

THE METROPOLITAN LIFE.

The Fifth Annual Convention of the Dominion representatives of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is being held here. The banquet will be served at the Windsor Hotel to-morrow at one o'clock p.m. A very large gathering of the Company's representatives are reported in the city, and the meeting is voted a great success.

MANUFACTURERS' LIFE APPOINTMENTS.

A partnership has been formed between Mr. G. H. Junkin and Mr. W. E. Young as general agents of the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company for Toronto and Central Ontario. Mr. Junkin has, for the last seven years, been one of the Company's most successful representatives, first as General Agent in Montreal and more recently in Toronto. Mr. Young is also the Company's General Agent for the West Indies, where he has built up a very prosperous business.

SCOTTISH UNION AND NATIONAL.

From an advertisement in this issue, it will be noted that Mr. Walter Kavanagh, who has been so long and closely identified with this Company as its faithful representative at Montreal, has been appointed General Agent for the Province of Quebec.

FIRE AT PARIS, ONT.

On the 12th inst. a fire broke out in Meldrum's flour mill, situated in the business centre of the town.

We understand there is upwards of \$125,000 insurance involved, most of which was carried by mutual and non tariff companies. As we go to press, we are unable to secure a complete list of the companies interested, with the exception of those represented in Montreal, which we append:—Alliance, \$4,000; Atlas, \$2,300; Caledonian, \$1,500; Commercial Union, \$5,000; Guardian, \$4,500; Imperial, \$6,600; Liverpool & London and Globe, \$2,000; National, of Ireland, \$3,000; North British and Mercantile, \$3,500; Northern, \$3,000; Phoenix, of Hartford, \$3,000; Phoenix, of London, \$5,000; Royal, \$5,900.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.

	Clearings.	Balances.
	\$	\$
Total for week ending		
13 Sept.....1900,	14,455,601	2,195,844
Corresponding week...1899,	15,075,162	2,143,047
“ “ .1898,	14,705,727	1,968,962
“ “ .1897,	14,194,252	2,107,661

PERSONALS.

Mr. M. C. Hinshaw, manager of the Atlas and National, is at present enjoying a few weeks' holidays across the Atlantic.

Mr. J. W. Tatley, manager of the Phoenix of Hartford, Montreal, is spending a three weeks' vacation on the coast of Maine.

Mr. J. G. Thompson, manager of the Lancashire Insurance Company, sailed on Wednesday last for Great Britain, accompanied by Mrs. Thompson. We trust their few weeks of holiday-making may prove most pleasant.

Mr. Clirehugh, general manager of the London & Lancashire Life, accompanied by Mr. Paine, solicitor of the company, and Mr. B. Hal Brown, leaves Quebec to-day for Toronto, from whence they purpose leaving for Winnipeg.

Mr. Spencer Thomson, manager and actuary of the Standard Life, Edinburgh, accompanied by Sir Ralph Anstruther and Mr. J. H. Davidson, directors of the company, are at present visiting the head office for Canada, Montreal. They purpose visiting Toronto and the Pacific Coast before returning home.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

LONDON LETTER.**FINANCE.**

Aug. 30, 1900.

Stagnant markets again. Real operations are so scarce that old jobbers and brokers are not above setting going fictitious ones for the sake of a little amusement and the embarrassment of their juniors. For instance, on the Montreal market "Zephyrs" have been loudly bidden for, and a young jobber, learning that they were shares in a new mineral water company, began dealing with a will, and, evidently to his dismay, was caught short of a thousand shares. The price immediately shot up from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 $\frac{3}{8}$. Just when the novice saw red ruin staring him in the face, the joke collapsed in peals of laughter, and he learned that it was he, and not the mythical "Zephyrs," that was being sold.

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And so we go on. The mining carry-over on Monday was only a matter of a couple of hours. The attendance is very sparse and the volume of business a negligible quantity. The whole tone of the markets is depressing. In Lombard street, the centre of operations in money and discounts, things are not much better. New York does not seem inclined to part with any more gold, and the Russian remittances, of which there was talk, do not seem like materializing, in view of the home needs of the Bear. Our own Bank statistics, however, continue favorable for the time being. But a critical time is approaching.

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† Last year's failures, according to the report just issued by the Inspector-General in Bankruptcy, show