



Major-General E. A. H. Alderson, C.B.

For the next few months no man will occupy a more prominent place in the attention of the Canadian public than Major-General Alderson, the officer entrusted by the British War Office with supreme command of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. The following short sketch of his career will be of interest to our Policyholders in Canada and elsewhere.

General Alderson's active service record is most excellent. Born in April, 1859, he was educated privately and early in life entered the West Kent regiment, gaining distinction and experience with the Mounted Infantry in the Boer War of 1881 and in the Egyptian Wars of 1882 and 1884-1885. After returning home from commanding the British forces in Mashonaland, South Africa, Lieut.-Col. Alderson served from 1897 to 1899 as Deputy Assistant Adjutant General at Aldershot. At the outbreak of the last South African War he was at once sent to the front and commanded the Mounted Infantry for two years, 1900 and 1901. It is interesting to note that several of the units under his command were Canadian cavalry regiments. For the next two years he held the post of Inspector-General of the Mounted In-

fantry Services of South Africa with the rank of Brigadier-General. Returning to England, he was placed in command of the Second Infantry Brigade of the First Army Corps and from 1908-1912 served in India in command of the 6th (Poona) Division.

Major-General Alderson possesses the implicit confidence of Earl Kitchener and has already won the good-will and admiration of his new Canadian command. The operations of our Canadian boys at the front under the experienced leadership of General Alderson will be followed with closest interest by the peoples of the British Empire.

The European Business of the Sun Life of Canada.

IN a recent letter to the "United States Review" Mr. Arthur B. Wood, Actuary of the Sun Life of Canada, says:

"Our company has only a comparatively small amount of business in force on the Continent of Europe. We have never operated at all in Germany. France and Belgium are the only Continental countries in which we have ever transacted business. We retired from France about nine years ago because of unfavorable legislation regarding the investment of the reserves, and we also retired from Belgium a little over three years ago. The total amount of business in force at the present time in these two countries is approximately \$2,750,000, against which we hold reserves of about \$740,000, making our net liability only \$2,010,000. As the average present age of our policyholders in these countries is between 45 and 50 years, the war risk is comparatively small. Furthermore, every policy issued in France and Belgium contains a war clause which provides that the assured shall pay an extra premium to the Company in the event of his engaging in war, or, should he fail to do so, that the Company's risk will be limited to the return of the premiums paid with 6 per cent. compound interest. From the nature of our business on the Continent it is therefore apparent that the extra risk due to the war is insignificant.

"In Great Britain we have a little over \$10,000,000 of assurances in force, the net amount at risk, after deducting the reserves, being about \$7,250,000. The impression that we have done a large business among English