

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE.

Mr. William McCabe, Managing Director of the North American Life, informed our representative, when he had the pleasure of calling upon him a few days ago, that his company wrote a large volume of business last month, exceeding the months of January and February, 1899, put together. Mr. L. Goldman, secretary, was looking as spruce as ever, and the Medical Director is still "Solid as the Continent."

THE NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The National Life Insurance Company, Toronto, has written over \$600,000 during their four months in the field. The Company has a very neat suite of offices in the Temple Building, Toronto.

THE ONTARIO MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

The Ontario Mutual Life Assurance Company is enlarging its building at Waterloo. When completed, it will be a large and handsome structure. The Company has made application to Parliament for permission to change its title to The Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada.

THE PROVIDENT SAVINGS' LIFE.

The Provident Savings' Life Assurance Society has issued its annual statement for 1899, from which it appears that it issued new policies for forty-seven millions of dollars, an increase of seventeen millions over 1898. It also announces that it paid policy-holders over one and a half millions of dollars during the year, and that it has no death-claims due and unpaid.

THE METROPOLITAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York has just issued a general statement of the business of the year 1899, which is of a most satisfactory character, and reflects credit upon the officials of the Company. The total assets at the end of the year amount to \$50,762,097.55, showing an increase over the previous year of \$7,487,190.19. The Income in 1899 amounted to \$28,798,714.45, being an increase over the previous year of \$3,660,756.53, while the amount of new insurance written and paid for was as follows:—

Minimum amount.. . . .	\$156,231,688
Being increasing assurances.	
Maximum amount.. . . .	\$253,396,620
While in the Ordinary Department the amount was.. . . .	60,043,101
Number of Policies in force, December 31st, 1899.. . . .	4,980,704
While the amount paid to Policy-holders in claims, dividends and Surrender Values during the year amounted to.. . . .	9,698,422.55

The foregoing figures speak for themselves. Lieutenant-Colonel Tilton, the Chief Agent for Canada is to be congratulated upon the above showing.

THE CLEARING HOUSE AND THE VILLE MARIE BANK.

In view of Mr. Monk's statement in his address* on behalf of the creditors of the Ville Marie Bank in their interview with the government, that the Montreal Clearing House, for some years declined to handle the cheques of that institution above a certain amount, Mr. Arthur Weir, Manager of the Clearing House was asked for some particulars on the subject by our reporter. Mr. Weir said that Mr. Monk must have been laboring under a misapprehension on the question. No such rule exists, and the methods of the Clearing House did not render such a course necessary, even were a bank known to be hopelessly involved. The only cheques of a bank of which the Clearing House takes cognizance are the settlement cheques, by which the balances of each day are adjusted, and, as the banks that owe the Clearing House, each morning have to pay their debt in legal tenders before a single creditor bank can draw its money, there is no need to discriminate against any bank in the matter.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of the Insurance Laws of the State of Illinois from Mr. Jas. R. B. Vancleave, superintendent.

The Catalogue of the Library of the Insurance Library Association of Boston has been prepared, and published by Mr. Henry E. Hess. It bears the marks of very careful compilation, and copies can be obtained by applying to Mr. Hess, at 32 Nassau street, New York. This catalogue will prove serviceable to all collectors of insurance works.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

An Australian's Impressions of Canada.

A new Australasian journal, "The Review," publishes an interview with Mr. Gelling, secretary of the Mutual Life Association of Australasia who has recently returned to Sydney, N. S. W. After recording his impressions of Great Britain, in the course of which he complains, as the majority of colonists occasionally and very rightly do, of the surprising lack of geographical knowledge, possessed by ordinary Englishmen, Mr. Gelling thus expresses his disappointment upon finding that Canada "looms" so much larger in the British eye than Australia does. He says to his interviewer:—

"It is rather disappointing, however, to find that Australia looms so much smaller in the public eye than Canada does. This may be owing to the fact that Canada is so much nearer England, and that the Canadian colonies are welded together as a Dominion, whereas Australia is looked upon as a collection of small states made up of various opposing elements, and having no cohesion or uniformity of public policy."

"But that is an objection that must speedily be removed under the coming Commonwealth."

"Certainly, and whatever may be the local effect of