

Life Manager Wanted. Elsewhere in this issue will be found an advertisement of one of the foremost British insurance companies. A manager for the Life Department is wanted, and any one thoroughly competent has an opportunity to connect himself with a first class company.

Kruger after the Sinews of War. Recent British newspapers confirm the confiscation of gold by the Boers. A cablegram from Capetown on the 3rd inst. states that the "Argus," a reliable journal of that city, reports considerable excitement in financial circles owing to the seizure and detention of nearly \$500,000 on its way from the Rand to Capetown. The gold has been forwarded to President Kruger at Pretoria. Advices of consignments of gold from Capetown to London show the following shipments: Bank of Africa, 10,249 oz.; African Banking Corporation, \$280,000; National Bank of the South African Republic, \$230,835; Natal Bank, 7,988 oz.

New Zealand Gold Output. New Zealand, not satisfied with offering troops to assist the Motherland in quelling the mutiny in South Africa, is apparently endeavouring to make good any falling off in the output of gold from the Transvaal during the next few months. The gold exports from New Zealand during September amounted to 29,693 oz., valued at \$571,630, as compared with 14,306 oz., valued at \$258,985, in the corresponding month of last year. Pledging contributes about 10,000 oz. of the increase.

An Amusing Resolution. The passage of a resolution at a company meeting is seldom attended with such an unexpected difficulty as that which befell a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors of the Delhi and London Bank. The comical incident occurred at the meeting of that bank on the 4th inst. At the close of the very brief proceedings, a shareholder moved the vote of thanks.

The chairman waited for the complimentary proposal to be seconded and put. After a rather awkward pause it was found that, apart from the directors—no one of whom could, of course, come to the rescue, being named in the motion—there was not another shareholder present to second, all but one of those in the room being press representatives. The mover then took the bold course of seconding his own motion, which was thereupon taken as adopted!

The Liability of Carriers. A case of some importance as showing the extent to which common carriers are liable for the acts of their servants came before the City of London Court the other day. A tradesman named White sued Messrs. Pickford & Co., the well-known carriers, for damages done to his plate-glass window by one of the defendants' men in bringing a large case of goods into the plaintiff's

shop. The point on which the decision in such a case always turns is whether the employee was acting within the line of his employer's business and reasonably within the scope of the usual authority of such a servant. It appears to be quite clear that it is no part of the carrier's duty to bring goods inside a person's house or place of business. His responsibility ends with the tender of delivery at the entrance of the house or shop, and anything which the carrier's servant may be obliging enough to do beyond that is a matter for which no responsibility attaches to his master. It was so held in the case mentioned, and judgment was accordingly given for the defendants. Of course, the man who does the mischief in such a case is usually personally liable for the damage caused by his negligence, but in most cases that affords little consolation to the person who has sustained the loss. The servant is seldom sued, for the simple reason that you cannot take the breeks off a Highlandman.

War Risk. The premiums paid for insuring life and property in the Transvaal since the British and the Boers began to move to the front may be judged from the following instances recorded by the "Insurance Observer" of the 6th inst. On the 29th ult. a premium of seventy guineas per cent. for two months protection of property in Johannesburg was paid, and even at this figure it was somewhat difficult to get covered. On the following day the rate became still more stiff, fifty guineas per cent. for only one month's protection being paid by "one despairing property-owner." Insurance on goods in transit from the danger area cost five guineas per cent. for "only twenty-four hours."

The risk to life is not regarded as being so serious as that to property in the Transvaal. The Army Insurance Agency is described as "a concern formed to obtain the best possible terms for army and navy men." It has only been in existence for eighteen months, and already has effected 1,116 policies on behalf of British officers, of which ninety were issued last month to military men under orders for South Africa. The rates paid only exceed the ordinary ones by five per cent.

The Comic Councillors of Cork. The sentiments of the councillors of Cork, Ireland, have been embodied in a resolution filled with petulant volatility and the unreason of their professed aversion to Englishmen. Among other things, these comic councillors of Cork indulged in a bloodthirsty wish for the absolute annihilation of the British army in South Africa, seemingly forgetting that some of the best fighting material in the said army consists of the splendid soldiers furnished by the land of the shamrock and shillelah.

We decline to subscribe to the belief that such resolutions express the true feeling of any Irishman. However, there is no danger from openly expressed