LIFE AND GUARANTEE ASSURANCE.

Тиг EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

Empowered, by Special Acts of British and Canadian Parliaments.

HEAD OFFICE IN CANADA-MONTREAL.

In addition to Life Assurance, this Society issues Bonds of Security for persons holding GOVERNMENT, or other situations of trust.

LIFE DEPARTMENT .- Persons for whom this Society is Surety, can Assure their lives at considerably reduced

Takes. Life Policy-holders in this Society can avail them-selves of the Society's Surety-ship, to a proportionate amount at any time, free of expense.

All Premiums received in Canada, invested in the Province.
EDWARD RAWLINGS, Secretary.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE CO.

Chief Offices.-Liverpool, London, Montreal. CANADA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

T B Anderson, Eq., chairman, (Pres B of Montrea) Alex Simpson, Eq., chairman, (Pres B of Montrea) Alex Simpson, Eq., Dep chairman, (ch. Ontario Bk) Henry Starnes, Eq. (Manager Ontario Bank), Henry Chapman, Eq., (mer.) R. S. Iyiee, Esq. (mer.) E. H. King, Esq., (toeneral manager Bk of Montreal Capital paid up \$1.950,000. Reserved surplus Fund, \$5,000,000; Life Department Reserve \$7,250,000; Undivided Profit \$1,050,000, Total Funds in hand \$15,250,000.

£15,250,000 \$15,220,000.
Revenue of the Comp'y.—Fire Premiums \$2,900,000;
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All kinds of Fire and Life Insurance business transacted on reasonable terms.

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No expenses connected with obtaining policies
Profits divided every five years. As an example of
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THE TRADE REVIEW.

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1865.

A SERIOUS QUESTION.

THE following, from an esteemed contributor, puts a new phase upon the Canal Enlargement question. We do not agree with our friend in the conclusion at which he arrives, but as the question is a most important one, there is no harm in discussing it from all points of view -

" Of all the proposed public works of which we have any knowledge, the deepening of the St. Lawrence Canals appears to us to be the most uscless. We have not yet seen one valid reason set forth for so doing, and we do not now expect to see any. Those canals, as they at present exist, are about the finest in the world, and are capable of accommodating infinitely more business than they have ever yet had. The idea that ships will ever ascend the canals has not the least toundation in experience. Canals and rivers are emmently adapted for navigation by barges and steamboats, and by no means will it ever be possible to entice ships to navigate them to any extent. Of course there will be exceptions to this rule, as in the case of freight which is expensive to tranship. But those who advocate the deepening of the present canals, do it expressly, or at least more particularly, for the grain trade, and therefore take no note of these exceptional cases. The whole cost of transhipping grain from one vessel to another is from a quarter to a half cent per bushel. Now, even if the whole cost of the transhipment were saved by deepening the canals, would it justify the expenditure of from 12 to 20 millions of dollars for that purpose? But does any one imagine that a greater amount will be saved in freight? It is impossible to see on what grounds they base their statement. We should certainly believe that the more cheaply built schooner and barge would be the most economical for freight. But they appear to think the reverse

"Again: when we consider that in the shipping season it is necessary to handle the grain, we find the most valid reason for continuing the present mode of shipment. Grain cannot be kept for months in a hold of a vessel in a wholesome condition without being turned and aired Every person who has the least knowledge of the business is aware of this. Therefore there is no doubt that there is more gained by the transhipment of grain from one vessel to another than the amount of cost in so doing. The same reasons which apply against the deepening of the St. Lawrence Canals also apply against the Ottawa Canal being made a ship canal The dunensions of the present canals are ample for any canal between this city and the lakes. In the foregoing remarks we must not be understood to object to the enlargement of the Welland Canal. There is an

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largest lake schooners to sail to the foot of lake navigation at Kingston without transhipping their cargoes "Mr. Aspinwall, in a letter vindicating some assir-

tions he made at the Detroit Convention, has souched on this subject, and is greatly in favour of deepening the St. Lawrence Canals. He argues that they would then be much more favourable to the Western States than is the Eric Canal. They are so at present, but Western merchants do not use them But we should like to see on what data Mr Aspinwall bases his calculations when he asserts that 20c would be good paying freight from Chicago to Liverpool. The average rate of freight from Montreal to Liverpool during the four years ending 1864 was about 23c., and that including two years in which freights were remarkably low ('63 and '64) and inland freights during those two last mentioned years averaged about 11]c from Chica go to this city, and that is about the general averagemaking from Chicago to Liverpool, by present st Lawrence Canals-

Chicago to Montreal, 1348 miles, for 111c = -087 Montreal to Liverpool, 2740 " " 23c = -084 34jc.

showing that the rate of freight on sea in ships, and on the lakes and canals in schooners and barges, is within one thousandth part of a cent per bushel per mile of being the same. Now will any person be found who pretends to believe that a ship can navigate our mers, canals and lakes as cheaply per mile, including tolls, towage, pilotage, &c , as she can navigate the occan' We venture to affirm that it will cost from 25 to 50 per cent, more for the same length of inland navigation than for ocean, both being in seagoing ships. What more can be required to show the gross absurdity of the whole scheme?

"But lest our assertion on this point should be doubted, we will prove from a work published to advocate the deepening of the present canals, that a slap cannot navigate our inland waters as cheaply as she can the ocean. Mr. Kingsford, in his book recently published, entitled 'Canadian Canals,' gives the time taken by the Dean Richmond from Milwankie to Liverpool. That vessel was 29 days from Milwaukie to Quebec, six of which was between Prescott and Montreal. on account of having to unload to less than nine feet draught at each canal. Deducting four days for time wasted in so doing, and two days which she was loading at Milwaukie, we have-

23 days, Milwaukie to Quebec, for 1568 miles—per day 68 miles.

27 days, Quebec to Liverpool, for 2500 miles=per day 921 miles.

"These distances are according to Mr. Amgsford, and differ widely from any other in our possession. But giving him the full benefit of them, and making no allowance for cost of towage, tolls, pilotage, ic and allowing, as shown by the present table, that by the first mode the cost per bushel is equal per mile on sea and inland, there is a loss of 264 per cent. in speed, and therefore in cost, by navigating the canals with slaps, object to be accomplished in so doing, by allowing the supposing the canals to be cularged."