

FIRE INSURANCE IN CANADA—AMOUNT AT RISK, 1869 TO 1895.

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER.	Fire Insurance.	YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER.	Fire Insurance.
	\$		\$
1869.....	188,359,809	1883.....	572,264,041
1870.....	191,594,586	1884.....	605,507,789
1871.....	228,453,784	1885.....	611,794,479
1872.....	251,722,940	1886.....	586,773,022
1873.....	278,754,835	1887.....	634,767,337
1874.....	306,844,219	1888.....	650,735,059
1875.....	364,421,029	1889.....	684,538,378
1876.....	404,608,180	1890.....	720,679,621
1877.....	420,342,681	1891.....	759,602,191
1878.....	409,899,701	1892.....	821,410,072
1879.....	407,357,985	1893.....	841,687,057
1880.....	411,563,271	1894.....	836,067,202
1881.....	462,210,968	1895.....	827,184,365
1882.....	526,856,478		

In the first year of the Confederation the amount of 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 1894 the amount per head was \$163, or about 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."

1253. The inland marine insurance business was, on the whole, more favourable than that of the preceding year, the losses incurred having been 66·87 per cent of the premiums received, as against 93·82 per cent in 1893.

1254. The ocean business was less favourable, the proportion of losses to premiums having been 62·23 as compared with 72·89 per cent in 1893.

1255. The following figures show the total of inland and ocean marine insurance business, in 1894, done by the companies reporting to the Insurance Branch of the Finance Department :—

Premiums received.....		1894.
Losses incurred.....		\$768,077
“ paid.....	\$ 422,373	502,514
“ “ for previous years.....	95,248	
Total losses during the year.....		517,422
Losses outstanding.....		82,050