

THE ÆTNA LIFE.

The thirty-third annual report of the Ætina Life Insurance Company, of Hartford, which will be found on another page, is well deserving of careful perusal. We find the following GAINS during the year 1882: in membership, 1565; in Market values \$69,617.25; in Interest Receipts of \$96,685.19; in Premium Receipts \$127,981.10; in Income \$224,666.29; in Surplus \$230,280.68; in Assets \$1,047,002.03; in New Business of \$1,317,845.00; in amount of Insurance, \$3,156,435.00. These figures show the progress made by the Company during the past year. In thirty-three years it has paid to policy-holders the immense sum of \$49,160,191. Its Assets January 1, 1883, amounted to \$28,102,886. The securities are set down at cost price, although their market value is \$717,000 more than cost. The Ætina surplus rated at the New York Standard is now \$6,000,000. We think the foregoing figures speak for themselves, and too much praise cannot be accorded to the management and officers of the Ætina Life for the wonderful success it has achieved. Those at present guiding the helm are Messrs. Morgan G. Bulkeley, President; J. C. Webster, Vice-President; J. L. English, Secretary; H. W. St. John, Actuary, and Gurdon W. Russell, M.D., Consulting Physician.

THE CITIZENS' INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of this Company was held on the 19th inst., and was in all respects the most harmonious and satisfactory meeting that has taken place for many years past.

The Fire and Accident Branches show a surplus of \$27,774 on the year's operation, and the Life Branch \$15,184, and the full statement of the report which we insert in another column is one on which the Management can deservedly be complimented.

The retiring Directors, Messrs J. B. Rolland, Arthur Prevost and Charles D. Proctor, were re-elected, and the shareholders present expressed their satisfaction with the prudent and economical policy that the Board had pursued, and with the energetic and efficient service, rendered by the Manager and officials of the Company.

The resolution as to reduction of nominal amount of paid up capital was passed, and as the Bill now before Parliament will give them the power to write off the impairment in capital of some years standing, the Directors will then be able to declare dividends on the *actual* amount now at the credit of shareholders as paid-up stock, leaving the liability for uncalled amount of \$931,800, the same as at present.

ROYAL CANADIAN INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Company was held on the 1st instant at the offices on St. James St.

The report presented by the Directors will be found on another page. It was well received by the shareholders present, and questions asked as to rumors of the intention to wind up the Company were satisfactorily answered, it being distinctly declared that there was no intention whatever of so doing.

After allowing \$137,480 for re-insurance reserve as required by Government standard, the assets show a net surplus of \$9,404 over all liabilities and beyond the paid up capital of \$300,000 and the dividend now declared, which amounts to \$15,000, being at rate of five per cent. on paid up stock.

**VALUABLE SUGGESTION TO AVOID
ICE HOG'S BACKS.**

(Worthy the active support of Accident Insurance Companies towards practical adoption.)

A well known citizen sends the following to the *Witness*:—Going back to the time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, that is to the discovery of snow shovelling, our sidewalks have been marked by a central ridge, always terrible to those who love their bones. As the snow falls, pedestrians walk "Indian file," beating down a narrow path. Then comes the shoveller who removes the loose snow to the level of the hard path. Then come people who tread down the loose snow, leaving the path high up. Then comes sun or rain to convert the ridge into ice, with a slope on each side, making the way hazardous. Possibly in the distant future our City Surveyor may bethink himself of putting a small boy on an old horse, attached to an iron roller, armed with blades like a lawn mower, with a dispersing appendage behind, which will smooth down hog's backs at the rate of twenty miles a day.

READ YOUR POLICY.

The consequences of failing to comply with the stipulations.

INSURE CAREFULLY.

Every day almost brings some unfortunate man before the courts claiming the amount of his insurance policy, and in nine cases out of ten he fails to recover, owing chiefly to his own carelessness. In a case of *Wilby v. the Standard Insurance Company*, a policy was sued on, which contained in violet ink a stipulation that the Company should be notified of any incumbrance on the property insured. The plaintiff, a manufacturer in Weston, failed to comply with this provision, and did not notify the company of three encumbrances which existed on the property, and at the trial of the suit the jury found that Mr. Wilby was not entitled to recover, because he did not comply with the stipulation, however innocent he was of the consequences of his neglect.

AN EXCURSION TO CUBA.

People now-a-days have learned that half the charm of travel lies in the agreeable acquaintances formed during the successive days of pilgrimages to new scenes together. If there really is any quality in a man which fits him to adorn society, it is pretty sure to come out in the course of a trip abroad. Acting upon this principle, Messrs. Leve & Alden, the well-known tourist agents, inaugurated last season the first of a series of mid-winter excursions to Cuba. The experiment proved a flattering success. A very fine party of ladies and gentlemen left New York upon the Ward Line steamship *Santiago*, arriving upon the fifth day at the city of Santiago de Cuba, where a stay of one day was made, the voyage being then resumed to Cienfuegos, where rail was taken to Havana, where nearly a week was devoted to the attractions of the Cuban capital, with a side trip to Matanzas—a ride of about fifty miles by rail. The party returned to New York upon the splendid Ward liner, the *Saratoga*, highly pleased with their experiences.

Messrs. Leve & Alden are now engaged in forming a party for a second excursion going over the same ground. The excursionists will leave New York, by steamer, upon February 27th, in charge of a competent conductor, and will be absent one month. The happy voyagers will thus avoid the most uncomfortable month of this latitude in the whole calendar.

The rate for membership has been fixed at \$225.00, which includes passports and all essentials of expense incident to first-class travel. Readers interested will obtain full particulars by addressing Leve & Alden, 207 Broadway New York, or branch offices.