

fortable. On the same floor is the office of Messrs. Love & Hamilton, the company's Toronto agents. Across the hall are the Toronto offices of the Hartford Fire Insurance Co., while on the street floor, with a separate entrance from Wellington street, is the Toronto office of the Phoenix Insurance Co., of Hartford. We observe with interest that the most of the second floor of the building is occupied by the Toronto Board of Fire Underwriters and the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, which used to be in the Board of Trade block, while the Insurance Institute is occupying a room on the same floor. The building is most conveniently situated, and its finish and appointments quite up to the standard of the best modern office buildings. We are told it gives great satisfaction to its tenants, and the company is to be congratulated upon it.

GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

A few weeks ago, the report for 1899 was placed before the annual meeting of the proprietors. The accounts submitted were very voluminous, and, together with the proceedings of the meeting, would occupy three or four pages of this journal. The report passed unanimously, eliciting favorable comment, as well it might, for the report of the actuary and secretary was a very exhaustive one, while the results of the year in the fire branch were decidedly noteworthy. In a year which so many companies felt as a disastrous one in the States and Canada, the Guardian was able to show increased premiums, a loss ratio of only 56.06 per cent., reduced from 57.49, and a trading profit of £32,000, besides Fire Fund interest earnings of £21,711. The ratio of Canadian losses for 1899, we observe, was only 55.10. The fire funds of this old and staunch concern amount to £538,600, or not far from three millions of dollars. Turning to the life business of the Guardian—a good name, that, for a life company—with which we in Canada are less familiar, we find that it is represented by insurances of £7,850,000 under 10,706 policies; and that the life business written last year exceeded two millions of dollars. In the accident department, only a limited business was done, for satisfactory reasons. It is impossible not to admire management which brings out such results as this important company shows.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TRANSVAAL.

God bless you! Tommy Atkins,
Here's our country's health to you.

Canada has Tommy Atkinses of her own, although she may not call them by that name. She regards the Canadian-born soldier of the Queen as hers in a peculiar sense. She remembers that Dunn and Girouard, Stairs and Drury and Pelletier have done the empire good military service abroad, and the Northwest cherishes the names of Steele and Scott, just as Western Ontario does those of McInnes of Mafeking, White and Sippi; Montreal, of Major Arnold and Corporal Goodfellow; Quebec, of Major Short. As we in Toronto have our favorite Bert Barkers and Masons and Wilkies, so many another part of Canada has its heroes in the present war.

When we are so enthusiastic in admiring the bravery of the "Men of the Four Young Nations and the Islands of the Sea" in upholding the Mother Country in what we are convinced is a most righteous war in the true interests of liberty, we cannot but regret that many, in the United States especially, are so prejudicial as to regard the present struggle in the Transvaal as a cruel attempt on the part of Great Britain to subjugate deserving republics. Any attempt, therefore, to enlighten the public on the true issues of the present fight is to be welcomed. A pamphlet entitled "The Truth about the Transvaal," published by a patriotic committee in Windsor, Ontario, does what we have not seen done so well elsewhere in providing information on the subject, calculated to instruct ignorance and dispel prejudice. Here are brought together facts, taken from treaties, from state papers, from letters and cablegrams, extending over years, proofs that will convince any one not a hide-bound partisan that Great Britain is right and the Boer leaders are wrong in the present difference in South Africa.

This pamphlet has had a remarkable sale. It has been recommended to the notice of the Foreign Office by an eminent diplomat; and has been reprinted by the Women's Liberal

Unionist Association of Great Britain; a bookseller in London to whom 100 copies were sent, forwarded an order for 1,100 more; and a man in Capetown to whom a small number was sent cabled for another thousand. This is striking testimony to the merits of this little 25 cent book, the only aim of whose author, Wm. Robins of Walkerville, was to present *the truth* to his American friends and correspondents. Anyone who has not read the pamphlet will do himself a service in procuring a copy and reading it. Furthermore, he may do good in two directions: First, by sending it to any friend he may have in the United States, and second by contributing in his purchase to the Soldiers of the Queen Relief Fund, in whose interest the pamphlet is published.

INSTITUTE OF ACTUARIES.

We have been favored with the report of the fifty-third annual meeting of the Institute of Actuaries, held in London, Eng., on 7th June. The membership of the Institute has increased from 601 in 1890, to 822 in 1900. In November of last year an inaugural address was delivered by the president, Mr. H. W. Manly. At subsequent meetings papers were submitted: Some Notes on Makeham's Formula for the Force of Mortality, by Mr. H. P. Calderon; on Increasing Reversionary Charges, by Mr. W. B. Paterson; one on Surrender Values and the Principles which Underlie their Calculation, by Mr. F. W. Fulford; one on the Mortality, Sickness and Secession Experience of Friendly Societies, with Examples taken from the Odd Fellows, by Mr. A. W. Watson; and one on Census Taking, by Dr. Reginald Dudfield, M.A. The Mortality Investigation, which is being conducted jointly by the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries, has made material progress during the year, under the honorary supervision of Mr. T. G. Ackland. The annuity tables have been graduated by Mr. G. F. Hardy; and the computation of the monetary tables, based upon the graduated tables, has been placed by the committee under the direction of Mr. Meikle, in Scotland. Mr. G. F. Hardy has also been invited to undertake the graduation of the Whole-Life and Endowment Assurance tables, and has made considerable progress with the work. The whole of the fellows, thirty in number, who were nominated, have been elected. The president for the present year is Mr. Chas. D. Higham, and there are four vice-presidents.

BOOKS AND PAPERS RECEIVED.

In celebration of St. Jean Baptiste's Day, 24th June, a souvenir issue, dated Saturday last, comes from the office of Le Journal, of Montreal. It consists of 28 pages, and contains many illustrations; for example, views of Quebec in 1640 and at various periods since; portraits of prominent French Canadians; sketch of golden wedding procession of St. Jean Baptiste Society at Montreal in 1884. But the special four pages on plate paper, describing and illustrating the Beginnings of Montreal, are very attractive. The literary contents, both prose and poetry, are worthy of the issue, which does extreme credit to the live daily whose premises on St. James street adjoin those of the two other French newspapers so well known in Montreal. A noteworthy feature is a lengthy and impassioned letter from the well known Socialist worker in France, Count Albert DeMun, in which he lauds the French-Canadians and praises the Canadian exhibit at Paris.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

One thousand bushel boxes of Tasmanian apples have arrived in the London markets from the White Star liner "Persic." They are the first lot of fruit brought from Tasmania by that company, and were a trial shipment. In Covent Garden they have sold at from 8s. 6d. to 11s. per box.

Since the beginning of May the exports of Canadian cheese from Montreal have amounted to 416,210 boxes, which is a considerable gain upon the 378,242 boxes, which had been shipped in the corresponding seven weeks of 1899. The butter shipments from that port, May 1st to June 23rd, were 51,922 packages, as compared with the 32,251 packages in same period last year.