

of orders, both domestic and foreign, and bridge concerns claim to have a sufficient number of contracts to fill which will carry them well into if not past the middle of next year. It is claimed that nearly one-half of the maximum rail product for 1902 is already sold, and that the orders placed are well known not to cover the year's requirements by the railroads for extensions and replacements.

To many the action of the Sterling Exchange market has been something of a disappointment, but when a careful review of the question is made the causes for the present condition are quite apparent. It is now admitted that in the early months of the year, large amounts of money were sent in to this market from abroad and the recall of these funds and the limited amount of cotton and other commercial bills offering at the present time are some of the reasons why this market keeps up. Notwithstanding, the demand and the requirements of several millions for the settlement of the Pocahontas purchase by the Pennsylvania Company the money market has been quiet and easy, and present appearances are that it will remain so for some time, to come for within the next week or two the return of some of the funds sent west should begin.

The market closes to-night with a very confident tone.

PERSONALS.

MR. J. GARDNER THOMPSON, formerly Canadian Manager of the Lancashire, has been appointed Resident Secretary of the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Company for Province of Quebec with headquarters at Montreal. Mr. Thompson will report direct to Liverpool. He will also look after the Montreal business of the Quebec Fire Assurance Company recently acquired by the London & Lancashire. Temporary offices have been taken in the Temple building. This change was made owing to the wish of the London & Lancashire to have its branch under a salaried official in this important field.

MR. MATSON, Managing Director of the National Life Association, has been visiting this city in the interests of his company, and reports that it is making satisfactory progress.

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

THE CANADIAN ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY has made a five years' contract with the Quebec Ry. Light and Power Co., for one thousand horse power per annum.

SOME NOVA SCOTIA fruit farms have crops of apples that sell for from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO have the most favourable city record for fires.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE—Total for week ending 17th Oct., 1901, clearings, \$1,911,881.36; balances \$452,744.92.

AMONGST THE PROPERTIES BURNT IN SEPTEMBER LAST there were 14 lumber yards and saw mills, and 10 wood working establishments.

CALIFORNIA last year shipped eastwards 50,000 carloads of fruits. Its bank deposits amount to \$350,000,000, and foreign trade over \$200,000,000.

THE INSURANCE INSTITUTE OF IRELAND has elected Mr. Thos. M. A. Nolan, of the Equitable, as President, and Messrs. O'Reilly, of the Patriotic, and C. C. Cream, of the National, Vice-Presidents.

SHAMROCK II. WAS INSURED AT LLOYDS for 5 guineas per cent. per annum, including their voyage to America and back, and during the races at Sandy Hook. The yacht is for sale on the bargain counter.

TORONTO CITY COUNCIL proposes to put automobile cars on the streets to relieve the traffic which seems to exceed the capacity of the local street railway to handle.

THE AETNA LIFE OF HARTFORD, whose New York agent issued the circular reflecting on other companies, has ordered them to be withdrawn as it strongly disapproves of its representatives disparaging other companies.

AN INFLUENTIAL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED IN HOLLAND to organize a boycott against British vessels as a mark of sympathy with the Boers. This idiotic movement is significant of the order of mind possessed by Mr. Kruger's friends. They might as well try to boycott the planetary system.

GALVESTON CITY has adopted the system of placing disinfectants in the tanks of its watering carts for special service in lanes, low streets, around markets, wherever refuse accumulates. The local press speaks of the effect having been discernable in the better health of the city.

A CLEVELAND LOAN CO. has been robbed by its manager who drew out money for loans on houses that did not exist. He insured 136 of these bogus houses and then killed himself. For such frauds to be possible is a grave scandal to the Loan Co., and to the insurance agents that insured non-existent properties.

THE THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH OF OWENSBORO, KY., is insuring the lives of twenty young men, who are its members, on the ten-payment-life plan for the benefit of the church. The church pays the premiums, and in the event of the death of any of the men the insurance goes to the church.

THE SALMON PACK OF THE FRASER RIVER, B. C., for 1901, will consist of 920,313 cases, which is far ahead of any previous year. The nearest was 1897, with 860,459 cases, but the average since 1894 was 438,000 cases. In last 7 years there have been 47,820,556 salmon caught, canned and exported, "chiefly to England" says the B. C. "Review."

MESSRS. FETHERSTONHAUGH & CO., patent solicitors, Canada Life building, furnish us with the following list of patents granted to Canadians in the following countries. Any further information may be readily obtained from them direct. *Canadian Patents*.—H. H. Cook, hot meal portable cabinets, *American Patents*.—A. Jarvey and A. Mitchell, floor raising tool; R. W. King, building construction; J. T. Martin, animal trap; J. H. Tanner, wire stretcher; G. Barrett, board.