

versation for some minutes. The Prince also chatted some time with a veteran named William Magee, who served through the Crimean war and the Indian Mutiny. He presented portraits of himself in the uniform of the Cameron Highlanders to the officers' and sergeants' mess.

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**PRESS PILFERING.**—After having gone to considerable trouble and expense in securing the data for statistical tables we find the information in these tables appropriated by some of our contemporaries without any form of acknowledgement. This is the second protest we have been provoked into publishing against this discreditable practice.

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**NATIONAL OF IRELAND.**—It is announced that the United States business of the National of Ireland has been reinsured in the Providence-Washington Insurance Company.

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**A SUGGESTIVE QUESTION RE NORTH WEST LANDS.**—What possibilities would there be for a Land Company to acquire the north west lands of the C.P.R.? What a big thing it would be for the C.P.R. and for Canada.

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**RUMOUR RE EQUITABLE LIFE.**—Our esteemed contemporary "The New York Commercial Bulletin," reports in a recent issue that insurance and financial circles in that city have been much interested in reports that an attempt was about to be made to change the method of controlling the Equitable Life Assurance Society. While operated on about the same basis as a mutual company, it is really a stock corporation, with \$100,000 capital, and 51 per cent. of the stock is owned by the estate of the late Henry B. Hyde, who organized the company. For some time there have been two parties in the society, one headed by Mr. James Hazen Hyde, its first vice-president, and the other by Mr. James W. Alexander, the president. It is said that, "Financiers are divided in opinion as to the matter, many holding that Mr. Hyde is acting within his rights as a son of his father, and with his controlling interest in the corporation. Others take the ground that Mr. Alexander, as president of the corporation, naturally should have full control of the administration of the business of the society. The dispute has extended into the agencies and several of the most prominent agents are in line with Mr. Alexander in the matter and will throw their fortunes with him if the split in the corporation reaches the breaking point. The idea of those opposed to Mr. Hyde's policy is stated to convert the society into a mutual organization, but in order to make which change Mr. Hyde's consent will be needed."

The Equitable has attained such distinguished eminence under the managerial control of Mr. Alexander, the president, that the question is naturally suggested,

"Why not leave well enough alone?" The proposal to give the 700,000 policy-holders who are scattered all over the world the right to vote at the election of directors could not possibly be acted upon by the great majority, nor would anything be gained to compensate for disturbing existing conditions by which the Equitable has a Board of Directors comprising men of the highest financial and commercial rank in the United States.

### PERSONALS.

**THE BUSINESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LIFE** in this City is in a very prosperous condition under the control of Mr. G. Herbert Simpson.

**MR. JOHN W. LAMBLY**, who has been connected with the Equitable Life for past fifteen years, has been appointed provincial manager Province of Quebec. His experience with the Equitable should well qualify him for the position.

**MR. DAVID BURKE**, general manager of the Royal Victoria Life Insurance Co., has returned to the City from the coast. He spent some four weeks visiting the Agencies of the Company in Manitoba, the Territories, and British Columbia. Mr. Burke states that the prospects for business, both commercial and insurance, are good.

**MR. PHILIP C. P. KELLY** has been appointed General Manager for Canada of the State Life Insurance Co., of Indianapolis, Ind., Mr. Bennion having withdrawn from the territory.

**AETNA LIFE CHANGES.**—At a special meeting of the stockholders of the Aetna Life, the office of vice-president was revived, and Secretary J. L. English advanced to the position. Major Charles E. Gilbert was made secretary. The office of vice-president of the accident and liability departments was created, and Walter C. Faxon elected; John M. Parker, Jr., was made department secretary of the accident department, and J. S. Rowe secretary of the liability department. The office of assistant treasurer was made, and Morgan Bulkeley Brainard placed in the position.

## Notes and Items.

### At Home and Abroad.

**MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.**—Total for week ending February 16th, 1905—Clearings, \$20,976,205 corresponding week, 1904, \$15,484,440; corresponding week, 1903, \$18,296,384.

**THE MANUFACTURERS' LIFE** has established its head office for Great Britain in Manchester, which is a judicious choice, as this city is the centre of a great population.

**LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE, MONTREAL.**—The following officers were recently re-elected by the Chamber of Commerce in this city: President, M. A. A. Brault, vice-presidents, Messrs. Catelli and U. Garand; treasurer, M. Survevor, M. Haynes, secretary.

**LADIES' LIFE ASSURANCE.**—The coming man takes the place of life assurance in a lady's thoughts, but so many ladies are now earning an income independently of their friends that they may appropriately think of life assurance against the hypothetical man's arrival. Should he

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