and vigorous efforts that restrictive legislation, regulating the borrowing power of the City was enacted, the growth of the civic debt checked, and the civic finances placed upon a much improved basis.

Public appreciation of your services as alderman was shown by your election by acclamation to the

mayorality.

You have presided over the City Council with dignity and impartiality and while exercising a potent and beneficial influence upon the legislation of that body, you have by your tact, courtesy, and good feeling, done much to promote cordiality between the representatives of the various sections of the City.

The citizens are also indebted to you for your efforts to elevate the tone of the civic government and in particular for the graceful idea of initiating a Mayor's Annual Banquet at which Her Majesty's Representative, His Excellency's Ministers, and other public dignitaries may meet the City Council of Montreal.

Your term of office has been a time of historic interest to the City and to the Empire. Upon you fell the onerous but pleasant duty of welcoming the officers and crews of several of Her Majesty's men of

war; the Men.bers of the British Medical Association at its first meeting, held outside the British Isles; and also illustrious members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

An important event with which your name is associated is the inauguration in this City of the Par

Association of Canada.

The most important event of your Mayorality was the celebration, in Montreal, of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, which was a demonstration of loyalty and end-usiasm worthy of our City and a remarkable tribute to our honored and beloved Sovereign.

We feel that we are expressing the sentiment, of the people of Montreal generally, when we record our hearty appreciation of your services, and the hope that you may long be spared to enjoy the confidence and the esteem of your fellow-citizens."

Montreal, January 12th, 1898.

Here followed the signatures of over three hundred of Montreal's leading citizens as well as that of His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, Rt. Hon. Sir Wlifrid Laurier, Sir Adolphe Chapleau, the Archbishop of Montreal, the Bishop of Montreal and other prominent gentlemen.

The Governor-General said in his speech: "We wish to declare our recognition of the importance of promoting by every means in our power, efficiency and high tone in municipal affairs." The Lt.-Governor of Onebec, with his accustomed eloquence, alluded to the changes occurring in the chief officials of the Dominion, the Province, and the City. paid a graceful compliment to the Mayor, and made a personal allusion which excited much interest. The President of the Board of Trade in proposing the toast of the evening, "Our guest," followed the lines of the Address, in expressing his conviction that the Mayor had filled the office with eminent satisfaction to the citizens. He condemned the proposal to enlarge civic expenditures at the dictate of members of the Legislature, who had no Montreal interests, and concluded by wishing the Mayor every prosperity and happiness. The toast was cordially supported by the Archbishop, who exhorted the citizens to cultivate peace and harmony, as well as by Archdeacon Evans. on behalf of His Lordship Bishop Bond. The Mayor said in response:

It was commonly said that the services rendered by public men were not recognized, but he thought that if a man who was entrusted with any public office would conscientiously endeavor to the best of his ability to fulfil his duty, the public would appreciate his efforts. He spoke of the cordial relations that had existed between himself and the aldermen during the past two years, and remarked that he should sever his connection with them with very great regret. The citizens generally had been very kind to him; and he had a good word to say for the civic employes and about the press. He was glad to see so many representative citizens present at that gathering because he thought that it indicated that they were determined in the future to the capture of the cordinate of the cordinate of the citizens present at that

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The QUEEN paid \$549,462 for losses by the Confiagration at St. John's, Mid., Sth July, 1892.

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tive part in civic government. If they looked towards c Old Land, they would see men of the highest soal standing filling positions as mayors and aldermen, nd with much benefit to the citizens. There was no ason why our Board of Trade, Chambre de Comerce, labor organizations, bankers, underwriters and ther mercantile institutions should not, by a mutual greement among themselves say, "Each of us will ave a representative in the City Council. We will ach select and elect our men." And they could do . He did not mean to say that rich men should o all the work in connection with the city. There has a grand example in the laboring classes in that irection; and there was no reason why those he had amed should stand aloof and pay taxes and criticise. s they would have to do if they did not take a more ctive part in civic affairs.

Other speeches were delivered by Hon. Joseph toyal, Hon. A. W. Atwater, Sir William Hingston, Ir. George Hague, Alderman Stevenson and Ald. Savignac. The speech of the Premier was in a ghter vein than he usually indulges in, but he touched a deeper strain in eulogising the Mayor, and in graceful allusion to the distinguished representatives present of Church and State. Ald. Stevenson a replying to the toast, of the "City of Montreal," aid that, in his opinion the greatest compliment that ould be paid to the Mayor lay in the fact that every number of the City Council who had served under im during his administration had subscribed to that inner, and nearly all of them were present.

The Banquet in every respect was a splendid sucess, and as a demonstration by citizens of appreciaon of services rendered by a Chief Magistrate, aiorded striking proof that the public service is the untain of public honour, when public duties are buscientiously discharged.

A telegram regretting absence was received from r. Donald McMaster, Q.C., who is in Mexico, also om Dr. Roddick, M.P., now in Savannah, and nuterous ones from members of the Legislature, Quete.

HE HARTFORD PIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This eminent Company has issued its 88th Annual Shibit up to 31st December, 1897. The year closed ith its owning assets amounting to \$10,819,629, of hich \$1,848,000 was eash in hand or in course of ansmission. The Reserve for re-insurance is reported as \$4,809,083, Reserve for all unsettled claims \$10,740; the Net Surplus amounts to \$4,249,796, and uplus to Policy-holders \$5,499,796. Such an exhit speaks for itself as to the stability of the Harterd Fre Insurance Company and the ability of its amagement. Mr. Geo. L. Chase, President, with his is total associates, and Mr. P. C. Ryce, Secretary, the staff generally have our congratulations over soults of their work in 1897.

THE FIRE LOSS OF 1897.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the year 1897, as compiled from the daily records, of the New York *Bulletin*, shows a total of \$110,319,650. The following comparative table shows the losses by months for the years 1895, 1896 and 1897:

•	•		• .
	1895.	1896.	1S97.
January	\$11,895,600	\$11,040,000	\$12,049,700
February	12,360,200	9,730,100	8,676,750
March	14,239,300	14,839,600	10,502,950
April	11,018,150	12,010,000	10,333,000
May	7,761,350	10,618,000	10,193,600
June	9,223,000	5,721,250	5,684,450
July	9,085,000	9,033,250	6,626,300
August	9,929,000	8,855,250	. 6,454,950
September	10,766,300	8,20° 350	9,392,000
October	13,411,500	S,, ,000	11,387,500
November	10,131,500	5,2.1,800	7,189,800
December	10,018,800	11,362,000	11,328,650
Totals	\$129,839,700	\$115,655,500	\$110,319,65

ON THE FLOOR OF THE STOCK MXCHANGE.

17 January, 1898.

The Members have had another very good week. The volume of business has been larger than the oldest members of the Board have seen. The Street Railway stocks led, and Canadian Pacific backed up the rise in the market. Increased earnings of railways and other corporations have amply justified the advance. The political and financial skies are of the brightest blue, and the most experienced and conservative business men cannot detect the smallest cloud. But while all is well and the prospect bright, we advise our readers to operate only in such sccurities as have a solid value. At the present time the listedsecurities on the Montreal Stock Exchange are carefully selected. There are one or two stocks which belong to the fancy class, but their very low prices are a testimony to the conservative judgment of the brokers, and offer small danger to the most reckless speculator. Money is plentiful and those who can borrow at first hand can carry stocks at present values without loss.

Mr. R. Wilson-Smith has bought the last vacant seat in the Board, and will do a Stock Exchange Commission business in addition to his financial and investment operations.

Canadian Pacific Railway shows an increase for the week of \$\$1,000, and the threatened strike of the company's telegraph operators having been amicably and satisfactority avoided the price of the stock advanced to \$8 to \$8 1-8. Opinion is divided as to the next dividend, but it will be either 2 per cent. or 2 1-2 per cent. We incline to the latter figure.

Duluth, S. S. & Atlantic shows a moderate increase in earnings and is steady at 6 1-2 for Preferred and 3 1-2 for Common.

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B. B. Andrif, Esq.,
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E. S. CLOUSTON, Esq., General Manager

A. Mackiden, Chief Inspector, and Superintendent of Branches

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lae Q'o commercial Cable has been firmer and more active sympathy with the rest of the market.

Hontreal Street Railway.—When the directors met Friday afternoon to declare the semi-annual dividl, very few expected a change from the 8 per cent, d 1 per cent, bonus. But as it became a question quarterly, 2 1-4 per cent, dividends a member of e board of directors suggested 2 1-2 per cent, quartly, which the extraordinary increase of earnings, uply justified, and so it was decided. Next morng the stock opened 6 points higher and sold up to 4 from which price, knowever, it has reacted on retration to 242 1-2.

Montreal Gas has been strong and in active deand—It is no doubt the intention of the bulls to vance this stock to 200 if possible.—It closed 195 8 bid.

Royal Electric sold down to 141, but reached to 12 1-2 bid. Much depends upon the experience of e present winter.

Toronto Railway shows very good receipts, makg an increase of about \$350 a day. There was a real deal of business done in it and it closed strong of 3-8 bid.

Banks.—There were small sales of various shares, about former prices, but a round lot of Jacquesartier brought o8 1-2, and 75 Molsons' sold at 54 1-2, which price would still be paid.

North West Land has been dull but closes in one demand. It is probably the cheapest stock in a list of the promise of immigration next spring, is hilled. Hudson Bay Co. shares having advanced p £25 in London.

Industrials have shared the general improvement.

Cotton Stocks have advanced, Montreal Cotton 143-1-2, and Dominion cotton to 96-1-2.

Dominion Coal Stocks have been dull and nefected. The Preferred stock looks cheap at the preent price, returning about 7 3-4 to the investor.

Money is plentiful at 4 per cent.

Bank dividends have been declared as follows.
15 minion Bank, 3 per cent.

1 ank of Yarmouth, 3 " St. Hyacinthe, 3 per cent.

New Brunswick, 6 "

Dominion Bank dividend is quarterly, the rate for the current half year.

Motes and Fiems.

Piping natural gas from Canada to Detroit is not to be extended, says the Government. The supply for Canadian use is quite limited, and surely "natural gas" is plentiful enough in the States.

The Lancashire Fire Insurance Co has caused quite a flutter by re-insuring one-half of the net liability of the Globe Fire Insurance Co. This move is regarded as another proof of the energy, enterprise and shrewdness of Mr. Litchfield, the manager.

The Bank of Ottawa aunounces its intention to apply to the Treasury Board of the Government of the Dominion, as required by law, for a certificate approving of a by-law passed at the annual meeting, on 8th Dec., to increase the capital stock from \$1.500.000 to \$2,000,000.

The Hartford fire insurance companies paid out in dividends, January 1, the sum of \$697,500, against \$670,000 January 1, 1807, an increase of \$27,500 over a year ago; and the life insurance dividends amounted to \$84,750, the same figures as last year, making the total dividends of fire and life companies \$782,250, or over three-quarters of a million dollars.

Our Spanish contemporary, "Contercio Industria Y Sequros," published at Barcelona, has our thanks for a copy of his journal. We note that it contains a long report of the Guardian Fire & Life Assurance Company and of the Equitable Life Assurance Society. The name of the Guardian we note is left untranslated into Spanish, but the title of the Equitable reads, "La Equitativa de los Estados Unidos Sociedad de Soguros," etc.

The Chinese Loan. The masterful authority of money in diplomacy is shown by Great Britain guaranteeing the new Chinese loan only on condition that concessions will be granted by which new treaty ports will be opened to all nations alike. The financial article of *The London Globe* says it is reported on the Stock Exchange that the British Government has arranged to guarantee the Chinese loan of £16,000,000 at 3 per cent., the price of issue to be 110.

Postal Rates. Owing to the premature announcement by the Postmaster-General that the postal rates to Great Britain would be reduced on the 1st inst... the following notice has been issued by the Government. "Negotiations being on foot for a conference between the Imperial, Canadian and other Colonial authorities for the purpose of considering the whole subject of inter-Imperial postage, the proposed reduction by Canada of the letter rate from Canada to Great Britain and other parts of the Empire from five cents per half ounce to three cents per ounce will not take effect until further notice. Accordingly, the existing rate of five cents per half ounce, or fraction thereof, on letters from Canada to all parts of the Empire will continue in force and senders must prepay such letters by affixing stamps for the full amount of postage required. Otherwise such letters will be liable on delivery to a double rate in respect of the amount of such shortage."

ESTABLISHED 1809.

TOTAL FUNDS EXCEED **\$**67,244,500.00



Canadian Investments **\$**5,564,200,00



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w Companies have notices in the last Ontario of the as follows: The Buffalo Mining, etc., Co., of R. Portage, capital \$1,500,000; the Sheba Mining etc., Co., of Ontario, capital \$495,000; the Trusts & Corrantee Co., capital increased from \$500,000 to \$50,000; the P. McDougall Co., foundry at Galt, teaplal \$30,000; the S. J. Wilson Lumber Co., Toronto capital \$24,000. All the above are "Limited." If cer times are developing a number of new enter-

he following companies give notice of seeking harter of incorporation. Klondyke Exploration Capital, \$37,500, place of business, London, The Druggists' Corporation Co., of Canada, conto, Capital, \$40,000. The St. John Trading N. B., capital, \$40,000, business, lumber and pping. The Canadian Mining Exhibit Co., Montagain, St., Capital, \$5,000. The Central Press Agency of Canada, Toronto, capital, \$100,000, business, press acreals, etc. The DeWitt-Langlois Milling Co., Intreal, capital, \$90,000.

The bulletin of the Chambre de Commerce aninces that a French capitalist of good standing and meeted with the "Compagnies des Bateaux a Value of du Nord," of Dunkirk, whose steamers run from latter place to Marseilles, has put in a tender with Dominion Government for the \$50,000 subsidy a Franco-Canadian steamship line. The bulletin pes the tender will be accepted, and that regular ween France and Canada.

The most interesting topic of the week—was report of the New York Life's great move to put whole of it, business on the basis of a three per nt. reserve, thus transferring some seventeen miles of dollars from surplus to reserve account. The sumption here is that so sharp and sudden a resolution in its surplus, while unquestionably a measure of the highest value, in respect of future solvency delividend-earning power, will serve to reduce the ntine profits to be hereafter apportioned among that see of policy-holders.—The Spectator.

The British Empire Life Office calls attention its standing on a valuation basis of Hm. 3 per cent., ong 1 1-2 per cent, better than the Canadian Government requires. The Company for a yearly prefix mod \$252.90 issues a policy for \$10,000 to a permaged 30, with a guarantee that from the date of eath the Company will give 6 per cent, per annum, yable 1-2 yearly to the heirs, on the amount of the fix if left with them to earn interest. There are her features in the Company's plan to which its rel draws attention in another column.

The damage to Ottawa College by fire of 5th st. is estimated at from \$35,000 to \$40,000. Insured follows:—

onix of Hanford\$	20,00	Alliance	\$20,000
rth B. & Merc	15.000	Connecticut	5,000
nti-m			
" Arrenca	20,000	Quebec	20,000
r ' n Assarance			
' Amenca	5,000	Scottish U. & N	30,000

Total..... \$200,000

The Imperial Life Assurance Company reports baying transacted an amount of business in the first three months of its existence, which is remarkably large. The applications received amounted to over one million and a quarter dollars, of which over one million were approved and policies issued. It looks as though this Company had struck an insurance Kloudyke, as such a large business to be secured in three months implies that the policy nuggets must have been very large and very rich. The name of its President, Sir Oliver Mowat, is doubtless "one to conjure by," and the association with him on the directorate of men like Senator Cox and Mr. W. Flavelle, Vice-President, have inspired the greatest confidence. The Managing Director, Mr. F. G. Cox, has inaugurated his regime by a remarkable success.

The Toronto fire record last year is officially reported as follows:—The fire losses for 1897 totalled \$0:6,879. Of this amount \$549,724 was lost on stocks and \$117,155 on buildings. The former were insured for \$1,718,342 and the latter for \$781,875, or a total of \$2,500,187 in all. The annual losses since 1890, exclusive of 1896, when the underwriters refused to give out information, were as follows:—

1590\$	487,183
1891	210,116
1892	220,505
1805	195,409
	152,281
1895	
1897	666,879

During the past year there were 582 alarms, the largest number in the brigade's history. The committee has kept well within its appropriations, having spent \$195,062 of its \$197,416 appropriations for the Fire Department, \$100,740 of its \$101,681 grant for lighting, and \$2,240 out of the \$2,277 for park lighting. There are 1,070 are lights in use on the streets and 17 in the parks; 0,46 gas lamps on the streets and 23 in the parks, and 29 Lambeth lamps.

Calendars for 1898. In addition to those acknowledged last week, we have now the pleasure of expressing our thanks for the following Calendars, etc., for 1898. The Equitable Life Assurance Society has issued the most beautiful Calendar-card we have yet seen in any year. The card is in three sections, each having a figure group of two lovers within an embossed frame, which seem to illustrate three progressive stages of courtship. The drawing and coloring of these groups is so highly artistic, they will be preserved as decorative pictures long after the miniature almanae attached has lost its usefulness. The North American Life has sent us a very nattily bound pocket-book with diary, a page being given for each week. The idea is an excellent one, as it will keep the North American Life under notice throughout the year. The Lancashire Insurance Co. card is wellexecuted, and will be found useful. The Ontario Accident Almmae is plain and business-like. Morris Feild Rogers Co., piano-makers, Listowel, Ont., have sent us a pretty Calendar embellished by embossed and coloured pansies and figures. The Union Mutual Life Insurance Co., Portland, reports for 1868 with a card adorned by a sea-coast scene, which is attractive.

FIRE.

MARINE.

Assurance Company Ltd. of London. Eng.

\$32,050.635 Capital and Assots, Life Fund (in special trust for Life Policy Holders)
Total Annual Income,
Deposited with Dominion Government. 8,000,030 8,170,190 408,820

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EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT. 1896:

New Policies issued, 2742, for 84,432,140 Premium Income, 1,093,293 Total Income, 1,316,333 Added to Funds during Year 1896, 491,300 Total Funds, 5,790,295

LOW RATES. ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

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Manager.

J. L. KERR.

Assistant Manager.

annual income, \$1,316,333,

YEARS, œ AMOUNT PAID POLICY.HOLDERS 528

	ONTREAL STOCK	EXCHANGE SALES	MONDAY, 10TH JAN.	(Continued).
ad 17			100 Montreal Gas	
3	BIURSDAY, 6rn JAN.		10 Royal Electric	14232 25 " 1094
La	MORNING BOARD.		250 Halifax Street	
3.0		No. of Price	25 " " "	119 AFTERNOON BOARD.
- 14	Halifax Railway 117	175 New Street Ry 234'4	75 " "	110 2 Dank of Montreal 23538
	Montreal Street Ry. 2364 Royal Electric 144	76 Bank Molsons 2041/2	150 Richelieu	109 4 Montreal Street 24334
),00	4 143光 🛉	500 Gas	75 Montreal Cutton	9712 50 Montreal Gas 19218
1,80	(1	245 Toronto Street Ry., 8938 675 Pacific 834	45 " " 50 Toronto Street	97 too Richelien 111
	Toronto Street Ry So 💥 🗉	100 " 85/8	725 " Street	923; 50 Montreal Cotton 142
Uana Ca	" . 8978 " " . 90 !		925 " "	$\frac{923}{925}$ 175 " " 9232
RICTS	" " \$9½ " " 80½	SATURDAY, Stu JAN.	360 ** **	9214 325 Pacific 8738 874
	" " 8934 " " 90	MORNING BOARD.	15 " ' 850 " "	95 75 Duluth pfd 6½
	Intercolonial Coal 30 Duluth pfd	3 Bank of Montreal 23612	200 " "	92% 25 Toronto Street 92%
	厦 Cable 181分,	75 Mont, Street Ry, new 241	250 " " 25 Dominion Loal pfd.	105 25 " " 9234
E	Loan & Mongage 139	25 " " 240	50 Intercolonial Coal	
ING.	Dominion Cotton 97	50 Montreal S reet Ry. 240	AFTERNOON BOARD.	825 " " 9238
	Dominion Con1 106	175 " " 241 50 " " 242	10 Merchants' Bk. of C.	177/2 50 " " 9238
CIN,	" 106 ¹ 4 " 165 ¹ 2 Pacific 84	500 " " 243.2	100 Royal Electric 65 Rich-lieu	141 600 " " 9212
	831/2	3,125 " 242½ 100 " " 242¼	50 Halifax Trom	1184 25 " " 923
	\$ " \$3.76 "	50 Halifax Street Ry 118	225 Montreal Street	
	6 " S435	175 Royal Electric 143	15 " " …	24378 \$1,000 Col. Cotton Bds
	84.1. S4.3.	24 Bk. Jacques Cartier. 981/2	100 Montreal Gas	1023.
7-2	84/5	50 (ias 194 175 " 194'4	25 " "	19378 WEDNESDAY, 12TH JAN.
	AFTERNOON BOARD.	400 " 194	100	193. ¹² MORNING BOARD.
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	13432	750 " 193/8	25 "	18238 75 " " 1411/
	Montreal Street Ry. 236/2 Koyal Electric 143 2	50 Pacific 85!2	25 "	1821/2 75 " " 1411/2
	6 (ias 143 ¹ 4	100 " 8534	25 Poronto Street	93 175 Montreal Street 2434
J. 3	•	500 " \$618	250 " "	92/4 50 " 343/4 93 75 Halifax Railway 118
11 🛣	192½ K. Toronto Street Ry. 90	100 " S6 ¹ 4 525 " S6 ¹ 3	450 " "	92 8 1.390 Pacific 88
	k " " 89¥	125 Toronto Street Ry 901/2	325 " " …	92½ 10 " \$8½ 93 675 " \$7%
837	Halifax Railway 117	675 " " 90	200 " "	9236 50 Toronto Street 924
	tudak asi	50 " " 901/2	275 150 Pacific	92¼ 1,207 " " 93 86½ 300 " " 93¼
=	5 Pacific S4%	15 " " 90	250 "	8638 10 " " 93!
	6 " S434 84.74	25 " " 90¾ 175 " 90½	25 Duluth pfd	64 100 " 1934
	\$5 " \$5	375 " " 91,	\$5,000 Col Cotton bonds.	96/2 325 1933/
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	FRIDAY, 7TH JAN.	60 Richelieu 108	MORNING BOARD.	125 Cable 18258
C ₃	MORNING BOARD.	35 " 105/2		55 " " 143.1/2
	Bank of Toronto 229 Bank of Commerce 134	3 Dominion Cotton 99	12 Merchants' Bk. of C. 25 Bank of Commerce	
	3 Jacques Carrier 9834	50 Dominion Coal pfd. 106	7 Bank of Toronto	
	7. Montreal Street 236	£2,500 Richelieu Bonds 100	50 " " …	24354 AFTERNOON BOARD.
9 2	§5 Gas 193¼ .	MONDAY, 10TH JAN.	550 " "	24334 25 Royal Electric 1423/2
2	0 " 193 0 " 1923/		50 Montreal Gas	1931 1 75 Kieneneu
	725 l'acific \$538 80 \$536	MORNIN : BOARD.	325 " " 325 " "	193 54 Montreal Street 2437
3	850 851	14 Bank of Toronto 2281/2 25 Merchants' Bank 1771/2	125 " "	19234
3 2	50 4	50 Montreal Street 243	75 Halifax Tram 10 Royal Electric	110.4 95 " 24212
1	£ " " 69.54	125 " " 243/2	100 " "	141,4 200 " \$81.
	\$0	200 " " 244	25 Heat & Light	38 4 25 88
	go intercolonial Coal 33	100 " " 244	\$9,000 Heat & Light Bils.	811 250 " 1944
Š.	5 Halifax Railway 118	50 " " 243/8	193 New Mont. Street.	240 125 " 1043
	25 (able	100 " " 244	350 Parific	87 3 675 " 195
126	182!-	250 " " 243¼ 660 " " 244	250 "	871: 600 Toronto Street 011
	25 Montreal Cotton 13912	150 " " 24334	225 "	S718 250 " " 9338
	Wiernoon Board.	125 Mont. Street New. 24132 200 " 24134	250	87 25 Dominion Coal pfd. 106
= 4	New Street Ry 234	325 Montreal Gas 1932	100 Cable	

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" (St., Heur)
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Royal I North-V

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Courts People:

(45844 19 - 5111 1 - 1 -40

for districts not already taken in the Provinces of

QUEBEC, ONTARIO, NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA, MANITOBA, BRITISH COLUMBIA and PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

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R. J. Price, Vice-President, D. C. Thomson, B. J. Hale

HEAD OFFICE, Quebe

Andrew Thomson, President.
Hon, Ther. McGreery, E. Girozz, D. C.
E. E. Webb, Cashier.

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Ottawa. Winnipeg.

BRANCHIS.
Iroquois. Merricksville,
Quebee Smith's Falls.
W. Winchester. Lothbridge, Alberta.

The Bank of Ottawa Head Office:

CITTAWA, CANGOL.

Capital (fully paldup)

\$1,500,000 \$1,125,000

DIRECTORS :

CHARLES MAGEE, PRISIONY.

H & Gro. Beyson, Jr. Alex. Frank. John Mather, GEO, HAY, VICE-PRESU ST. DAVID MACLANES. D. MURTHY.

BRANCHES:

APAPPI P | KIOPTUILE | PARRY SOUND | PARRY S

RESPREW

CEO. BURN, General Manager. D. M. FINNIE, Local Manager Agents in Canada, New York, Chicago: Bank of Montreal

Agents in St Paul, Merchants National Bank Agents in London, Eng. : Parr's Bank Ltd. MCT: 3

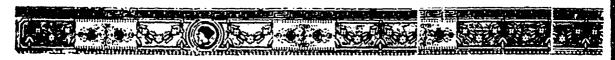
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STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by J. TRY-DATIES, 23 St. John St., Montreal.

3	Reported for this circumstate by j. the Division on, montreal										
•	BANKS.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up.	Reserve Fund.	l'er centago of itest to paid up Capital.	raine of one share,	of one	for last unlf year,	Revenue per cent, on invertment at present prices	Closing prices (per cent, on per.)	When Dividend payable.
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	Royal Electric North-West Land, Com. OF Pref	1,250,000	1,250,000 1,475,000 5,900,000			100			6 15	1433 11 14 1 50 7	1
	do Preferred (a) Ada Central Window Hotel Guarantee Co., of N.A	260,000			: ::::.	100				100 11 (2) 10	00 Jan. 5
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	equarterly.					-			-		



OLDBST

INSURANCE COMPANY IN HARTFORD.

Eighty-eighth Annual Exhibit

HARTFOR

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

JANUARY 1st, 1898.

ASSETS.

	id, in Bank, and Cash					\$815,769.49
Cash in han	ds of Agents and in co	urse of [Fransn	nission	, •	1,032,871.37
Rents and 2	Accined Interest,	•			•	30,029.68
Real Estate	Unmoumbered	•				647,000.00
Loans on B	and and Mortgage (1st	lien),				1,554,590.00
Loans on C	oliateral Se unity,					14,800.00
Bank Stock,	Harrford,	Market	Valu:	•,		345,208.00
44	New York,		••			331,002.00
	Boston,		• •			72,484.75
••	Albany and Montreal,		"			82,483.00
Radroad Sto	icks,					920,970.00
State, City a	ind Railroad Bonds,	•				4,972,421.00
T						

Total Assets.

\$10,819,629 29

LIABILITIES.

141.	# E>F		r.s.			
Capital Stock,	•					\$1,250,000.00
Reserve for Reansurance, Reserve for all Unsettled Claims,		•	•	•	•	4,809,083.79
NET SURPLUS.	•	•	•	•	٠	510,749.39
Surplus to Policy-holders,	:	:	:	•	•	4,249,796.11 5,499,796.11
		-	•	•	•	(V)Z(VO)1 OO/11

GEO. L. CHASE, President.

P. C. ROYCE, Secretary.

(THOS. TURNBULL, Ass't Secretary CHAS. E. CHASE, Ass't Secretary.

Western Department, Chicago, R. COFRAN & BISSELL. General Agents.

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Agencies in all the Prominent Localities throughout the United States and Canada,



PECIAL LIST OF (ESTIMATED) FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR DECEMBER, 1897.

Compiled by the Indurance and Finance Chronicle. .B.—This table supplements the one in our last issue.

TE,	LOCATION.	Risk,	TOTAL 1018.	INSURANC 4
7.			;	
2	Halifax, N.S	Gas Works	\$ 12,900	\$12,900
2		Offices	1,000	1,000
		Stores	5,000	4,000
	Quebec		1,100	1,100
	Carleton Place		9,000 1	7,500
4	Osuabruck C'tre-		3,000	1,700
6		Barns	2,400	2,400
		I wine Mills	8,300	8,300
3	Port Perry		3,500 .	2,800
9	Quebec	Hotel	6,600	6,600
	London	itores	2,500	2,000
		Barns	1,500	1,000
15	Port Arthur	Car Sheds	15,000	10,000
15	Rat Portage	Planing Mill	10,000	1,000
16	Amherstburg	Hotel Stables	10,000	4,200
15	Dunnville	do	7,000	2,500
15	. Montreal	Glasi Works	გ,90 ა	5,500
17	Onllia	Stores	5,000	5,000
	Theatley		1,500	000,1
26	Moncton, N. B		35,000	26,200
	Osh iwa		3,400	2,000
34	Kingston	Hospital	S,oco -	8,000
24	Arrowhead, b. C.	Steamer	25,000	25,000
	, Montreal	Stables	1,000	1,000
24	Spring Bank	Restaurant	1,800	1,200
40	sherbrooke	College	11,000	11,000
-(Montreal	Storehouses	3,500	1,600
2;	Moncton, N B	Commercial Bdg	3,000	2,200
20	davelock	Dwelling	1,8.0	1,200
		-	207.500	\$ 150,000

\$ 207,700

Add 20 per cent, for unreported losses and losses under \$1,000\$

41,540 \$ 31,980 \$249,240 \$191,880

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1897, COMPARED WITH 1896.

_				<u> </u>			
		189	6.	1897.			
		Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.	Total Loss.	Ins. Lozs.		
	January	\$ 422,400		\$-1,023,280			
**	i'ebruary	378,484	288,720	S76.96c	377,160		
**	March	418,200	292,68o	266,040	218,800		
44	April	693,84c	408,000	414,840	336,600		
44	May	1,098,240	60a,S40	845.520	671,400		
**	June	680,280	583,700		155,040		
••	July	390,360	331,0Su	621,480	306,480		
46	August	382,240	229,000	333,60	277,440		
••	September	736,590	495,760	565,80			
٠.	October	546,840	412,6S	2,521,20	1,229,760		
	November		108,200	511,200			
٠.	December	873,860	603,96.	249,241	191,880		
'	Totals	\$6.825.000	£ 4 618 roo	\$ 8 468 560	£ 5 257 270		

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Liverpool and Quebec and Montreal . in Summer Liverpool and St. John, N.B., . in Winter

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From Laverp sol every Saturday. F. on Montreel or St John, every Wednesday, Hallfag every Thursday, "LAKE ONTARIO," "LAKE SUPERIOR," "LAKE SUPERIOR,"

"LAKE HURON,"

"LAKE WINNIPEG,"

"GALIJA."

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Passengers via \$1. John travel by Canadian Pacific Short Line, trains to allog alongside steamers at Carleton (St. John West Side), thus nvoided at anner of themselves and baggage.

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Tower Building, Liverpool.

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Wish their present and Prospective policy holders,

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J. F. JUNKIN.

Prosident

General Manager.

GEO. A. STERLING, Secretary.

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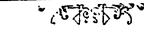
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FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

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ASSETS. \$234,744,148.42 \$205.010.633 00 Liabilities—(or guarantee fund) Surplus-31st December, 1896 29.733,514 00 Total Income, 1896 49.702.695 00 Total paid policy-holders in 1896 25,437,569 00 Insurance and Annuities in Force, December 31, 1896 918,693,338 00 Net Gain in 1896 20,139,531 00 Increase in Total Income 1,105,265 00 Increase in Assets 14.040.095 00 Increase in Surplus 2.853.466 00

Paid to Policy=holders from the date of Organization. - \$437,005.275.84

THE MUTUAL LIFE ISSUES EVERY DESIRABLE FORM OF POLICY

FAYETTE BROWN, General Manager, Montreal-

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FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL STATEMENT

New York Life Insurance Compan

346 and 348 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY

JOHN A. McCALL.

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BALANCE SHEET	, JANUARY I, 1897
United States Bonds (\$10,\$15,766), and State, City. County and other Bonds (\$68,262,767); cost of a \$103,867,862; market value	and endowments awa ting settlement
CASH INCOME, 1806	Paid for loses, endowments and annuties
Total	Total \$39,139,55

••			
INSURANCE	ACCOUNT-On	Basis of Pald-for	Business Only

INSURANCE ACCOUNT-On a Ba	sis of Pald-fo	r Business Only	cont.	ARISON FOR FI	VE YEARS_(189	1-1896)
In force December 31st, 1805 New Insurances paid for, 1806 Oli Insurances folico, 1806 Oli Ir surances i crease 1, 1806 TOTALS DEDUCT TERMINATIONS	277,603 64,380 652	\$700.027,320 121,564.037 121,564.037 123,0500 417,378 \$022,840,104	Assets Surplus Income Dividends of Year to Policy	Dic. 31st, 1891, \$125,947.2 iO 15,141,023 31,854,194	Dec. 31st, 1826. \$187,176,406 26,057,332 39,139,659	Gain Inst \$61,229.1; 11,516,3 7.285,3
By Doath, Maturity, Surrender, Explry, etc.	32 040	96,023,546	holders Number of	1,280,340	2,105,269	904.92
IN FORCE, DEC, 31, 1800	200.785	\$820310,048	Policy-holders Insurance in	182,803	299,785	11898
Gain in 1806 in the United States New Applications declined in 1806	32,000 7,103	\$34,800,000 18,084,383	force 'premiu	ms \$575,689,649	\$826.816,648	\$251,126.00

Certificate of Superintendent, State of New York Insurance Department. ALBANY, January 9th, 1897.

I. JAMES F. PIERCE. Superinterdent of Insurance of the State of New York, do hereby certify that the NEW YORK LIE INSURANCE COMPANY, of the City of New York, in the State of New York, is duly authorized to transact the business of Life Insurance. in this State.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that in accordance with the provisions of Section Eighty-four of the Insurance Law of the State of No York, I have caused the policy of ligations of the said company, outstanding on the 31st day of December, 1896, to be valued as perils Combined Experience Table of Mortalny, at FOUR PER CENT, interest, and I find the net value thereof, on the said 31st day of December. 18.76, to be

\$158,11**5**,938

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, fo mats Annual Statement for Dec. 31st, 1896, filed in this department, the Not Surplus & Policy-Holders is shown to be

on the base of Admitted Assets

\$26,681,996

5187,176,406

after deducting therefrom the NET RESERVE (\$158,115.038) as calculated by this Department, and all other Liabilities (\$2,378,472.03). IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have bereunte subscribed my name, and caused my official seal to be affixed at the City of A bar. the day and year first above written.

JAMES F. PIERCE, Superintendent of Insurance

Applies to so invited by the undersigned for general and special and management of territory, from experienced Life Insurance taces as well as from those wishing to applies training and experience

R. HOPE ATKINSON, F.S.S. Agency Director, MONTREAU

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1,681,9

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