

Personal.

The Ibsen fad still continues to hold sway in Boston. About the middle of April several of that writer's plays will be produced there.

The counsel in a recent case before a London Court, in which the firm of Dombey & Son was interested was Mr. Dickens, son of the famous novelist.

All the poems on Bismarck which have appeared since 1862 in the comic paper *Kladderadatsch* have been collected into one volume and published in Berlin.

Hon. Dudley Churchill Majoirbanks, of London, son of Lord Tweedmouth, is now in Ottawa with his mother. They will spend several weeks at the capital.

English publishers intend to launch a book by Mary L. Penderedo, called "A Pastoral Played Out," which they hope will rival "The Heavenly Twins" in popularity.

Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper is in Nova Scotia. His thousands of friends in the beautiful old Province down by the sea will be glad to welcome the brilliant young statesman.

Miss E. V. Grier, the popular contralto of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Montreal, leaves for England early this month, and will be absent for some time attending the Royal College of Music in London.

Hon. J. H. Turner, Premier of the Province of British Columbia, and Minister of Finance and Agriculture, will probably leave for England in a short time, in connection with the new provincial loan.

Sir Robert Duff, Governor of New South Wales, died at Sydney after a painful operation. The remains will be buried in the cemetery of Waverly, which is situated on a height overlooking the Pacific.

The late Joseph Freiti bequeathed a million florins to the Austrian Academy of Sciences. The Vienna *Nene Freie Presse* says that this is the first instance in Austria of a private individual leaving such a legacy.

The current number of the *Review of Reviews* has been interdicted in Ireland by Messrs Eason (the W. H. Smiths of that country), on account of the extracts from Mr. Grant Allen's novel, "The Woman Who Did."

W. B. Yeats, the young Irish poet, is mentioned as reminding one of Stevenson. He wears a scarlet sash and a sombrero in the Dublin streets, and has "a tall, willow frame with the tint in his cheeks of the wild olive."

Sir William Dawson has just finished his series of three lectures on "The Bible in Relation to Ancient Monuments" which he has been giving in Association Hall, Montreal. The lectures have been of the greatest importance.

* * *

"Say, Jack, what is the capital of Switzerland?" Jack (who has just returned from abroad): Why, the money they get from travelers of course.

"Dear me!" cried the nurse; "the baby has swallowed my railway ticket. What shall I do?" "Go and buy another right away," returned the mother. "I am not going to let the conductor punch the baby."

It is a sad and gloomy fact that there are in London 980 common lodging-houses, which have nearly 60,000 inhabitants. In these warrens are about 9,500 women and girls, and of this number some 4,600 are under the age of 22.

Artesian well boring has frequently been the cause of interesting mineral discoveries. In New Mexico, at the depth of 1,400 feet, a drill struck a bed solid rock salt 420 feet in thickness. This is probably the thickest salt vein in the world.

The healthiest spot in the world is said to be Amumone, a French village containing forty people. Twenty-eight of the inhabitants are over eighty years of age, and three have passed a century. There are no graves in the local cemetery, and the oldest inhabitant cannot remember seeing a funeral.

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RICHARD A. MCCURDY PRESIDENT.

STATEMENT

For the year ending December 31 1894.

Income

Received for Premiums	-	\$36,123,163 82
From all other sources	-	11,897,706 12
		\$48,020,869 94

Disbursements

To Policy-holders:		
For Claims by Death	-	\$11,929,794 94
Endowments, Dividends &c.	-	9,159,462 14
For all other accounts	-	9,789,634 18
		\$30,878,891 26

Assets

United States Bonds and other Securities	\$83,070,690 67
First lien Loans on Bond and Mortgage	71,339,415 92
Loans on Stocks and Bonds	11,366,100 00
Real Estate	21,091,733 39
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies	9,655,198 91
Accrued Interest, Deferred Premiums &c.	6,615,645 07
	\$204,638,783 96

Reserve for Policies and other Liabilities, Company's Standard, American 4 per cent.	182,109,456 14
Surplus	\$22,529,327 82

Insurance and Annuities assumed and renewed	\$750,290,677 97
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Insurance and Annuities in Force December 31 1894	855,207,778 42
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Increase in Total Income	-	\$6,067,724 26
Increase in Premium Income	-	2,523,825 84
Increase in Assets	-	17,931,103 82
Increase in Surplus	-	4,576,718 91
Increase of Insurance and Annuities in Force	-	51,923,039 96

I have carefully examined the foregoing Statement and find the same to be correct
CHARLES A. PRELLER Auditor

From the Surplus a dividend will be apportioned as usual.

ROBERT A. GRANNISS VICE-PRESIDENT

WALTER R. GILLETTE	General Manager
ISAAC F. LLOYD	21 Vice-President
FREDERIC CROMWELL	Treasurer
EMORY MCCLINTOCK LL.D., F.I.A.	Actuary

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31, 32, 33, Bank of Commerce Building,
TORONTO.

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend.

The Japs, during the war, have captured twelve of the Chinese war ships, and destroyed twenty-two others—all of them being valued with their Armstrong armaments at \$11,500,000.

No more famous song is to be found in the long list of national airs than "Rule Britannia;" yet this had its origin in a song in an opera called "The Mask of Alfred," composed by Arne, now totally forgotten.

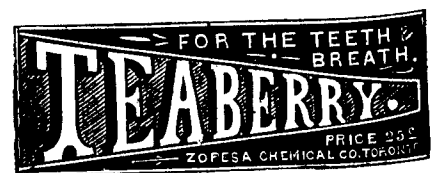
Slatin Bey, otherwise Herr Rudolf Slatin, of Vienna, one of Gordon's coadjutors in the administration of the Soudan, has made his escape after twelve years captivity, under two successive Mahdis. This adventurous gentleman, in 1882, verted to Mohammedanism, to satisfy the prejudices of the forces under his command.

The loss of the liner *Elbe* has been followed by another marine disaster of equal magnitude. The Spanish cruiser *Reina Regente*, one of the best ships of the Spanish navy, has been wrecked off the coast of Spain, as is shown by the debris washed ashore. She carried a crew of over 400 men, not one of whom seems to have escaped.

"An Indignant Englishman" writes to the London *Telegraph*: "Why do all or nearly all of our big cafes and restaurants in the city and West End use foreign-made matches? One takes a match to light a cigarette or cigar, and sees on the box: 'These matches are manufactured in Sweden,' or sometimes it is Belgium? Can't we manufacture them?"

The Cunard steamship company report that their profits for last year were not sufficient to cover the usual reserve for depreciation of property. The amount was only about half a million, which is over \$400,000 less than the depreciation account. The loss was almost entirely in freight traffic, the passenger travel having been as heavy as the year before.

The Bishop of London, speaking at a temperance meeting, narrated the following experience he had undergone at another meeting. He was discoursing on the evils of drink, when a woman at the back of the hall suddenly got up and called out, "Have you ever stood over a washing-tub all day? If you've done that you would know something about it, and you had better do something like that before you talk about something you don't understand." Dr. Temple "could not deny that she hit him hard."



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