

the items of one company slipped through his fingers last year, it is said he is exceedingly particular now, and that no more items of the "padding kind" will be admitted by him as proper assets to be held by a life company.

Mr. T. C. Livingstone, manager of the Mutual Life of New York, at Winnipeg, was lately called home to Hamilton by the illness of one of his sons. This son, who is a very promising young barrister, had completely broken down "through over work, and on the advice of his physician, father and son have gone on a hasty trip to Great Britain. The many friends, both in Hamilton and here, wish them a pleasant journey, and that they may both return much improved in health.

I see that Dr. Oryonatekha, the "Pooh Bah" of the Foresters, is again in print in defence of his endowment plan. While the doctor does not produce figures to prove that the promised results will ever be realized, I must give him credit for being an excellent letter writer. One of his communications would do credit to Du Maurier of *Funch* fame. The doctor starts out by referring to a certain man as "accomplished," and in a few words thereafter says the same individual is nothing but a twister of figures, which leaves a sort of hazy impression on one's mind as to the accomplishments of the individual referred to.

Fire and life insurance men have been interesting themselves in the O. J. Club races, which have been held here this week, and notwithstanding the showery weather we have had, the race meeting has been a pronounced success. The festivities of the week will be somewhat interfered with, however, owing to the death of the Lieut.-Governor, Sir Alex. Campbell, K. C. M. G., which took place on the 24th inst. The deceased was well known in insurance circles. He was a director of the Canada Life, and was president of that successful institution, the Boiler Inspection Company of this city.

It is rumored that at the annual meeting of the Board of Fire Underwriters, to be held here on the 31st, it will be proposed to superannuate our old friend Mr. McLean, who has so long served as its secretary. Already many men are after the position some totally incompetent, other undesirable, yet all are at work wire-pulling and canvassing for all they are worth.

Fire insurance companies are somewhat surprised at the serious loss incurred on the new warehouse occupied by Skinner & Co., wholesale crockeryware merchants, Wellington street west. It is an entirely new six story building, and was considered almost fire-proof, although surrounded by old rookeries which, if they were burned, would not be regretted by their owners. The first estimated loss on the fire was \$500, and Mr Davis of the fire brigade put it down at some \$300. It appears the fire insurance carried was \$75,000, and this was all transferred from the Hamilton agencies. The Messrs. Skinner requested the Western to have the loss appraised, and experts were promptly set at work to report thereon, when, much to the surprise of all interested, the total loss is placed at \$20,000. Some of the companies have declined to accept the award. Mr. Kenny, manager of the Western, has been absent from the city, and says he can say nothing on the subject until he has had an opportunity to investigate the matter.

There are a number of changes rumored in fire insurance agencies here. So far, however, I am not able to speak definitely of more than one or two. Mr. T. M. Pringle, who has represented the London & Lancashire Fire here for the last 11 years, has had some difference with the manager, Mr. Sims, and has resigned his agency. In the meantime, Mr. Sims is advertising for a city agent, evidently being anxious to retain some large renewals which will be shortly maturing, and which will likely follow Pringle with the company he expects to have next week.

Messrs Medland & Jones, who have represented the Norwich Union in this city for some years, do not appear to have got along very smoothly with Manager Dixon of late, and consequently have been placing the cream of their large business in the Scottish Union. To this Mr. Dixon took exception, so

Messrs. Medland & Jones promptly resigned the agency for the Norwich. Mr J. B. Reed of the Liverpool, London & Globe has been appointed city agent for the Norwich Union.

I understand the British America is looking around for a good man as inspector for the State of Michigan. Governor Morrison, who has had a very pleasant trip West, has returned, looking as bright as can be expected under the troublesome circumstances which fire men are experiencing these times. Some papers and their correspondents, jealous of the wonderful growth of Toronto, are directing attention to the amount of property advertised in our papers for sale. I have been watching these advertisements very carefully of late, and can say that, so far, these auction sales have been of properties in the outskirts of the city and not in the settled centres or residential parts. First class located property would find ready purchasers if placed on the market. There has been no decrease in values of central property, although suburban real estate is certainly a glut in the market.

P. B. P.

TORONTO, May 27, 1892

Notes and Items.

The New Orleans Insurance Co. has decided to retire, and has reinsured its risks in the Phoenix of Hartford.

The annual meeting of the supervising insurance officials of the several States will take place on June 15, at St. Paul.

Philadelphia wheels into line with an advance of twenty per cent. in rates and the enforcement of the co-insurance clause.

The amount of insurance now placed upon the various World's Fair buildings at Chicago aggregates the large sum of \$3,069,317.

The defunct Charter Oak Life of Hartford has made the distribution of its first dividend of 15 per cent. to policyholders, amounting to \$460,000.

The gain in accident insurance in force in the United States in 1891 was 192,707,714, of which 29,901,503 was by stock and 162,806,211 by assessment companies.

The total dividend and bonus to shareholders declared by the directors of the Northern of London for 1891 is £2 10s. per share, equal to 25 per cent on paid-up capital.

The headquarters of the Atlas of London for the United States have been changed from San Francisco to Chicago, with Mr. J. M. Newberger as manager.

A short-term endowment concern of the assessment variety, called the Protective League, of Chicago, has collapsed, and the members now mourn their lost shillings.

The Maine Mutual Accident Association has amalgamated with the New England Mutual Accident of Boston. The former had in force about \$5,000,000 of insurance.

In his recent annual report, Insurance Commissioner Merrill of Massachusetts says that 23 of the assessment endowment orders reporting to the department on July 1st last have gone to pieces, and four more are awaiting the winding up process, making altogether just one-half of the entire Massachusetts list of these humbugs!