

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

THE RECENT NEW ZEALAND 4 P. C. LOAN of \$2,500,000 brought tenders at an average price of 25 cents over par.

FORGED DOLLAR BILLS are in circulation in this and other Canadian cities. The engraving is not bad, but the paper is flimsy.

PROFITS & INCOME INSURANCE CO. is a new enterprise established to ensure against loss of profits or income as a consequence of a fire.

THE CROWN LIFE INSURANCE CO., of which Sir Charles Tupper is President, will hold its first general meeting in Toronto on 28th May, for organization purposes.

LA BANQUE NATIONALE announced at the annual meeting on 15th inst., that its net profits were \$143,700, being 11.98 per cent. on the paid up capital.

A SPONTANEOUS EXPLOSION OF MALT DUST is stated to have occurred on 24th ult., at the Whitbread brewery in London, England. The incident should be enquired into by expert chemists whose report would be interesting.

THE FIRE LOSS of the United States and Canada for the month of April, as compiled from the daily record of "The New York Commercial Bulletin," shows a total of \$11,352,800. The figures for April, 1900, were \$25,727,000, and included \$12,000,000 for the Ottawa-Hull conflagration. The following comparative table will show the losses by months for the first four months of 1899, 1900 and 1901:

	1899.	1900.	1901.
January.....	\$10,718,000	\$11,755,300	\$16,574,950
February.....	18,469,000	15,427,000	13,992,000
March.....	11,493,000	13,349,200	15,036,250
April.....	9,213,000	25,727,000	11,352,800
Totals	\$49,893,000	\$66,258,500	\$56,956,000

The Jacksonville disaster will just about equalize the difference in favor of 1901.

PRIVATE ENGLISH BREWERY ENTERPRISES which were converted into joint-stock companies a few years ago seem to have declined considerably in value in the past year judging from the following quotations of the prices of their shares given by an English contemporary:

	Mar. 1901.	Mar. 1900.	Decrease.
Allsopp S., & Sons, Pref.....	£ 57½	£ 112½	55
" " Def.....	28½	79½	51
Bristol (George & Co.).....	36	40	4
City of London.....	158½	181½	23
Edinburgh United.....	5½	8½	3
Guinness, Arthur & Co.....	520	555	35
Lion.....	32½	36½	4
Manchester.....	13½	17½	4
Nalder and Coyer.....	31	36	5
Shewell's.....	19	28	9
Watney, Combe, etc., Pref.....	74½	95½	21
" " Def.....	61½	103½	42

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.

	Clearings.	Balances
	\$	\$
Total for week ending		
16th May.....	1901, 20,389,339	2,697,416
Corresponding week... 1900,	51,208,193	2,185,365
" " 1899,	15,827,294	2,093,305
" " 1898,	12,797,403	1,424,648

THE SULTAN OF TURKEY's officials were ordered to stop the fires in Constantinople, as His Majesty's rest was disturbed by them. The officers concluded that insurance caused fires so they threatened all policyholders with imprisonment! So says the "Daily Telegraph."

THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE CO. is authorized to do business in the State of New York.

SALES OF REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES took place in London, England, on 7th ult., which are reported in "The Review." We give a few specimens. "A policy of assurance for £1,000 with profits, effected in 1876 with Equitable Life Assurance Society, on the life of a gentleman aged 64. Annual premium £33-19s. 6d. Bonus additions, £320. Sold for £775." "A policy of assurance for £1,000 with profits, effected May, 1893, with Law Union and Crown, on life of a gentleman aged 48. Annual premium, £32. Bonus additions, £131. Also one for £500, with profits, effected Dec. 1893, annual premium, £16. Bonus additions, £65. Sold for £220." "The absolute reversion of one half of £3,000 cash on deposit in City and Midland Bank, receivable on death of a lady, aged 80. Sold for £1,010.

MESSRS. FETHERSTONHAUGH & Co., Patent Soliciting complete weekly list of patents granted to Canadians, Canada Life Building, furnish us with the following in the following countries. Further information may be readily obtained from them direct. Canadian patents—P. Boire, means for locking whips in whip sockets; J. Gardiner, pneumatic stacker attachments for separators; H. Burnett, rock drills; J. H. Gagnier, car brakes; H. Dupere, gulley cleaners; A. Neilson, stove pipe elbow connections; E. Poulin, railway crossing frogs; G.W. Walker, banana shipping crates; W. G. Tretheway, automatic train pipe couplings; G. M. Tate, pulp screens; I. N. Kendall, steam valves; J. Foreman, bicycles; D. R. Van Allen, truss rods for waggons. American patents—A. Flowers, brake applying mechanism; L. L. Lounsbury, gameboard.

THE CHINAMAN IN LIFE ASSURANCE is a theme on which our esteemed contemporary "The Review" has some very amusing remarks in which a rise is taken out of "Rough Notes," which it chaffs with having printed some Chinese characters upside down, and some sideways or otherwise wrongly. The Chinaman seems a desirable person to avoid. He will send word to a life company of his own death, get a friend or two to prove death, collect the amount of his policy and be made quite happy by the fraud. The Chinese are so much alike it is quite easy for one to personate another, and for a dying man to thus get a policy of assurance. If a Chinaman is refused the return of his premiums he straightway dies, or is reported dead, and his relations do everything possible to prove the death claim! The business of life assurance in China must be anything but scientific.