results from the businesslike and careful attention it has received for several years past.

GRAVEYARD INSURANCE.

Sentence has been pronounced upon the pair, C. B. Welton and Dr. E. C. Randall, convicted of conspiring to defraud American assurance concerns by palming off upon them a dying man as a safe subject for insurance. Strong attempts had been made to influence the judge by showing the good character of the prisoners before this crime was committed, but Judge Peters declined to regard this as any mitigation of the offence, and proceeded to sentence them each to penitentiary for five years. A writ of error has been issued aiming to remove the case'to the Supreme Court; execution of the judgment will be delayed for the present. But we trust that no failure of justice will prevent the punishment of the rascals who have been found guilty of such an abominable plot. We consider that the sentence is a righteous one, and ought to be executed.

THE METROPOLITAN LIFE.

One expects sound administration from John R. Hegeman, and the policy-holders of the Metropolitan Life have secured it at his hands, judging from the company's report for 1892. The assets of this New York company amount to $16,5(6,282, and the capital and surplus to $3,674,670. Other interesting items are:—

Premium income in 1892	$ 12,514,078 07
Total income in 1892........	13,307,811 45
Gain in assets during 1892....	2,879,334 01
New insurance written in 1892	129,225,117 00
Amount of claims paid in 1892	4,900,981 86
Amount paid policy-holders plus amount set aside for security during 1892........	7,703,592 88
Number of policies in force Dec. 31, 1892..............	2,719,860

The company issued on an average on each working day of the year 3,737 policies, wrote new insurance of $422,000, and paid claims to the amount of $16,016. There is here shown a gain of $1.683 000 over 1891 in the item of premium income, and $1,884,000 in the total income. The gain in assets over 1891 is no less than $2 879,000. The number of policies in force in 1891 was slightly over two millions (2,201,640); it is now nearly three millions (2,719 860). The number of claims paid was 50,157, and their amount nearly $5,000,000. Such figures indicate an active and extending business.

THE HARTFORD FIRE.

For fifty years, and perhaps more, the Hartford Fire Insurance Company has been doing business in Canada. It is at any rate eighty-three years old, and during that long period its career, both at home and abroad, has been a prosperous one. Paying dividends as it does of 24 per cent. upon a capital stock of $1,250,000, there is little wonder that its shares stand at the high price of 360 in the market. At the close of its last year's business the Hartford is able to show $30,494 increase in surplus, making the net surplus $2,582,834, while the surplus to policy-holders is larger than this by the extent of the capital stock. The company's total assets amount to $7,109,-825, an increase of one-third in seven years, and it has a re-insurance fund of not far from three millions ($2,843,804). Such figures as these attest not only the growth of the company's business, but the character of its management. The Hartford has a wide reputation as an exemplar of honorable and safe fire insurance, and its president, Mr. Chase, is well known as one of the most competent of underwriters.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

The directors of the Sun Insurance Office have declared an interim dividend of 3s. per share, payable this month.

Mr. Fielding is the successor of Mr Edwards, in charge of the business of the Equitable Life in Halifax.

On Thursday, 2nd February, is to be held in Montreal the annual meeting of the Guarantee Company of North America.

A dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum is announced by the board of the Lancashire Insurance Company for the six months just ended, payable on the 20th inst.

A well-known insurance agent, Mr. A. Holloway, who went to Winnipeg from Quebec in 1881 as representative of several insurance companies, died suddenly last week while on a visit to the latter city.

The Ocean Fidelity Guarantee Corporation is the name under which it is proposed, if Parliament gives permission, to transact the business of fidelity guarantee in Canada. The application dates from Montreal.

The United States court at Providence, R. I., decided that a life insurance policy becomes void when the insured says in his application that he "has no habit of drinking, but takes a glass of beer occasionally," and afterwards dies of delirium tremens.

We find in the *Canadian Gazette* a notice of application by the Manufacturers' Accident Insurance Company for power to carry on every kind of guarantee business, and to change the name of the company to "The Manufacturers' Accident and Guarantee Insurance Company."

The announcement is made that the Canadian management of the Germania Life Insurance Co. of New York, which has recently been jointly controlled by Messrs. Jeffers & Ronne, of this city, has been assumed by the last named gentleman. Mr. George W. Ronne has been identified with this staunch old company for a number of years, and he will continue to advance its interests in Canada, while Mr. Jeffers' ability as an underwriter will, we doubt not, be quickly availed of by some other good company.

The statement of the United States Life Insurance Company, of New York, for the year 1892, shows that the company had a prosperous year. Its assets are $6,889,212, and its surplus, by the American Table and 4½ per cent. interest, to $1,033,095. The company wrote over $14,000,000 of new business, and paid in death claims, endowments, surrenders, etc, $839,480 08. The increase in assets, on last year's business, was $151,224.

The agent rebates to get business and to make money for himself. The company urges and prods and spurs and drives him to get business. It virtually, if not in distinct terms, tells him to rebate by giving him a rebating contract. There is no sense in pretending the contrary; it expects him to use the advantages provided in his contract for just this purpose, whenever and wherever—which is always and everywhere—competition makes such use necessary. It requires him to do this by demanding of him a volume of business not otherwise obtainable.—*Insurance.*

The London Guarantee and Accident Company, Limited, of London, England, has established the headquarters of its United States branch at 139-151 La Salle street, Chicago. The general manager of the branch is Mr. A. C. Edwards, known long and favorably in connection with the Halifax business of the Equitable Life. Mr. C. E. Waite is the assistant general manager. Mr. Edwards probably finds his hands full in organizing such an extensive business as he may reasonably expect to do in so large a field. But we are confident he will add another to the list of Canadians in the States who attend to business honorably and to some purpose.

The premises of the North American Life, in Manning Arcade, have undergone recent alterations. Indeed they are scarcely recognizable as the same, so great is the improvement in lightness and space. The entrance lobby is bounded by an ornamental screen of wood and glass, instead of the former partition. The carving and the monogram in this screen are very tasteful. One enters the secretary's department, a large and handsome room overlooking the street. Going northward one reaches what may be called the counting-room, occupied by the office staff. Beyond this is the directors' room, a new and bright addition to the building, the light from which serves to render brighter the whole of the premises. The supply room is next. Then the quarters of the president, the managing-director and the medical director are marked, as are all the rooms, by features which show a careful regard for the expansion of the company's business, as well as for the convenience of its officials and patrons. The decorations reflect credit upon their designer.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.

The figures of the Montreal Clearing-House for the week ending Jan. 26th, are: Clearings, $10,727,108; balances, $1,956,993.

TORONTO CLEARING-HOUSE.

Clearings and Balances of this clearing house (of which the Bank of Toronto is not a member) for the week ended Jan. 26th, 1893, are as under:—

	Clearings.	Balances.
Jan. 20	$1,117,529	$154,694
" 21	988,357	92,085
" 23	784,869	69,067
" 24	980,870	65,803
" 25	935,461	101,628
" 26	948,455	156,049
Total	$5,755,541	$639,326

HALIFAX CLEARING-HOUSE.

Bank clearings for week ending January 21st, 1893, were as follows, viz.:

Monday	Jan.	16	$136,898 92
Tuesday	"	17	266,089 61
Wednesday	"	18	248,653 34
Thursday	"	19	173,222 75
Friday	"	20	165,680 14
Saturday	"	21	153,100 99
			$1,143,645 75

—The Brockville Board of Trade held its annual meeting on the evening of Tuesday, 17th instant, when a large number of members were present. The treasurer's report showed receipts for the year of $593.20, and an expenditure of $501.17. We are told that the membership is now 93. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, D. Derbyshire; vice-president, W. A. Gilmour; secy.-treas., W. C. Austin; council, G. I. Mallory, George A. Dana, H. F. J. Jackson, Col. Cole, J. M. Pill, C. S. Cassett, J. C. O'Donohue, Geo. Craine, W. H. Harrison.