

finding the gold for the enormous sum of \$62,500,000.

It was the reputation of the Syndicate, of which the Rothschilds were members, which gave the bonds that prestige which sent them up to a premium. The incident has had very bracing effect on American securities all over the field. It has toned up confidence in business circles, so that, though the bond issue has been costly, it has had ample compensations, in which the whole country benefits.

Another Life Assurance Story.

We have a communication sent us from Kent County, New Brunswick, to the effect that an old lady, "a parish charge," recently died at Richibucto, aged 85. It seems she had several sons and daughters living in the States, and one of them has been sending claim papers down for proof of death, etc., from which it appears an insurance had been placed on the old lady's life for \$2,000 some two years ago. The strange part of the story is, that the doctor written to for certificate of cause of death was asked to be obliging and state the old lady's age as being 69 at death, in place of 85.

This looking suspicious, the overseer of the poor has taken the case in hand, having the name of the Life Company, which is said to be an American one.

There are far too many of these episodes in life assurance cropping up, to be pleasant.

The New Manager of the Scottish Amicable.

It is with much pleasure we copy from the *Insurance Observer* of London, England, the following kindly notice regarding the appointment of Mr. Gunn to the managership of the Scottish Amicable. We can only add our warm congratulations on his well deserved appointment, and wish him every success in his new position. At a meeting of the general committee of management of the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society, held in Glasgow on the 7th February, Mr. Neil Ballingal Gunn, F.F.A., F.I.A., secretary of the Standard Life Assurance Co., Edinburgh, was appointed manager of the Society in succession to Mr. Robert Blyth. Mr. Gunn gained his first insurance experience in the service of the Scottish Widows, Fund Assurance Society, which he entered in 1865, remaining there nine years, at the end of which period he removed to the office of the Scottish Provident Institution. He continued in this office for ten years, from 1874 to 1884, in which latter year he was appointed assistant actuary to the Standard Life, being subsequently promoted to be colonial and foreign secretary in 1890. Mr. Gunn is a well known man in the actuarial world, having been elected Associate of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland after examination in 1869, and Fellow of the same in 1871. In 1886 he was elected Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, and in 1889 he was appointed valuer under the Friendly Societies' Acts. We are glad to find that the Directors of the Scottish Amicable have not found it necessary to go outside the domain of assurance to find a successor to Mr. Blyth. Under Mr. Gunn's management the Scottish Amicable may be expected not only to maintain its position, but to do much more.

With a varied experience in the best Scottish offices, Mr. Gunn can plead ignorance of nothing, while his late years as colonial and foreign secretary at the Standard eminently fit him for the carrying out of a progressive policy, should that be deemed advisable. The Scottish Amicable is a Life Assurance company, first class in every respect, but little known. We have every confidence that Mr. Gunn will do much to increase the popularity of the Society, while at the same time adding to its stability.

Is it Possible?

THERE is no more offensive proceeding than the gratuitous interference of a third party between a principal and one of his staff. Nor is there one more impertinent, or inexcusable, than the offering of unsolicited advice to experts in any calling, by some officious person who has had no experience in such business, nor practical knowledge to any extent. Further, when such interference and such advice-giving, is open to grave suspicion as being inspired by some selfish motive, some effort to secure by these means what cannot legitimately be obtained, such conduct becomes as grave an offence against honor, as it is of propriety.

It is stated that a newspaper proprietor in this city has written to the head offices of insurance companies represented in this city, offering to give them "pointers" upon their business in this country, and going so far as to offer to give such advice personally at the Home offices. This person is wholly unacquainted with the business he is so ready to advise upon. He never offered to give what he supposes to be "pointers," to the local officials, but, unknown to them, he steps in between them and their principals, with offers of advice which are a serious reflection upon the reputation of such local officers. Such a proceeding is an insinuation that something is seriously wrong in local management; it is libellous in fact, if not in law. But these reports may be unfounded. For the honor of journalism we trust it is so; for such conduct is a dishonor to the Press of Canada, it is open to suspicion as being inspired by a motive we forbear from giving a name to.

A Medical Examiner's Duty.

A PAPER on "Life Assurance" was lately read before the Nova Scotia Branch of the British Medical Association, and in course of the general discussion that followed, we are informed several of the doctors present expressed as their opinion that a medical examiner was not under an obligation to give the company employing him any particulars of diseases, such as "syphilis" for instance, for which he might have treated the proposer as his family doctor, unless the latter referred to or mentioned it himself. We should be sorry to think that the medical examiners of our Life companies, as a body, entertained this view. Unquestionably the companies expect that the confidential reports they receive from their medical officers regarding applicants for assurance are always full and complete in each and every particular, and certainly do