

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The huge guns of modern navies, it is said, can only be fired about 75 times, when they are worn out.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha finds that technically he cannot give up that \$50,000 a year from England, although anxious to.

William E. Gladstone knows his business as a Grand Old Man, and he will not retire until he is obliged to, even to accommodate the *London Times*.—*New York World*.

The British Museum contains the oldest specimen of pure glass which bears any date. This is a little lion's head, having on it the name of an Egyptian king of the eleventh dynasty.

The title lieutenant comes from a word signifying "holding the place." A lieutenant-colonel holds the place of a colonel in the absence of the latter; a lieutenant holds the place of a captain.

Jean Ingelow gives three dinner parties a week at her home in London. Among the guests upon each occasion are a dozen poor persons who have just been discharged from the London hospitals.

Senator Stewart, of Nevada, is on the horns of a dilemma. He must have his picture removed from the boxes of a boycotted cigar manufacturer or meet the opposition of the labour unions at the next election.—*New York Recorder*.

Captain Benjamin Thompson, of Kennebunkport, Me., celebrated his 100th birthday recently. He is able to do a full day's work on the farm. The captain followed the sea for many years, but most of his life has been devoted to farming. He has a son 70 years old.

This is a characteristic extract from the manuscript diary of King James II. of England, preserved in the Imperial Library of Paris: "I did not retire from the battle on the Boyne from a sense of fear, but that I might preserve to the world a life that I felt was destined to future greatness."

The Tartars are supposed to have, as a nation, the most powerful voices in the world. The Germans possess the lowest voices of any civilized people. The voices of both Japanese and Chinese are of a very low order and feeble compass, and are probably weaker than any other nation. Taken as a whole, Europeans have stronger, clearer and better voices than the inhabitants of the other continents.

While the *Volant* was lying at Clipperton the strangest kind of a fish I ever saw came up astern to her. In shape it was something like a stingaree, with a long, ugly-looking tail. It spread big wings that must have been at least 20 feet wide from tip to tip. The superintendent said it was a ray fish, and others called it a sunfish. It stuck its head up, then spread out its wings, and skimmed along over the water.—*San Francisco Chronicle*.

In spite of the suspicion which attaches in many minds to the use of "hypnotic suggestion," its therapeutic practice seems to be rapidly gaining ground in this country. Not long ago the British Medical Association, after hesitating for a year, found itself compelled to "receive" the favourable report of the committee it appointed to investigate the matter, and it is noticeable that the tone of the medical journals has gradually changed from one of open hostility to a more or less favourable tolerance.—*London Public Opinion*.

The following information is supplied by the current number of *La Nature*: "One-half of the population of France is dependent on agriculture for a living, one-quarter on industry, one-tenth on commerce, four-hundredths on liberal professions, and six-hundredths on income derived from founded property or stock. The number of landowners cultivating their own land is 9,176,000; bankers and merchants are set down at 789,000; manufacturers employ more than 7,000,000; State functionaries form an army 805,000 strong, and there are 23,000 journalists and men of letters."

## THE CANADA LIFE.

## FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING IN HAMILTON.

The forty-seventh annual general meeting of the Canada Life Assurance Company was held at noon Monday in the Board room at the head office in Hamilton. A. G. Ramsay, President, was in the chair, and R. Hills acted as secretary.

When President Ramsay had taken the chair, Secretary Hills read the advertisement calling the meeting, and the minutes of the last annual meeting were taken as read. Copies of the annual report were in the hands of the members. It was as follows:

The business of the year 1893, being the fourth-seventh since the establishment of the Company, has again resulted very satisfactorily, the new assurances applied for being 3,216 in number, for \$7,646,832, again a larger number and amount than during any previous year. Of these, 247 for \$536,250 were such as the Board regretted that the interests of the Company required it to decline, leaving 2,969 for \$7,110,582 accepted, but, as 257 for \$544,139 were not carried out, the assurances actually issued were 2,712 for \$6,566,443, yielding a new premium income of \$228,508.47.

At the close of the year 29,040 policies were in force upon 21,439 lives, for \$62,703,245.97 of sums assured and profit bonuses, all it may be said upon the lives of persons resident in Canada and the healthful States of Michigan and Minnesota, for your directors have not thought it well to enter upon the extra hazard of business in climates where the risks of death may be greater, or the facts of the mortality less known or established.

The income of the past year amounted to \$2,474,638.30, and as is shown by the statement of assets and liabilities, the former were increased by \$1,236,513.64, and now amount to \$14,313,643.46.

As an allusion was made last year to the fact of the claims by death during 1892 being from the causes then stated somewhat heavy, amounting to \$771,726, it affords the Board much satisfaction to be able to report that they were more moderate during 1893, amounting to \$700,435.21. It is also encouraging to add that, during so much of the current year as has thus far elapsed, the amount of death claims is even less than it was at the same date last year.

During the past year advantage was taken of an opportunity to acquire a very desirable and valuable site for a new building for the company's offices in Montreal, and having at the same time made an arrangement with another important financial institution for the tenancy of a considerable and valuable portion of it under a long lease, upon mutually favorable terms, preparations are being proceeded with for a building there, such as will not only be worthy of the company's standing and prospects in the city of Montreal and the Province of Quebec, but will be likely to prove an increasingly valuable asset of the Company.

The Directors have to report that the business of each of the various branches was very generally well sustained during last year, and as the profits of five years fall to be divided as at 31st December next, the present year is a very important one to new assurers desiring to share in these profits, and it is anticipated that each branch and agency will be able to considerably increase the amount of the current year's new business.

The following Directors, under the terms of the Company's charter, retire by rotation, at the present time, but are eligible for re-election: The Hon. Mr. Justice Burton Toronto; Col. Sir Casimir S. Gzowski, K.C.M.G. A.D.C. to the Queen, Toronto, and N. Merritt, Esq., Toronto.

(Signed) A. G. RAMSAY, President.  
R. HILLS, Secretary.

## Summary of Financial Statements.

## RECEIPTS.

To balance at December 31, 1893	\$12,508,856 27
To premiums, interest, etc.	2,474,638 30
To balance on overdraft (since paid)	38,108 53
	\$15,018,103 08

## PAYMENTS.

By death claims and matured endowments	\$ 640,196 44
By profits paid policy-holders	275,574 53
By re-assurance premiums	12,054 16
By surrender values and annuities	77,939 71
By expense account	339,975 32
By dividends on stock	25,000 00
By balance of assets	13,652,142 98
	\$15,018,103 08

## ASSETS.

Mortgages, debentures, stocks, loans, etc., etc.	\$13,652,142 98
Cash in agents' hands, half-yearly and quarterly premiums, accrued interest	661,500 43
	\$14,313,643 46

## LIABILITIES.

Assurance, annuity and profit funds	\$13,099,571 94
Reserve on mutual policies	104,539 73
Special reserve on account of 4 per cent. basis	250,000 00
All other liabilities	198,088 51
	\$13,652,142 98

President Ramsay, moving the adoption of the report, said:

As the report points out, the business of 1893 was a very large one, exceeding that of any previous year, and taking that in conjunction with the fact of the death claims being fewer in number and smaller in amount than there were in 1892, and greatly under what was anticipated and provided for, although the risks carried were so much larger, there is unmistakable evidence that the business has been selected with the care and caution essential for the real and permanent prosperity of the Company.

The Company's income has now reached two and a half million dollars a year, and the investments which that and the Company's other large funds of some fourteen million dollars necessitate, are a constant consideration and care of the Directors. As you all know, the rate of interest which can be safely realized has fallen very much during the past few years, and while that may perhaps be beneficial to the general public, it certainly diminishes the revenues, and must thereby affect the profits which this and other companies can give to their policy-holders.

The building of the Company in Montreal having for some length of time proved unsatisfactory for its purposes, and less conspicuous and attractive than is desirable, the directors have acquired a very advantageous site at the corner of St. James and St. Peter streets, opposite the Merchants and the Molsons banks, in that city, and a building is about to be erected thereon such as, while being worthy of the important business capital of the Province of Quebec, will also, it is anticipated, yield the Company a fair return for its investment.

The present year, 1894, being the last of the current quinquennium, the five years' profits realized during that period will fall to be divided as at December 31st next, and as persons assuring during the year will secure a share of these profits, we may look for a large additional number of assurers desiring to obtain so important an advantage.

Nothing occurs to me further to say, but if there are any questions you desire to ask I shall be most happy to answer them. I have much pleasure in moving the adoption of the report.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, A. G. Ramsay, was re-elected President, and F. W. Gates, Vice-President.

A healthy girl of seventeen, devoting herself to hospital nursing, dies on the average twenty-one years sooner than a girl of the same age moving among the general population, and a hospital nurse at the age of twenty-five has the same expectation of life as a person at the age of fifty-eight in the ordinary community.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the House.