

Manager Sanchez of the Spanish-American department of the New York Life, has made good the defalcation of Merzbacher, his former partner, amounting to \$419,822 92.

The Manitoba Board of Fire Underwriters has decided to apply the two-thirds clause to all towns (dwellings not included) of class "C," being those without adequate fire protection.

It is worthy of special note, that Mr. Franklin P. Randall, who died recently at Ft. Wayne, Ind., had acted continuously as agent for the Hartford Fire since 1845—a period of 47 years.

The Patriotic Assurance Company of Ireland has arranged to do business in the United States in the territory west of the Rocky Mountains, with Mr. A. C. Doanell as manager at San Francisco.

A special meeting of the Toronto local board of fire underwriters was held yesterday, at which most of the Montreal managers were present. Some questions of special importance were discussed.

The fire premiums received in New York city in 1891, as reported by the committee of the Fire Patrol, were \$7,088,023. The total insurance loss was \$6,524,772, of which \$6,001,324 has been adjusted.

The net fire premiums of the Scottish Union & National for 1891 were \$1,556,660 and the losses \$949,440, or about 61 per cent. The sum of \$57,500 was added to the reserve, and \$56,525 carried forward.

At the recent annual meeting of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, E. R. Kennedy was elected president, John H. Washburn vice president, Wm. DeL. Boughton secretary and Lindley Murray, jr., treasurer.

The first number of a monthly Journal, called the *Canadian Printer and Publisher*, has made its appearance. It is published at Toronto by the J. B. McLean Co., and is a fine specimen of typography and artistic printing. It deserves success, and we trust will have it.

Taxes collected from the fire insurance companies as local taxes by the city of New York, under the construction put upon the law by a former attorney-general, and paid for 1886-90, amounting to some \$300,000, are now to be refunded by order of the Court of Appeals.

The Home Life Association, a Toronto assessment association, having complied with the law, has been granted a certificate of registration by Insurance Superintendent Fitzgerald, with James G. Howorth as chief agent.

The Life Insurance Clearing Company of St. Paul, which recently entered the field for the insurance of under-average lives declined by the other companies, starts out well. We learn that during its first thirty days of business the company received applications for \$607,000 of insurance.

The Governor of New York has approved the Codified Insurance Bill adopted by the legislature recently. It goes into effect on October 1 next. Among other things it requires assessment life associations to pay the full amount named in their policies within 90 days after death of the insured, and that they must have on hand at all times a reserve fund equal to one assessment upon their entire membership.

A novel cause of fire is noted at Bloomingburg, Ohio, entailing a loss of \$2,500. An English sparrow making its nest in the roof of the building, carried from an ash heap a smoldering twig, it is said, and soon the building was in flames from the well-meant industry of this little feathered incendiary.

The April fire loss for the United States and Canada is reported by the *Commercial Bulletin* at \$11,559,800. The April loss in 1891 was \$11,309,000, and \$8,285,520 in April, 1890. The total loss for the first four months of this year has been \$46,686,700. For the same period in 1891 it was \$44,307,150.

We notice that the United Fire insurance company of Manchester received license, under date of May 12, to transact the business of fire insurance in Canada. Under its former name, the "United Fire Reinsurance Company," it was duly licensed, and commenced business in the Dominion in January, 1891.

Formal notice has been given in the *Canada Gazette*, by Manager McHenry, of the withdrawal from business of the Royal Canadian insurance company, the reinsurance of all its business in Canada by the Alliance of London, and of application to the Government for the release of its deposited securities on August 25, 1892.

The outcome of the application by members for the winding up of the "American Fraternal Circle" is a decision by the Circuit Court at Baltimore placing the concern in the hands of a receiver. It was of the seven-year assessment endowment variety and had, since organization in 1888, expended \$287,195, and had in force about 26,000 certificates.

Acknowledgments.—We have received from Insurance Commissioner Duncan, Part I of the Kentucky insurance report for 1891; from Commissioner Magill the Michigan report, Part I; from Commissioner Merrill the full text and tables of the Massachusetts life report; and from Superintendent McBride the Kansas insurance report.

The manager of the Spanish-American department of the New York Life, Mr. Sanchez, has withdrawn his libel suit against the New York *Times* at the special request of President McCall, the company having previously withdrawn its suits for libel. In the interest of peace under the new order of things, Mr. McCall says he makes the request of Mr. Sanchez.

The Manufacturers' Life and Accident company issues a neat, spicy periodical called *Our Monthly*. The May number contains a good portrait and sketch of Mr. D. Parks Fackler, the president of the Actuarial Society of America, and we notice also copies an editorial from *The Insurance & Finance Chronicle* of August 15, 1891, entitled "What Life Insurance can Do," without credit of any kind.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week President John A. McCall of the New York Life has been welcomed to Montreal by a convention of the Canadian agents of the company, to the number of about 150, under the leadership of Manager David Burke. Mr. McCall at the opening of the convention responded to his cordial welcome with a characteristic speech, well calculated to inspire with enthusiasm the earnest corps of workers assembled from all parts of the Dominion. The outcome of the meeting will doubtless be much to the advantage of the company's work in Canada. On Monday evening, Manager Burke gave a banquet at the Windsor to Mr. McCall and the assembled agents, to which were invited many citizens and the members of the press. It was an enjoyable affair.