

Business
done by
British
companies

836. The business done by the British fire companies resulted in a balance in their favour of \$918,128, being an increase of \$165,172, as compared with 1888, as shown by the following statement :—

	1888.	1889.
Paid for losses.....	\$2,094,465	\$1,968,537
“ general expenses.....	1,011,863	1,083,967
Total	\$3,106,328	\$3,052,504
Received from premiums.....	3,859,284	3,970,632
Balance in favour.....	\$ 752,956	\$ 918,128

The adverse balance, which had 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, was reversed in 1887 when a favourable balance of \$341,398 was shown, which was increased in 1888 to \$1,094,894, and further increased in 1889 to \$2,013,022.

By Ameri-
can com-
panies.

837. The following is a comparative statement of the business done by American companies in 1888 and 1889 :—

	1888.	1889.
Paid for losses.....	\$ 233,075	\$229,538
“ general expenses.....	111,405	116,618
Total	\$ 344,480	\$346,156
Received for premiums	446,768	443,644
Balance.....	+ \$102,288	+ \$ 97,488

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

	1888.	1889.
Paid for losses.....	\$2,355,960	\$2,417,047
“ general expenses.....	1,009,168	1,064,558
“ dividends.....	122,198	126,759
Total	\$3,487,326	\$3,608,364
Received for premiums.....	3,348,045	3,539,641
“ from other sources.....	136,384	132,349
Total	\$3,484,429	\$3,671,990
Balance	—\$ 2,897	—\$ 63,626