

**WINDSOR HOTEL FIRE.**—Early in the evening of 12th inst., a fire broke out in the kitchen of this hostelry, which spread to the Dining Room and Ladies' Ordinary where considerable damage was done to the furnishings. The main building itself was not damaged, though the carpets on the corridors, etc., were spoilt by water. No guest's room was injured, nor any one hurt except the manager, Mr. Weldon, who suffered by part of the kitchen ceiling falling on him. He is fast recovering.

The hotel is being run on the European plan and is fast filling up with old and new guests. All trace of the fire will shortly be obliterated.

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**THE METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. ANNUAL BANQUET.**—This highly popular, prosperous and progressive company recently held its annual banquet at Delmonico's, New York. There were present 400 superintendents and agents from all parts of the United States and Canada, who presented an address to Mr. John R. Hegeman, the president, expressive of their loyalty and devotion to himself and the company.

In 1905 the Metropolitan wrote \$460,000,000 of insurance, \$100,000,000 of which was ordinary and the balance industrial.

Mr. Haley Fiske, in his address to the superintendents, stated that the New York state investigation had been carried out in a most fair, just and reasonable way, and that the investigation proved to be of much good to life insurance. Since 1893, the Metropolitan has not issued any deferred dividend policies and it was now reaping the benefits of its foresight. Although the policies do not call for it, it has been paying out pretty nearly a million dollars a year in dividends. This is a voluntary gift on the part of the company and is the best possible advertisement.

The company's assets have crossed \$160,000,000, its income last year being over \$62,000,000. This is the tenth year that the Metropolitan has written more insurance than any other company in the United States.

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**THE ROBBERY OF THE CROWN BANK, TORONTO.**—The clerk Banwell, who recently robbed the Crown Bank, Toronto, got away with Dominion notes, \$500, Bank of England notes £1,500, gold, \$835, and \$7,000 of Crown Bank notes, some of them not initialed. He also took 400 unsigned \$50 notes to face value of \$20,000, which were only negotiable when signed.

He fled to Buffalo with a girl aged 18, and there was married. Thence he went on an erratic course to Cuba and Jamaica, where he was overtaken by detectives. All but \$1,100 of the stolen money was given up. Aside from its criminality, this robbery, flight and marriage of a young bank teller presents an exhibit of such reckless folly, such cold blooded heartlessness as never were exceeded.

The Crown Bank will probably escape loss as the amount of money missing and costs of pursuit and prosecution will be covered wholly or to a large extent by the Guarantee Company.

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**MR. MARSHALL FIELD,** who was called away, a few days ago, was one of the richest of American merchants. He had a genius for mercantile business, was full of energy, remarkably enterprising and seemed to have an intuitive knowledge of what goods the public would purchase. Hence his establishment was very popular and the methods he adopted in dealing with all classes of customers enlarged his trade which assumed enormous proportions and was conducted so skilfully and economically as to yield great profits.

He gave \$8,000,000 towards a museum bearing his name and contributed \$450,000 to the Athletic Fund of the Chicago University. He never engaged in politics, or any form of public life.

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**CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.**—A correspondent referring to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and its earning power speaks in sanguine terms of the prospects of the road. The Northwest has had two heavy harvests by which the freight traffic has been made very large. Month after month the earnings have been growing. The lands owned by the company are rising in price and constitute an asset of greater value than was anticipated in earlier years. As a New York Contemporary remarks: "While the yield of the stock at present prices is low, it is not properly indicated by merely taking into account the dividend because the road has been giving valuable 'rights' to stockholders from time to time, and it will undoubtedly continue to do so for years yet to come."

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**THE BRITISH ELECTIONS.**—The elections now in progress in the old land afford another illustration of the periodic changes which are characteristic of the political life of Great Britain, which are emphasized by questions of the day, such as in this case, education, tariff reform, and to some extent the Chinese labour problem. We are unable to regard the great changes which are being made as attributable to the tariff question. Some years will probably lapse before the British people are prepared to make any radical change in their fiscal policy. Changes will be made as the result of trade experiences and education in economic matters, which are not represented at present by any organized political party.

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**THE RT. HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN** won a great triumph at Birmingham, where his majority was over 5,000. The electorate in that city comprises the most intelligent body of artisans in Great Britain and individually the most independent. To have the privilege of representing Birmingham is a great honour and whatever cause that city endorses is in a fair way to become adopted by the country.

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**THE HON. G. W. ROSS,** ex-premier of Ontario, is to be made a Senator. Much as many differ with