

Notes and Items.

We begin to have a strong suspicion that our New York contemporary, the *Chronicle*, is not an admirer of Mr. Moore's universal schedule.

It is stated by our English exchanges that arrangements have been made for a union of the Reliance Mutual Life with the Norwich Union Life.

We have received from Inspector Hunter the annual report for 1892 covering the business in Ontario of the insurance companies and friendly societies, making a volume of good dimensions neatly bound.

A movement is on foot, and finds an especial advocate in the *Marine Record*, for the organization of a mutual life and accident association among the members of the United States Life Saving Service.

At the recent annual meeting of the New York Life, the only change made in the old list of trustees and officers was the election of Mr. George W. Perkins, third vice-president, as a trustee in place of Mr. Whitney, resigned.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Accident Insurance Company's report for the year 1892 gives the result of the year's transactions as follows:—premium income £32,733 as against £34,612 in 1891; claims £18,800; expenses £11,870.

A life insurance agent named McDonald, of the Equitable Life, has been arrested in Pittsburg for violation of the State law against rebating, at the instance of the man whom he insured and who got \$139.50 reduction from his regular premium.

The New York Tribune a few days ago repeated its assertion, that Messrs. McCurdy of the Mutual Life, Hyde of the Equitable and McCall of the New York Life are members of the syndicate which recently bought the New York Times. Mr. McCall denied the statement, but the *Tribune* reiterates it.

The insurance superintendent of Ohio, having refused to license any of the Lloyds or individual underwriters, a mandamus was obtained from one of the courts to compel him to admit them. Appeal to the Supreme Court has resulted in sustaining the insurance department, the court holding that under the law the Lloyds are ruled out.

The Total Abstinence Life Association, a Chicago institution doing business for some time on the assessment plan, is likely to be wound up by court proceedings at the instance of the State Auditor of Illinois, who claims illegal practices in the conduct of the business and the investment of the funds. Besides, a policyholder has made application to the courts for a receiver.

The advance report for 1892 of the insurance commissioner of Massachusetts gives a list of the number of fires occurring in that year in the 352 cities and towns of the State, the total being 3,190 and the loss a little under \$5,000,000; and though the number of fires was 298 greater than in 1891 the aggregate loss was less by \$1,500,000. Of the 352 places reported, 64 had no fires. The report also, as heretofore, gives detailed statistics of the insurance, damage, and losses paid on about 115 separate classes of risks (by buildings and contents) and also a schedule of causes of fires.

Three years ago we chronicled the placing of the American Life insurance company of Philadelphia in the hands of a receiver. The officials in charge now report on hand ready for distribution \$307,334, less \$11,436 auditor's fees and court costs, leaving \$295,898 available for claimants. This will yield a dividend of about 23 per cent., and other assets later on are expected to yield about 7 per cent. more.

Advices from Winnipeg, Manitoba, state that L. L. Smith & Co., of Toledo, Ohio, have been using their utmost endeavors to organize a fire insurance company there, and to that end a number of the city's best citizens have been solicited to take stock. Messrs. Smith & Co. are managers of the Central Ohio, Western of Toledo, and kindred organizations of which no further mention is necessary.—*Commercial Bulletin*, N.Y.

The principal companies in Great Britain transacting burglary insurance are: the National Burglary Insurance Corporation, the Goldsmiths' and General Burglary Insurance Association, the Fine Arts Insurance Company, the Security Company, the Ocean Accident and Guarantee, and the Travellers Accident, all of London. Besides these there are the Globe Accident of Manchester, and the General Accident of Perth.

The life insurance companies, to the number of nineteen, have subscribed \$20,000, to aid the "Life Insurance Club" of Chicago in fitting up and maintaining extensive rooms in that city, including café, reading room, banquet room, etc., for the accommodation of life insurance men visiting the World's Fair. The rooms are located in the Masonic Temple. We challenge the right of any life company to use its funds for purposes of this kind.

So good an authority as Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, estimates that the fire loss in the United States for 1893 will reach \$150,000,000. As the management expenses of insurance companies will be about \$65,000,000 more, and the cost of maintaining fire departments about \$35,000,000, he places the total cost to the community on account of fires at \$250,000,000, a tax equal to between ten and twenty per cent. of the whole net profits of the country for a year.

A change of control has taken place in the Hartford Life and Annuity company. No change, however, will be made in the plans of business pursued, it is said. The company has \$250,000 of paid in capital and some business on its books on the level premium plan, but nearly all its business has for a long time been conducted on the assessment safety fund plan, in which department it has assets of \$1,276,005 and \$86,000,000 of insurance in force gained during the past twelve years. Mr. Stephen Ball will probably remain as secretary.

When the vigorous "shaking up" of Mr. Allan Forman of *The Journalist* of New York appeared not long since in *The Chronicle* of that city, we withheld comment, willing to wait for his explanation or defence to the charge of attacking the New York Life management in his journal because he failed to get what he asked for from it. His defence has appeared in his own paper, followed by "some remarks" accompanied by extracts from his various letters to Mr. Welch and Mr. McCall in *The Chronicle* of the 26th ult. We are sorry to say that the more the matter is stirred the worse it looks for Mr. Forman, and we hold *The Chronicle* not only justified but entitled to thanks for its exposé of the affair.