

Business  
done by  
British  
com-  
panies.

678. The business done by the British fire companies resulted in a balance in their favour of \$359,243, being an increase of \$122,027, as compared with 1886, as shown by the following statement :—

	1886.	1887.
Paid for losses.....	\$2,347,433	\$2,335,032
“ general expenses.....	872,595	999,715
Total.....	\$3,220,028	\$3,334,747
Received from premiums.....	3,457,244	3,693,990
Balance in favour.....	\$ 237,216	\$ 359,243

The adverse balance, which has been in existence every year since 1877, when occurred the disastrous fire at St. John, N. B., when the losses paid by British companies amounted to four and one-half millions, has been at last reversed, there being a favourable balance for the period, at the close of 1887, of \$341,938.

By Ameri-  
can com-  
panies.

679 The following is a comparative statement of the business done by American companies in 1886 and 1887 :—

	1886.	1887.
Paid for losses.....	\$239,310	\$325,160
“ general expenses.....	97,438	116,531
Total.....	\$336,748	\$441,691
Received for premiums.....	427,844	441,642
Balance.....	\$91,096	—\$ 59

By Cana-  
dian com-  
panies.

680. A similar comparative statement of the business done by Canadian companies is found below :—

	1886.	1887.
Paid for losses.....	\$2,128,943	\$2,397,382
“ general expenses...	926,299	1,031,697
“ dividends.....	114,809	123,423
Total.....	\$3,170,051	\$3,552,502
Received for premiums.....	3,090,851	3,346,969
“ from other sources	139,223	132,921
Total.....	3,230,074	3,479,890
Balance.....	+\$60,023	—\$72,612