

throughout Great Britain. To this is chiefly owing the tardiness of immigration to Canada. If those Scotch workmen were really brought out by false pretences, a crime has been committed against Canada which deserves to be severely punished.

* * *

The Bell Telephone Company has agreed to instal a telephone service for the rural community, near Toronto; Aurora being the central station. The charge per instrument is to be from \$15 to \$25. The boon of such a service to farmers and traders in agricultural settlements will be beyond any value expressible financially, though that will be very considerable. The discomfort of isolation will be greatly modified by families at a distance from each other being brought into touch, and enabled to hold conferences on matters of mutual interest.

* * *

The telephone will save farmers and rural storekeepers many useless trips to the railway station, and will give them prompt information when goods have arrived for them by railway. In case of fire, or an accident, or sickness, a telephone will be invaluable in securing help. These incidents are so familiar to us as to lose interest, but they have profound significance as the phenomena of a movement which is practically centralizing the entire population.

* * *

Rumours are rife in Toronto, that the United States Steel Corporation is likely to establish works in Canada. One daily paper has published a plan showing the lot of land at Port Colborne that has been secured by an American iron and steel company on which to erect works. "Where there is smoke there is fire." These rumours have probably some foundation. The market of Canada for iron and steel manufactures is now large; it is expanding; as the population increases in the Northwest, as it has been doing for some time, the consumption of such goods will enlarge, so there is every prospect of the demand being quite enough to maintain more than one enterprise of this class. American experts have declared that, unless plants are established in Canada for making iron and steel goods, the market of this country will be monopolized by Canadians. That our neighbours will not be deprived of the market of Canada without a hard struggle is certain. That such a prize is well worth a fight is admitted. Unless Canada has her own works for manufacturing the steel and iron she produces, the smelting furnaces will never prosper. What then can be done to establish such manufacturing industries as are essential to the development and permanent prosperity of the iron and steel trade of Canada? No more important question is before the Canadian people to-day.

Notes and Items.

At Home and Abroad.

THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES have just decided to require foreign fire and marine companies to deposit \$50,000 security before commencing business in that Empire.

"IF AN ASSESSMENT COMPANY IS A FRATERNAL, is the American Mothers' Birth Insurance Company a *maternal*?" Insurance asks this the answer to which is—certainly.

THE CITIZENS BANK OF CANADA, Toronto, capital, \$2,000,000, provisional directors:—James Curry, J. A. Hallett, Japheth, H. Towell, Joseph Bingham and Samuel W. Black, is to be incorporated.

THE REINSURANCE DEAL BY WHICH THE UNITED STATES BUSINESS OF THE IMPERIAL, outside of Boston, was taken by the London Assurance Corporation, says the "N. Y. Journal of Commerce," is off.

THE WRECK OF THE MONTEREY, a steamer of the C. P. R., Atlantic line, did not occur in Canadian waters, and the vessel being out of its course is stated to have been owing to a lighthouse lamp being unlight. A large portion of the cargo will be saved.

COLONEL JOHN D. YOUNG, general adjuter of the Royal, for its Southern department, died suddenly at Atlanta, on 13th inst. Col. Young, was a strong personality, he wrote vigorously on insurance topics, and was very highly respected wherever known.

AN IDENTIFICATION MEDAL is being issued by an accident company to each policyholder, bearing the number of his policy and the company's address so that in case of his being killed or hurt by an accident, the medal would enable him to be promptly identified.

—THE AGGREGATE SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDENDS declared by the Hartford fire insurance companies on the first inst. amounted to \$465,000, while the fortunate shareholders of the stock life insurance companies located in the same city received \$126,000.—"The Chronicle."

"OF THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE, "Insurance," says:—"And now a word about this old company, and new too, for the law is peculiar in that it permits us to look only at the American phase of it. Its total income last year was \$8,047,284; its American income, please bear in mind. It paid losses in America to the amount of \$3,358,945."

BIG THREE WILL ENTERTAIN FOREIGN ACTUARIES.—It is learned that the bulk of the expense incurred in entertaining the International Society of Actuaries in New York City, the last of August and the first of September, will be born by the three big life insurance companies in New York, all of which are not only interested in maintaining the reputation of the metropolis as a city of hospitality, but have a direct interest on account of their large business connections in foreign countries. The congress will be attended by actuaries from all parts of the world. The instruction and entertainment afforded by the Actuarial Society of America will be most complete. Probably it will be the biggest convention of the kind ever held. In so generously assisting the Actuarial Society to suitably entertain its foreign guests it is safe to say that nothing will be omitted to make their stay in that city a source of satisfaction.

bkg