

tions of passengers killed and injured during the year 1899 were 1 in 7,139,948 killed, and 1 in 514,740 injured. In 1898, the proportions were 1 in 6,947,131 killed, and 1 in 568,432 injured.—The Fortnight.

FIRES IN THEATRES.

In the absence, for the moment, of any specific theatrical conflagration, it is well to consider the subject calmly, and without the irritating influences of local prejudices. We may go back to the work on this subject by Capt. Shaw, because the adoption of the simple precautions which he advises would do a great deal to avoid loss and danger from such sources. Again, the regulations of the Lord Chamberlain are good, if more vigorously and invariably enforced. There has been printed and forwarded to every theatre under the Lord Chamberlain's control, a copy of the rules by, and, on which all theatrical licenses are regulated and issued. These rules are, as we are told, those which have always been understood by managers to be the existing rules by which they hold their tenure, but this reprint would seem to warrant a suspicion that they are rules which have been occasionally honoured less in the observance than in the breach. For instance, we find mentioned in the circular this particular rule in these words:—"All gangways, passages and staircases intended for the exit of the audience are to be kept entirely free from obstructions, whether permanent or temporary," which we have no hesitation in saying is disregarded, or certainly very recently, was disregarded, at more than one theatre. These regulations are all very simple, and their observance need entail no additional expense, and very little additional trouble. They are, indeed, in some respects, more immediately practical than is all Captain Shaw's advice. It is difficult to see any reason why managers should object to any one of them, as our safety is surely as much to their interest as to that of the public.

There is a good deal said, and very well said, about what may be called the legitimate risks of such a building as a theatre, the quick shifting of scenery in the immediate vicinity of powerful gas-lights, the rapid manipulation of gas, oil, lime, and other lights for scenic effect, and the explosives in the midst of quantities of dry wood, hanging draperies and cordage, moved by every draught of air. Such risks should be, and it is fair to suppose are, known to every one engaged in a theatre, from the highest to the lowest; but there are others attendant on operations necessary, indeed, to the theatrical business, but not necessary to be carried on, as they probably generally are, within the very walls of the theatre. Such operations are carpentering on a large scale, scenery-making, scene painting, and decorating, by no means of themselves especially dangerous, but when they are carried on within the theatre, subject to high temperature and desiccation, as well as to the chance of other materials suddenly blazing up near

them, to say nothing of the storage of large quantities of timber, clothing, lumber, and "properties" generally, then the risk becomes very serious indeed. The good advice of Capt. E. M. Shaw ought to be carefully attended to by those responsible for the management of all theatres and edifices in which the public congregate.—Insurance Guardian.

INSURANCE MEN FOR SOUND MONEY.

Four years ago, during the Presidential campaign, when the sound money business men paraded the streets of New York, the Insurance Club made a notable display. On the eve of the approaching election, they intend to repeat their march, and expect to muster 5,000 strong for the parade on November 3th. The following is the list of officers elected, and Messrs. McKinley and Roosevelt ought to be proud of such a fine body of supporters:—

President, Francis C. Moore.

Vice-Presidents:

Jas. W. Alexander,
B. G. Ackerman,
Sam. P. Blagden,
T. Y. Brown,
Wm. A. Brewer, Jr.,
J. G. Batterson Jr.,
G. W. Burchell,
F. B. Burke,
Geo. H. Burford,
F. A. Burnham,
E. F. Beddall,
C. L. Case,
Percy Chubb,
G. M. Coit,
E. W. Coggeshall,
W. M. Cole,
Max Danziger,
C. Doremus,
M. S. Driggs,
Edmund Dwight, Jr.,
Henry W. Eaton,
J. B. Erhardt,
J. S. Frelinhuysen,
T. H. Gaines,
R. A. Grannis,
Geo. H. Gaston,
W. R. Gillette,
Harold Herrick,
J. L. Halsey,
Henry H. Hall,
R. J. Hillias,
D. A. Heald,
J. R. Hegeman,
J. Montgomery Hare,

George E. Ide,
E. R. Kennedy,
W. N. Kremer,
Clarence H. Kelsey,
B. Lockwood,
H. D. Lyman,
P. C. Lounsbury,
Richard A. McCurdy,
W. H. H. Moore,
John A. McCall,
A. G. McIlwaine, Jr.,
Lindley Murray, Jr.,
H. B. Platt,
G. W. Perkins,
R. C. Rathbone,
C. H. Raymond,
A. A. Raven,
H. B. Stokes,
Geo. P. Sheldon,
M. A. Stone,
E. W. Scott,
E. G. Snow,
Hugo Schumann,
G. E. Tarbell,
W. W. Underhill,
Cornelius Van Cott,
J. W. Vrooman,
D. D. Whitney,
Edward A. Walton,
John M. Whiton,
Alexander H. Wray,
W. T. Woods,
E. H. Winslow,
John C. Webster.

Treasurer, James H. Hyde.

Secretary, A. M. Thorburn.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Geo. T. Wilson, Chairman.

George W. Babb,
J. W. Bartow,
Graham Brewer,
E. E. Clapp,
C. P. Fraleigh,
Edward Griffith,
E. P. Holden,

E. F. Holmes,
George W. Hoyt,
George Ingraham,
W. B. Mann,
Edouard T. Mostert,
W. C. Pate,
E. E. Shipman.

C. F. U. A.

A special meeting of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association was held here on the 17th instant, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Committee deputed to wait on the Mayor and Council of Quebec with a view to improving the fire protection of that city.

The rates on grain elevators, electric light and power stations were revised, and, we understand, considerably advanced.