

1495. The following table shows the business (including business done in Canada) by fire and fire and marine insurance companies in the United States during the years 1885-1894 :—

FIRE AND FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE, 1885-1894.

YEAR.	Premiums.	Losses.	Percentage of Losses to Premiums.
	\$	\$	\$
1885	103,950,165	56,163,788	54·0
1886	104,400,638	54,474,632	52·1
1887	113,306,932	65,758,631	58·0
1888	112,314,762	61,188,437	54·7
1889	118,567,107	68,343,504	57·6
1890	128,732,540	62,613,460	48·6
1891	135,059,233	84,702,722	62·7
1892	152,401,829	89,544,502	58·7
1893	152,116,060	98,520,673	64·7
1894	158,114,557	86,957,489	55·0
Total for 10 years.	\$1,278,963,823	\$ 728,267,838	56·9

1496. The following statements respecting the system of water supply for fire purposes were obtained from the several cities in answer to circulars :—

ONTARIO.

Amprior	Five wharves for engines at streets on banks of Madawaski river, through centre of town ; 6 tanks in other portions of the town.
Barrie	Water works ; pumping to water tower for fire and domestic uses from artesian wells, but can open a tap and let Lake Simcoe furnish supplies if needed.
Belleville	A stand pipe, 125 feet high and 25 feet in diameter, together with direct pressure from two Worthington pumps combined; capacity, 3,500,000 galls. per day ; average pressure, 80 lbs., which is increased to 125 lbs. in case of fires.
Bowmanville	Tanks filled from mill pond.
Brantford	Water works ; Holly's system ; direct pumping ; capacity, 4,000,000 galls.
Chatham	Water works ; capacity, 3,000,000 galls. daily.
Cobourg	" " 5,000,000 "
Collingwood	" supply unlimited.
Cornwall	" pumped direct into mains.
Dresden	Fire docks on river bank ; supply unlimited.
Dundas	Gravitation, pressure about 85 lbs.
Essex	Force pump, tank pressure and water mains on all principal streets ; capacity, about 125,000 galls. daily.
Fergus	Water is obtained from the Grand River ; one tank.
Forest	Six tanks ; capacity from 30,000 to 60,000 galls.
Fraserville	Twelve reservoirs ; capacity, 150,000 galls.
Galt	Water works ; stand pipe ; pressure, 112 lbs.
Goderich	" capacity, 1,000,000 galls. daily.
Gravenhurst	Supply from lakes east and west of town.
Guelph	Water works ; Holly's system ; direct pumping ; capacity, 1,500,000 galls. daily ; 112 double hydrants ; water pressure, 80 to 90 lbs. ; can be increased 20 or 30 lbs. in case of fire.
Hamilton	Reservoir supply 187 feet above level of Lake Ontario, with stand pipe for extra fire pressure.
Kingston	Pumping to tank from lake to tower.
Kincardine	Stand pipe ; capacity, 1,000,000 galls. ; also direct pumping ; 35 hydrants.
Lindsay	Direct pumping in stand pipe of 300,000 galls.
London	Reservoir and direct pumping ; average pressure, 75 lbs.