

Rev. Jos. Camille Roy,
Seminare de
Quebec.

SUNSHINE

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1897.



WAY-SIDE REFRESHMENT.

LULLABY.

The beautiful little poem given below is from the pen of a pure-blooded negro, a volume of whose work has just appeared under the kind sponsorship of William Dean Howells. Mr. Dunbar shows himself possessed of high gifts, and his book merits a warm reception.

The "mammy" in the poem is, of course, the negro nurse of "Massa's" little boy.

Lullaby...Paul Lawrence Dunbar...The Bookman

Bedtime's come fu' little boys,
Po' little lamb.
Too tiahed out to make a noise,
Po' little lamb.
You gwine t' have to-morrer sho' ?
Yes, you tole me dat befo',
Don't you fool me, chile, no mo',
Po' little lamb.
You been bad de livelong day,
Po' little lamb.
Th'owin' stones an' runnin' 'way,
Po' little lamb.
My, but you's a-runnin' wild,
Look jes' lak some po' folks chile ;
Mam' gwine whup you atter while,
Po' little lamb.
Come hyeah ! you mos' tired to def,
Po' little lamb.
Played yo'se'f clean out o' bref,
Po' little lamb.
See dem han's now - sich a sight !
Would you evah b'lieve dey's white !
Stan' still 'twell I wash dem right,
Po' little lamb.
Jes' caint hol' yo' haid up straight,
Po' little lamb.
Hadn't oughter played so late,
Po' little lamb.
Mammy do' know whut she'd do,
Ef de chillun's all like you ;
You's a caution now fu' true,
Po' little lamb.
Lay yo' haid down in my lap,
Po' little lamb.
Y'ought to have a right good slap,
Po' little lamb.
You been runnin' roun' a heap,
Shet dem eyes and don't yo' peep,
Dah now, dah now, go to sleep,
Po' little lamb.

JOSH BILLINGS ON ASSURANCE.

I kum to the conclusion lately that life was so unsartin that the only way for me to stand a fair chance with other folks was to get my life assured so I kalled on the agent of the Guardian Angel Life Assurance Company, and answered the following questions which were put to me, over the top of a pair of spectacles, by a slick old fellow, with a round gray head on him as was ever owned: "Are yu a mail or femail? If so, state how long you have been so. Had yu a father or mother? If so, which? Are yu subject to fits? and if so, do yu have more than one at a time? What is your precise fitting wate? Did you ever have any ancestors? and if so, how much? Du you have any nightmares? Are you married or single, or are yu a bachelor? Have yu ever committed suicide? If so, haw much did it affect you?" After answering the above questions like a man, in the affirmative, the slick, little, fat, old feller, with gold spectacles on, said I was assured fur life, and probably would remain so for years. I thanked him and smiled, and retired.

Thanks...Norman Gale...Songs for Little People.

Thank you very much indeed,
River, for your waving reed ;
Mr. Sun, for jolly beam ;
Mrs. Cow, for milk and cream ;
Hollyhocks, for budding knobs ;
Foxgloves, for your velvet fobs ;
Pansies, for your silky cheeks ;
Chaffinches, for singing beaks ;
Spring, for wood anemones
Near the mossy toes of trees ;
Summer, for the fruited pear,
Yellowing crab and cherry fare ;
Autumn, for the bearded load,
Hazel-nuts along the road ;
Winter, for the fairy tale,
Spitting log and bouncing hail ;
Christmas Day, for Mary's Child,
Jesus manifest and mild.
But, blest Father high above,
All these things are from your love ;
And your children everywhere,
Born in palace, lane, or square,
Cry with voices all agreed.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED !



A HAPPY FAMILY.

THE MORNING BONANZA.

The true name of this mine was the Golden Amulet, and Mr. King was exceedingly annoyed at the new title it had acquired among the miners.

"It sounds bad," he said, "and will kill the sale of it, no matter how much gold you take out.

Mr. King was a very respectable gentleman, although Jerry Benton had called him a "promoter," and had flashed his eyes significantly as he said it, which circumstance put suspicions into the minds of the New York capitalists who were negotiating for the purchase of the mine. There is still no absolute proof that Mr. King is not a respectable gentleman, but the Morning Bonanza was never sold according to his hopes, for reasons which will presently appear.

A tunnel had been driven into the mountain-side, following the course of a vein claimed by Mr. King and his friends to be very rich in gold. The ore had been frequently assayed, and showed fifty dollars worth of the precious metal in a ton.

Induced by this, many poor "prospectors," starving in barren gulches, had come to Indian Hollow, built cabins anew, and gone to burrowing like rabbits, hoping to realize here their old dreams of fortune. In the end they served Mr. King very well as day laborers, while piles of worthless rock lay baking in the sun at the mouths of their abandoned workings like glaring monuments to their folly.

Now the time had come to test the Golden Amulet, Eastern men, anxious as the poor "prospectors" had been to acquire sudden wealth, had cast longing eyes toward the one successful mine of Indian Hollow, which now was to be thoroughly investigated. A mining engineer had come all the way from New York, riding across miles of dusty prairie in stage-coaches, and with him had come the big fat president of the new mining company, and the little lean secretary with spectacles on his nose, and as they walked down Indian Hollow wearing their silk hats, several of the "boys" cast eyes at each other, burning with desire to spoil this eastern finery.

The Golden Amulet was not yet a full-fledged mine, for you must know that that is a very dignified term, not to be

given hastily to any hole in the ground that a visionary miner may dig.

Speaking strictly, as the lawyers did when they drew up the necessary papers between Mr. King and the big fat president, the Golden Amulet was only a "mining claim," fifteen hundred feet long by six hundred wide. On this claim was tunnel running two hundred feet into the hill, at which point it turned at right angles to the left, in which direction it continued fifty feet, where it again touched a vein. Here a large chamber had been "stoped," or hollowed out, yielding the "pay-rock" which had interested the eastern capitalists.

The trio entered the tunnel, the sturdy mining engineer taking the lead, the others following with much unnecessary caution. Indian Hollow was represented by groups of mines somewhat dispersed, but all within visual range of the Golden Amulet, and when the trio re-appeared in the daylight with hats much battered and with brown and yellow signs of inexperience spotted over the black suits of the president and secretary, a faithful photograph would have caught all Indian Hollow with a smile on its face.

That day and the next there was much business in progress centreing around the Golden Amulet, and then the mining engineer helped the unwieldy president to adjust himself on a buck-board, and, taking the seat beside him, they left the secretary with a portfolio full of instructions under his arm, staring through his gold-rimmed spectacles after them, while they bumped along the rough road and twisted out of sight among the pines.

Jerry Benton now became the spirit of animation in the camp, for he had been appointed to conduct the work in accordance with instructions left in the secretary's portfolio. Mr. King, although still owner of the claim, was supposed to be at home quietly whetting his appetite for the full enjoyment of the fifty thousand dollars to be paid him if the mine should equal all anticipations. Jerry Benton accordingly employed his force of miners, and the "dump," where all rock taken from the mine was thrown, grew from day to day, and new cabins were built for fresh arrivals; a store was opened, and there was talk of running regular stages to connect with the outer world. The little secretary, who was somewhat of a

scientist as well as a spectacled correspondent, built himself a furnace and began to test the ore each day; and this it was that led to such curious results. Sometimes he failed to find a particle of gold, and again the rock would become wonderfully rich. The miners said it was "pochety," or that the gold ran in streaks, but Jerry said nothing. After a time the secretary noticed that very often the ore taken out in the morning was good, while that taken in the afternoon yielded nothing. This led to a separate testing of the rock mined at various hours of the day, and always the first ore taken each day, was richest. It was for this reason that the miners dubbed it the "Morning Bonanza," to which title Mr. King so seriously objected. Still Jerry Benton held his peace, notwithstanding it had been reported by a miner who had gone across the "divide" one morning in the gray of dawn hunting for "fool hens," that he had seen a broncho pony greatly resembling the little yellow-legged animal Mr. King was wont to ride, being urged rapidly down "Quakin' Asp Gulch" by a man with a gray hat and a very long cloak streaming in the wind. Little Mr. Secretary was too politic to pretend to catch at the suggestion which this offered, but he thought fit to call Jerry Benton to a conference that night, and they smoked a cigar together beside the fragrant pine blaze kindled on the hearth in the rude log "office." Jerry Benton looked in vain to discover some expression in the secretary's face by which he could judge him, but if the little man lacked the grave stoicism of the old miner, his great round spectacles flashing the red firelight protected him as effectually from exposing his thoughts. Nothing had been said of material consequence except "curious" and "plaguey uncertain." Then Jerry, casting a look which he hoped would penetrate the glass barriers, said sternly.

"D'ye think ye've got much sand?"

"What?"

"Grit, then. D'ye know what grit means?"

"I hope so. I'm not a coward," replied the secretary.

"Well, then, that air mine's bein' salted, an' it's rustlers that's doin' it. Hev ye got the stuff in ye to help me corral 'em?"

"Tell me what to do, and you can depend upon me," was the answer.

Just as the moon was sweeping her sickle across the pines on the mountain summit, these two stole out and crept under cover of the brushwood to the mouth of the Golden Amulet. The mine opened black before them, but the only sound was a distant coyote barking and a murmur in the pine needles overhead. They drew back again into the brush in a direction from which no one could approach the workings by reason of an overhanging wall of rock. The waiting was longer than Jerry had expected, but presently sounds were heard far up the gulch. First it was a patter of unshod hoofs, then, after a long silence, two men darkened the rocks by the entrance to the mine. They entered without delay, and soon was heard a low, grating noise, which stopped at intervals and then began again.

"Now," said Jerry, "be ready," and he gave a long, low whistle.

There was a scrambling in the tunnel, and then a half-audible shuffling.

"They're crawlin'," said Jerry. "There! D'ye see 'em?"

Two rifle shots startled Indian Hollow and set a dozen dogs barking, but among the shadows the two men escaped unhurt. There followed a crashing of bushes, a rattle of hoofs and they were gone.

When the awakened miners reached the scene of the disturbance Jerry showed them rows of little holes here and there in the rock around the big ore chamber similar to those sup-suckers bore into hickory trees in the spring-time, and in some of these was gold-dust. One or two of the holes had been plugged with little pieces of rock, so neatly, as almost to escape detection, and, finally, on the ground was a vial of gold-dust and a quill for blowing it into the holes.

"There's the secret of your Morning Bonanza," said Jerry,

"And here's his hat," said Sam Fowler, "the same gray hat I saw goin' down Quakin' Asp Gulch this very morning."

So the little secretary packed his satchel and gathered his papers into his portfolio again, and this time he and Jerry Benton mounted the buck-board and bumped out of sight, leaving a very disappointed camp full of "prospectors," stranded in as barren a gulch as ever; and the Golden Amulet was never sold.

Sunshine.

PUBLISHED BY THE SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
OF CANADA.

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1897.

EXTENDING OUR FIELD.

The ancient adage *festina lente* has by no means lost its meaning and application. Perhaps, indeed, it was never more worthy of heed than in this present age of strenuous competition and struggle. Unquestionably it would be better for the most of those engaged in the active business of life if they could manage to "hasten slowly," for a time at least, and allow their strength to catch up with their enterprise.

At the same time there is no such thing as standing still amidst the present whirl of applied energy. If not gaining ground one must be losing it, and this is as true of corporations as of individuals.

If a company like the *Sun Life of Canada* be steadily growing in size and strength, it naturally looks beyond the borders of its own country for other fields of labour in order that the growth may be continuous. Otherwise limitations to development would inevitably be encountered.

Obedying, therefore, the injunction to hasten slowly, but also being vigilant to discover promising openings for extended effort, the Company has from time to time gone afield, and established itself in different parts of the world that seemed suitable for its operations. Many of these openings have been already mentioned in *Sunshine*, and we have now pleasure in chronicling another which is of notable importance.

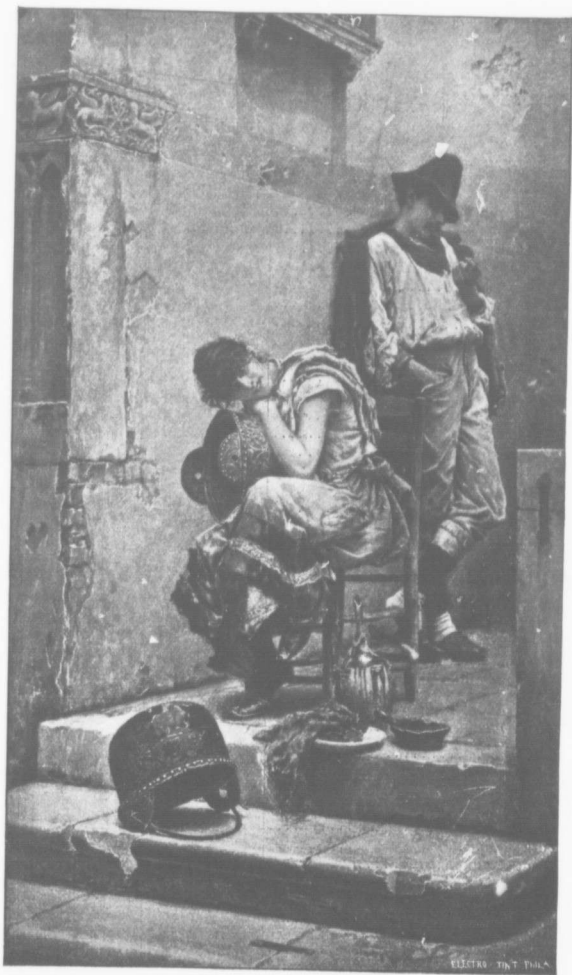
If we cannot have unrestricted reciprocity with our American cousins along all commercial lines, we can at least do something in that direction in life assurance. A number of the American life companies have been established in our country, and we are now returning the compliment. The Sun Life of Canada has just completed arrangements with the State Insurance Co. of Philadelphia, which has hitherto confined itself to a Fire and Trust business, whereby this Company will represent it, and push its business in the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

The Sun Life of Canada has been very fortunate in effecting this arrangement. The State Insurance Co. is one of the most substantial and successful institutions of its kind. It has an honourable record extending back to 1860, and includes among its officers such notable men as the Hon. Frank Reeder, Secretary of State, who is President, Messrs. Robert Anderson, Charles F. Walter and Henry K. Boyer.

Opening out under such auspices, the Sun Life of Canada with its many liberal and attractive forms of policy contracts, its high guarantees, its admirable investments, and its careful management, will undoubtedly obtain a due share of the business that is to be harvested from these rich fields.

A Hibernian gentleman told a friend studying for the priesthood, "I hope I may live to hear you preach my funeral sermon." Another expressed the grateful sentiment, "May you live to eat the chicken that scratches over your grave." A physician said oracularly of a murdered man, "This person was so ill that if he had not been murdered he would have died a half an hour before."

An Irish lover remarks that it is a great comfort to be alone, "especially when your swateheart is wid ye."



ELECTRO-TINT TRADE

AT CROSS PURPOSES

LIFE ASSURANCE STATISTICS.

The subjoined Statistics for which **SUNSHINE** is indebted to the **INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE** of Montreal, present an interesting prospectus of the growth and trend of Life Assurance in Canada for the last three years.

COMPANIES.	NET PREMIUMS RECEIVED.			ASSURANCE ISSUED AND TAKEN.			TOTAL ASSURANCE IN FORCE.		
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<i>Canadian Companies.</i>									
Canada Life Canadian Business.....	1,803,438	1,827,681	1,859,330	4,756,382	4,790,421	2,897,410	61,847,495	65,097,537	65,385,848
" Total Business.....	1,929,220	2,006,891	2,040,537	6,529,332	6,080,621	4,508,688	66,433,170	70,205,929	70,747,557
Confederation Canadian Business.....	804,797	847,355	907,321	3,292,663	3,304,820	3,111,046	25,158,331	26,253,974	27,363,273
" Total Business.....	807,735	852,874	912,917	3,339,663	3,371,320	3,135,995	25,269,331	26,427,474	27,560,423
Dominion Life.....	44,621	53,395	65,791	516,500	544,350	575,500	1,713,845	2,025,514	2,397,977
† Dominion Safety Fund.....	29,223	.....	.....	25,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Federal Life.....	265,504	257,647	312,399	1,703,700	1,823,050	2,005,050	.....	.....	.....
Great West.....	109,983	122,598	156,033	2,788,305	1,682,200	1,742,200	9,896,137	10,156,227	10,864,982
London Life.....	132,580	160,880	177,004	1,459,182	1,920,644	1,284,992	4,096,550	4,934,850	5,781,204
Manufacturers Canadian Business.....	257,513	301,405	326,950	2,273,300	2,664,828	2,597,302	3,724,505	4,096,954	4,284,576
" Total Business.....	267,411	324,449	355,061	2,462,208	2,873,557	2,694,004	8,748,849	9,627,272	10,633,516
North American Canadian Business.....	452,135	477,793	539,762	2,719,923	2,890,000	b 3,554,900	9,021,117	10,066,441	11,326,686
" Total Business.....	459,850	485,354	548,402	2,725,923	2,917,000	b 3,566,960	13,836,494	15,223,694	17,494,170
Ontario Mutual.....	527,131	590,163	601,617	2,577,200	2,494,268	2,838,250	14,055,744	15,442,444	17,728,085
Sun Life Canadian Business.....	878,932	918,409	1,020,210	4,687,484	4,321,091	4,113,618	18,731,245	19,278,424	20,001,462
" Total Business.....	1,178,244	1,301,221	1,650,483	7,307,553	6,864,093	7,468,282	23,930,436	25,637,930	26,816,831
Temperance and General.....	129,199	142,448	151,319	1,870,725	1,477,000	1,750,000	31,502,020	34,754,840	38,188,811
" Total Business.....	129,199	142,448	151,319	1,870,725	1,477,000	1,750,000	5,827,959	5,993,681	6,759,712
Total Canadian Business.....	5,435,931	5,702,783	6,107,836	28,670,364	27,900,672	26,365,130	177,511,846	188,826,057	197,773,551
<i>British Companies.</i>									
British Empire.....	205,758	217,257	223,325	722,319	611,500	466,100	6,155,468	5,991,877	6,066,626
London & Lancashire.....	215,602	207,509	224,640	848,500	882,500	882,518	0,860,330	6,870,461	7,288,955
Standard.....	490,131	552,411	540,390	1,618,067	1,720,733	1,433,550	14,365,478	15,128,690	15,808,610
Star.....	16,238	17,547	17,264	21,535	79,327	53,728	628,795	653,342	618,823
Totals.....	927,729	994,724	1,005,819	3,210,421	3,294,060	2,835,896	28,010,071	28,644,370	29,783,014
<i>American Companies.</i>									
Aetna Life.....	588,310	562,257	554,833	614,543	732,409	787,661	16,271,293	15,881,648	15,531,006
Equitable.....	691,952	673,300	637,599	2,456,683	1,034,917	1,316,600	19,523,242	19,197,725	18,804,445
‡ Germania.....	13,016	13,592	.....	.....	1,000	.....	323,505	294,376	.....
Metropolitan.....	122,115	168,995	174,373	6,385,190	3,838,464	5,394,860	4,434,507	3,560,274	5,237,797
Mutual Life.....	696,182	736,773	702,504	2,748,461	2,693,550	1,861,658	17,213,001	18,582,692	17,801,671
New York.....	792,389	807,480	816,647	2,996,341	2,171,000	2,474,992	20,650,549	20,626,514	21,789,848
¶ Provident Savings.....	86,267	91,459	100,000	972,220	962,168	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,449,698	4,000,000
Travelers.....	132,934	146,174	134,677	612,404	916,380	499,563	5,357,744	5,546,061	5,234,108
Union Mutual.....	124,839	123,171	124,770	601,500	621,000	511,208	4,637,587	4,645,635	4,637,384
United States.....	52,084	43,770	43,546	10,335	123,000	124,650	1,604,250	1,487,280	1,427,680
Totals.....	3,299,188	3,366,971	3,288,949	17,640,677	13,093,888	13,971,192	93,147,064	92,281,903	94,463,939

‡ Ceased transacting new business. (b) Amount of Policies issued, (c) Includes Industrial Business, ¶ Approximate, figures will probably exceed those given.

Goodwin Sands William Canton *W. F. Her Book*.

Did you ever read or hear
How the *Aid*—(God bless the *Aid*!
More earnest prayer than that was never
prayed.)
How the lifeboat, *Aid* of Ramsgate, saved
the
London Fusilier?
With a hundred souls on board,
With a hundred and a score,
—She was fast on Goodwin Sands,
—(May the Lord
Have pity on all hands—
Crew and captain—when a ship's on Good-
win Sands!)
In the smother and the roar
Of a very hell of waters—hard and fast—
She shook beneath the stroke
Of each billow as it broke,
And the clouds of spray were mingled with
the clouds of whirling smoke
As the blazing barrels bellowed in the blast!
And the women and the little ones were
frozen dumb with fear;
And the strong men waited grimly for the
last;
When—as clocks were striking two in
Ramsgate town—
The little *Aid* came down,
The *Aid*, the plucky *Aid*—
The *Aid* flew down the gale
With the glimmer of the moon upon her
sail;
And the people thronged to leeward; stared
and prayed—
Prayed and stared with tearless eye and
breathless lip,
While the little boat drew near,
Ay, and then there rose a shout—
A clamour, half a sob and half a cheer—
As the boatmen flung the lifeboat anchor
out,
And the gallant *Aid* sheered in beneath the
ship,
Beneath the shadow of the *London Fusilier*!
“*We can carry may be thirty at a trip*”
(Hurrah for Ramsgate town!)
“*Quick, the women and children!*”
O'er the side
Two sailors, slung in bowlines, hung to
help the women down—
Poor women, shrinking back in their dis-
may
As they saw their ark of refuge, smothered
up in spray,
Ranging wildly this and that way in the
racing of the tide;

As they watched it rise and drop, with its
crew of stalwart men,
When a huge sea swung it upward to the
bulwarks of the ship,
And, sweeping by in thunder, sent it
plunging down again.
Still they shipped them—nine-and-twenty.
(God be blessed!)
When a man with glaring eyes
Rushed up frantic to the gangway with a cry
choked in his throat—
Thrust a bundle in a sailor's ready hands.
Honest Jack, *he* understands—
Why, a blanket for a woman in a boat!
“*Catch it, Bill!*”
And he flung it with a will;
And the boatman turned and caught it,
bless him—caught it, tho' it slipped,
And, even as he caught it, heard an
infant's cries,
While a woman shrieked, and snatched it
to her breast—
“*My baby!*”
So the thirtieth passenger was shipped!
Twice, and thrice, and yet again
Flew the lifeboat down the gale
With the moonlight on her sail—
With the sunrise on her sail—
(God bless the lifeboat *Aid* and all her
men!)
Brought her thirty at a trip
Thro' the hell of Goodwin waters as they
raged around the ship,
Saved each soul aboard the *London Fusilier*!
If you live to be a hundred, you will ne'er—
You will ne'er in all your life,
Until you die, my dear,
Be nearer to your death by land or sea!
Was *she* there?
Who?—my wife?
Why, the baby in the blanket—that was
she?

MORE THAN SATISFIED.

BROCKVILLE, ONT. 1896.

R. J. MANSELL, Esq.,
AGENT SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.,
BROCKVILLE, ONT.

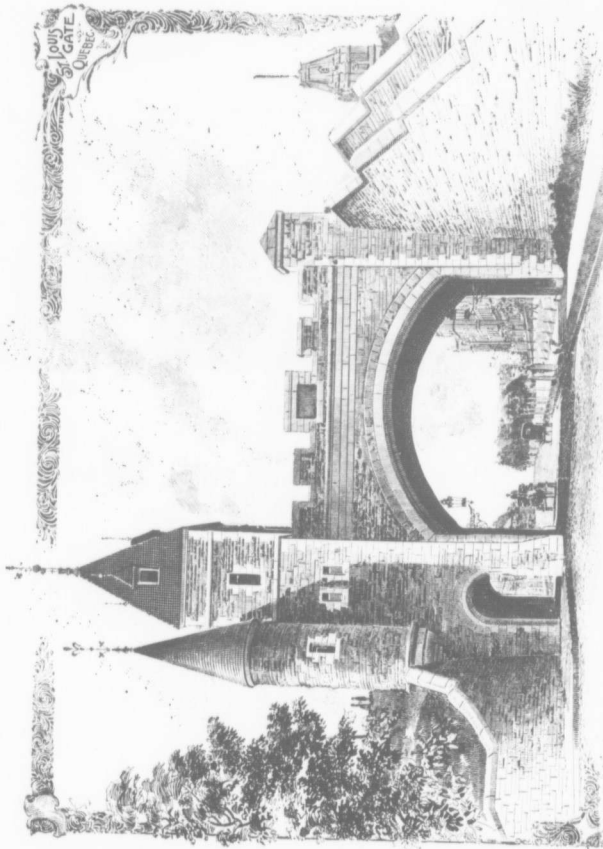
DEAR SIR,
Have just received a statement
from your Company setting forth the profits and
the several options of my policy, No. 34,145,
and must say, that, while counting on hand-
some results, the figures before me are alto-
gether beyond my expectation.

By Option 3 the cash offered me makes it a
6% investment, besides carrying my risk.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

W. L. MALEY.



ST. LOUIS GATE, QUEBEC

*When Winter Widows all the North,
Edw. W. Barnard.*

When winter widows all the North and
folds
Her purple woods, her yellow fields, her
plains,
In pallish motley; when from pleasant
lanes
The green he tears, and what of bright-
ness holds
The autumn garden still—wan marigolds,
Late dahlias,—these, he drowns in bit-
ter rains;
When black storms drag their weight
of icy chains
Across the piteous whiteness of her wolds,
And high winds drive us from the window-
seat,
Whilst chimney-voices only moan and
hiss.
Still, blossom-crowned, fruit-laden, and
replete
With ev'ry gentle thing that makes for
bliss,
Her marvelous sweet mouth, and warm
as sweet,
The smiling South uplifts for us to kiss.

PROMPT PAYMENT APPRECIATED.

ST. JOHN, ANTIGUA, Oct. 2nd, 1896.

DONALD McDONALD, Esq.,
Agent,

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.

DEAR SIR,

I have this day received through you as agent, the above Company's cheque for £339. 11s. 2d. being amount due with profits on Claim No. 21,411, on death of John Fernandez. I beg to thank you for the interest you have taken in securing the claim, and ask that you will tender my thanks to the Company for the promptness with which the claim has been settled.

Very obediently yours,

WM. B. BUCKLEY,

Administrator Estate of JNO. FERNANDEZ,
Deed.

CAN BIRDS AND ANIMALS COUNT?

One day the celebrated ornithologist, Audubon, came out of his cottage with four of his friends to go for a walk. The next instant they saw a parrot fly in at a window. Audubon and one of his friends returned indoors, and immediately the bird flew out in a fright and went circling about overhead. Audubon came out again, but the bird refused

to re-enter until the other gentleman had also left the house. It seemed to remember that two persons had gone in and only one had come out. Curious to discover how far the parrot could count, he returned indoors with his four friends and made them go out, one at a time, while he himself remained inside. In a few minutes the bird flew in again. It was evident that its powers of arithmetic ended at the number four.

A Russian doctor named Timofieff tried the same sort of experiment a few years ago with birds, cats, dogs, and horses. He declared that the crow is capable of counting as far as ten, and is in that respect superior to many tribes of men in Polynesia, who comprehend hardly anything of mathematics. Dr. Timofieff's account of the behaviour of his own dog is amusing. This dog never buried several bones in one spot, but always hid each one away separately. One day his master presented him with twenty six large bones, which he immediately proceeded to bury in twenty-six different places. On the morrow Dr. Timofieff did not feed the animal at all. In the afternoon he let his pet out into the garden and from a window watched him attentively. The dog set to work at once and dug up ten of the bones. Then he stopped, seemed to reflect for a minute, and began digging again until he had found nine others. Here he stopped to consider as before, and then returned to work, scratching perseveringly until he had unearthed six more bones. This seemed to satisfy him; he sat down and began his dinner. Suddenly he raised his head, stopped eating, and looked around with a thoughtful air. Then, as if quite sure that he had forgotten something, he started up, trotted round the garden, found the twenty-sixth bone, and returned, with a look of satisfaction, to his meal. The doctor believed that the number twenty-six was too much for the canine mind to grasp, and that the dog had therefore divided the provender into three groups, counting the bones in each lot separately, but that the mental process was so complicated that he had made a miscalculation and only rectified it after prolonged reflection.

The same writer tells us that the cat is less expert in arithmetic than the dog, not being capable of counting farther than six. He used to hold a piece of meat to his cat's nose and draw it away suddenly, always repeating the action five times before allowing the animal to take the morsel. Puss soon grew accustomed to the performance, and waited with dignity and calmness until the sixth

offer was made, when she sprang up and seized the piece of meat with her teeth. For some weeks the doctor repeated this experiment, and the cat did not make a single mistake. When, however, he tried to increase her knowledge by making four more approaches and retreats before letting her take the meat, she lost the count completely and jumped at the wrong moment.

Proofs of the horse's power of counting are even more curious. Dr. Timofieff mentions a peasant's horse which, when ploughing, invariably stopped to rest after the twentieth furrow. It did not matter how long the field happened to be, nor how tired the animal might feel, it never stopped until the twentieth furrow had been made, and so exact was the count that the farmer could tell the number of furrows by noting how many times the horse had halted.

DEATH-CLAIMS PAID.

The following is the list of death-claims paid by the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada in the months of March and April, 1896:

47,324.	A Daniels, Ingersol, O.	\$1,050.00
112.38.		
17640.	Louisa Tessier, Que.	8,112.00
32005.		
6028.	W. M. Chadwick, Latimer, O.	500.00
1,3428.	Thos. Hobbs, Winnipeg.	1,000.00
46588.	M. Hutchison, Goderich.	3,297.00
301.37.	C. Jobin, Quebec.	1,000.00
126.30.	L. Garneau, Quebec.	214.00
49178.	C. Fournier, St. Celestin, Q.	1,000.00
10041.		
10042.	O. B. Smith, Sloughton, Mass.	2,000.00
31066.	J. Ouimet, Montreal.	1,000.00
18958.		
26025.		
33192.	M. H. McLaughlin, Lindsay, O.	5,997.00
34975.		
37883.		
10608.	A. A. E. Ouillet, Fraserville, Q.	1,076.00
37841.	A. W. Dunn, Montreal.	1,000.00
19,377.	F. Lemieux, St. Vallier, Q.	1,000.00
31920.	C. Couture, St. Charles, Que.	2,131.00
49,311.	M. E. Mix, Warkworth, O.	1,000.00
14080.	F. Gauthier, Belleville, O.	200.00
29069.	A. Larose, Three Rivers.	1,000.00
30516.	C. Whitlock, Minneapolis, Min.	2,615.00
30771.	G. B. Colwell, St. John, N.B.	2,070.00
38429.		
48236.	J. L. Barre, Montreal.	20,275.00
48531.		
13907.	A. Kirouac, Quebec.	1,000.00
41717.	W. McInnes, Port Daniel, O.	500.00
26285.	H. Beaudette, Leclercville, Q.	1,000.00
43,318.	A. E. N. Suckling, W. Farnham.	1,000.00
46206.	R. J. McGowan, Birtchton, Q.	1,000.00
9433.	J. F. Jardine, Newcastle, N.B.	2,000.00

CHESS THE OLDEST OF GAMES.

5,200 YEARS OF AGE. POPULAR SCIENCE NEWS.

Chess players with a turn of the history of their stragetic amusement, will be interested to learn that all the hypotheses as to the origin of the game have suddenly been "mated" by a recent extraordinary discovery in Egypt. It was generally assumed until now that the ancient Indians had invented chess; that it was introduced from India to Persia in the sixth century, and that by the Arabs; and in consequence of the Crusades it spread from east to west. It is true the Chinese—who invented many things in times long gone by, which had to be reinvented in Europe—assert that they can trace chess in their own country to about 200 years before our era. Now there can certainly be no doubt in the character of the figures at present used, and in some of the words connected with the game—such as "schah" (shah and matt, or "mate")—an Indian, Persian and Arabic influence is traceable. But here comes news of the latest excavations on the pyramid field of Sakkara, which have brought to light a wall painting, on which a high official is represented as playing chess with a partner at the time of the government of King Teta, who belonged to the sixth dynasty. Professor Lepsius formally assigned the reign of that monarch to about the year 2,700 B.C. Professor Brugsch, correcting this chronology, puts it back to still greater antiquity, namely, to the year 3,300 B.C., so that chess would have been known in the once mysterious land of Mizraim something like 5,200 years ago.

It was north of the pyramid of King Teta, or Teti, that two grave chambers have been discovered which were erected for two high officials of that ruler. Their names were Kabin and Meruka, called Mera. The grave chamber ("mastaba") of the former consisted of five rooms, built up with limestone. Its walls are covered with exceedingly well-preserved bas-reliefs and pictures representing various scenes. The other grave chamber, that of Mera, is the most valuable. Until now, no less than twenty-seven halls and corridors have been uncovered. There are beautiful grave columns; in the chief room there is in a niche a tinted statue of the departed, about seven feet high, with a sacrificial table of alabaster before it. Among the

many wall paintings in this and other rooms, hunting and fishing scenes, a group of female mourners, the three seasons, Mera and his sons, holding each other by the hand, and, Mera playing chess, are to be seen. So grand is the impression this grave chamber makes upon the beholder that the Arabs engaged in the work would not call it a "mastaba," but a "kilissa" (temple or church). Various valuable sarcophagi have also been discovered. A structure of colossal dimensions, situated at the western end of the necropolis, is being laid bare. Its direction is, like that of all the buildings of old Egypt, from north to south.

IRISH BULLS:

INSTANCES OF UNCONSCIOUS HUMOR

"My dear, come in and go to bed," said the wife of a jolly son in Erin who had just returned from the fair in a decidedly how-come-you-so state; "you must be dreadful tired, sure, with your long walk of six miles." "Arrah, get away with your nonsense," said Pat; "it wasn't the *length* of the way at all that fatigued me, 'twas the *breadth* of it."

A poor Irishman offered an old saucepan for sale. His children gathered around him and inquired why he parted with it. "Ah me honey," he answered, "I would not be afther parting with it but for a little money to buy something to put in it."

A young Irishman who had married when about nineteen years of age, complaining of the difficulties to which his early marriage subjected him, said he would never marry so young again if he lived to be as ould as Methusalem.

An Invalid, after returning from a southern trip, said to a friend, "Oh, shure, an' it's done me a wurruld o' good, goin' away. Iv'e come back *another man* altogether; in fact, I'm quite *myself* again."

An eccentric lawyer thus questioned a client: "So your uncle, Dennis O'Flaherty, had no family;" "None at all, yer honor," responded the client. The lawyer made a memorandum of the reply, and thus continued: "Very good. And *your* father Patrick O'Flaherty, did *he* have chick or child?"

"Pat, do you understand French?"

"Yes if it's shpoke in Irish."

In an Irish provincial paper is the following notice: "Whereas Patrick O'Connor lately left his lodgings, this is to give notice that if he does not return immediately and pay for the same, he will be advertised."

Two Irishmen were working in a quarry, when one of them fell into a deep quarry-hole. The other, alarmed, came to the margin of the hole and called out, "Arrah, Pat are ye killed in'tirely? If ye're dead, spake." Pat reassured him from the bottom by saying in answer, "No, Tim, I'm not dead, but I'm spacheless."

At a crowded concert a young lady, standing at the door of the hall, was addressed by an honest Hibernian who was in attendance on the occasion. "Indade, miss," said he, "I should be glad to give you a sate, but the empty ones are all full."

"Gentlemen, is not one man as good as another?" "Uv course he is," shouted an excited Irish Chartist, "and a great deal better."

An Irish hostler was sent to the stable to bring forth a traveller's horse. Not knowing which of the two strange horses in the stalls belonged to the traveller, and wishing to avoid the appearance of ignorance in his business, he saddled both animals and brought them to the door. The traveller pointed out his own horse, saying, "That's my nag."

"Certainly, yer honor; I know that; but I didn't know which one of them was the other gentleman's."

A domestic, newly engaged, presented to his master, one morning, a pair of boots, the leg of one of which was much longer than the other.

"How comes it that these boots are not of the same length?"

"I raly don't know, sir; but what bothers me the most is that the pair down stairs are in the same fix."

That was a triumphant appeal of an Irish lover of antiquity, who, in arguing the superiority of the old architecture over the new, said, "Where will you find any modern building that has lasted so long as the ancient?"

An Irish magistrate, censuring some boys for loitering in the streets, argued, "If everybody were to stand in the street, how could anybody get by?"

SUMMARY of the ANNUAL REPORT for 1895.

New Life Applications received during 1895.....	\$9,822,905 03
Cash Income for year ending 31st December, 1895.....	1,528,054 09
Increase over 1894.....	154,457 49
Assets at 31st December, 1895.....	5,365,770 53
Increase over 1894.....	749,350 90
Reserve for Security of Policyholders (according to Dominion Government Standard).....	4,734,016 04
Increase over 1894.....	670,080 42
Surplus over all Liabilities, except Capital (according to Dominion Government Standard).....	535,944 23
Surplus over all Liabilities and Capital Stock (according to Dominion Government Standard).....	473,444 23
Life Assurances in force 1st January, 1896.....	34,754,840 25
Increase over previous year.....	3,226,270 51
Claims Paid during 1895.....	349,122 61

The rapid progress being made by THE SUN LIFE OF CANADA may be seen from the following statement:—

Year.	Income.	Net Assets, besides Uncalled Capital.	Life Assurances in force.
1872	\$ 48,210 93	\$ 96,461 95	\$ 1,064,350 00
1876	102,822 14	265,944 04	2,414,063 32
1880	141,402 81	473,632 93	3,897,139 11
1884	278,379 65	836,897 24	6,844,404 04
1888	525,273 58	1,536,816 21	11,931,316 21
1892	1,134,867 61	3,403,700 88	23,901,046 64
1895	1,525,054 09	5,365,770 53	34,754,840 25

In presenting a summary of the results of the year 1894 the claim was made that it was a record year. It is accordingly cause for great satisfaction that a review of 1895 justifies the statement that the record has been honorably maintained.

Despite the severe financial depression prevailing, which affected all classes of the community, the new applications received reached the remarkable total of **\$9,822,905**—a result not attained by any other Canadian Company. Of this amount, \$8,866,688 were accepted, the remainder being declined as not up to the high standard required by the Company. The total business in force was thus brought up to \$34,754,840 at the close of the year.

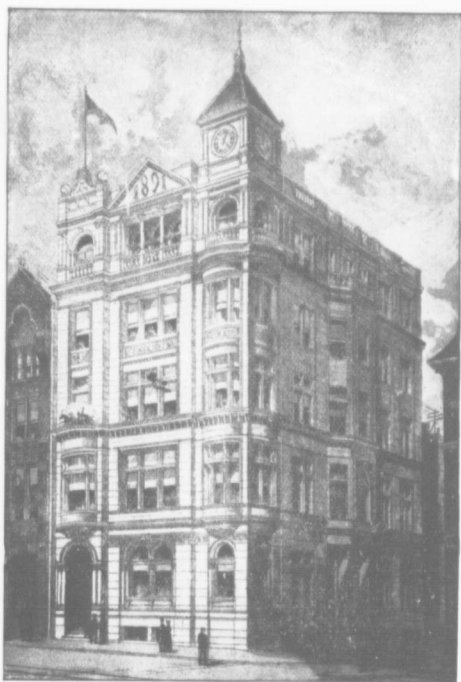
Especially gratifying were the additions to the financial resources of the Company. The increase in income was \$154,457, making the total income \$1,528,054, including all receipts. Three-quarters of a million dollars were added to the assets, which at the close of the year stood at **\$5,365,770**, while the reserve for the security of policyholders was increased by \$670,080, bringing it up to \$4,734,016.

The surplus over all liabilities except capital was \$535,944, and, taking capital stock into account, was \$473,444.

Following out the policy announced last year of anticipating a probable gradual decline in the rate of interest obtainable in future, the valuation of the reserves has been made on a four per cent. basis instead of four and one-half per cent. as authorized by the Government, an additional amount of \$272,995 being set aside, raising the total reserve to \$5,007,011.

A division of profits now takes place annually, and the amounts allocated in 1895 were highly satisfactory.

The automatic nonforfeiture feature of the Company's already liberal policy is proving not only very popular, but of signal efficacy to the policyholders, many of whom have thereby had their policies saved to them, and in more than one instance the policy would have lapsed altogether but for this important protection.



HEAD OFFICE
Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada,
MONTREAL, QUEBEC.