

Mr. Edward H. Formby, B.A., for the past four years general superintendent of agencies for the Reliance Mutual Life, has been appointed manager of agencies for the Sun Life of London.

Actuary Priestly of the Sun Life of London, after forty-six years of service, has retired, and Mr. Harris C. L. Saunders, heretofore joint actuary, has been appointed actuary and secretary and general manager.

A meeting has been called for June 18, at Boston, of representatives of the various Life Agents' Associations throughout the country for the organization of a national Life Underwriters' Association. A good thing.

The Chenango County Poor-house at Preston, near Norwich, N.Y., was burned on the night of the 7th inst., the fire being well under way before discovery, and eleven of the inmates perished in the flames.

Mr. Andrew F. Gault, of this city, recently appointed a member of the Dominion Board of the Liverpool & London & Globe, was handsomely entertained by his fellow-members just before his departure for Europe.

The vacancy in the secretaryship of the Railway Passengers Assurance Co. of London, created by the death of Secretary Vian, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. W. D. Massy and Mr. A. Vian as joint secretaries.

The Boston Commercial Bulletin says that the results of experiment with paper tubing for conducting electric wires, made at the instance of the fire underwriters of that city, was satisfactory. A heat sufficient to melt the wire failed to set the tubing on fire.

Accident insurance by the government in Germany seems to increase. This applies to workmen, and the amount paid last year by employers for their employees, as required, was \$9,000,000, or about treble the amount paid in 1889, the first year of the system.

Mr. Henry Ambrose Smith died on the 22nd ult., at Sydenham, aged 74. Mr. Smith was 25 years secretary and actuary of the Northern Assurance Co., retiring in 1865 to become actuary and London secretary of the Scottish Imperial, from which he retired in 1881.

Insurance Superintendent Maxwell, of New York, says he has decided to admit the Caledonian Insurance Co., upon the deposit with his department of \$200,000, and the placing of \$300,000 in the hands of trustees in the United States in such securities as the law requires.

The statement is made that William H. Guion, of New York, one of the United States trustees of the British America of Toronto, is a defaulter for some \$22,000, he having used bonds of the company to that amount in his possession. The company is said to be secured by a fidelity bond.

The fire loss for April, in the United States and Canada, according to the record of the New York Commercial Bulletin, was \$8,285,520, as against \$15,987,000 in April, 1889, and \$11,326,350 for April, 1888. The loss for the first four months of 1890 was about \$13,000,000 less than for the corresponding period of 1889.

According to the "Australasian Insurance Record," the Victorian Government has under consideration a new life assurance bill, embodying a provision that an official valuation of liabilities shall be made, and that sufficient assets must be held by any company doing business in the colony to cover those liabilities.

The trip rates for May on grain per \$100 adopted by the Chicago Board of Marine Underwriters are:—To ports on Lake Michigan, 25 cents; Lake Superior, 35 cents; Lake Huron, Sarnia and Detroit River, 35 cents; Georgian Bay and Lake Erie, 35 cents; Lake Ontario, 40 cents; Ogdensburg, 45 cents; Montreal, 50 cents.

Texas does not seem to be a good State for assessment insurance. According to the Insurance Department Report, about ten thousand regular life policies were issued in 1889 and only 274 assessment policies. The total for fire insurance premiums in Texas was \$2,398,562, and the losses incurred were \$876,388. The risks written amounted to \$146,334,248.

Manager Tyre of the Northern has promoted Mr. W. Tatley, son of Manager Tatley of the Royal to the position of chief clerk, as successor to Mr. G. A. Roberts. This appointment is to be commended, for it is the right policy when such a position becomes vacant to fill it, if possible, by promotion rather than bringing in an outsider, as is too frequently the case.

The Fidelity and Casualty Company, of New York, has sued the Union Mutual Accident Association of Chicago for \$30,000 damages on account of alleged libelous circulars issued against it. If all the companies who are the subjects of attack by rivals in the use of defamatory circulars were to follow the example of the Fidelity and Casualty, the lawyers would think the millennium near.

The newly organized company (under the law of New Jersey), called the Employers' Liability Insurance Co. of the United States, against which the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation of London unsuccessfully sought recently to obtain an injunction in a New York court, as recorded by us at the time, has decided, in order to avoid confusion, to change its corporate name to the "American Employers' Liability Insurance Company."

"The Gazetteer and History of Canada," projected some two years ago by Mr. John Lovell, the well-known publisher of this city, is a work of prime importance, and should be encouraged by every citizen of the Dominion. The plan of the work embraces a brief history of every county, district, township, city, town and village in Canada, together with their present condition, population, etc., and in addition information concerning the numerous islands, lakes, and rivers of the entire country. Large maps of the several Provinces are to be included. The work will also be a complete directory of post-offices, stage routes, newspapers and other publications, of railway and steamship lines, and have much other general statistical matter. The magnitude of the work—eleven volumes—and the great expense attending the collection of so much material makes it necessary that the subscriptions be largely increased over the present number in order to insure completion. We trust that the importance of the work will be appreciated in a practical manner at once.