

# Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

[Formerly Insurance Society.]

PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

R. WILSON SMITH,

Editor and Proprietor,

OFFICE: 1724 NOTRE DAME ST., MONTREAL

Annual Subscription (in advance)	-	\$2.00
Single Copies	- - - - -	0.15
Per Hundred Copies	- - - - -	15.00

Prices for Advertisements on application.

## A. G. RAMSAY, ESQ.

Mr. Alexander Gillespie Ramsay, President and Managing Director of the Canada Life Assurance Company, naturally takes as a matter of right the place of honor among the life insurance managers of the Dominion. The Canada Life is our oldest and largest life company, all others ranking far behind it both in age and size. It ranks among the large financial corporations, not only of Canada but of the United States, and is advancing with great strides which become longer every year, and the business it has done and is doing, exceedingly satisfactory as that has been, is only a promise for the future. It adds as much yearly to its assets now as it accumulated in the first 20 years of its history, the whole \$8,000,000 of its assets and nearly \$40,000,000 of life assurances have, moreover, with the exception of a small nucleus, been all accumulated during the management of Mr. Ramsay, whose shrewd, energetic and yet eminently conservative policy deserves the credit for the splendid results which it has produced.

Mr. Ramsay is a Scotchman, and received his insurance training in the office of the Standard Life in Edinburgh. He came to Canada in 1858 to assume his present duties. The portrait which we have the pleasure to present on the preceding page is considered a fair likeness. It is a curious co-incidence that his brother also (Mr. W. M. Ramsay, manager of the Standard Life Assurance Co.) should be at the head of a large life company in this country. It is an illustration of the fraternal relations which ought to, but unfortunately do not always exist between the different offices, between whom the utmost good-will should prevail.

## GERMANY.

Germany is at present passing through the stage of its history through which England passed in the reigns of James and Charles Stewart and in the Commonwealth. The question has to be settled as to who rules the country, the people or the Emperor. This is the real dispute between Bismarck and the Reichstag, although the former attempts to make the danger of war with France do duty as the main argument. The divine right of kings is, however, a relic of the dark ages, and must die before long, is even in its death struggle in Germany now, as this contest shows. Prince Bismarck will probably be its last active exponent in that country, and when the aged Emperor and he pass away in the natural course of events, a new order of things may be looked for.

# Announcement.

It is with great pleasure that we announce to our readers that arrangements have been concluded with Mr. J. GRISWOLD, the well known insurance writer and author, to become Associate Editor of THE CHRONICLE, while continuing his other literary work. This important addition to our office will enable us to still further extend the scope and power of this Journal, and will, we trust, make it still more indispensable to our ever widening circle of readers. Mr. Griswold formerly resided in New York, and has been for many years a recognised authority upon insurance matters from one end of the Continent to the other; his name being, as it were, a household word with all fire underwriters through the medium of his several valuable publications, among which are the following:

BOOK OF CANCELLATION TABLES, pro-rata and short rates  
FIRE UNDERWRITERS' TEXT-BOOK.

HAND BOOK OF ADJUSTMENT OF FIRE LOSSES.

CLASSIFICATION OF FIRE HAZARDS AND LOSSES, Folio.

AMERICAN FIRE UNDERWRITERS' CYCLOPEDIA.

We consider that, both our readers and ourselves, are to be congratulated upon the acquisition of Mr. Griswold in connection with the INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE.

We propose, in this connection, to open a "Reference Bureau," where there will be one of the most complete Insurance Libraries on the continent (the late Mr. Walford on inspection pronounced it to be the most complete, especially in the fire branch, that he ever saw) for the accommodation of our insurance, legal and other friends.

From Mr. Griswold's long experience in handling matters connected with disputed fire loss adjustments, we feel confidence in offering the services of this Office in the settlement of complicated or disputed claims in the matter of apportionment of insurances and contribution to fire losses. Also, upon application, to furnish "opinions," upon insurance law points; "briefs," for the use of companies, with citations of authorities, in cases before the courts, where the attorney, not being an underwriter, and hence not at home with the peculiarities of insurance questions, is so frequently at fault.

EXPERT EVIDENCE in special cases, will also be furnished upon application, stating the points at issue. And generally, assistance supplied in all matters connected with insurance in any of its branches, the intention being to make our office the "head-quarters" for the dissemination of insurance information in the Dominion.