

The associates of Mr. James Boomer took occasion, on the evening of the 18th ult., to testify their appreciation of the former secretary of the Western of Toronto by gathering in force, and with Mr. Geo. A. Cox as chairman, and Mr. J. J. Kenny as vice-chairman, thinking and saying good things about their *confrere*, hereafter to be manager of the Manchester. As a tangible token of their esteem, Mr. Boomer was presented with a complete set of the Encyclopedia Britannica.

A weak assessment concern of the Pacific Coast, called the Mutual Benefit Life Association, has amalgamated with the Mutual Reserve Fund of New York, and that Association is issuing its certificates to the members of the former promiscuously, without medical examination, according to the *Coast Review*. When the notoriously lax methods of medical examination practiced by the average co-operative are considered, the recklessness of the above wholesale taking over of risks will be apparent.

A good investment.—Twenty-two years ago the late Mr. Andrew Robertson of this city insured his life in the Standard for £10,000 (\$48,666.66), and his heirs have now received \$62,232.49 in cash, \$13,565.83 being the amount of bonus additions to the original policy. That was a good investment, for the heirs receive that large amount in ready cash without risk of administration or expense of a farthing for collection. In case of earlier death the investment would have shown still greater results of course.

The Mutual Fire Insurance Corporation of Manchester, after twenty years of experience, is about to retire. It is to be consolidated with the Palatine, organized four years ago and having a subscribed capital of \$250,000 with \$50,000 paid up. The Mutual has had an eventful history, originally organized in behalf of the cotton mills of Lancashire and Yorkshire, as a protest against the rates charged by the proprietary companies, which at last have beat it on its own ground after a twenty years struggle.

Our Excellent Contemporary, the *Coast Review*, has adopted a bran new design for its cover, and asks: "How do you like our new title-page? Should the general verdict be unfavorable, it shall be sent after McGinty." Send it after McGinty by all means, brother *Review*, and shoot the "heathen Chinees" who made the design. As a crazy-quilt pattern it might pass, but as the front door of a square-toed, honest journal, which puts what it has to say in vigorous Saxon without ruffles, it is out of place. Give us something easier.

Insurance Superintendent Wilder, of Kansas, says a good many good things in his recent report, but none better than this: "I often get letters saying that insurance is a burden that costs Kansas a million and a half a year; and then the ire of the writer rises, and he feels like going out and doing bodily harm to some insurance interest. A great many things are a burden: buying shoe strings, paying board, buying clothes, paying taxes. Life is a burden. If we get value received for what we buy, the burden is not burdensome. If we are cheated, anger is in order. In point of fact, a very large part of what we pay for insurance comes back to Kansas in the payment of losses, and the expenses of companies, of agents and their families, paid in Kansas and to and for Kansans men and women. * * * We are apt to get into a rage in insurance matters, and to make the companies sweat when we serve on a jury. Indirectly and ultimately we pay for our anger; judgment collected out of the policy holders."

The Briton Medical and General Life, in the conduct of business under its reconstruction scheme, seems to be making satisfactory progress, and to have successfully combatted the opposition which it has been called to encounter. In addition to the \$780,000 of assets with which reconstruction was commenced, some \$395,000 more have been realized from securities and various sources which is to be added to the reduced face value of policies, while \$120,000 as profits are reported, which amount is applied as bonuses to the further increase in policy values. The assets are also increased by \$115,000 from funds recovered (\$85,000)—and shareholders' profits (\$30,000) to remain with the company. It is proposed to apply for an Act of Parliament to carry the reconstruction into effect and regulate the affairs of the company for the future.

The Actuarial Society of America held its second annual meeting in New York, at the Astor House, on the 24th ult., at which important subjects were ably discussed in carefully prepared papers. Sheppard Homans was re-elected president, and Israel C. Pierson of the Washington Life, and Rufus Weeks of the New York Life, were chosen respectively recording and corresponding secretaries. D. Parks Fackler was also re-elected first vice-president. A number of new members were elected, among whom were A. K. Blackadar, Insurance Department of Canada; George Wegenast, Ontario Mutual Life; J. G. Richter, London Life; J. H. Richardson, deputy commissioner New Zealand Life Insurance Department; and Dr. John A. Fowler of The *American Exchange and Review*. There was a full attendance, the Canadian actuaries present being: T. B. Macaulay of the Sun Life, Wm. Hendry of the Ontario Mutual, and Wm. McCabe of the North American.

MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

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Debentures and other desirable Securities purchased.

REMOVAL. DAVID DENNE, City Agent, (English Department) of the ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY, will remove on May 1st to No. 100 St. Francois Xavier Street, from British Empire Building.

Wanted.—A live Agent to represent the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society at Toronto. To the right man, liberal terms. Apply to R. H. Matson, Manager for Canada.