



### The Late Mr. James Tasker.

For many years the Head Office staff has enjoyed a remarkable immunity from the visitations of death. It is a singular coincidence, therefore, that during the last brief year no less than five connected with the office—two of our Directors and three members of the staff—have been called away “into the world of light.” And the strange experience has not been without its saddening and sobering effect.

It is with profound sorrow that we here record the death of Mr. James Tasker, one of the Directors of the Company, who passed away on September 19th. In him the Company has lost one of its most loyal friends, for, although intimately related with other financial institutions, we believe that in no other was he so deeply interested as in the Sun Life of Canada; certainly in no other could he have been more sincerely appreciated.

Mr. Tasker was born in Dunn, Forfarshire, Scotland, in the year 1834. He received his early education at the Grammar School of Brechin, after which he took up journalistic work, being connected for some time with “The Brechin Advertiser.” It was in 1865 that he came to Canada, and the following year settled in Montreal, where he resided until his death. He followed the profession of auditor and public accountant.

For twenty-three years Mr. Tasker had been a Director of the Company, having been elected in 1887, and during that long period his wise advice and kindly, attractive personality made him one of the most highly appreciated members of our Board. He will be deeply missed.

Mr. Tasker was no less energetic as a philanthropist than as a man of affairs. His charitable interests were manifold, though he devoted himself to them in a quiet and unobtrusive way. He spared neither time nor money in his endeavor to improve the condition of the unhappy. Among the institutions towards which he contributed generously, both in means and services, were the St. Andrew's Society, the Protestant House of Industry and Refuge, the Temporalities Board of the Presbyterian Church, the Widows' and Orphans' Board of that Church, the Montreal General Hospital, the Protestant Asylum for the Insane, and many other similar institutions, in addition to which he filled the position of elder in St. Paul's Church for no less than thirty-three years. To this church his remains were borne on Thursday, the 22nd of September, where the funeral service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Barclay. His fellow-directors on the Board and the officers and chiefs of departments of the Head Office staff attended in a body, thus testifying their esteem. In doing so they represented the personnel of the staff, for Mr. Tasker's per-