

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

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**Foreign Money in London.** A French banker of high standing affirms that about \$600,000,000 of foreign money is held in London belonging to, or in control of Continental bankers. What a tribute this is to the soundness of English financial institutions.

**Does not this Apply to Montreal?** Those who travel about in the suburbs of London, says "The Review," will have noticed that, in too many streets, whilst the houses themselves stand back some distance from the road, the shops jut out actually on to the line of the roadway. When a shop so situated takes fire, means of escape from the building are absolutely cut off, and the place is a veritable death-trap. We see with our mind's eye rows of such shops, and are of opinion that the municipal authorities should take this matter in hand, and at once.

**What's in a Name?** "Although it may seem to some almost profane to do so, we question the truth of Shakespeare's remark regarding "What's in a name." There is very much in a name, it is often a valuable property; it is to many a source of great pride; it is almost a part of a man's personality. Ladies, however, do not share in the latter view. When Miss Wilberforce, daughter of the great philanthropist, was electioneering at Hull, she became so highly popular the cry was raised, "Miss Wilberforce for ever!" She promptly exclaimed, "No, No, that will never do, I don't wish to be Miss Wilberforce 'for ever.'" Our contemporary, "The Insurance Spectator," of London, has suggested above by changing our title into, "Montreal Insurance & Finance" when republishing an article from our columns. We point this out in order to give a gentle hint that, we prefer our own title to any conferred on us by the mistake of a contemporary.

### Against Day Dreams.

Dreaming when asleep is involuntary, but when awake is a pernicious habit born of procrastination. Day and night dreams have this in common—they are opposite to "thinking."

Against day dreaming the "Insurance Press Oracle" lifts his voice: Dreaming never actually accomplished anything. The only dreamers who achieve fame are sonnambulists, and their reward usually is but a three-inch obituary notice. Dreams never made provision for a family against want. Dreams never secured the means of support when the wage earner was gone. Dreams never gave an education to fatherless children.

The man who is dreaming of taking an insurance policy in some remote day will wake up with a shock to discover that he has idled away his opportunity, and that ill health will forever prevent the realization of his cherished hopes of getting insurance.

Day dreaming about insurance is risky. Let a man indulge in reveries of the big policy he will carry some day "when he is able," but let him first take out as large a policy as he can afford now. It is a good thing to have great and generous ambitions for the protection of one's family, but that protection should, if necessary, be built up by degrees, small policy by small policy.

There is more protection for a family in a real \$1,000 policy than in the vision of one for \$1,000,000.

### Duration of Life Policies.

"The Spectator" says in relation to the average duration of life policies: "It is a well-recognized fact that the policyholders in English offices do not consider their insurances as lightly as Americans or even Colonials, but pay their premiums at all hazards. The Australian Mutual Provident, in publishing its experience a few years ago, showed its average policy duration to be 6.20 years, less than one-half that of the British companies. Coming to this continent, the Canada Life, after about