

We are indebted to Commissioner Fyler for Vol. II. of the Connecticut Insurance report for 1890, and to Hon. Simeon Toby, assistant secretary of State, for the Louisiana report.

Another assessment life concern—the Western Union, of Detroit, organized in 1880—has "petered out." The Massachusetts Benefit association, of the same stripe, has taken in what there is left of it.

The fire loss for March in the United States and Canada is figured out by the New York *Commercial Bulletin* at \$12,540,750, as against \$8,466,300 for March, 1890, and \$10,912,000 for the same month in 1889.

It is stated from New York that the Commercial insurance company of California has re-insured in the United Fire Re-insurance company and the Palatine of Manchester. The company's premium income in 1890 was about \$450,000.

The attention of agents and others is called to the fact that we have now on hand a supply of "Flitcraft's Manual," 1891 edition, with additions to date which are valuable. The work will be furnished at the old price.

The Park Fire insurance company of New York has retired from the field, and re-insured its business in the Home of New York. It had cash assets of \$233,583 and a small surplus beyond capital (\$200,000), and all other liabilities.

In the revision of the insurance laws of the State of New York, it is proposed to place companies of foreign countries having their head offices for the United States in New York, on the same basis as that of New York companies with reference to the reciprocal laws of other States.

The Sun Life will occupy its new home office building on May first. The building is probably the most compact and unique in Montreal. The Union Bank is to occupy the first floor, while the second and third floors have been fitted up for the company's own use, a few desirable offices remaining for rent.

We are greatly indebted to the *Standard*, our excellent Boston contemporary, for bound volumes of its issues for 1890. The *Standard* always has something worth saying, and says it in a way that will repay looking at after it has passed through the binder's hands.

The Spectator Pocket-Index, covering the business of life assurance (including the Canadian business) for 1890, in its usual excellent forms of tabulation, is out. We can furnish the Index by return mail at the uniform price of twenty five cents. Every life agent should have one for constant reference.

The fun likely to result to members of mutual insurance associations of the assessment pattern is illustrated in Philadelphia, where, by order of the court, the assignee of the defunct "Mutual Accident Society of Philadelphia" has ordered all the members to pay an assessment, under penalty, to meet the liabilities existing.

At a meeting of the marine underwriters, held at Chicago, last week, the following trip rates on grain were adopted, and have gone into force:—

To Lake Michigan ports.....	25	To Lake Erie.....	30
Lake Superior ports.....	40	Lake Ontario.....	40
Huron, Sarnia & Detroit Riv. 25		Ogdensburg.....	50
Georgian Bay.....	30	Montreal.....	60

The Prudential Assurance Co. of England during 1890 had a premium income in its industrial branch amounting to 17,589,625, an increase of \$905,915. It has a total of 9,099,204 industrial policies now in force. In its ordinary life branch, the Prudential issued over 28,300,000 of new assurance in 1890, and collected premiums amounting to 5,813,245.

The Rochester Union very tersely says of high salaried men: "Out of every ten dollars, paid to a man who commands high pay, one dollar is for what he does and the other nine dollars for what he knows. It is knowing how that costs, and that is valuable. The number of hours a man works is a consideration of minor importance when salaries go into five figures."

Since its organization, the Mutual Life of New York has received in premiums \$388,742,818 and returned to policyholders \$304,655,147. Adding present assets held in trust for policyholders (\$147,154,961), we have an aggregate of \$451,810,108, total returned or on hand belonging to policyholders. That is, income from interest and other sources has paid all expenses, and left over \$63,000,000 in excess of premiums received.

We announced several weeks ago the filing with the insurance department of New York of a notice of incorporation by the "Commercial Union Fire insurance company of New York." We notice that a certificate of incorporation has now been issued in due form by the superintendent of insurance. The capital is \$200,000, and is all paid in. Among the incorporators are Alfred Pell and Charles Sewall, United States managers of the Commercial Union of London.

A correspondent sends us from Trenton, Ont. the circulars of an assessment endowment concern hailing from Boston, called the People's Five-Year Benefit Order. A branch seems to have been organized at Trenton, under a "Deputy Imperial Commander." We have several times, at some length, exposed the worse than fallacy of these concerns, and of this one it is only necessary to say that it is simply one of a numerous brood, all tarred with the same stick, and all alike delusive and elusive.

The Manchester Fire had a good year, as indicated by its recent annual statement for 1890. The net premiums were \$1,001,022, the losses and expenses, including taxes, were \$377,134, and the total income was \$1,074,146, besides \$500,000 received as premium on new capital issued. After paying dividends amounting to \$56,250, there was carried to reserve fund account \$645,357, or, exclusive of the \$500,000 premium on new shares, \$145,357. The company managers are to be congratulated on the achievement of such a record.

The Fire Insurance Association of London, in the statement presented for 1890, at its recent annual meeting, shows a degree of progress which will be gratifying to its many friends. The contracting of certain lines, and the careful economy of management under the present administration, begins to tell favorably, and hence we are not surprised to find that during the past year an increase in premiums and a decrease in management expense have taken place, the latter being about two per cent. The reserve funds now amount to \$225,837, or more than 50 per cent. of current premiums, and the paid up capital is \$250,000. The directors have felt justified in paying a moderate dividend to shareholders. The Association is evidently on the upward grade.