

## OBITUARY.

MR. JOTHAM GOODNOW.

The ranks of fire underwriters have been depleted by the sudden death, from heart disease, of Mr. Jotham Goodnow, the veteran president of the Aetna Fire insurance company of Hartford, which occurred on the 19th ult. at the age of 73 years. Mr. Goodnow had been president of the company for four years, having previously been its secretary for more than twenty-two years. He was an able underwriter and a valuable citizen, who will be missed and mourned by a very large circle of friends, both in the United States and in Canada. A meeting of New York Underwriters, called by the National Board on the 21st, adopted the following minute:—

Mr. Goodnow was in early life a banker and financier, and his career was marked by intelligence, high honor and sterling character. On entering the business of fire insurance, these qualities, joined to his ability and integrity, gained him further distinction, and he became the chief executive of the company to whose interest he had been so faithfully devoted. To the members of this Board he was well known, his three years' chairmanship of the Executive Committee only terminating in May last. In all the relations of that office his solicitude for the best interests of the business was constantly manifested, and by his courtesy and consideration for others he endeared himself to all. His private character was embellished with the qualities of the true gentleman, and he was everywhere the recipient of private esteem as well as public confidence and trust. He will be deeply mourned, and his memory will abide with us always.

## Legal Intelligence.

## LIFE INSURANCE.

SUPERIOR COURT, MONTREAL.—MATHIEU J., November, 1892.  
*Dame Julie Cusson vs. Olivier Faucher et al.* Life Insurance.—Wife's policy.—Illegal Transfer annulled.

By the declaration, plaintiff alleged that the Aetna Life Insurance Company, one of the defendants, had issued two insurance policies for \$1,000 each payable to herself on the life of her husband J. B. Desjardins. That during her husband's lifetime she had transferred all the rights, benefits and interest she had and pretended to have in these policies to the defendant, O. Faucher, in consideration of advances of goods then made and to be made by him to her husband; that on the 20th May, 1886, the defendant, Faucher, as holder of said policies in virtue of the transfer, above referred to, delivered back to said company the second of these policies, and received in its stead a paid-up policy for \$686; that her said husband J. B. Desjardins died on April 25 1892, pending the existence of these policies; that the transfer by her of the policies to the defendant Faucher was illegal, null and void, and that she has the exclusive right to the amount due by the company under the policies, viz., \$1,686. It was further set forth that the defendant Faucher refuses to deliver up the policies to her. She accordingly prayed that the transfer in question be declared void, and the company be condemned to pay her the amount due under the policies with interest and costs.

The insurance company did not appear in the suit, having already declared its readiness to pay the amount to the person indicated by the Court. The defendant Faucher appeared, but offered no defence to the action.

The facts as alleged having been proved, the Court held that the transfer in question was illegal and null, not only as having been made for the purpose of securing her husband's debts, but by reason of Art. 5,604 of the Revised Statutes of Quebec which declares the rights acquired by a wife under such a policy unseizable and unassignable for any purposes whatever. The Court accordingly declared the transfer illegal, null and void, and held that the defendant, Faucher, acquired no rights whatever in virtue thereof, and that plaintiff has the exclusive right to claim the amount due in virtue of said policies, and accordingly condemned the company to pay her the amount, viz., \$1,686 with interest. Costs against defendant Faucher.

**THE PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF NEW YORK**—Wants an active man the first of January, 1893, as Inspector of Agencies for the Province of Ontario. References required. Apply to R. H. Matson, General Manager for Canada, 37 Yonge Street; Toronto.

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