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British Prudential Assurance Company,

35, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON, E.C.

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that the Directors are able to report that, notwithstanding the drawbacks arising from the sad depression in the manufacturing districts, the new business of the Company for the past year absolutely completed and paid upon is £16,471. 10s. 4d., and the total annual income, after deducting lapsed policies and those which have been claims, is £56,481. 18s. 10d. The Directors must again remind the Shareholders, as upon former occasions, that this business is obtained from purely English and Scotch sources.

During the past year £19,930 3s. 4d. have been paid in claims, and since the foundation of the Offices the total amount has reached the sum of £124,226. 15s. 9d. It is, however, satisfactory to state that these amounts, large as they appear, are within the calculations allowed by the tables, and when it is further remembered how great a benefit has been conferred on numerous families in their hour of need (the proceeds of the policy having been in many instances the widow's sole dependence), the Directors feel that such payments are a source of congratulation. The Shareholders and Policyholders will also bear in mind that the very large reserve made in the Actuary's valuation at the last meeting is a further guarantee for the security and well-being of the Company.

The salaries, printing, stationery, rent, Directors' fees, and all other management charges do not exceed £4,537 per annum, forming a smaller per centage upon the income than is usual in similar institutions.

The newly-built premises may be considered as a most valuable acquisition; they afford greatly increased facilities for business, while they have been so arranged as to create very little extra annual expense. The Directors may perhaps be allowed to quote the remarks of the *Building News* on their construction.—“The Directors, without forgetting their title of ‘Prudential,’ have

allowed their architect to give that reasonable amount of decoration to the whole building which will prevent its being marked as a bald and meagre specimen of the office of a public company, and, without spending their shareholders' money in an excess of ornamentation, have kept to that *juste milieu* which does what is required and no more."

Messrs. Gillman, Horne, and Cole are the retiring Directors in accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditors, Messrs. Warne and Atkinson, likewise retire, and also present themselves for re-election.

Interest at the rate of 5 per Cent. will be paid to the Shareholders on and after the 15th of May, 1863.

Before closing their Report, the Directors would acknowledge the able manner in which their efforts have been aided by the Superintendents, Agents, Medical Referees, and indeed, all connected with the Company. This unanimity has already been attended by the happiest consequences, and they doubt not, but that by patiently continuing in a similar course, even still greater, and still more beneficial results may be ultimately obtained.

JAMES GILLMAN, *Chairman.*

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1862.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.
To Present Value per Actuary's Valuation of £1,206,555 9s., being the sums assured under Policies and Annuity and other Bonds	578,324	14	11	
.. Loan Guarantee Fund	1,845	13	0	
.. Shareholders' Capital	6,240	8	0	
.. Bonus on Policies	3,927	6	1	
.. Balance in favor of the Company after apportionment of £4,683 19s. 1d. Profits declared at last Annual Meeting	49,853	17	0	
	£640,191	19	0	
				By Present Value per Actuary's Valuation of £52,009 11s., being the Annual Premiums on Policies in force
				766,416 3 1
				Less to be deducted for future Bonuses and Expenses
				177,553 12 9
				588,862 10 4
				.. Investments in Colonial Government Bonds, India 5 per Cent. Stock, Mortgages, Reversions, and other Assets
				41,940 0 10
				.. Invested on account of New Building
				2,368 8 7
				.. Agents' Balances and Premiums due but not received
				3,018 10 1
				.. Cash Balances, viz., Balance at Bankers' and in hand
				3,902 9 2
				Petty Cash in hand
				100 0 0
				4,002 9 2
				£640,191 19 0

We have examined the foregoing Account, find it to be correct,
and hereby confirm the same.

THOMAS WARNE,
RICHARD ATKINSON, } *Auditors.*

31st April 1863.

Examined by three Directors,

EDGAR BORNE,
THOS REID,
RICHD. THOS. PUGH,

HENRY HARBEN,

Secretary.