

Philadelphia Companies.—American, \$17,000; Anthracite, \$22,500; Delaware Mutual, \$22,000; Enterprise, \$30,000; Fame, \$30,000; Fire Association, \$5,000; Franklin, \$8,000; Girard, \$14,000; Ins. Co. of North America, \$127,000; Ins. Co. of State of Pennsylvania, \$83,500; Pennsylvania Fire Ins. Co., \$63,000; Phoenix, \$10,000; Reliance, \$30,000; Union Mutual, \$25,000. Reading, of Reading, \$10,000. Total, \$497,000.

New York City Companies.—Etna, \$5,000; Atlantic, \$20,000; Baltic, (failed) \$15,000; Citizens', \$20,000; Commonwealth, \$10,000; Corn Exchange, \$5,000; Excelsior, \$22,000; Firemen's, \$15,000; Fulton, \$10,000; Home, \$22,000; Hope, \$15,000; Howard, \$10,000; Irving, \$5,000; Lorillard, \$32,500; Lennox, \$5,000; Mercantile, \$9,000; Metropolitan, \$31,000; Market, \$5,000; Niagara, \$30,000; North American, \$16,000; Relief, \$15,000; Republic, \$29,000; Tradesman's, \$15,000; Yonkers, \$31,000. Total, \$392,500.

Other Companies.—Albany City, \$20,000; Buffalo City, of Buffalo, \$20,000; Buffalo, of Buffalo, \$11,000; Commerce, of Albany, \$19,000; Capital City, of Albany, \$5,000; Glenn's Falls, \$17,500; Western, of Buffalo, \$36,000; Associated Firemen's, \$5,000; Maryland, \$38,500; Merchants' and Mechanics', \$15,000; Monumental, \$2,500; National, \$10,000; United States Fire and Marine, \$26,000; Etna, of Hartford, \$58,000; Charter Oak, Hartford, \$17,000; City of Hartford, \$10,000; Connecticut, of Hartford, \$8,000; Hartford, of Hartford, \$25,000; Home, of New Haven, \$27,000; Merchants of Hartford, \$31,000; North American, of Hartford, \$25,000; Norwich, of Norwich, \$15,000; Phoenix, of Hartford, \$27,000; Hide and Leather, Boston, \$22,500; Independent, Boston, \$24,500; Springfield, of Springfield, \$20,000; Atlantic, of Providence, \$5,000; Merchants', of Providence, \$30,000; The Providence Washington, \$26,000; Merchants', of Chicago, \$15,000; Republic, of Chicago, \$38,000; Firemen's Fund, of California, \$10,000; Pacific, of California, \$40,000; Cleveland, of Cleveland, \$15,000.

Partial List of Insurance on Stores.—Mutual Assurance, Philadelphia, \$27,000; Philadelphia Contributionship, \$27,000; Hand-in-Hand, \$27,000; Girard, \$10,000. Total, \$91,000. Grand Total, \$2,585,000.

The foregoing is exclusive of large amounts elsewhere, of which there is no record here. Fortunately the largest amounts fall on the strongest companies, and with but few exceptions; no serious embarrassment is anticipated, and only one is unable to pay, through previous failure. A meeting of the Underwriters will be held for the purpose of devising some speedy and equitable measures for the adjustment of losses. The salvage will be small, exceedingly so, and what there may prove to be is chiefly due to the exertions of the fire patrol.

—A telegram was received in this city on the 14th inst., asking assistance to the barque Mary Jane, of Port Dover, which struck a sunken reef at Cross Over Island in the St. Lawrence River. The point where the disaster occurred is about 50 miles below Kingston.

—The steamer Silver Spray, owned by J. V. Detlor, Goderich, was run into by the propeller Comet, on the 14th inst., at the mouth of the St. Clair River. She struck the Spray on the starboard side. All the passengers, to the number of 20, and 18 of a crew, were all safely conveyed on board the Comet and taken to Port Huron. Most of the passengers lost their clothing. Scarcely anything was saved, except the books and papers. There was only a small quantity of freight on board the Spray. She sunk in about 15 minutes after being struck. The Comet was only slightly injured on the bows.

—At the thirteenth annual meeting of the Life Association of Scotland, it was reported that during the year ending the fifth April last, there has been issued 1,328 new policies for £658,000, yielding in premiums £23,095. The annual revenue is

now £246,000, and the accumulated fund £1,297,000.

LIFE ASSURANCE VS. SAVINGS BANKS.—Taking the average expectation of life of a person aged 37 years, and which, by the tables of mortality, is shown to be thirty years, it is easy to prove that annual premium of \$250 paid into a life insurance company is much more profitably employed than if deposited in a savings bank; and to illustrate the proposition, the following comparative table is submitted, noting the result at each period of five years, the deposit each year being \$250.

	If deposited in a Savings' Bank, secures to the family—	If in an Insurance Company, secures to the family—
The 1st year.....	\$ 250 00	\$10,000 00
5th ".....	1,354 06	10,858 04
10th ".....	3,001 52	11,799 04
15th ".....	5,005 58	12,649 04
20th ".....	7,544 50	13,404 04
25th ".....	10,411 48	14,074 04
30th ".....	14,021 22	14,679 04

By this table it is shown, that in every stage of progress for a period of thirty years, a person will secure a larger provision for his family at his decease, even should he live to be 67 years of age, than could have been secured by the deposit of the same sum annually during all the time in a savings' bank; with this great and peculiar difference in favor of the life insurance, namely, that had he died on the very next day after making his first payment to the insurance company, he would have left his family the sum of \$10,000, while, at the same time, from the savings' bank they would receive but \$250.

One element in favor of life insurance as a channel of investment, is, that whatever rate of interest or accumulation is attained by the company the persons insured participate fully in the gains, while in a savings' bank, interest only is allowed as may be agreed upon.—*Monitor.*

FALSE PRETENCES.—We learn from an exchange that an insurance agent in Bremen, Germany, who made false representation with regard to his company, was recently sentenced to six months' imprisonment. The misrepresentation consisted in promising to parties insuring larger dividends than the company was able to pay. There are so many offenders of this sort in our community that we suggest to the State's Attorney to make a raid upon them. If the alleged violations of the insurance laws of the state demand so large a share of that gentleman's attention as he has recently bestowed, we suggest that a fine field is here presented for the further exercise of his official functions.

If this form of getting money under false pretences is actionable, by all means let recourse be had to the legal remedy and the legal penalty, as the most efficient means of protecting the public from imposition, and of ridding the life insurance interest of the vampires who are drawing its best blood, and yielding nothing in return but weakness and sorrow. A few prosecutions of well-known parties might exert a salutary effect upon all concerned, and rid a beneficent institution of one of its greatest mischiefs in the way of future drawback and discouragement.—*Exchange.*

THE PATRONS OF UNSOUND COMPANIES WITHOUT EXCUSE.

The little girl who, disgusted with the lay figure stuffed with bran, which had been doing duty for her as a doll, cried out to her mother, "Mamma, I want a real baby, a meat baby, mamma," displayed more sense than some of our Chicago business men bring to the conduct of their affairs. Many of these men, whose shrewdness in negotiating a bargain or predicting the state of the market it would be useless to deny, have been, in the matter of insurance, content to take the counterfeit instead of the true. They have purchased policies behind which, to fulfil the contract in

the event of loss, there were only hollow pretensions and an empty array of names—capital existing only on paper, and assets consisting of office furniture and stationery, and worthless promises to pay. It is true that the pretensions were boastful and blatant, the names often distinguished and always imposing, and that when the assets were inventoried under the heads of "Secured Notes," "Bills Receivable," etc., etc., and the liabilities carefully concealed, the balance sheets looked business-like and inviting.

And, then, there was the economy of the transaction. It was so much cheaper to do business with these offices. When these men were pointed to the staunch companies, whose strength and honor were both above suspicion, whose ability and disposition to fulfil their contracts have been severely tested again and again, never to be found wanting, they answered by repeating the silly croakings of "exorbitant rates," "monopoly," "extortion," which the unprincipled emissaries of weak and uncertain companies had uttered in their ears. They thought themselves shrewd. They were not to be swindled by any combination; they were not to be forced into paying more for an article than it was worth, not they. In vain was it demonstrated to them from sworn official returns that the companies were barely saving themselves from ruin by these "exorbitant rates," that the "monopoly" sought to be established was merely the union of honest men against thieves and swindlers; and that the "extortion" of which they complained had only sufficed to protect the community against grievous disappointment and loss. In vain, after the great Lake Street fire, were some prominent merchants awakened by the failure of their fancied security in the hour of need, to the fact that they had been trusting in a broken reed. In spite of all these things there were many who preferred to buy the inferior and doubtful article, who, for the sake of the fraction of premium saved, would themselves undertake to insure the insured; that is, to assume the risk of the company's solvency in the event of loss.

Determined, if they could cure such folly in no other way, to do it by addressing themselves to the selfishness of such natures, the Chicago board of underwriters—representatives of companies professedly the strongest in the land, whose reputations are as broad as the continent, and whose foundations are almost as solid as the granite that underlies it—have decided temporarily to suspend their tariff of rates, and enter the lists of open competition, not for the purpose of abolishing the established landmarks of the business, but to stifle this foolish clamor about "extortion," and leave those who will not avail themselves of sound indemnity without excuse.

And there is no longer any excuse. The war of rates is over, and with it should be ended the reign of shoddy insurance. Are there any who will yet hesitate between the best companies and those which have neither proven ability nor disposition to make good their contracts? A policy of insurance is not an article of merchandise whose value can be determined at sight. It is a bond of indemnity whose value depends entirely upon the character and financial ability of its makers and endorsers. The policies of many companies are acknowledged to be good wherever American industry is busy or American energy has pushed its way. Those of other companies are of equal value, though of less extended recognition.

Set over against these in the market-place, soliciting our patronage without attempting, save by specious words, to secure our confidence, are other companies, whose assets are in inverse ratio to their pretensions, and in whose entire directory there is not honest blood enough to dot an "i" with. Between them no sensible man can hesitate; and now that the stock in trade of the latter is gone, we trust that no honest man will be found foolish enough to give them countenance.—*Chicago Spectator.*