

SOCIETY NOTES AND ITEMS.

Liverpool, Eng., was visited with a destructive fire on the 22nd ult. It originated in the cotton and general warehouse of Sir Edward Bates, which together with the Ship Chandlery and Rope Walk of Garneck, Bibley & Co. were totally destroyed, the estimated loss being over \$2,500,000, upon which there was an insurance of about \$1,600,000. The fire at one time threatened to devastate a large portion of the city.

Mr. P. C. Royce, the urbane Assistant Secretary of the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, seems to have discarded his first love, in the matter of place of residence,—the Quaker city,—and signifies his intention to make Hartford his permanent home, by the purchase of a fine residence at No. 114 Woodland street, Hartford. Mr. Royce had many friends here when Secretary of the old Girard Fire, and he is fast becoming popular in Hartford. He richly deserves all the popularity he enjoys.—*U. S. Review.*

New Fire Insurance Co.—A new Mutual Fire Insurance Company has been organized at Back River. The board of directors is composed of the following gentlemen:—Simeon Gagnon, Louis Sicard, Simeon Martineau, Joseph Martineau, Magloire Lemay, Leon Lemay, Joseph Lapierre, Jérémie Gagnon and Charles Pesant. Mr. Joseph Brignon dit Lapierre was chosen President; Mr. G. Bain, Secretary; Joseph Delorme and Hubert Vanier, Inspectors. The Company has already taken several policies.

The North West Insurance Company has been formed in Winnipeg under the Manitoba Legislative Body Act, with a capital of \$500,000, divided into 5,000 shares of \$100 each. Mr. Duncan MacArthur has been elected President, Col. W. N. Kennedy Vice-President and Mr. G. W. Girdlestone Secretary and Manager, and among the Board of Directors are to be found some of the solid men of Winnipeg. The requisite amount of stock has been subscribed and paid in, and the Manager authorized to commence business.

The Lyceum Insurance.—On Saturday last the managers of the Royal Insurance Company, deeming it unsafe to carry a risk of \$2,000 on such an ancient structure as the Lyceum Theatre, cancelled their policy and refunded \$29 unearned premium to Mr. J. J. Welsh. On Monday an attempt was made to reinsure the premises in the Royal, but as the owner of the building would not pay the heavy premium the Company would have nothing further to do with the risk. Consequently the Lyceum is a total loss to its owner.

Elsewhere we notice the arrest of the President of a leading New York Fire Insurance Company, whose annual revenue was over three-quarters of a million dollars, and yet the officers seem to have been hoodwinking the officials of the Insurance Department at Albany by swearing to the existence of assets which existed only on paper.

We now call for a most exacting scrutiny at the hands of the Inspector of Insurance for Ontario of the affairs of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of Hamilton, who have issued two different statements for the business of the past year.

The Shanly Life Policy.—As will be remembered, a short time ago the Equitable Life Insurance Company paid \$25,008 into court, as the proceeds of a policy on the life of the late Mr. Frank Shanly, to abide the result of a suit between the rival claimants to the fund, Mrs. Shanly on the one side, and the defunct Consolidated Bank on the other. The Bank applied on petition at Osgoode Hall for payment out of the money to them, but leave was given to Mrs. Shanly to answer the petition, and the case will be tried at the Toronto Chancery Spring Sittings. Mrs. Shanly claims as assignee under the policy itself, and the Bank claims as assignees of the policy in satisfaction of past claims.

—“*Le Roi est mort! Vive Le Roi!*”

“The ‘National’ is dead!” quoth Manager Lye,
“Long live the ‘National!’” is the Scott-Boult reply.

WATER-WORKS NOTES.

Regina's Water Supply.—Pile of Bones Creek has for some months been frozen to the bottom, and those who wished to obtain water without melting snow had to pay 15c a bucket or \$7 a barrel for it from Boggy Creek. Pile of Bones Creek is about a mile to the south and Boggy Creek about five miles. The drawing of water, however, is not a paying business, nearly all the residents preferring to carry snow into their houses and melt it, rather than pay so dearly for the water.

The Corporation of St. Thomas has been awarded the contract to supply the Grand Trunk with water at \$1,000 per year. Hydrants are to be constructed all through the yards for protection against fire.

The Toronto Water-works.—The total cost of the Toronto Water-Works up to the 31st of December, 1882, was \$2,173,352. The debenture debt up to last issue was \$2,194,706.66, and the cost of maintenance from 1878 to 1882 was \$1,372,882, an average of \$274,576 per annum. The difference between the revenue and expenditure from 1878 to 1882 was \$524,693 against the city.

The Quebec Water-supply. A description of the scheme adopted by the City Council.—The scheme for the improvement of the Quebec water supply as proposed by Mr. J. A. U. Baudry of this city, and adopted by the City Council at its last meeting, promises to settle the question which has so long puzzled the brains of the people of the Ancient Capital.

Mr. Baudry in his report on the question condemned the present system as deficient in many particulars. His principal objections were the inefficiency of the mains from Lake St. Charles and a fault in laying the pipes, in which the theory of the hydraulic grade line was set at defiance. Mr. Baudry's proposition is to replace the present main from Lake St. Charles with a thirty inch pipe, which would deliver twenty million gallons of water in twenty-four hours. The old main was originally an eighteen inch one, but by incrustations the bore has become reduced to fifteen inches. This pipe will be left intact in case of an accident to the new one. This main will run to the foot of Sauvageau's Hill, where it will deliver its water to two other mains. One of these mains of fourteen inch pipe, made to connect with the existing system, will be conducted straight to Cote aux Perrault, and will supply the upper end of the city. This pipe will have a capacity of eleven millions of gallons a day, or 64 gallons per head of the population of the district. The pressure will be 70 or 75 pounds to the inch at Mount Pleasant, where in 1860 it was ascertained to be between eight and nine pounds, while on the level of St. John Street there will be a pressure of seventy-five pounds.

The second branch after leaving the main will follow the foot of the hill along Arago Street to Cote d'Abraham, up which it will run to the vacant lots just outside of St. John's Gate. A reservoir will be erected here from which the water will be distributed in two pipes to Lower Town, and the low-lying portion of Upper Town. The reservoir will be built merely for reducing the pressure, which at the foot of the hill is 200 pounds to the square inch, which would be too much to cope with in the service pipes.

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