

**New York Insurance Report.**—We have to express our thanks to Superintendent McCall for his courtesy in sending us a bound Volume of the twenty-sixth annual report—Fire and Marine—of the New York Insurance Department, for the year 1884, which we received on February, 23rd inst. Considering the mass of statistics and detail contained in this report too much praise cannot be accorded to Superintendent John A. McCall, jr., for the promptness with which it is issued.

**Extra Edition.**—Owing to the importance of the "Co-operative Bill" which our legislators in their wisdom have seen fit to bring before Parliament, we published a special edition of INSURANCE SOCIETY on the 16th inst., giving the replies received by us from the Insurance Commissioners of the United States in response to a circular letter sent to them on the subject of co-operative legislation. We beg to thank these gentlemen for their courtesy in sending us replies.

**The Directors of the Lancashire Insurance Company** have declared a dividend for the half year ending December 31st, 1884, at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, free of income tax. The directors at the same time added \$50,000 to the general reserve funds and carried forward a handsome balance to next year. Messrs. S. C. Duncan Clark & Company are the general agents for the Dominion of this sterling British company.

**When before in the world's history** was \$763,124,793 paid, within sixteen years, mainly to the relief and support of the widowed and fatherless? This, according to a chart published by *The Spectator*, has been done by our twenty-six prominent life insurance companies since 1868. How can our legislators and government officers, our ministers of the Gospel and other public speakers, do or say too much to promote the growth and prosperity of such beneficent institutions?—*The Insurance Times*.

**Hand Grenades.**—Our contemporary *Insurance* says: The hand grenade agents ought to lose no time in procuring a certificate from the Major and Knapp Engraving and Lithographing Company (N.Y.), attesting to the quality of the grenades for fire-extinguishing purposes. A fire occurred in the building occupied in part by that company, on Wednesday evening last, and though attacked at once in its incipency with the grenades, it paid no attention to the assault, but went on burning. We believe these grenades are a delusion.

**The Average Loss Ratio** of all fire companies reporting to the New York Insurance Department, according to our contemporary the *Chronicle*, for the year 1884, is 64 per cent., and the average expense ratio 36.8 per cent., making a total of 100.8 per cent. Divided by groups, the New York companies lost 57.9 per cent. of their fire premiums, the other State companies 65.4 per cent., and the United States branches of the foreign companies 68.8 per cent.; the expense ratio of the New York companies was 40.7 per cent., of the other State Companies 37.2 per cent., and of the foreign companies 32.5 per cent.

**Mr. —**—was caught in a heavy rain storm last summer while walking out in the country, and took shelter inside the trunk of an old tree, and waited patiently until the clouds rolled by. He then attempted an exit from his shelter, but the heavy fall of rain had so swollen the wood that the hole which had let him in by a scrape, was now too small to allow him to get out. Mr. — thereupon sat him down and began to think of all the mean things he had done in his life, and he remembered he had long been in the habit of borrowing his INSURANCE SOCIETY from a neighbor, instead of paying his subscription like a man. At this thought he felt so "small" that he slipped out of the tree quite easily.

**Our Society Journal**, an assessment sheet hailing from the United States, makes the following rather peculiar remarks in its last issue, with reference to the exposures made by us as to the utter fallacy of the promises of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association of N.Y.: "We will not answer it—there is nothing in it to answer." There is only a trifle of a deficiency of \$6,900,000, as shown by us in the last issue of INSURANCE SOCIETY, but then this is nothing to a co-operative concern or its organ. This vile sheet then enters into a tissue of abuse more suitable to a Billingsgate fishwoman than respectable journalism. We shall not in future take the slightest notice of its utterances.

**British Empire Life.**—It appears that during the month of December last, Mr. Peter Ranicar, of Crewe, an officer of the School Board, made a proposal to the British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company through their local agent, Mr. A. P. Newman. The proposal was accepted, but the premium has not been paid. On January 8th, Mr. Ranicar was skating on a piece of water near Crewe, when the ice broke and he was drowned. Since this sad event it came to the knowledge of the directors that Mr. Ranicar had made some arrangement with the company's agent for the payment of the first premium out of certain monies due from the latter to Mr. Ranicar; and the company at once decided to consider the assurance as effected, and they have drawn a cheque for the amount for which the deceased intended to assure.—*The Insurance Agent*, London, Eng.

**The Amicable Fire** was registered on 6th Nov., 1883, with £3,000 of nominal capital in £1 shares, but this capital was increased to £50,000 by special resolution passed on the 14th November, 1883, and subsequently confirmed. According to the last return, the amount of capital subscribed is £224, and of this £168 10s. is paid up. Mr. John Stedwell Drage, the manager, holds 150 shares, which are stated to be fully paid up, and thus all the other shareholders have paid up exactly £18 10s. amongst them. Here again we have almost the whole of the capital held by the manager, and we should like to know whether he paid actual cash for his shares, or whether they were allotted to him in consideration of services. The *Amicable* is a company regarding which we have been often asked of late, and we therefore presume that it is pushing actively for business. It is evident from the nature of the enquiries made to us that it is prepared to accept considerable lines on hazardous risks, from which it appears that the *Amicable* is quite capable of receiving premiums.—*London Post Magazine*.

#### Chief Clerk Wanted.

A British Fire Insurance Company require a Chief Clerk for their Office in British Columbia. Salary to commence with \$75 per month. Only those having an outside experience of the business, as well as an Office experience, and writing a good hand, need apply.

Address, Managers. P.O. Box 166, Montreal.

**NOW VOLUME IV. READY**

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