

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA—AMOUNT AT RISK, 1869 TO 1892.

Year ended 31st December	Fire Insurance.	Year ended 31st December.	Fire Insurance.
	\$		\$
1869.....	188,359,809	1881 ..	462,210,968
1870.....	191,594,586	1882.....	526,856,478
1871.....	228,453,784	1883.....	572,264,041
1872.....	251,722,940	1884.....	605,507,789
1873.....	278,754,835	1885.....	611,794,479
1874.....	306,848,219	1886.....	586,773,022
1875.....	364,421,029	1887.....	634,767,337
1876.....	454,608,180	1888.....	650,735,059
1877.....	420,342,681	1889.....	684,538,378
1878.....	409,899,701	1890.....	720,679,621
1879.....	407,357,985	1891.....	759,602,191
1880.....	411,563,271	1892.....	821,410,072

1295. In the first year of the Confederation the amount at risk in the several fire insurance companies reporting to the Dominion Government was \$56 a head of the population. In 1871 it was \$65 a head of the population and was an average of \$377 on each house inhabited, uninhabited and in course of construction. In 1881 it was \$106 a head and \$614 for each house, and in 1891, \$157 a head and \$865 for each house. In 1892 the amount per head was \$167, or more than three times what it was in 1867. Edward Atkinson says: "Progressive wealth can perhaps be measured as accurately by the amount of insurance against fire as by any other standard."

1296. The inland marine insurance business was, on the whole, less favourable than that of the preceding year, the losses incurred having been 70·88 per cent of the premiums received, as against 51·08 per cent in 1891.

1297. The ocean business was more favourable, the proportion of losses to premiums having been 60·73, as compared with 136·17 per cent in 1891.

1298. The following figures show the total of inland and ocean marine insurance business in 1892 done by the companies reporting to the Insurance Branch of the Finance Department:—

Premiums received.....	\$	635,842
Losses incurred.....		426,094
" paid.....	\$	389,803
" " for previous years.....		40,437
Total losses paid during the year.....		430,240
Losses outstanding.....		41,390