

MISS M. G. McCLELLAND'S strongest story will be published by Cassell & Company within a few days. It is called *Burkett's Lock*. It is a story of the home, but powerful and of exceptional interest. The scene is laid in Virginia, where Miss McClelland is so thoroughly at home, and her characters are drawn from the people, who are native to the soil.

IN an article on "The Evolution of the Ocean Steamship," in *Harper's Weekly*, March 27th, G. T. Ferris, speaking of the possible appliance of electricity as a motor on the ocean liner, says: "Mr. Edison claims that he is already on the track of the secret which will directly convert an original equivalent in nature, such as coal, into power without the mediation of the dynamo. If he succeeds—and he has achieved problems which looked at one time but little less startling—it may become a revolution as great as that effected by James Watt, and make a new departure in the construction and development of the ocean liner."

A HITHERTO unpublished fragment of Sir Walter Scott will appear in the April number of *Harper's Magazine*. It is the beginning of his *Reliquiae Trottoisances; or Catalogue of the Gabions of the late Jonathan Oldbuck*, planned by him in his happier days, but deferred and finally left incomplete on account of the press of graver work. It describes the interior of Sir Walter's home, and some of the curiosities it contains. Lady Maxwell Scott, in a brief introduction, says that it is a pleasure to aid in publishing these papers, "because they illustrate so happily Sir Walter's favourite tastes and pursuits." Six illustrations of Abbotsford will accompany this fragment.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD is thus referred to in the forthcoming April *Cosmopolitan*, where his portrait is the striking frontispiece of an excellent article on "The Canadian Legislature": "When he shakes his head in a laughing passage-of-arms, his long hair sways to and fro upon his shoulders, like the mane of an old lion, in cheerful defiance. And he is an old lion—the 'Grand Old Man' of the Dominion, and one of perhaps half a dozen of the world's greatest personalities of to-day. The most striking feature of his face, into which a stranger could not take the merest glimpse without becoming immediately impressed with the fact that he was in the presence of a great man, is his eyes, which are as keen and as full of vitality and observation as those of a stripling of twenty. In his place in the House nothing escapes him, and he sits through the debates until the small hours with unflagging interest and an endurance really remarkable. He is tall and erect, and bears himself with something of military alertness. In his dress he is most scrupulous. He generally wears a black diagonal morning coat and vest, and a collar of the Gladstone shape. Sometimes, however, he appears in a tail-less and jaunty Bohemian velvet coat; but there is one peculiarity of his dress which he seldom varies. He has a *penchant* for bright red London ties, and, except when in evening dress, rarely wears any other hue. Several people have endeavoured to discover the secret of Sir John's London tie-maker, but in vain; the genius remains an interesting incognito."

DOCTORING IN THE DARK.

No sensible surgeon will attempt the performance of an operation involving human life in a room secluded from the proper amount of light. A practitioner will not attempt the diagnosis of a complicated disease unless he can see the sufferer and make an examination upon which to base his opinion relative to the treatment necessary to bring about restoration of health.

Notwithstanding the impropriety of such action there seems to be a great deal of doctoring done in the dark.

It needs no illustrations to demonstrate that gross ignorance has caused many fatal mistakes in the treatment of diseases by those who profess to be learned in the art of healing.

In many diseases several organs are more or less implicated and what seems a primary ailment may be one quite remote. For instance, a severe headache may have its origin in a disturbed stomach. On the other hand, sickness at the stomach may be caused by a blow on the head. The seat of typhoid fever is in the upper part of the bowels, but most of its worst symptoms are often in the brain.

Symptoms of disease as well as diseases themselves are oftentimes followers or concomitants of some unsuspected organic disease, and this is peculiarly true of lung, liver, brain and heart diseases in general, for it is now known that they are the result of kidney disease, which shows its presence in some such indirect manner.

Several years ago a gentleman became convinced of the truth of this and through his efforts the world has been warned of kidney disease and as a result of continued effort a specific known as Warner's Safe Cure was discovered, the general use of which has shown it to be of inestimable benefit in all cases where kidney treatment is desirable or necessary.

When consumption is threatened see to it that the condition of the kidneys is immediately inquired into, and if they are found diseased, cure them by an immediate use of Warner's Safe Cure and the symptoms of lung decay will rapidly disappear.

There are too many instances already recorded of the terrible results produced by a lack of knowledge concerning the cause of disease, and human life is of too much importance to be foolishly sacrificed to bigotry and ignorance.

THE TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA.

The third Annual Meeting of the Guarantors and Policy-holders of the Temperance and General Life Assurance Company was held at the Company's Head Offices, Nos. 22 to 28 King street west, in this city, on Wednesday, 13th March, and was largely attended by the Guarantors, Policy-holders, Directors, General Agents, and others interested in the Company.

By unanimous request Hon. G. W. Ross occupied the chair, and Mr. J. B. Fudger was appointed secretary.

The Managing Director of the Company, Mr. H. O'Hara, read the report of the Directors as follows:—

The Directors are pleased to submit their Third Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1888, with the accompanying full statement of the affairs of the Company.

The number of applications for the sum of \$1,458,600, and careful consideration of each of these resulted in the acceptance of 824, for \$1,236,100, with an annual premium of \$30,333.71; 131 applications, for \$213,500, were declined, and 4 for \$9,000 were held in abeyance.

The total assurance in force is 1,462 policies, for \$2,371,200, or an increase over last year's total of \$497,100, and the cash premium income has increased nearly sixty per cent. This evidence of prosperity must be gratifying to the Share-holders and Policy-holders, and we look forward to a much greater increase for this year.

Owing to the hard times, the majority of the Canadian Life Insurance Companies secured less new business in the year just closed than in the previous year (1887); our Company formed one of this majority, but while we are slightly behind in the amount of business obtained, we can congratulate the Company upon the class of business secured. As regards the business which formed the increase of the minority, half a million of it was on the Industrial plan, and a million and a half was procured at too high a cost to be profitable. During the year we had eight deaths under nine policies, one-third of the amount affected being the result of accident. Our actuarial expectancy was 11.48; actual 8, or 69 per cent.; the amount, however, was considerably higher than that expected, as the losses averaged \$3,000 each, while the average of our business in force is only \$1,811 per life, and the amount reached, if the average only had been realized, would have been less than \$15,000; this abnormal result, however, must be compensated for in future experience. We trust it will right itself within the current year.

Economical Management.—It will be apparent from the figures in the statement that the Company has continued to follow its usual methods of economy in the management of the business. The cost of procuring and maintaining the business (i.e., procuring new and maintaining that already in force) is only \$1.21 per \$100 (hundred), as compared with three other Canadian Companies in the same stage of existence for \$1.45, \$1.48, and \$2.38 respectively. We make no comparison with American Companies, as "it goes without saying" that we are very much more economical than they are. A very complete and careful audit of the income and expenditure of the Company has been made by the Auditor appointed, and also by the Auditing Committee of the Board, and their certificates are attached to the Financial Statement.

As regards our business in force, we have in the Temperance section 1,073 policies, for \$1,454,700, and in the General section 389 policies for \$916,500, and while we ourselves are not of sufficient age and experience to furnish material for reliable statistics in support of the main principles on which the Company is founded with regard to the two sections, we have additional and abundant confirmation of our position from the actual experience of the English and Australian companies doing business on those principles.

In accordance with the resolution of the Board in 1887, we have written off at the end of the year \$1,000 of the preliminary expense account, which is reduced to \$2,000.

The valuations of policies have been based as usual, on the Canadian standard, i.e., the Institute of Actuaries Hm. experience table of mortality with 4 1/2 per cent. interest, and have resulted in an increase in the re-insurance reserve of \$19,107.28, making the total \$47,801.38.

According to the Act of Incorporation, all the Directors retire, but are eligible for re-election.

GEO. W. ROSS, President. HENRY O'HARA, Managing Director.

ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1888.

Balance on hand and in Bank, Dec. 31, 1887.....	\$10,963 54
Premiums received during the year.....	54,317 96
Interest received during the year.....	2,596 68
Transfer from Cash Government Deposit to invest in Debentures.....	20,000 00
Re-insurance.....	1,000 00
Sundries.....	119 49
	<u>\$88,997 67</u>
Paid for Death Claims.....	\$19,000 00
Commissions and Salaries.....	\$18,771 23
Medical Fees.....	2,645 25
Advertising, Printing and Stationery.....	2,768 03
Rent, Taxes, Fees, Audit, etc.....	1,877 75
Travelling Expenses.....	1,487 23
Directors' Fees, Postage, Expressage, etc.....	1,246 57
	<u>\$28,796 06</u>
On Investment Accounts for Debentures, etc.....	28,830 63
Re-insurance, Rent, and M. D. Fees for 1887, and amounts written off.....	2,711 12
Cash on hand and in Bank.....	9,659 86
	<u>\$88,997 67</u>

Assets.

Cash Government Deposit.....	\$30,000 00
Debentures deposited with Government.....	23,194 00
Debentures deposited in Imperial Bank.....	5,123 09
Bills Receivable and Balance Preliminary Expense, etc.....	8,707 59

Outstanding and Deferred Premiums, and Agents' Balances, net.....	10,857 11
Office Furniture and Fixtures.....	1,299 38
Interest and Rents Due and Accrued.....	497 43
Balance of Uncalled Guarantee Fund.....	40,000 00
Cash on hand and in Imperial Bank.....	9,659 86
	<u>\$129,338 46</u>

Liabilities.

Reserve Fund for Re-insurance (Government standard) ..	\$47,396 00
Death Claim, awaiting proofs (paid in January).....	5,000 00
Contingent Fund, Rent, etc., due.....	1,045 76
Premiums paid in advance.....	206 75
	<u>\$53,648 51</u>
Surplus, Security to Policy Holders.....	75,689 95
	<u>\$129,338 46</u>

HENRY O'HARA, Managing Director. JAMES B. FUDGER, Secretary.

I have made a careful audit of the Books and Accounts of the Temperance and General Life Assurance Company for the year ending 31st December, 1888, and hereby certify that the accounts as set forth above are true exhibits of the Books of the Company at that date.

R. H. TOMLINSON, Auditor.

Toronto, March 9th, 1889.

We have made an independent examination of the Receipts and Disbursements for the year 1888, also of the Assets and Liabilities of the Company, and find them as set forth in the above Statement.

ROBERT McLEAN, } Auditing Committee. SAMUEL TREES, }

Toronto, March 11th, 1889.

HON. GEORGE W. ROSS, President of the Company, spoke as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—In moving the adoption of the annual report of your Directors, I desire to notice that, notwithstanding the keen competition which now exists among insurance companies and the organization of many assessment companies of different kinds, it is gratifying to notice that our ordinary volume of business has not been very seriously affected. Many older companies have not secured as large a volume of business for 1888 as for the previous year, and we may well congratulate ourselves on our success. I spoke last year in my annual address of the cheapness with which the business of this company was obtained. By a clerical error I was made to say that our business cost us \$1.28 per \$1,000 instead of \$1.28 per \$100. Some insurance papers and rival companies seized upon this statement, and said that we did not put our business honestly before the public; but they forgot to say that exactly the same proportion applied to the figures credited to the companies with whom we made the comparison. Had our figures been made to say \$12.80 per \$1,000, then the others would have been \$23.70 and \$34.80 respectively. Any fair critic, however, could see it was a clerical error and not a misrepresentation. Our business last year cost us only \$1.21 for every \$100, while the business of three other leading Canadian companies in the same stage of their history cost \$1.45, \$1.48, and \$2.38 per \$100, so that the management of this Company will compare very favourably with the management of any other Canadian company that can be named.

It is very gratifying to those interested in temperance to notice the large amount of business we have in that department. We have over 1,000 policies for nearly a million and a half in the Temperance Section, and only 389 policies for \$916,500 in the General Section. We believe that a temperance risk is a safer risk than one in the general class, and consequently a business founded on that department of our work will be very profitable.

In conclusion I may say that my experience of another year has proven that the managing director and officers of the company have attended to their duties with great fidelity and merit the confidence you have placed in them.

Mr. Robert McLean, one of the Vice-Presidents, said that he had great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the third annual report so ably moved by the President. Our losses for the past year have been unusually heavy in amount, one-third being on lives terminated by accident, which no human foresight could have prevented. Our entire losses since commencing business in April, 1886, including the losses of last year, amounted to \$25,000, being very much below the expectancy. As one of the Examining Committee he could assure them that very great care was taken that none but good lives were accepted.

He was also a member of the Auditing Committee, and he could certify that this work was not done in a perfunctory manner, every item of income and expenditure being carefully checked. When he told them that Mr. Trees was his colleague in this work, they might depend upon it that from his recent experience in another matter he was not likely to take anything for granted.

He was glad to see so many shareholders and agents of the Company present, and he believed the agents of the Temperance and General would compare very favourably with those of any other company doing a life business; indeed much of the success of a life company depended upon the activity and reliability of its agents. The same remark will apply with greater force to the medical examiners for the Company, upon whose honesty and conscientious care so much of the weal of the Company depends. With these conditions faithfully observed he had no hesitation in predicting the future success of the Company.

Dr. Nattress, Medical Referee, read an able *resumé* of the business of the year in his department.

A resolution was passed unanimously thanking the managing director, secretary, office staff, medical referee and agents.

Mr. H. O'HARA, Managing Director, on behalf of himself and others, in a few appropriate remarks, acknowledged the compliment, accepting it as an expression of confidence in the management. He could bear testimony to the efficient manner in which the secretary, clerks, medical referee, inspector, and most of the agents had discharged their duties, and remarked, "It sweetens labour to know that our services are appreciated."

Mr. R. H. Tomlinson was appointed auditor for 1889. The election of Directors was then proceeded with, and resulted in the re-election of the old Board.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, Hon. Geo. W. Ross was re-elected President, and Hon. S. H. Blake and Mr. Robt. McLean, Vice-Presidents.