

decease, it is seen upon his grave, it is enough to arouse doubts as to the locality to which his soul has departed. In Hungary it is thought that cats generally become witches between the ages of 7 to 12 years. In mediæval France it was customary to burn unfortunate cats alive in a bonfire upon St. John's Day. There still exists a receipt for 100 "sols parisis" paid to one Lucas Pommoreaux in 1575 "for having supplied for three years all the cats required for the fire on St. John's Day as usual." A French belief concerning the cat is that, if the animal be carried in a cart, and the wind blow from it to the horses, they immediately fall tired. If any part of the horseman's clothing be made of cat's skin, the horse will feel as though it carried a double burden. In other countries, however, superstition is favorable rather than adverse to the cat. A variant of the famous story of the Kilkenny cats is found in Piedmont, the cats being, however, replaced by wolves. Several weather forecasts may be drawn by the observant from the actions of a cat. When she is seen to clean herself behind the ears with her wet paw, you may expect rain. Sailors, too, tell us the frolics of a cat on shipboard portend a storm.

### A SOUTHERN WELCOME.

Richmond is peculiarly blessed with leading reliable assurance companies either of home origin or represented from other points.

The laws of our State are equitable and do not crush and drive out of existence this worthy and laudable institution, like some other States that are governed by radical legislation. The laws of Virginia protect both the assurer and the assured, and there exists an amicable and friendly feeling between the people and honorable, high-standing companies.

The latest addition to our list of high-standing companies here represented, is the well and popularly known

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, of Canada, that has for thirty-two years faithfully

and honorably served that country in giving the people cheap, reliable, and desirable security against poverty and desolation of the dependents upon those who have taken out policies in the same.

From reports made to us by old assurance men, who have had opportunities to know the standing of this company, we can confidently recommend it as an excellent company in offering the strongest inducements to those who wish to embark in the honorable and pleasant business of life assurance, as district managers and local agents. Good men, who can give the necessary reference, can get a position with this company right away by addressing the general manager for Virginia, at 832 East Main Street.

In Mr. W. A. Higinbotham, the general manager, the public will find those higher qualifications of correct business principles that will make it pleasant as well as profitable to do business with him.

Mr. Higinbotham is well known to the assuring world and the public in general, as a man of the strictest reliability, courteous sociability, and excellent business ability.

—*Southern Trade Review, Richmond, Va.*

### EXPERT TESTIMONY.

George Alfred Townsend, the famous journalist, whose pen name is "Gath" and whose writings have pleased and instructed millions of his countrymen for a generation or more, says: "Life assurance is a mighty epic." He calls attention to the nation's means, establishing great companies, with assets so enormous as to render credit impregnable. He has implicit faith in the wisdom of life assurance investment, and tells of advantages accruing to himself during the fifteen years he has thus been protected. "I have discharged a little mortgage upon my home in Washington," he says, "and stepped out of debt, bound only to taxes on my home. How could I complain of an institution inducing me to save, and stout enough in falling times to keep its obligations?"