

**NORTHERN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.**

The Ottawa shareholders of the above Company, have decided to ask representation on the London board of directors, with the consent of the Hon. David Mills, president of the Company.

**FIRE RECORD.**

Charlottetown, P.E.I., on Nov. 21st in J. B. MacDonald's general store, the following companies are interested: On building, Imperial, \$2,000. On stock:

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Phoenix of London.. | \$ 2,000 |
| Imperial..          | 2,000    |
| Union..             | 3,000    |
| Northern Union..    | 3,000    |
| British America..   | 3,000    |

\$13,000

Loss on building, 50 per cent; on stock, 40 per cent.

Manitou, Man., on Dec. 7, at Goodon's general store, Sparling & Landers, hardware store, and Curiston's hotel, the following companies are interested:

**Goodon's Store—**

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Royal..                       | 3,000 |
| Guardian..                    | 2,000 |
| Manchester..                  | 2,000 |
| Canadian..                    | 2,000 |
| National..                    | 2,000 |
| Norwich Union..               | 2,000 |
| Hartford..                    | 1,500 |
| Scottish Union and National.. | 1,500 |

\$16,000

Total loss.

**Sparling & Lander's store:—**

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Royal.. | \$ 2,000 |
| Sun..   | 1,000    |

\$ 3,000

Loss \$1,000.

**Curiston's Hotel:—****On building—**

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Queen.. | \$ 1,000 |
|---------|----------|

Total loss.

**BANKS AND BUILDING OPERATIONS****MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.**

Increased office accommodation being required for the Merchants Bank of Canada at the head quarters of the institution, on St. James Street, the managers are considering plans for adding two additional stories to the building.

**BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.**

The handsome new building in course of erection, by the London and Lancashire Life Assurance Company, is fast approaching completion, and is a credit to the architect and contractors. Mr. D. Waters, Inspector of the Bank of Nova Scotia, who is, at present, in Montreal, reports that the Montreal branch of the leading bank of Halifax will be removed to the London and Lancashire building in May next.

**THE MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

The following circular letter to agents from Mr. J. F. Junkin, General Manager of the Manufacturers Life, is self-explanatory, and serves to discredit the rumours of the absorption of or by the Manufacturers, of or by any other company or companies.

Head Office, Toronto, Canada, Nov. 26th, 1898.

**Circular Letter.**

Dear Sir:—You will no doubt have seen some of the newspaper articles referring to a supposed amalgamation of certain life companies with the Manufacturers, originating principally in the fertile imagination of enterprising reporters. I am authorized to say for your information that there have been no steps taken towards amalgamation, and that in any case no change is contemplated in the management of this company. The foundation for the rumors is that Mr. Gooderham has purchased a large block of the Temperance and General Life stock. There is no reason why any of our representatives should feel unsettled, as the Manufacturers is here to stay, and if any change takes place it will be one that will tend to increase our prestige, and not to diminish it.

Our business this year to date is entirely satisfactory in every respect, and either with or without the business of any other company we will on the 31st December show the best report the company has ever put out. I hope that at the end of the year your agency will have done its share. We want half-a-million for December. How much of it will you send us?

Yours truly,

J. F. JUNKIN,

General Manager.

**Notes and Items.**

(AT HOME AND ABROAD.)

**THE FIRST SCOTCH FIRE INSURANCE OFFICE.**—What is described as "an excellent example of a Scotch noble's town residence of three hundred years ago" is now being restored in Edinburgh by the architect of Lord Rosebery, to whom the property belongs. Affixed to the tall east windows of this old mansion the workmen have discovered a leaden fire mark, being that of the Friendly Insurance Society of Edinburgh, established 1720, the first Scotch fire insurance office, and the number on the fire mark appears to show that the property was covered by the tenth policy issued by the company. The fire mark bears the motto, "Deo Jurante," beneath which are two clasped hands, and below this the policy number, which is pierced through the metal. This fire mark is eight inches square, and one inch thick, being of solid lead, weighing about ten pounds, and will be preserved, no doubt, as a thing of antiquarian interest. The Friendly Insurance Society of Edinburgh, which must have been an excellent customer of the metal merchants of the day, existed as a separate corporation until 1847, when it was absorbed by the Sun.