

with the regular rate six per cent. It is not unlikely that the Company may still be able to pay an extra dividend once in a while.

Late advices are to the effect that a strike of the Coal miners has been ordered. It is a matter to be greatly regretted. In consequence of this, the market closed in a very unsettled condition.

### PERSONALS.

MR. JOHN H. FULTON, manager of the Commercial Bank of New Orleans, has been elected president of the Bankers' Association for the State of Louisiana. Mr. Fulton was trained in the Bank of Commerce in this city, and in its New York office. He is probably the youngest banker who ever was elected president of an American Bankers' Association.

MESSRS. WALTER C. FAXON AND I. SCOFIELD ROWE, were appointed on 1st inst., respectively, secretary and assistant-secretary of the Accident and Liability Department of the Aetna Life Insurance Co., Hartford.

## Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending 1st May, 1902, clearings, \$1,715,194; balances, \$394,900.

THE ALLIANCE AND THE SUN jointly lost \$150,000 by fire at Euston Hall, England, a seat of the Duke of Grattan.

INITIATION into the Modern Woodmen, a fraternal society, caused such injuries to a man named Lewis, of Berlin, Ottawa County, U.S., that his leg had to be amputated. A suit for damages will be taken.

LA CO-OPERATION is the title of a new insurance company projected in Paris, France, the prospectus of which states that "no shares will be allotted to Jews or Freemasons." What have Freemasons done to be so slighted? Probably "acting on the square" is their offence.

THE "UNDERWRITERS' LABORATORIES," Chicago, advise that "care should be taken in all cases to see that the name or trade-mark of the manufacturer and the rating in volts and amperes or other proper units are marked on the article purchased where they may readily be observed after the device is installed. Fittings not so marked should be rejected."

TAKE SOME MORE! The Chinese Minister, Wu, recently narrated his experience with life assurance solicitors at the Underwriters' meeting, Washington. With their ubiquity and perseverance he was much

amused. Wherever he went he was asked to insure his life, and, to all his explanations that he was already insured, the response was, "Take some more!" He humourously said, "I do not want all the life assurance there is," but, how am I to escape these men who always say, "Take some more?" The phrase is a good one for agents to remember.

THE MARINE INSURANCE business for 1901 in the States and Canada is reported to have been as follows:

|                           | Premiums.    | Losses.     | Ratio.     |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|------------|
|                           | \$           | \$          |            |
| American companies.....   | 9,105,393    | 4,527,907   | 49.72 p.c. |
| U. S. Branches.....       | 5,700,731    | 3,042,143   | 53.36 p.c. |
| Pacific Coast Branches... | 952,445      | 548,029     | 57.53 p.c. |
| Totals.....               | \$15,758,568 | \$8,118,079 | 51.51 p.c. |
| Totals in 1900.....       | 14,892,130   | 7,810,902   | 52.45 p.c. |

COAL OIL AND LAMP FIRES reported on by an officer of the London County Council, are shown to have been to a large extent, caused by breakages of cheap glass or porcelain lamps. Were oil lamps subject to inspection before sale and dangerous ones condemned and destroyed, there would be many fires prevented, scores of lives saved and property kept from destruction of enormous values every year.

A COMMITTEE of scientific experts is engaged in England in the investigation of lightning rods. Several hundred observers have been appointed to furnish particulars of buildings that have been struck by lightning which were fitted with rods. From the evidence already collected it is evident that the protection afforded by lightning rods is very imperfect. Dr. Rutherford, McGill College, in a recent lecture on electrical phenomena, took this view and explained why the rods so often were useless, indeed, occasionally dangerous. Electricity is somewhat eccentric in movement, and resents control like a wild animal.

THE RIGHT of one agent to solicit the business of another was decided once more recently in Atlanta, where in the Superior Court, as reported in "Accident Assurance," Judge Lumpkin refused to enjoin Marvin Harper, a local agent, from soliciting the renewals of Henry S. Jackson, another local agent. The status of the case was as follows: In 1900 Mr. Harper retired from the Jackson agency, in which he had an interest of 40 per cent. in the profits. He signed an agreement to not take with him upon leaving a list of the agency expirations. He formed a connection with John T. Rowland & Co., another agency, and has been canvassing for business ever since. Mr. Jackson got a temporary injunction enjoining Harper from soliciting any of his business. When the case came to trial Harper submitted two dozen affidavits to the effect that business had been given him voluntarily and without solicitation. Both sides were represented by able lawyers. Jackson's lawyer was heard, but when Harper's counsel arose to speak Judge Lumpkin told him it was unnecessary, saying that there was no reason why Harper should not continue soliciting business and dismissed the injunction.