

Messrs. C. W. Armstrong and W. Colgate, have been appointed by Manager Boomer general agents for Manitoba and the North-West of the Manchester Fire. Both gentlemen are widely known at Winnipeg and have experience in insurance.

The annual meeting of representatives of the older and larger of the assessment life associations of the United States will be held in New York on June 10. We hope they will discover how to unlearn several things and how to learn several other things.

Mr. H. J. Johnston, manager for the Province of Quebec of the Confederation Life, sailed for the Old Land on the 19th ult., to spend several weeks among the bonnie braes of Scotland from which he has been absent for twenty-one years. May joy go with him.

The Coast Review has dispensed with that fearfully and wonderfully made crazy-quilt pattern for its cover, which received such an ovation from its contemporaries, and substituted therefor a plain, business-like and yet artistic design every way commendable.

A Boston soliciting agent for the Provident Savings Life of New York, named Chas. P. Fessenden, has been convicted for the embezzlement of \$6,000 from the company, and sentenced to five years in the State prison. He was a nephew of the late Senator Fessenden.

The late Adam Hudspeth, Q. C., M.P., of Lindsay, believed in life assurance, for at the time of his death he carried \$83,000, said to be distributed as follows: Standard, \$55,000; British Empire, \$18,000; Canada Life \$15,000; and London and Lancashire \$15,000.

Acknowledgments.—We have received from Commissioner Ellerbe Parts I and II of the Missouri Insurance Reports complete, from Commissioner Duncan Part I of the Kentucky Report, and from Commissioner Merrill the introduction to Part II of the Massachusetts Life Report for 1889.

A general meeting of the Manchester Fire has been called for June 5, when the question of increasing the capital by the issue of 20,000 new shares of £20 each, £2 paid up, will be considered. The new shares are to be allotted *pro rata* to the shareholders at a suitable premium, payable in six months.

The five life companies of Massachusetts issued, during 1889, 13,664 policies assuring \$40,658,970, and had in force 74,530 policies assuring \$200,321,037 at the close of the year. The total income was \$10,431,267 and the total disbursements \$7,809,493. The unutilized surplus over all liabilities was \$5,953,927.

The following appointments to agencies have been made by Manager Boomer of the Manchester Fire: Quebec, W. J. Fraser; Hamilton, W. Boyd; London, Mr. McPherson, formerly of Lang & McPherson, dry goods merchants; Windsor, Willett Bros.; Port Arthur, W. P. Wiley; Brantford, Mr. Mence.

General Manager Hart has appointed agents as follows for the Canadian field of the Phoenix of Hartford, Toronto, J. B. Boustead, with Messrs. Wyatt & Boustead as sub-agents; London, J. H. Flood for city, and David Smith for district of Middlesex; Ottawa, R. H. Haycock; Port Hope, Lewis H. Ross; Sorel, A. A. Taillon; Three Rivers, J. J. Frigon.

Among the recent callers on THE CHRONICLE are W. Campbell Macdonald, actuary Confederation Life, Toronto; T. L. Morrissey, St. John, N. B., special agent of the Imperial; E. M. Sipprell, St. John, N. B., of the Ontario Life; Dr. Geo. S. Miller, superintendent of agencies Phoenix Mutual Life, Hartford; and Ira B. Thayer, Toronto, of the Sun Life.

Mr. H. Sutherland, the manager of the Temperance and General Life of Toronto, has also been appointed manager of the Canada Accident Company in place of Mr. H. O'Hara, the former managing director. We are pleased to learn that the business now transacted by the Temperance and General is mainly on the level premium plan.

One Dr. Henry Meyer is in jail at Chicago, on the charge of attempted swindling of the Germania Life, for which he was local medical examiner. He is alleged to have procured a policy on the life of his father-in-law, an old infirm man, by employing a younger healthy man to personate him. Other similar frauds on assessment associations have since come to light. There are said to be some very dark passages in his past life, especially in connection with the death of a grocer some years ago, whose widow he married.

Go from home to hear the news. —This is the way the *Insurance World and Monetary Record* puts it: "A terrible conflagration has occurred at the Longue Pointe asylum, near Montreal, by which many lives have been lost and property worth nearly a million dollars destroyed. Several London fire offices were on the risk, notably the Royal, but we fancy the local offices will be the greatest sufferers, as we hear that many of the poor creatures rescued from the flames spread themselves over the country, firing barns and out-houses"!!

The United States Circuit Court, at Des Moines, Iowa, has passed upon the famous case of Henry vs. the Travelers Insurance Co., which has been in the courts for four or five years, and which, as we recorded at the time, was decided in March last at Denver, Col., by a master in chancery (appointed by the Court to make an accounting) against the company. The Court at Des Moines made a decree in favor of the company for some \$90,000, also confirming its title to a large amount of worthless collateral securities and 70,000 acres of land.

Our Fantastic Contemporary, the *Journal of Commerce*, seems of late to be ambitious of distinction in the not altogether enviable role of Paul Pry. It finds apparent satisfaction in trying to discover the amount of salaries received, the terms and duration of the contracts, and sundry other personal matters concerning some of the insurance managers, in order to acquaint the public with the particulars. It is not the custom for reputable journals, we believe, to enter into the private affairs of their patrons, but then the *Journal* always was "a little peculiar, you know."

We quite agree with the Post Magazine of London that the increase the past year of \$210,000 in the revenue of the fire department of the London Assurance is a "forward movement," being the largest increase so far in a single year. Our contemporary well says that "a loss ratio so moderate as 55.8 per cent. is a further guarantee that augmentation of revenue is not made at the price of safety. With this activity it is pleasing to note that the expenses continue moderate, and were last year 32.1 per cent. of the premiums, which is even lower than in the two years preceding." The fire fund, we notice, was increased by \$151,390, and now amounts to \$2,603,390.