

In our next issue we purpose to make reference to certain, to us, peculiar decisions of the Treasury Board of the Dominion relating to the granting of licenses to insurance companies which desire to enter Canada and which are offering every security which the law requires.

The stock fire insurance companies in Pennsylvania during 1891 wrote \$869,250,624 of risks, collected \$8,781,788 in premiums, and paid for losses \$5,671,656, or 64.58 per cent. of the premiums. The share of the foreign companies was \$2,430,763 in premiums, and \$1,575,368 in losses.

The Royal, which was for some time out of the Southeastern Tariff Association, so far as the department managed from Baltimore consisting of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina was concerned, has renewed its allegiance to the Association, and will observe the new rules and rates.

Among the assets of the *Ætna Fire* insurance company, says the *Standard*, appear 150 shares of stock which the company purchased at its par value, \$100 per share, in 1847. The market value of the stock to-day is \$500 per share. In other words, what cost the company \$15,000 in 1847 is worth \$105,000 in 1892.

The casualty companies doing business in the State of New York had assets on January 1st last, amounting to \$13,433,714, and liabilities including capital of \$11,759,912, leaving a net surplus of \$1,673,802. The capital was \$5,254,600. The income for 1891 was \$9,535,592, and the expenditures \$8,776,445.

The insurance on the public buildings of this Province, expiring recently, has been renewed in the North British, Liverpool and London and Globe, Phoenix of London, Northern, Guardian, Western, Quebec, Imperial, and London and Lancashire. The total amount insured is \$940,750, on which the premiums are \$4,729.

Public notice is given in the *Quebec Official Gazette* of application to the Legislature for an act of incorporation, under the name of "The Montreal Board of Fire Insurance Brokers," by E. T. Taylor, Geo. R. Robertson, Cyrille Laurin, R. A. Campbell, James Bourne, A. N. Fauteux, E. Hurtubise and others, "for the purpose of protecting their interests as licensed brokers."

A scheme to catch gulls has been started in Jersey City of the assessment endowment variety, called the "Order of the Old Colony." It is a marriage endowment scheme, promising \$500 within three years after a member gets married, provided the assessment of one dollar a month is kept up as before marriage. Eight dollars is the entrance fee. The managers will of course find plenty of silly geese to pick.

Referring to the dishonest exaggeration of small claims by otherwise reputable business men, Mr. J. I. Cunningham, president of the Glens Falls insurance company, well says: "There are honest differences of judgment and opinions, but there is a growing 'oftenness' of self evident attempts to make a little fire a great blessing. When such claimants are found out, make a mental prohibitory note of them."

Insurance Commissioner Luper of Pennsylvania, in his annual report, is in favor of a law providing for legal inquiries into all fires, by officers especially designated for that purpose, together with the more certain prevention of faulty and criminal construction of buildings, placing a larger share of the responsibility of protecting his own and his neighbor's property on the property owner whether insured or uninsured.

As is well known, the Province of Quebec has no insurance code worthy the name and no adequate supervision. We are therefore pleased to learn that the present Government look with favor upon the enactment of a code of laws protective and regulative, and which we trust, especially as related to life assurance, may be perfected during the present session of the Legislature. Nearly all the life underwriters strongly favor this.

It is now stated that the new life company of Chicago, called the North American Life Assurance Company, capital \$500,000, is ready for business. It is a level premium company, and in addition to ordinary business will make a specialty of endowments issued to parties who wish to provide for the paying off of mortgages, to whom it proposes to loan an amount equal to the face of the policy, secured by collaterals, for periods corresponding to the life of the mortgage.

Our Chicago contemporary, the *Investigator*, evidently doesn't believe much in the cry against fire insurance companies which some people charge with over-insurance, and aptly says: "Do these people ever stop to think that the greater part of the losses sustained by insurance companies come from fires in cities where large values are accumulated, or from fires in large manufacturing plants, and that it is these concerns that are said to be unable to obtain needed insurance?"

In our last issue we noted the alleged murder of one Radloff at Seattle, Washington, and the burning of his house to conceal the crime by one Kostruch, a man in Radloff's employ said to be in love with the latter's wife, for whose benefit the murdered man was heavily insured. It is now alleged that Radloff is alive, and a Dr. Ballard, Mrs. Radloff and Kostruch have been arrested for conspiracy to defraud. The skeleton found in the burned house was stolen from the graveyard for the occasion.

The examinations for candidates in the Dominion, for admission to the Institute of Actuaries of London, took place in Montreal, on the 29th and 30th ults., under the supervision of Mr. R. W. Tyre of the Northern, appointed by the Institute for that purpose. There were six candidates, as follows: John Holliday, M.A.; F. Sanderson, M.A.; H. M. Boddy, A. K. Blackader; J. Bradshaw, and M. C. N. Home. Though Ontario was liberally represented, we are sorry to say that Montreal had no candidate.

An organization in England, called the "Newspaper Press Fund" has, through its council, made overtures to various life assurance companies for the assurance of members at reduced rates, with the following results: The Hand-in-Hand will give a discount of 1 per cent. on the sum assured for the first year and 2½ per cent. on renewal premiums; the Provident-Clerks' will give 10 per cent. on the first year's premiums and 5 per cent. on renewals; the Gresham will give from 35 to 50 per cent. on first premiums and from 2½ to 5 per cent. on renewals.

A Provincial board of fire underwriters was formed for British Columbia at Victoria on the 27th ult., embracing some 30 companies and a schedule of uniform rates adopted. The officers are: Richard Hall, Victoria, president; H. T. Ceperley, Vancouver, first vice-president; C. H. Woods, Westminster, second vice-president; F. G. Richards, jr., Victoria, secretary-treasurer. The executive committee consists of Messrs. Ross, McKenzie and Pearson, Westminster; Nichols, Boggs and Monteith, Victoria; and Greveley, S. O. Richards and Banfield, Vancouver.