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F ARCHER \＆CO．，
©faral Commispian edrrohants， －AND－
SHIPPING AGENTS，
ST．JOHNS，
anticua，W．i．
CABLE ADDRESS－ARCHER．


LONDON \＆LANCASHIRE FIRE INS．CO．


##  MIONTEEAI．

For upwards of Thirty－Hine years，the nance of the St．Lawrence Hall has been famitiar to all traveliers en this Continent．The llosel is cont reniently stluated in the heart of the business centre of Montreal，and is contiguous to the General lust Olice，and other important Pubice Buildingr． It is handsomely decorated，luxurionsly furniched，lighted by the electric light， and fited with a Passenger Elevator．The building which has recentls seen cxtended contains 250 rooms．

The Hesel is managed by Ma．Saxibl Munturivtevy，unjer the gersonal supervision of the proprietor，Mr．Hesky Hocan．




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Total Insurance, over - - $\$ 100,000,000$. Total Invested Funds, over - 32,000,000. Investments In Canada, over - 2,500,000.

POLICIES ISSUED UNDER ALL SYSTEMS INCLUDING THEIR NEW REBERVE BONUS PLAN, UNDER WHICH VERY LARGE profits may be anticipated. phofits hay oe axticipated.

## $\sqrt{\text { ASSURADOQ oo. }}$


W. M. RAMSAY, MANAGER FOR CANADA. Chas. hunter, Superintendent of agencies.
-
Head Office for Canada: St. James Street, Montreal,

# Subscribed Capital, - - \$12,66,666. Faid-ip Copital, - - 3,041,6is. Fire F̈und ant Roserve:, - - 8,694,536. ESTABLISHED 1809. <br> 8 MORTH <br>  <br> COBERT CCOTF. ESE CIARLES F. SMTTHERS, ESO HON, THOMAS RYAN. INSURANCE CO. TOTAL ASSETS: - \$35,503,100. <br> Lilfo and Annuity Funds, - \$21,266,7i3. <br> Fire Rovenue, - - - 5,713,650. <br> Life Revonue, - - - 2, 244,073. <br> WM. EWING. <br> Insi ntor. <br> G. U. AHERN, <br> Sub-Inspector. <br> <br> \section*{BRIITSH AND AERCANTILE} 

 <br> <br> \section*{BRIITSH AND AERCANTILE}}
head office fof the dominion: 72 st. francols xavier street, hontreal.

Ifgents in cll Citles and Principal Torns in Canada.
THOMAS DAVIDSCN.
Managlng Diroctor.


## OUR CANADIAN INSURANCE MANAGERS.

No. 10.



JANES WV. FAILOR,


# Insurance and Yinance Chrumide. 

Prbeinined Monthey,
K. WII.SON SMETH,

Editor and Proprecor.
J. (iRISWOI.1), Associate Editor.

Office: 17 : 4 Notre Dame St., Montreal.

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All Communications intended for The Chronicle must be in hand not later than the 25 th of the preceding month to secure insertion.

## JAMESW, TAYIOR, of Taylur Bros., Chief Agents for Canada of the Caledonian Insurance Company.

We take much pleasure in presenting to our readers the portrait of Mr. James W. 'Taylor, one of the oldest and best known members among our Fire Underwriters.

Mr. Taylor came to Canada at an early age in 1834, and has lived in Montreal ever since that date-53 years. At the age of 12 years he entered the office of Andrew Muir, jun., subsequently Muir, Borthwick \& Co., at that time one of the largest wholesale grocery and shipping firms in the city; and at the age of 17 years he had become the confidential clerk of the firm.

Few of our citizens can speak with more lively interest from personal experience of the early days of, and the rapid improvements in the city of Montreal, than Mr. Taylor, or look back with brighter memory to the then existing practices of commercial life. Railroads, telegraphs and telephones were unknown in those days. There was but one English mail per month, later on there was a fortnightly service. The fluctuations in values between the dates of the mail arrivals were often very great, and the possession of early news was very important. A few of the more enter. prising firms of the city started an "underground" line of communication, by means of fast horse express from St. Albans, where latest advices had been delivered, carriers having been stationed at Caughnawaga, I ongueuil, etc., with canoes ready to meet the horse express on arrival at the south bank of the St. Lawrence, and thus getting information several hours in advance of the regular mail, for which crowds would be waiting at in o'clock to see if the old steamboat from Laprairie would hoist the brazen ball, signifying that the English mail was on board. These anxious expectants being unaware that the enterprising firms above mentioned, had already received the news and had acted thereon accordingly.

After the disasters of 1847 , which broke up the firm Mr. Taylor was employed with, he commenced business on his own account, as a broker. Circumstances, however, led him to join his brother, Mr. T. M. Taylor, then one of the leading stock and produce brokers of the city ; and the partnership of Taylor Bros., which still exists, was formed. At about this time Mr. James W. Taylor, with Mr. W. P. McLaren, now of Milwaukee, founded the " Montreal Com

Exchange Association." The Act incorporating that body, and the by-laws, which are still in force, were written by Mr. 'Taylor.
Mr. Taylor, like a good citizen as he has ever been, took an active part in the militia organizations of our city. having been the chief mainstay, for many years, of the oldest and most distinguished corps, whose record dates back to 1812 and to his efforts is largely due the happy change from the old, cumbersome militia bill, to the present volunteer code, under which our citizen soldiers are now organized. He also spent six months in active service on the frontier, ending with the close of the Fenian raid. He was also commandant at Fort Arlington opposite the city of Ogdensburg, New York.
An attendance for three winters upon the Law Lectures of Henry Driscoll, Q.C., together with a naturally logical, legal mind, gave to Mr. Taylor much information, and largely influenced him when the time came to enter the insurance field, which he did in 1862. In that year, the firm Taylor Bros. became general agents of the Home and Colonial In. surance Co., and worked it successfully for three years, when it abandoned the life and fire branches, and resolved to confine itself to the marine branch only. The life and fire branches having been transferred to the Northern Assurance Company, and the agency of that company having been offered to Messrs. Taylor Bros., and finally accepted by them, it was established in Canada in 1866. The subject of our sketch taking charge of the Insurance department of the firm.

On the organization of the Insurance Department of the Dominion, Mr. James W. Taylor received the first tender of the position of Superintendent. But about the same time the general agency of the Scottish Imperial Company was offered to the firm ; and the arrangements at Ottawa not being entirely satisfactory, the agency of the company was accepted, and worked conjointly with the Northern until 1882, when the Scottish Imperial ceased business in the fire branch, confining itself to the life branch entirely. In place of the Scottish Imperial, Mr. Taylor fortunately obtained the agency of the old Scotch office-the Caledonian, of Edinburgh, to which was transferred the business of the Scottish Imperial, thus furnishing the Caledonian at once, with a large and valuable business controlled by Mr . 'laylor, that would otherwise have taken some years to accumulate.

At the close of 1886 , after the lapse of some twenty years of uninterrupted friendly business correspondence, during which time Messrs. Taylor Bros., as chief agents, had succeeded in establishing a valuable system of local agencies in Canada for the Northern, a question arose between the office and firm in the matter of future compensation, as we understand it; the proposition by the company being the substitution of a fixed salary for the chief agents, in liell of commission upon the business as heretofore. This, as claimed by the firm, involving the abandonment of the agency of their other company, the Caledonian, and because of partnership arrangements, was declined, and Messrs. Taylor Bros. surrendered the company, and now confine their insurance buviness to furthering the interests of the Caledonian.

We regret to learn that any question shouid have arisen ${ }^{\text {to mar }}$ me termination of the pleasant relations which existed for so many years between the Northern and Messrs. Taylor Bros., which we hope wiil, however, be amicably settled.
Mr. James W. Taylor, the subject of our brief sketch, Who is the underwriter of the firm, is justly held by his confreres in the insurance business to be a thoroughly competent fire underwriter; familiar alike with the legal and the business phases of the profession. The small work, entitled "Fire Insurance Hand Book," prepared by Mr. Taylor "For private insurance Hand Book," prepared by among the local agents of his companies, is a model of conciseness, clearness and preciseness, while at the same time covering the principal points ${ }^{c}$ onnected with the various hazards, and how to regard them, upon which the local agent most commonly needs instruction, and shows at once an appreciation of the wants of agents and of the niceties of the business.
We cannot close our article without a brief reference to the standard old company, the Caledonian, now represented by Messrs. Taylor. It was organized in 1805, and ranks at ang the soundest of the British offices. Its fire fund reserve at the close of 1886, exclusive of capital, was $\$ 1,287,960$, being in excess of two annual premiums. The sum of $\$ 50$,000 having been added to the guarantee fund, and $\$ 15,000$ to the reserve premium account. A dividend was also declared upon the year's business at $£ \mathrm{I} 1 \mathrm{is}$, upon a share of $£ .5$. Its assets in Canada Dec. $3^{1 \text { st }}$ ulto. were.......... $\$_{138,79^{\circ}}$ Total liabilities (including reinsurance reserves

859,259), were............... .................... 68,029 With such a financially strong company to operate with, Messrs. Taylor Bros. are prepared to offer to their customers the most ample indemnity, and we cheerfully commend these gentlemen to the insuring public.

## Re-INSURANCE RESERVE.

There appears to be more or less misapprehension and Confusion among fire underwriters, in the matter of the difference between re-insurance reserves and a reserve fund; some holding the two funds to be but one in fact, whereas
the the difference between them is marked, and the intent and Purpose of each well defined. They have no connection With each other whatever; the one is temporary only, inCreasing and diminishing with the fluctuations of the busi${ }^{n}$ ess, and fixed by-law, hence compulsory ; while the other is Voluntary and optional as to amount, on the part of the ${ }^{c} \mathrm{cmpm}_{\text {pany }}$, and for safety should be made a permanent and ${ }^{C} 0^{0}$ stantly increasing fund, ready at all times for the many emergencies attendant upon the business. The following Treatment of the subject will illustrate the actual intent and Purpose of what is known as

## " UNEARNED PREMIUM RESERVE."

As enforced by the State Insurance Departments, all advance premiums received by companies are held to be the property of the several insureds and not of the insurers, until Carned by them-borrowed money in fact, to be repaid by carrying the respective insurances until the several premiums shall have been absorbed by lapse of time, by can${ }^{\text {colllation }}$ Of the policy and return of the unearned portion, ${ }^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$ in case of total loss, when the premium is earned; and
as each day, week and month roll by, that portion only of the premium is earned and becomes the property of the insurer. And if from any cause, voluntary or involuntary, a company shall cease business, the first duty of its representative would be to repay this unearned premium loan, either to the policy-holders directly or to another company, to assume, by re-insurance or purchase, the amount of such liability in its stead, before it could be ascertained what amount there would remain out of which the loss claims and other debts of the retiring company could be liquidated.

Hence Insurance Commissioners, under the laws of the several States, treat unearned premiums as an outstanding debt, and charge them up against the companies as such, in their annual statements. Any impairment of capital caused by such charges are treated by the departments, the same as if arising from any other cause of deficiency of assets.
In arriving at the amount of unearned premium to be charged against a company, instead of requiring a statement of the exact amount remaining unearned on all of the thousands of policies issued by a company at its home office or its agencies, which would be a work of both time and labor-though there are offices where this is done for their own satisfaction-the Insurance Commissioners take 50 per cent. of all unearned premiums on risks of one year or less, and a pro rata of the premiums for all longer terms, as a fair estimate of the business, one year with another; and at this rate the companies are charged upon all unearned premiums reported.
Whether a 50 per cent. estimate will more than cover the actual amount of money advanced by policyholders, without interest, upon their several unexpired insurances or not, is a question per se, and does not enter into this portion of this discussion ; because whatever sums may be the ratio assumed, the liability as charged, carries with it a full equivalent, at all times, in the compulsory reserve held to meet it. If the liability be charged at $\$ 100,000$, there is always an interest bearing furd of $\$ 100,000$, or more, set aside subject to any claims that may be made upon it from this source. Our experienced confrère, "Ye Patriarch," of the Insurance Monitor, speaking upon this subject recently, said:
"The unearned premium account in a well managed company stands not for loss but for gain. It is an index of the company's progress. It carries with it an asset which is always equivalent to its liability and usually more. It is a literal realization of the old anomaly: 'living on the interest of what one owes.' The company lives, thrives, prospers on the interest of what it owes. The unearned premium stands for something of greater value than its liability ; that value,- the business represented by it-could, in any reputable company, be sold for a sum 30 to 40 per cent.
gre greater than the liability itself."

The fact being conceded that unearned premiums are a liability against the company, the question then arises whether the pro-rata
hifty fer cent. of unearned premiums
enforced by Insurance Departments, is or is not in excess of the sums actually needed to reinsure the unexpired business of an insurance company transacting an average line

The rule of the Insurance Departments, fixing 50 per cent of the unearned premium as the needful portion to fully reinsure, or otherwise protect the unexpired business of a company at any given date, is but a "rule of thumb," adopted, -in the absence of exact figures furnished by the officesfor convenience in reaching, in another way, an adequate liability, without the labor of a detailed valuation of each policy.

That premiums received must make good the portion unearned, goes without saying; but just what pro rata of annual premiums of a company remains unearned at an; given date, or how the same shall be ascertained, outside of seriatim valuation of each policy, is one of the many unsolved problems still vexing fire underwriters.

But inasmuch as the preminm rate charge is intended to pay losses and expenses of the business, it becomes an important factor in the solution of this question, whether some allowance should not be made for the cost of securing the business, when estimating the unearned premium liability of a company.

If the amount, compulsorily set aside by Insurance Departments to meet this liability, be in excess of the sum needed for the purpose, to that extent the available assets of a company are unjustly curtailed, and it may, so far, affect its financial standing as to exhibit a seeming impairment of capital where none in reality exists, particularly in cases of younger offices, which have not yet accumulated a surplus as an off-set to this overcharge.

In looking over the annual reports of a number of British fire offices for the last few years, it appears that, while they have what is equivalent to a re-insurance reserve for unexpired insurances, it seems to be in the form of a permanent fund, to which more or less addition is made from time to time as the yearly business would appear to warrant, or as the directors deem sufficient. The North British and Mercantile is one of the few British offices which sets aside regularly, as a reserve for current risks each year, one-third of the annual premiums; and this amount seems to have been found ample for that purpose.

There are three methods in which a fire insurance company can legitimately retire from business:

1. Cease writing new business, permitting all business upon the books to run off, at the risk of the company.
2. Re-insuring, or selling to another office all of the unexpired business standing on the books.
3. In cases of insolvent companies, in hands of receivers, returning the pro rata amount of unearned premium to the insured.

The actual cost of re-insuring the unexpired business of a retiring company will depend largely upon the class of risks carried by it; the better the class, the more valuable the business will be to the purchasers. In re-insuring, or selling out to another office, the cost of obtaining the business is always a factor, and is estimated, usually, at from 30 to 35 per cent. of the premium receipts. For a young office, in operation but for a few years, the cost will, of course, be greater than for an older office whose expenses spread over a broader average of years.

From Canadian experience in the matter of re-insuring retiring companies, up to this time, an average of about 33
per cent. of the premiums on unexpired business, has been found ample compensation for the business thus transferred.

Taking these facts into consideration, it is clearly evident that, as a rule, the sum of one-half of the unearned premium of single year policies, and pro-rata for longer periods, -amounting in the aggregate to about 55 per cent., where much long term business is done,-is largely in excess of the sum actually needed to re-insure the outstanding business of an office transacting an average line of fire business., And when enforced-in cases of younger offices especialls, -it results in great injustice by making capitals appear as more or less impaired when such is not the fact. The sooner that the Commissioners of the several Insurance Depart ments take steps to revise the Procrustean rule-made originally to meet the peculiar laws of a single State,- the sooner will justice be done to companies of States where $n^{0}$ such peculiar laws exist.

## REBUILDING WITHIN FIRE LIMITS.

We have received the following communication upon the important question of the bearing of "fire limit"laws in cities, upon the rights of companies to rebuild or repair frame structures.

$$
\text { Victoria, B.C., } 22 \text { nd Oct., } 1887
$$

Editor Insurance and Finance Chronicle.
SIR,-Perhaps you or some of your subscribers will kindly favor ${ }^{\text {me }}$ with their views on the following point, viz.:
A frame building, situated within the fire limits of a city, is damaged by fire. The municipal regulations forbid the rebuilding or repal if ing of any wooden structures which may be destroyed or damaged, such building be within the said fire limits
The damage to the building in question is assessed at say $\$ 200$, which sum the insurance company carrying the risk is prepared to pay and the assured to accept, provided he be permitted to apply same to repalinth the building. The municipal authorities will not, however, grant sut the permission, and the assured therefore claims the total cash value of the property insured.
The company denies all liability beyond the amount of the assessed damages.
Which is in the right ?
Yours, etc., A SUBSCRIBER.

## REPLY.

"Fire limit" laws, as they are designated, restricting the erection or repairing of frame buildings within certain defined sections of a city or town, are operative in many of the larger cities, both in America and on the European Continent. We even hear of them in distant New Zealand, while the city of Constantinople, after conflagrations innumerable, has recently enacted a very stringent ordinance in this direction. The usual purpose of this law is to the effect that no frame structures shall be erected or repaired where such repairs will necessitate raising, lowering or changing the roof, or making repairs thereon when seriously injured by fire, of putting up a new front, side or rear. But we do not understand that the law has any bearing upon inside repairs. The construction of the law and its requirements will depend entirely upon its wording. In the policies of some offices are to be found clauses to meet the operations of these laws. A New Zealand policy has the following:
"In case the company shall be unable to reinstate or repair any building, because of any provision of law to the contrary, it shall be liable to pay only such sum as would be requisite to reinstate or repair the building, if the house could be lawfully repaired or rebuilt."

The Standard policy, recently adopted by the State of New York, has the following among the list of matters for which the companies shall not be held liable :-
"For loss occasioned by ordinance or law regulating construction or repair of the buildings."

Under these provisions of the policy, the companie ${ }^{5}$ would only be liable for requisite repairs and cost of rein. statement as if there had been no restrictive ordinance.

Taking the municipal law to be as stated by Subscriber, and supposing the reinstatement clause of the policies siving the risk in question to be the customa $y$ form, siving the company the option to repair, rebuild, or replace The derty damaged, with others of like kind. We answer: The decision of all the courts of last resort are unanimous upon the dision of all the courts of last resort are unamestion of restoration of damaged or destroyed property question of restoration of damaged or destroyed
ments erected within which only certain classes of buildings shall be Covenant They hold the obligation of the insurer to be one of to indemant, and not of condition only; by which he is bound covered wify the insured, for any damage to the property injurry, within the amount of the insurance, where such
In the arises directly from the peril insured against.
In the case cited the damage was done by fire, the peril ${ }^{\text {esp }}$ ecially insured against ; that the law forbade the company manner or repair, under its optional clause, except in the a portion prescribed by law, was no fault of the insured, but to the of the risk assumed, and supposed to be known "Rebuster when the risk was taken. The insured says, on the erectio other hand, the municipal ordinance forbids the in which or repairing of frame buildings within certain limits fusal th the loss occurred. So, between the company's rements make good the loss on the one hand, and the require-
nts of the law on the other, the insured gets no indemnity. amou insurer must pay the loss to the extent, within the to rest of the policy, that would be required under the law etc., restere a similar building as to size, dimensions, etc., law., regardless of the original material. It is an axiom of answer a plea shewing performance to be impossible is no with th to a suit against the company for failure to comply an exie conditions of the contract. If the impediment be of existing law, the insurer should have known the bearing ordinat law upon the risk when he accepted it. Under this loss ; after the insured could not be made good as before the if any after the loss the only value to him was the materials, if any remaining; hence his only recourse is against his surer for indemnity.
The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, in the case of Fire Association vs. Rosenthal, where the question of rebuilding Within fire limits was the point at issue, said :-" But the necessent to put in the same state of repair does not even of simimply the employment of the same, perhaps not even of similar material. The same state of repair may be able and ap other materials of equal or greater value, suituses, archippropriate for the purpose, in view of the location, com architectural style, or appearance of the property. The build ny's election imposes no particular obligation to employed wood, if for any other reason wood could not be it did ided. The contract therefore involved no impossibiity; pated involve, perhaps, a greater expense than was anticiand , but the insured was in no way responsible for that; of the existence of a police regulation prohibiting the use any mood, of which they may have had no knowledge, cannot thy more relieve then from the obligation of their contract, They would the rise of prices of materials in the market. They agreed to put the premises in repair, and they were as were comply with their contract, using such materials re suitable for the purpose and were allowed by law. The parties, of course, contracted with reference to the law Whether ted at the time, and consented to be bound by it;
repaired the city authorities would permit the building to be assumed in wood was, therefore, a risk which the insurers assumed at the issuing of their policy, and which they rethe Court by making the election. In support of its opinion, 425 , aurt cites, Brady vs. N. West Insurance Co., 1 I Mich. Cases also a leading case, as authority. There are some English $I_{\text {Inses }}$ also to the point, among them Brown $v$ s. Royal in 4 Benale Co., I Ell. and Ell. Q. B. 858, reported at length $1_{53}{ }^{4}$ Bennetr's cases 37 I , and cited by same Court on p . sec, 62 Ins. Lawe Journal ; also Wharton on Contracts . $\sigma_{23}$, and cases there cited.

## 

A ncat and successful Life Insurance fraud-Fire in a show-window, caused by a pair of spectacles-Making Railway Directors liable for loss of insured lives in cases of death by Accident-Long-lived Annuitunts grood subjects for Railway Accidents.

## Edi or of the Chronicle.

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES SWINDLED.
Dear Sir,-I have been hoping that 1 might be able in this letter to announce to you that a clever swindler had been captured, but I am sorry to say that at present his cleverness has been sufficient to save him from durance vile.

A certain Count Von Scheurer, some five years since, honored several London life offices with proposals for assurance upon his own life. He was accepted, as he seemed to be a very good life, and then left us, retiring to his usual haunts upon the Continent. The Count had a lady friend, whom, for the sake of euphony, I will call the Countess, and he shewed the feelings of devotion with which he regarded this lady by assigning to her his life policies. He then proceeded to "die." His method was simple. He found, or had found for him, a really moribund personage; he took charge of the moribund one, shewing an amount of kindness and attention to him, which would have been a splendid example of disinterested humanity if it hadn't been for the existence of the insurances. The "Countess" also was kind to the poor fellow,-very kind,-and between them they soothed the dying moments of their patient.
He soon died, and there are not wanting persons to hint that his chances of longevity were not increased by the apparently disinterested attentions of the Count and "Countess." The Count having thus died, the "Countess" easily proved her claim against the insurance offices, and was in due course paid. There was nothing very suspicious respectable appearance of the "Countess," whe highly the honor of meeting professionally in connection with the claim on one of the offices. But in carrying out his plans, the Count had to employ assisiants, and, as usual, there were differences of opinion as to the distribution of the surplus, and so the police got wind of the affair.
I fear that this is all they will get, for the Count and "Countess" have retired, it is believed, to America. Perhaps they will come north and give you a turn.

FIRE CAUSED BY A PAIR OF SPECTACLES.
We used, in my time, to be taught at school that Archimides helped to defend Syracuse by burning the enemy's ships with burning glasses. I never believed in this, but the other day a fire was started in this way at Torquay. The burning glass was not a very war-like weapon, being merely the pebbles of a pair of spectacles, but they focussed enough of the sun's heat to set fire to a curtain in an optician's shop, and the result might have been serious. I am told that a similar case has occurred before, but I do not remember hearing about it. Perhaps, like the Syracuse affair, it was before my time. I have not as yet heard that the Fire offices intend to charge anything extra to people who wear spectacles; but if many such cases as that at Torquay occur, they may do so, and it wouldn't be the only "shortsighted" policy they have adopted under the influence of panic.
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS AND tHE ACCIDENT INSURANCE COS.
A more than usually exasperating railway accident has occurred at Hexthorps, and everybody is laudably desirous of "getting at" the railway company. Being an exceptionally busy day, in consequence of the racing going on at Doncaster, and it being therefore more than usually necessary to exercise great care, the railway company issued orders that the ordinary precautions need not be strictly used, and this, it seems, is the ordinary custom of railway companies under such circumstances. They act, in fact,
on the ;irinciple of "the more the danger, the less the pre caution needed." This view of the functions of railway managers does not meet the approval of the public, who are going about growling that somebody ought be hanged, and writing to the papers nasty suegestions about actions for damages. Amongst these is one to the effect that when an accident policy lecumes a claim through the sestigence of a railsay company, the said company should remburse the Accident office. There is much to be said in favor of the iden, especially from the point of view of the Accident office ; but I fear that the application of this principle, if fully carried out, would go far towards abolishing accident insur ance altogether. There is scarcely eser an accident for which somebody is not to blame, and, in fact, the principal thing which one assures against by taking out an accidemt policy is the criminai folly of other people, and, it may be added, of oneself, this later forming a not mimport:met part of the risk. On the whole, I am dispersed to think that the first natural desire to hang a director or two, points the way to the real solution of the problem. This plan, hewever, would not apply satisfactorily to those directors whose lives were largely assured, and there are other difficulties which would become appareme if any scheme of this kind were carried out in anything like a thorough mamer.

## LONG-L.IVED ANNLITANTS.

Notwithstanding the efforts of railway directors and others to shorten our lives-efforts which are crowned with a considerabie amount of success,-we all manage to live, on anaverage, a little longer than we did; and the result to our profession is that annuity business deessot pay. Interest is falling steadily, and there seems litte hope of amy improvement in this respect in the immediate present. On the other hand, old ladies live to be older than ever they did, and as they cannot get any interest in particular out of reasomably safe investments of the ordinary kind, they todde into the life offices and purchase life amnuities-" Once an ammitant, always an annuitant" appears to be the moto of their existence; and they act up to their principtes with a steadfast tenacity which is beyond all praise. Indeed we no longer praise them here; and when one of them trots into the office, at the age of 93, or therealionts. and takes her fiftieth half-ycarly payment of her annuity, and for the fifteth time expresses her conviction that this is the last time she will trouble us, it requires some self-restraint to express that feeling of respect which the sight of venerable old age should always produce.

## annuitants good sebiectis for ralliway accibents.

Some of us are giving up annuities altogether, as the average life of an annuitant doesn't agree with any of the tables. What an immense success an office would have been which had startec to assure the lives of ammutants only; that is, of course, if it zould have got ammitants to assure their lives, which I thirk doubsful. I have never heard of an amuitant being killed in a railway accibent, or anything of that sort; but if the idea of makings raikay companies pay upp for killing assured lives is ever carsied into practice, I think it only fair that they should be allowed to plead as a set-off any annutant or amutants they nught have the good fortume to smash. Under thes arrangement, reduced fares might be charged to amuitants, and, indeed, on some of our lines, a few might be taken for nothing, especially on what we call excursion trauns. I thme there tis somethung in the idea which I leave to others to develop.

Taments.
Lownu:, Oct. $=0$, 8 SS7.
The Bryn Mavn Hotel, on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which burned recently, was covered by insurance to the amount of $S_{50} 50,000$, of which $\$ 55,000$ was in the Pennsylvania Railrond Insurance fund. the remainder in Ner York and Plailadelphia offices and agencies.

## WHY SHOULD I INSURE NOW?

Decause if you are in good health, sound and vigorous, the companies will accept you now. To-morrow the seeds of disease may have implanted themselves in your system, so that no company will insure you.
Because this is the only day you have any hold upon. You know what your condition is to day, you know that y, 4 are in passession of health and strenglh, and that to day is yours; to-morrow belongs alone to Him who is the maker of days.
Decause if you ever intend to insure, you can never have a better or more favorable opiportunity; you are geturg older dally, and your premums will be larger next year than this.
Because if you delay it another day, disaster may over. take you, and it may be impossible for you to insure.
Becanse if you were called to your accoum before to-morrow's sumrise, those dependent upon you would have cause to remember you, mainls as one who had it in his power to make a fair provision for them and neglected to do it.
Because if you were to die to day uninsured, the chances are even that your children would be withdrawn from school, and your wife be compelled to give up the home you placed her in as her own, and rely upon your felations for assistance to support herself - family.
lecause you can gan nothug by waiting. There are no cheap bargains in life insurance. Whenever you insure you must pay table-rates, and the longer you wait the more it will cost you.

Because your family should be protected without another hour's delay. Your duty demands $1 t$, and your delaying the matter is an evidence of your want of a correct idea of your obligations to your family and socicty at large.
Because insuring your life is an evidence of prudent forethought, and is an action which commends itself to any farsighted bu-iness man, and will improve your credit wherever known.
Because the exmmple is set you by the very best men in every community, and in every country. A man who fails to insure his life, no matuer how wealthy he may be, is not worthy the name of a shrewd business man.
Because when you leave your desk, or workshop, or countug-hous: to might, you may never enter it again.

Nothing is so uncertain as life. and some time you will shut your office door for the last time. It may be soone: than you suppose.
Because if you insure at an early age, taking the profits into account, the annual premium will not amount to more than the ordinary taxes, in any of our cities on the same amount of property, even after you have paid full value for the property, the calculation being thus in favor of the life insurance to the amount oi the cost of the property.

Because it is as much your duty to provide for your family after your demise, if in your power, as it is to provide for them while you ate alive.
Because it is the one means by which alone all classes of the community can, indeyendemly of any one, friend or relative, rich or poor, leave a competence for theis families.
becauce it is the only asset which can be placed so as to belong absolutely to your wife and children in case of your death. No sheriff or bailiff can atach it, no lien can be plaecd unom it under our laws; and although you may dic hopelessly insolvent, and all the rest of your assets be swept away, learing your family otherwise destituie, the life insurnace is a fund which no power can despoil them of. If men would only stop, and consider this phase of the question, there wutid be fewer cases of dependent widows, and fewer children would be cheated by their own fathers out of the fair chance of gelting on in the world which the institutions of this country offer every one high or low, rich or poor.
Because this may be the last chance so far as you-are
concerned．Any number of circumstances may conspire to shut you out of life insurance if you fail in your duty now．
Insure your life．
Insure now．
Insure for as large an amount as you can affurd to pay for，and having insured keep your jremiums paid up，and you will never regret having made the sacritice necessary to enable you to do so．

## INTEREST．

In the last issue of the Curowictie we presented a very exhaustive set of tables，showing the interest earned by the various Life insurance companies for a number of years，up to and including the year 1856 ．Since it was published，we observe that it was the principal gltestion dealt with at the recent annual meeting of the National Convention of Linited States Insurance Commissioners．The following revolution was offered by Mr．Sprague some time ago，and submitted to a committee of three of the Commissioners，whomade a re－ port unon the matter．
Wherieas，The mete of interest receivel on securities has for several years been gradually declining；and，
Whereas，The foundations and prosperity of the institution of life in－ surance depend largely upon accectiuns from invested capital and assels；ind，
Wherias，The stipulations in policies vary regarding the time of pay－ ing claims as well as in other conditions；therefore，
kiesoterd，That a committee of three be appointed to make a full and carefulexamination，and report at the neat Contemtion their conclusions O．．these two subjects ：
（1）Whether the raic of interest，preeent and prospective，does not appear to require in the near future the establishment and mainsenance of a reserve ona higher standard than a four per cent．interest．
（2）Whether a reasonable complianiec with the povasums of the lan does not requare that policies shall ine valued in accordauce with the stipulations，date of payment and oth．r term，and considerations．
After most careful consideration and extended inquirics， the Committee of Insurance Officials has arrived at ilre fol－ lowing conclusions：
1．That these is no：at preent or in prospect that condition of inter－ est rites which would remder a change of the stamdard of net values either necessary or expedient．
2．They recognize a theoretical liability from the stuplatuon for prenature paynemt of death claims，and，if it is decmed inppurtant to provide for it by a techmical reserve，would suggest the almove deseribed method of computing it rather than to disturb the present furm of the raluation tables．Practeally，howeter，they do not convier the mat－ ter of sufficient relative importisnce as at dus tume to requate or justry a departure frome existing usige－
The provisinns in the policies allowing days of grace in premam payment，while at variance with the theories of ret cialues，do not seem toneed any remedy under the resolution．

## BRITISE COLUMBIA．

As indicated in our last issue，we make the following in－ teresting excerpasifrom the amual report of the Board of Trade of Britisil Columbia，for the year ending June jo， 1SS7．
Increased activity among the mine：s of the lrovince is one of the marked features，especially among the gold and silver districts．
The canning of fish is increasing largely，and although the season of ISS6 was an uafavorable one，in consequence of late freshetsi in the rivers，the serentern cameries in the Province sent out 163.00 .4 cases of cans，aganst $107.08 s$ in ISS5，and 57，394 in 1579.
Someidea of the business done in the city of Victoria can be gained from the following ligures of eaports for the fiscal year ending June 30 ，rSS7．

| Prohice of mines，gold． | S6S4，659 |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | i 20 |
| Animals and their produce | 910，499 |
| Manufactures ．．．．．． | 15，167 |
| Agricultural products． | $3 \mathrm{~S}, 32 \mathrm{~S}$ |
| Miscellancous． | 240 |
| Total，the produce of Canad Gooks not＂＂ | 1．994，169 |

Fxports from the P＇ort of New Westmmster for the fiscal year ending juth Junce， $185 \%$ ．

I＇rudtuce of the forest．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．．ミ2，30，5：9）
Exports from Namamo for the fiscal year endung June 30 ， ISS7．

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { "t tisheries ................................... }{ }^{10} \\
& \text { fore゙的. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . } 3,520 \\
& \text { Manufactures ami agricultural protucc........ } \quad 3.195 \\
& \text { Total.........................................1,4,404 }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { umbin fur the tiscal jear } 158 \text {,, Ina } 30 \text {... } \$ 6,6 u 5,954 \\
& \text { On which the duties paid were.... ........ S Sin, iso } \\
& \text { Total dutiey gaid on imports for } 16 \text { jears } \\
& \text { were.................................99.431.415 }
\end{aligned}
$$

The foregoing data sire pleasing indications of the grow－ ing prosperity of the Pacitic slope of the lominion．Which will be much increaud when the great transcontinental pathway to China and Japan shail lee in full operation．

## FIRE UNDERWRITERS＇ASSOCIATION

of THE ：：ORTH－WEST．
The cighteenth ammal session of this A isseciation was held at Chicago，on Sept．ifth ult．The attendance was fully up，to that of former ycar．Many valuable paper were read before the Association，extracts from some of which will he found in this issuc acredited to the several athors，and others will be given in future issues．The following officers were elected for the ensuing year：I．W．Hulman，l＇resedent ： J．C．Myers，Vice－President；J．C．Griffith，Serretary－Treas－ arer．

Commissions and Brokerage．－＂Proceeding on that as－ sumpuon（that 23.39 per cent．is now paid bit the compa－ nies in the states，as commissions and brokerage），you witl at once perceive that 23.39 per cent．is an increace of s 39 over 15 per cent．，the former ample commission phin．入iow What does $S \cdot 39$ per cent．mean in connection with the die premiums of ISS6？
＂Even when limited to American companics alone，and those doing lousiness in the State of New lork alone，it means $\$ 5.500,000$ of meney．Lind what do $\$ 5,500,000$ mean in connection with the emergencies wer which we are now howling？They inean the difference hetween care，anxiety， and possible cmbarassment on the one hand，and comfort， case and enlarged surpus on the other．
${ }^{15}$ The more you add to the exorbitant commissions now paid，the more you may；there is no climax to this sort of thing，but ruin or madical reform．The fact that a hardy bro－ ker can bulldose you into paying him 40 per cent．to－day only gives him the rea；on to enpert and the cheek to demand 50 tomorrow．Where will foll stop）？This thing is a botturnless pit，you cannot fill it up，you cannot safely bridge it；but you cin turn aside and waik in a safer road．＂ C．C．Hise．
＂Compacts and State Boards．if the people of Michigan did but know it，have served to reduce the expenses of their business，thus enabling rates to be reduced．It has also served to equalize rates．thus putting the real fire cont wincere it rightiy belungs，and reducing the former rates upun the safer hazards．The benctit to the pullic of compacts in insurnoer is obtained through a comparison of the views of the many； otherwise those companies，whose experience had been phe－ nomenally bad，would clarge a high rate，and other compa－ nies would creep along up to that figure as closely as ponsi－ ble．The grouping of the experience of all brings education in the business，cures defects in hazards，henefits the matiu－ facturer and the merchant，improves the property through intelligent tables of schedule rating，and cheapens invur－ ance to all who arail theinselves of the improvements sug－ veested：＂A．Wizliams．

North Western Association.-"This Association has accomplished much in raising the standard of our business. It has opened up lines of thought, and given incentive for inquiry and research, has shown that there is in the business of fire underwriting scope for the highest mental effort; that we need not sink to the level of mere routine, we need not make the gossip and prattle of the trade the controlling influences in it, but our aspirations may be as high, and our attainments may be as great as can be offered by any profession. It is only necessary to examine the amnual proceedings of this Association, and the programme of the presen: meeting, to have ample evidence of the possible scope of fire underwriting. There is scarcely a branch of plysics that has not been levied upon for its contribution to the better equipment of its members for the discharge of their daily duties. H. H. Hall.

Criminal Fires.-"Although the mean amount of incendiarism in fires as a whole is 26 per cent., as stated, the amount of incendiarism varies in different classes of risks. For instance, fires in tobacco harns are about 85 per cent. incendiary; in rimks, about 66 per cent.; in livery stables, about $6_{3}$ per cent.; in slaughter houses, about 59 per cem. Now, it ought to follow, if the theory that insurance furnishes the motive for incendiarism is to be borne out, that these classes of risks are heavily insured, but they are not. Many insurance companies will not write policies on these propertics. It does not at all seem to be the case, as it ought to be, if insurance furnishes the motive, that the percentage of uninsured loss runs down as the ratio of incendiarism rums up. On the contrary, nearly all the classes of property distinguished for intense incendiarism show large property losses in excess of the amounts of insurance paid; and this fact appears to prove conclusively that property having a high moral hazard is pretty generally :nown and avoided by insurance companies."
"In any fair study of the causes of criminal fires, no other conclusion can be reached than that private enmities, business rivalries, mischief, malice, race prejudices and hatred, factional quarrels, jealousy, religious intoleration, fire raising for parposes of theft or to hide theft, fire-raising for purposes of murder, or to hide murder, labor troubles, and so on, correctly account for the majority of incendiary fires."Franklin Wedster.

A Contemptible Item.-Two of our daily newspapers recently published a rather sensational and most contemptible item, to the effect that some insurance manager had largely overdrawn his accoumt, dodging legal responsibility therefor by the non-mention of names. We would treat this item with the contempt it deserves, were it not that statements of this nature are calculated to do irreparable injury, not only to a manager, but also to his company ; and papers publishing such uterly groundiess rumors, as in this instance, cannot be too strongly censured. It is a most dastardly outrage that venal charges against reputable men should be bandied about the strects, and even telegraphed to other sensational shecis at a distance, when enquiry' properly made, would show that there does not exist even the shadow of a foundation for such childish and foolish statements, emanating doubtless from the verdant brain of some spiteful or malicious creature, and made the most of by some "smart Aleck" reporter, who richly deserves the lash. Even the papers wh: ich published the item had to say in their very next issues that enguiry had proved the rumor to be entirely untrue and of malicious origin. But why was not this enquiry made before publishing the slander? It is easier to scatter evil seeds thanit is to collect them again.
Iondon Assuranes Corporation. We have received a circular issaded by Mr. C. C. Foster, announcung the appomtment of Aho i. A. Cwit, as jumt agent wath humself, of this Curporation fur the Lummon, and hereafter the Lusmess will be conducted liy these gentemen as joint Chief Agents. We referred to this appointment in our last issue.

THE FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCTATION.
As stated some time since in The Curonicle, the Directors of the london \& Lancashire Life, and Fire Insurance Association, came to the conclusion to place the management of the two companies under different heads. Mr. Clirehugh, the manager of the joint offices resigning that of the Fire Association.-but retaining a seat upon the Board of Direction-to devote his entire attention to the interests of the London © Lancashire Life ; Mr. David Lawrie having been appointed General Manager of the Fire Insurance Association. In carrying out this policy a change has been made in the Canadian management, to take effect Januars 1st, 1888. Mr. William Robertson, the popular Manager of the two offices, now devoting his entire attention to the growing interests of the London \& Lancashire Life; and Mr. John Kenmedy, Superintendent of Agencies under Mr. Robertson, assuming the management of the Fire Insurance Association.

Mr. Robertson has held the position of Manager of the Fiic Insurance Association since its arrival in Canada, about six years ago, and has succeeded in establishing a valuable system uf agencies for it thruughout the Dominiun. During his control as maiager, the A ciation has passed through the fiery ordeal of the last few years-exceptional in the history of fire insurance for loss occurrences-wathout having lost moncy. He, therefore, deserves well at the hands of the Home office.

Mr. Robertson leaves for the South in a few days, for the benefit of his health; and his confreres and many freends unite in the hope that after a brief sojourn among the orange groves of the balmy South, le will returr. in restored health, and prepared to $p$ ush the interests of the Londun a Lancashire Iafe with his customary vigor and success.

## MR. JOHN KENNEDY.

Mr. John Kennedy, who assumes the management of the Fire Insurance Association, for Canada, from January is! prox., as above intimated, is, according to his present clicif's estimation, "the right man in the right place; "and further, he is the best man that the Association could get for the position. Mr. Kemedy, prior to joining the Fire Insurance Association, about a year ago, was Inspector for the Royal Insurance Company, with which office he was connected for some 13 jears. Messrs. Gault \& Tatley, to. gether with the other officials of the Royal, manifested the estecm in which he was held in that office, by presenting him with a suitable testimonial, accompanied by a flattering address, on the occasion of his leaving to join the Fire Association.

Mr. Kennedy is acknowledged to be a shrewd and capable underwriter; zealous in the disclarge of his dutics, straightfonvard, and a general favorite, not only with the managers of the companies, but with the agents throughout the Dominion. Mr. Lawrie and the Association are to be congratulated upon securing so worthy a successor to Mr. Robertson ; and we heartily wish both Mr. Kennedy and his company every success.

It gives us pleasure to be in a position to state that the agents cupluy cd by the Company in Canada nould do uredit to any cumpany, and we may safely assume that thes will use even greater energy in the future in the interests of the Fire Insurame Assuciation, as a display of theit good will towards Mr. John Kennedy, whom we predict will rank among one of the most popular managers in Canada.

## TAX UPON COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS.

IN tile province of guebec.
The Privy Council, the highest legal tribunal that we have, having decided that the tax levied by the Provincial Government of Quebec, for revenue, upon Commercial corporations, including every incorporated company carrying on any labor or trade, etc., is perfectly legal, and as a consequence can be enforced; hence deeming the act itself important to our readers we insert it in full, as follows, entitled

## an act to impose certan direct taxes on certain commerclal corporations. <br> (45 Vict., Cap. XXII. ıSS2.) <br> [Assented to $27 t / 1 /$ Ifay, 1887.]

Hiar Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the legishature of Quebec, enacts as follows:-

1. In order to provide for the exigencies of the public service of this Province, every lank carrying on the business of banking in this province, every Insurance Company accepting risks and transacting the business of insurance in this prowince, every Incorporateu Company carrying on any labor, trade or business in this province, every incorporated Loan Company making loms in this province, wery incurpurated dabigation Cornpany running a regular line of steamers, steamboats or other vessels in the waters of this province, every Telegraph Company working a telegraph line or part of a telegraph line in this province, every 'lelephone Company, working a telephone line in this province, every City Passenger or Tramway Company, working a line of railway or tramway in this province, and every Railway Company working a ra.iway or part of a railway in this province shall, ammally, pay the several taxes mentioned and specified in section III. of this act, which taxes are hereby imposed upon each of such Commercial Corporatuons respectively:
2. The term "Bank" includes, Satings lanks, the term "Insurance Company" comprises Life, Fire, Inland, Marine, Guarantec and Accident Insurance Companies, but does not include Nutual Insurance Companies organized under the laws of this province. The term "Incorporated Loan Company" includes Building Societies; and the term "Incorporated Company". does not include companies publishing newspapers or periodicals.
3. The ammal taxes, imposed upon and payable by the commeicial corporations mentioned and specified in section I, of this act, shall be as follows:

## I. BANKS.

(a) Five hundred dollars, when the paid up capital of the bank is five hundred thousand dollars or less than that sum; one thousand dollars, when the paid up capital is from five hundred thousand dollars to one milhon dollars; and an additional sum of two hundred dollars for each million or fraction of a million dollars of this paidup capital from one million dollars to three million dollars; and a further additional sum of one hundred dollars for each million or fraction of a million dollars of the paid-up capital over three million dollars.
(b) An additional tax of one hundred dollars for cach uffice or place of business in the cities of MIontreal and guebec, and of twenty dollars for each office or place of business in every other place.
11. INSLRANCE COMPANiES.
(a) an insurance company carriug on solely the business of life Insurance five hundred dollars.
( $b$ ) An insurance sumpang carry ing on any other hind rebsoratice, fuar hamded dollors, aid when it combines inu ut murc hinds of iasurance, including iffe msurance, an acitional sum of fifty duilurs for cach hind of insurance carricd un beyond one.
(c) An additional tax of one 1 adred dollas for each office or place of business in the Cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of tive dollars for each office or place of business established in every other place.

## II. NCORYORATED COMPNNIES.

(a) One hundred dollars, with ath additional sum of fifty dollars for each two humdred and fifty thousand dullars or fraction of two hundred and fifts thousand dollars of the paid-up capital of the company over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.
(b) An additional tax of lifty dollars for each place of business, factory or .. stsshop in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of twenty dollars for each place of business, factory or workshop in every other place.

## 1V. INCORPORATRD LOAN COMPANIES.

(a) A company with a fixed capital, four hundred doilare, with an additional sum of fifty dollars for each million: dol. lars or fraction of one million dollars of the paid-up capital of the company, uver one million dollars.
(b) A company without a fixed capital,one hundred dollars.
(c) An additional tax of one hundred dollars for each office or place of busmess in the cittes of Montreal and Quebec, and of fifty dollars for each office or place of business in cvery other place.

## r. incorporatel naligallus companibs.

(a) One hundred dollars when the paid-up capital is one hundred thousand dollars or less; two hunded doliats when the paid-up capital is from one hundred thousand dollars to five humdred thousand dollars; with an adrlitional sum of one hundred dollars for each five hundred thousand dollars or fraction of five hundred thousand dollars, of the paid-up capital of the company, over five hundred thousand dollars, but not to exceed a maximum of one thousand dollars.

> vi. TELEGRAPH COMPARIES.
(a) One thousand dollars.
(b) An additional tax of five dullars for cach office.
vif, telephone companies.
(a) Five hundred dollars.
(b) An additional tax of one hundred dollars for the principal station in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of fifty dollars for the principal station in every other place.
VIII. CITY PASSENGER RAILWAY OR TRAMWAY
COMPANIES.
(a) Fifty dollars for cach mile of railway or tramwiay worked.

1x. Rallway companies.
(a) The railway companies mentioned in the schedule of this act, twenty dollars for each mile of railway worked.
(b) All other milway companies, five dollars for exch mile of railway worked.
4. Such taxes shall be payable on the first juridical day of the month of July in each year.
5. The principal tax hereby imposed shall be paid annually to the license inspector of the revenue district in which the commercia! corporation has its chicf or licad oftice ; and in the event of it not having a chief or principal office in this province, to the license inspector for the revenue district of Quebec.
The additional tax shall be paid annually to the license inspector of the revenue district, in which the office, place of business, factory or workshop, for which it is payable, is situated.
6. If any such annual tax be not paid, the same may Le recovered with legal interest thercon from the date ulun which such tax became duc, by an action brought, in his own name, on behalf of Her Majesty, by the licunse inspec tor of the revonue district in which such tan $1 . \Omega$, payalile.
7. All actions for the recovery of such taxes shall be brought in the judicial district in which they are payable, either befone the Circmit Court or the Superior Court, according to the competency of the Court with reference to the amomut chamed.
8. Costs shall not be adjudged against the license inspector in any action instituted by him under thas act, but on the recommendation of the tribunal, the provincial treasurer may, in his diseretion, pay to the commercial corporation, in favor of whel judgment has been rendered, the coste to which he may deem it equitably entitled.
9. The clerks or secretary-treasurers of every municipal corporation shall, amually, on or before the first day of June, return to the provincial treasurer the names of all commercial corperations of the nature of those mentioned in this act, established or doing business wethin their respective municipalities, specifying the number of offices, plates of business, factories or workshops of each: and in default of so doing, they shall severally be liable to a tine of twenty five dollars, and in default of payment of such fine to an imprisomment of twenty-five days.
10. The taves imposed $b$. this act shall form part of the consolidated revenue fund of the province.
11. Any proportion of such taxes may be applied, from time to time, by the provincial treasurer, under the direction of the heutenant-governor-in-council, to the payment of the expenses incurred for the carrying out of this act.
12. This act shall come mo force on the day of its sanction.

## TAX ON COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS.

## In the North-West.

Through the courtesy of Mr. F. W. Pettit, Calgary, we have information that the North-West Council last year passed a joint stock Ordinance, in which, among other matters, foreign insurance companies doing business in the North-West 'lerrituries are reguired to pay a fee of $\$ 200$, where the capital ions $\$ 400,000$, or more, and upon smaller capitals the fee is to be graduated accordingly. The fire underwriters, very properly, proceeded to assess ihis tax upoal the insured by raising the tates ten per cent., which, of course, created quite a sensation among the insuring public, and the yuestion was raised as to the authority of the Council to assess this tax, some claiming it to be uftra aiges, under certain restrictions said to be imposed by Section 13, sub-sec. 2 , of the North-West Territories Act. Our correspondem asks if we can give him any information upon the mater.

Not having access to the Act referred to, we are not familiar with its requirements, hence camot pive any information founded thereon. But we take it as a gevera, principle that every combtry, province, or city has the power to assess all classes of business and property in order to raise a revenue to carry on its government: and that the North-West Council would not have proceeded in a matter so important without being assured of its authority in do so; and the companies would not pay the tax if there be any reasonable doubt of its legality. In the Province of Quebec, where a similar ict is in force, it has been decided by the highest judicial authority that the tax imposed by the Act is legal, and must be paid. i marked difference, however, exists Letween the two Acts; in one the amomet of the the is fised, and the companies can know just what they will be called upon to pay; whe in the other the power of assessment is unlimited, being left to the pleasure of the provincial Government, to make it more or less as the exigencies may demand, thus leaving the companics in entire ignorance as to the amount they may be called upon to contubute.

In the issues of The Chronicle, of July and August uito (pp. 20S-3.0), will be found a full expression of our views upon this very important subject.

The course pursued by the underwriters in assessing this tax upon the policyholders is the only way in which the
companies can effectually mect such legislation; for like any other cost, it must be c'arged to the consumer, thus becoming an indirect tax upon the people. But inasmuch as the increase of premium rates from any cause always creates dissatisfaction among the insureds, it has been suggested that in vindication: of the increase on this occasion, it be made a special charge, written upon the policy, in addition to the regular premium, with a view to impress upon the policyholder the marked distinction existing between the simple cost of insuring a risk against fire only, and a burdensome taa mequitably exacted from the insurec by the Government. This course, recommended to the companies in th. States by the Committee on legislation and taxation, of the National l3oard in year 1875, was put into operation in several cities, and found to work admirably to the end proposed.

As has already been said, no other recourse is left open to the companies to recuperate themselves for the money paid for these taxes. It is a commercial axiom that consumers must bear the burden of all duties, taxes, etc., imposed upon all articles of use or consumption.

## THE FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS ANATIZED.

From a scries of very interesting tables, computed from Insurance Department Reports by The Insurance World, Pittsburgh, Pa., showing the progress of the fire business in the States from 1860 up to and inclusive of 1855 , under three general heads, viz.:
Percentage of losses to fire premium receipts.
" to amouat of risks written.
of expenses to total prenium reccipts.
" commissions to premium and interest reccipts.
We get the following several results:

" Rato of losises to fire "premiums,
1855............
1860.............. 58.50

IS85............. 55.58 p.c.
Av.rage fur the whule period........................... 57.40 p.e
Latio of losses 10 the amount written, IS60........... 3474
Prenium rate advanced from . 6 ugg in 1860 to $7 \mathrm{Fa}_{12}$ in 1885.
Ratio of expenses to fire and inland premiums, 1860 .... 28.86 p.c. Average for the whole period.................... $\begin{array}{ll}1865.79 & 33.40 \text {.. }\end{array}$ A difference of 7.93 per cent. between 1860 and 1885
Katio of commissions paid to premium, and interest receipts. 1860944 Average for the whole period........................... $17 . \mathbf{I V}_{1}^{14.7^{1}}$
An increase of 7.93 for $18 \$_{5}$ over 1860 .
Commenting upon these tables, our contemporary says :" It will be seen that the commissions have increased 7.93 per cent. from s $\$ 60$ to 1885 , and by a peculiar coincidence, this is the exact difference in the ratio of expenses for the same period. Or, in other words, the abnormal increase in expenses has been purely and solely for the benefit of the broker, and the companies have been left in the cold."

Insurance Legislation.-Insurance has been treated in this country as a species of gambling, and has been dealt with by the law-makers as an evil which needed police regulations. Every statue regulating insurance bears unmistakable marks of ignorance of and prejudire against insurance as a science, or as an honorable industry. Nearly every insurance law is a blunder; if in no other way than in the assumption of jurisdiction, for insurance is a necessity, is a staple as much as sugar or coffec, as cotton or corn, and should be a matter of interstate regulation ratioer unan for individual state abuse. The citizens of Connecticut should have the same right to sell a policy of insurance to the citizens of Illinois that he has to sell him a revolver or a monument, a package of envelopes or a stean enginc. Any law which is a burden to insurance companies increases the cost of insurance, and hence injures every citizen who pays an insurance premium.- $J$. W. Molman.

## VACCINATION.

Our worthy confrire, the Budget, has come out in a new role as the organ of the anti-vaccinationists of Toronto. In its last issue it devoted four complete pages of solid matter to the exposition of their views, as set forth nominally by "Doctor" Alexander M. Ross, but which read very much like a number of extracts from the circulating literature of the English Anti-vaccination Society, strung together like beads, and with a little original mater thrown in here and there as spicing.
But, original or not original, let us take a glance at what is said, knowing that the strongest arguments which the opponents of vaccination can possibly bring forward are now before us. Nearly one-third of the whole article consists of the "Testimony of Vaccinators." A large number of statements are attributed to medical men and others in all parts of the world, about most of whom we know hutle and care less. Their opinions may be valuabie, or they may be utterly worthess, even if correctly quoted. They may be of the ciass who are without honor in their own comutry, It is quite possible, for instance, that "Doctor" Alex. Mi. Ross, of Poronto, is referred to as an authority by the anti-waccinationists of England and Austraha. Moreover, we are quite certain from an exammation of them, that many of the quotations are garbled cxtsacts, and that if the whole comection were given in eaci. - e, th: . .ells of must of the leading persons quoted would be found to be very different from the impression given of them by these bate extracts. But we will not waste more time over this point, but will pass on to the statistics given.
"Doctor" Ross takes the ridiculuus ground of asking the advocates of vaccination to "prove by facts that the vaccinated never take the small-poa, but are safe under all circumstances, white the unvaccinated are certam to take the disease whenever cxposed to it." Few, if any, sensible prople claim this-all that is chaimed is that vaccination is a very valuable preventative, and therefore shotd never be neglected. But "Ductor" Ross' pusition is no more reasonable than if he were to say: "Prove to me that if a man wears an overcoat in winter he will never take cold, or if you do not do so, you must admit that the overcoat is no protection and he is better without it." Most of the stanstics brought forward by inim merely prove that even vacmated persons sometime: tahe smallpos, bat so do people who wear overcoats sometimes take coid. All that we claim is that the vaccinated are much less likely to take small-pox, just as those who wear overcoats are much lees likely to take cold. When this is borne in mind, the greater jart of all the so-called proofs at once seem to be entirely irrelevant and valueless.
But those statistics which are to the point prove conchusizely that vaccunation is a great prorection. Take for instance the table refering io the Montreal epidemic of 1885 . He first gives figures which, if correct, would show that about sixty per cemt. of the persons admitted to the small-pox hospitals were vaccimated, and only forty per cent. unvaccinated. He then follows this up by a table which was prepared for him by a medical nan, from enquiries made of the reatives and friends of the persons who had died of small-pos, and of whose names he had a register. The following is this table.
Summary of Montreal small-pox cpidemic iSS5:

| $\Lambda_{\text {gc at death. }}$ | Roman | Catholic |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | chi | Uilcrss. |  | hacin | Uniactin- | Total. |
| Linder one ycar |  |  | 16 | 36 |  |  |
| One yeartorwenty. | 2,243 | 313 | 49 | 1,062 | 1,543 | \% |
| Tincty to fify.... | 14 13 13 | 30 30 | 29 | ${ }^{128}$ | Si | 0 |
| Total...... | 2,803 | 187 | 97 | 1,400 | 1,737 |  |

Now, if we assume for the moment that these figues are
correct, as regards the vaceination or non-vaccimation of the cases which proved fatal, dey would show that fifty six per cent. of the deaths from smallpon, even of unvacumated persons, white the propertion of unvaccinated cases admitted to the hospitals as quoted by him was only forty per cent. This would seem to be clear proof fiom his own figures ; the vaccinated, even if attacked, had a better chance of life than the unvaccinated.

But look at the figures for a moment ag.ain. Suppose it is true that only fifty-six per cent. of the deaths were of unvaccinated persons. In that case, either at least fifty-six per cent. of the population of the city were masaccinated, or the mortality among those vaccinated was much lighter than among those who were not. But will even " Doctor" Rows cham that more than at the outside awenty-five or thiry per cent. of the population of Montreal were unvaccinated? He must then admit that according to his own figures, the seventy per cent. of the population who were vaccinated oily furnished forty-four per cent. of the deaths, while the thirty per cent. unvaccinated furnished fifity-sis per cent. of the deaths. "Doctor" Ross hais evidently proved more tian he intended.
But one step further and the proof is then as it seems to us conclusive. The infurmation in the above table as to whether the deaths were those of vaccinated or unvacemated persons was obtained, we are told, foum "the freads and relatives of the deceased." These people were chielly of the most ignorant class of French Canadians, mosi of whom are bitterly opposed to vaccination, and who may be expected therefore to give the most usiavorable tinge possible to anything they had to say out this subjec:. In how many cases was a doubful vaccination recorded as a certain one when the object of the questioner was known? "How many cases were recorded as vaccinated when the virus had becin carefuliy washed off as soon as the public vaccinator was gone." But we need not go further on this point. It is sufficient that "Ductor" Ross's uwn statistics show that vaccination is a great protection.
Let us just glance now at t.i.e latest official testimony from England:
$\because$ During the first $x_{5}$ years after the passing of the compulsory vaccination act, 1854 to 1565 , there died of smallpox in Fingland and Waies 54.7oo.
"Daring the sciond if seare, is69 to iSS3. when 95 per cent. of all chitdren born were vaccinated, tie deaths rose to 66.447."

During 1:at period of 15 years the population increased by about $3.500,000$, and the deaths from smallpox were therefore just about the same pro rata in each term. But let us go a step furiher back.

ANALIL DESTHS FRUM SMABMPOX IN ENGIAND.

| Period. | Anumal deaths. | Rate per million of population. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average of $3^{0}$, cars before munduction of vaccunaturn $1 \mathrm{SO}_{7}-1 \mathrm{~S}_{37}$ | 40,005 | 3,000 |
|  | 4,4301 | 180 |

From this it is evidem that white smallpox has not been and probably never will be entirely extirpated, it has been reduced to trilling proportions, compared with what it was before vaccination was introduced. The small number of persons (excepting French Canadians) who are pitted with small-pos at the present day, as compared with the last generation, is a selfecvident proof of this.
But what about the "official cridence from Scothand." "Doctor" Ross says that in the small-nox epidemie which prevailed there in 1871-3, there were 517 deaths of vaccinated children (under one year) against2 45 unvaccinated. We have not the means at hand of checking these figures, but
even ift, yy are true, they tell against the anti vaccinationists. For will it be claimed that in a comntry like Scolland, in which vaccination had been strictly carried out since 1804, and in which there was compulsory registration of births. and at a time when, on accullut of the eppidemic, the vacsination act was enforced very carefully,-that in such a country and under such circumstances, one-third of all the children in the land were unvaccinated? If there were only five or ten per cent. unvaccinated, is it not strange that they should supply one-third of all the deaths?
The statistics of Doctor L. J. Keller, of the Austrian State Railways, were shown by Mr. T. B. Sprague, in the Apiil, 8877 , issue of the Journal of the Institute of Actuaries, to be entirely unreliable, as they did not take into consideration the number exposed to small-pox, who did not take the disease-a rather important omission. And so we might go on with others, but space forbids. We will only refer to one other table of the "IJoctor's"- that in which lie attempts to prove that the percentage of death among those attacked before the introduction of vaccination was no greater than now prevails among those vaccinated jersons who are attacked. For this purpose, he quotes foli ancient authorities in which the average deaths were said to be 18.8 per cent. of those attacked, against 16.9 per cent. among those vaccinated persons who are attacked at the present day. What truth there is in those four we cannot say; but why does not the "Doctor" refer for instance to the epidemic in Marseilles in 1828 . We are told that then the most careful search was made, and it was found that there were in the place 30,000 persons more or less perfectly vaccinated, and 8,000 unvaccinated. The following was the result :

|  | of the 8,000 unvaccinated. | of the 30,000 anccinated. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number atlacked | 4,000 , or 1 in 2 | 2,000 or 1 in 15 |
| of whom died | 1,875 , or 1 in $21-10$ | 20 or 1 in 100 |
|  | of those altacked. | of those altacked. |

But we have already said quite cnough on tiais subject. As our Teronto correspondent reminded us, it does wrench us awfully to kick against nothing, and we do not propose to attempt to do it again. The subject is now disnissed, so far as we are concerned.

EQUITABLE LIFE; ONTARIO BRANC.A
Mr. Hugh C. Dennis, of Cobourg, has been appointed manager of the Equitable Life Assurance Society for the Province of Ontario, with head quarters at Toronto. Mr. Dennis is endowed with ability and energy, two indispensible factors in a manager of a life insurance company, while he also possesses many other necdful qualities to ensure success. He has been, for some years, manager for Eastern Ontario, and has done a large business for the company.
The progress made by the Equitable has been truly wonderful. The last ammal statement of this "young giant" shewed a large increase over previous years' business in everything that goes to make the company a success.
The assets of the Company were $\$ 75.510,5_{7} .76$, an increase of $\$ 8,057,085.26$ over the previous year.
The surplus, in excess of all liabilities, upon a 4 per cent. basis, was $S_{1} 6.355,875.76$. On a $4 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. basis, it would have been $\$ 20.495,175.76$.
The premium income for the year $1 S S 6$, was $\$ 16.272,155$ being $\$ 2,810,475$ over 1885 . Total income was $\$ 19$,S73.733.19.
Such a splendid shewing is evidently the result of the liberal systems of insurance offered to its policyhodiers, including the non-forfeiture feature, afier the second year, as well as the prompt and satisfactory manner in which all loss claims are setled. The Equitable came to Canada in 1868 It has assets here, cash value $\$_{738,4}$ So. The amount $c$ insurance in force December 31, 1586 , was $\$_{12}, 436.28 s$. Paid to policyholders $\$ 223,511.95$, with no unseuled claims.
The repuration of the Equitable is world.wide, and it is fast winning friends and business by the liberal manner in which its policyholders are treated. We wish Mr. Dennis all suceess in his new position.

## YOU PAYS YOUR MONEY AND YOU TAKES your choice.

From thic Insurance Record. N. Y.

Here is the wonderful acrobatic feat of Napoleon Homans, pertorming as the only actuary in the world.
"The losses by death are borne by all the insured in proportion to the ages and risks on their own lives at the time.
"Alife insurance company must be furnished each year with sufficient funds to provide ( r ) for curremt death claims, (2) for the creation of a moderate guaranty fund available in casc of excessive mortality or other unfavorable contingencies, and (3) for the necessary expenses of conducting the business."Shrppard SIomans.
Now you see it and now you don't.
" By the New Flan you pay as you go and get what you pay for. By the Old plan you over.pay. Such over-payment does not relieve yo, from future payments. It is exactly like paying every year an installment on all your future rent and taxes.
"life insurance is now made easy to understand.
"In no respect is it likely to become easier to grasp, for it is now stripped of every unnecessary thought or thing." -Shep fard Homans.

## Encore! Encore! Fit!Hi! Dring him out.

Every Level premium includes not only the full provision for the cost of insuring the net amount at risk at the actual age attained, no matter what the age of entry may have been, and a prot ision for expenses (comprising. as slated above, all that is absolutely required for instriance under any form of policy), but includes also something else, which has nuthing whatever to do with present insurance or its cost. This something else is simply and solely a deposit or payment in advance on account of insuramece to be furnished in the distant and uncertain future, when the individ:al insured may not be living, or if alive may not then need insurance." -Sheppard $2 V_{0}$
"A life insurance company must be compensated each year for the insurance furnished, for expenses of mangement and for possible adverse contingencics, and should retain from th: first payment of each policy-hohd er a sum sufficiemt to procure a substitute equally satisfactory, in cise he should terminate his contract."-Shopparad Humans.
mans.
Wanted.-Twenty-five copies of the Jamary iname of the
surnce and Finance Curovicle: We will ghat ly
Wanted-Twenty five copies of the Jamary ivale of the
Insurance and Finance Cinowicle: We will glaty pay twenty cents a copy for them.

## A. COMMON EVIL.

One of the discouraging things in life insurance is the ease with which men otherwise well informed, can be wheedled into placing insurance in pretentious cooperatives. Many an earnest agent for legitimate li.e insurance finds his greatest difficulty in this weakness on the part of men holding good positions in the business world. It is too bad that with all the facts so clearly demonstrated to every one who reads upon this question at all, so many good men can be pointed to as endorsing by the use made of ther names, this, that, or the other transparent swindle.
One of the most common experiences of the faithful agent is to be told that "if such and such a concern is good enough for Mr., - Q.C., or the Hon. -, M.P., it is good thuugh for me," and much more of the same kind. No argunent he can use will convince these people that the persons named are not well qualtied to judge of the merits of the company is, which they risk their money. And it is not to be wondered at. If men posing as authorities in leyal, medical and commercial life contunue to lend their namss in this reckless manner, it must follow that men aecustomed to took up to, and to be led by, them will be guided by their example in this matter. Few people think for themselves, and it is clear that a great respishsibility rests on those who lead in the encouragement of any doubsul scteme. "It will not do for these men to say when disaster comes, "Oh, we never expected it would come to this. We thought it would last for our time at least. In any case we hare only paid the cost of our insurance."
Tlee trouble, is they have not had insurance and if they fond chemselves able financially and otherwise, to insure somewhere else it is not so with all who have been foolish enough to follow their example.
In many cases old age and illuess will prevent their getting insuranceand many will find the increased cost more than they can bear; and perforce go uninsured.
Many of the people referred to, when remonstrated with about the foolishness of their actions, profess to become indignant at what they call "unwarranted interference with their business."
But is not a man positively guilty, if by giving countenance without proper investigation to any scheme he induces others to follow on the strenght of his recommendation, and thereby brings them into trouble and disaster?

How is he to escape the responsibility, when the means of information are at hand, and even forced upon his attention as in this case? It is time that such men should begin to think it over, and if they do so, the evil complained of will suon be a thing of the past. Some time ago, in a neightoring caty, a gentleman who had given his name as one of the Camadian board of reference, of one of the most dangerous of these institutions, was waited upon by a man whose confidence he enjoyed to a considerable extent, and was saluted with the following: "I have sien your name as one of the local board of the -- assaciation, and knowing you to be a shrewd man, and one well up in fimancial matters, I have decided to drop my life insurance in the -_and--' naming two of the oldest and most trustrorthy of companies-" and save the large premiums I have been paying." This was a new phase of the questio: to the gentleman interviewed, and the result was that he at once declined to be responsible for any suci state of things as that, and not only told his friend so promptly, but at once withdrew his name from the ornamental "board of reference." This was the manly honest thing to do, and it is just what every man of conscience would do if he were to inform himself fully as to his duty in the premises.
The evil is a glaring one, but the reaction is bound to be starling in some quarters, and that very soon.
Anew Fire Insurance Company, bearing the royal title of the "King," with a capital of $£ 100,000$, is announced
in Great Britain. in Great Britain.

## AVERAGE.

The true signfication of the word Average is : the mean sum, quantity or value made out of unequal sums, quantities or values, by adding these together and dividung by the number of them; a mean proportion, medium, as average time or mean time, average price, medium price, an average of several years, the mean of many observations. In Marine insurance it has another meaning of very extended application, and always includes the idea of contribution, in addition to that of common ratic or result.

Underwriting is emphatically a business of average, a calculation, a taking the chances upen some kind of measurement of probabilities, the contingency msured against may happen, or it may fall, or partly happen, or partly fail,that is, there may be a total loss, or a partial loss, or no loss at all under the cuntract. In life insurance the contingency insured against-death-must happen, the only question being one of probability as to the time when it will occur. But white the individual life is uncerta:n, yet among a number of lives the death occurences are subject to the law of average.

Rating of risks is expermental, tentative only. Some ofices have made money on certain classes of risks, while on others they have lost. It has taken time to discover this, and will take time to remedy by a rearrangement of its averages.
Insurance is based upon average experience of a large body of risks, taken collectively, rather than on the actual hazard attaching to any single one of them, upon the principle that the more extended the risks the broader is the chance for average.
Hypothesis formulates and systematizes all that is l:nown upon a given matter, to aid in the further knowledge of it. Rightly construed, it is the right foundation of such right investigation as solves the riddles of the unknown, hence every tariff of rates, each premium rate and every Life table is an hypothesis. Hypothesis is average.
The underwriter knows that as to any individual subject beyond sight or knowledge and sagacity there may be lurking fire on the one hand, or lurking villainy on the olther, or mayhap both; but he puts his trust in the final average according to the traditions of his calling, and takes the chances.
Even intuition, by which an underwriter is induced to accept or reject a risk, without exactly knowing why, is largely the result of average combinations in his mind.

An experienced underwriter has said: "No man can safely underwrite a single risk, while he may write a thuusand with a profit at a rate based on the average loss on a thousand risks of like claracter; neither can he fix an adequate rate of premium to a suggle risk, while he may, in the light of experience, fix a proper rate to a thousaud; the law of avcrage prevails to a wonderful degrec in many departments, subject to the wildest caprices of chance in its individual members. Nothing but the winds and the waves can be more capricious and uncertain than human life in the individual man ; yet life itself, in the aggregate, presents an average as certain as the simplest proposition in mathematics; the average life of a thousand men presents a mathematical certainty, and a thousand risks on property subject only to acidantal destruction by fire present an equal certainty for calculating the premium."

Hence it is only by the application of the t:eory of aver
age, the adding together of individual risks, or happenings, under the several contingencies covered by the insurance, and dividing by the mumber of each, that anything like reliable data can .. approximated in underwriting. Hence come the "average rate" and the "average line" it fire insurance.

Average, in fine, is the underlying principle of commerce and of many other suljects, mure or less intinately connected with the common affiars of hfe.

## AN ANTUENT INSURANCE POLICY.

The followin, is a verlatim coply of what is known as the "Ancona lool: 4 ." wisten in Latim, issued in the year 1576 , and said to he oldest policy on record.

Muriu, dic 20 Octurris, 1507.
In Nomine Del, quod felici itineri, incolumitati \& luero vertat. Notus: as manifestum fit cuilibet lecturo hoc Assecurationis instrumentum, quod Dn. Johames Stracria, Nobilis Anconitanus, se assecurari faciat super telis unduhatis, panais, \& omnes generis aliis mercibus, impositis sive imponendis per Dn. Nicholaum Piltestri, sive quamlibet aliam personam, navi, cui nomen S. Miriu loretme, cui Magister propositus est Angelus Picchi, sive qualibet ali persona mandato, d. Dn. Johames Stracche, instructa, sive alius guem ea res spectiat, sicuti ex literis vecture constat vel constabit ex portu Constantinopolitano ad portum usque Aconitanum, datá ci potestate cum dicta nave \& mercibus ci impositis intrandi quemcunque pormm \& locum, \& mavibandi antrorsum et retrorsum, a dextris $\mathbb{\&}$ à sinistris pro placito\& voluntate istius Mawistri navis, itinere non mutato; Dictis Assecuratoribus suscipiontibus in se periculum dd. mercium super ommi casumaris, ignis, jactus in mare, repres. saliarum, direptionum foediratorum vel hostium, $\mathbb{\&}$ omnis alius casus portentosi, fortuiti, infortunii sinistri, impedimenti \& casus mali \& qualiscunque fuerit vel intervenerit. Omnia dicta pericula illi subeme, $\mathbb{E}$ ommia in sese recipiums illi infra scripii Assecuratores ab eo tempore quo d. navis vela fuenit ex. d. portu Constantinopolitano cum dd. telis undulatis $\&$ alius generis mercibus, dunec appulerit in portum Anconitanum, ibique salva steterit horas ${ }^{2}+$, sicuti supra dictum est ; Et si dictis telis undulais superveniat vel sujervenerit inforumium aliquod (quod Dets avertas; Assecuratores tenentur darect solvere d. Dn. Joh. Stracche vel mandatario ejus nummos illos assecuratos intra duos menses ex co die quo ancone istius rei vera nova habebuntur ; Et si preetenderent ratione aliqua contradicere, non possint audiri ab aliquo Judice aut ullo Magistratu, nisi prius reipsa persolverim numeratam illam pectuinm; Et si abhinc mera menses duodecim de dicta nave non fuerimt vera novaperlata, Assecuratores oblgentur dare \& solvere pecunian istam ab illis assecuratam d. Dn. Johannes, alsque ulla exceptione ; Et si postmodum salva devenerit, (uti supra dictum est,) d. Dn.Johames debeat restituere mummos istos quos à d. Assicuratore acciperit; Adhbitur insuper hee declaratio, Assecuratores defraude nagıstri navis sive scribae ed dequibusvis allis periculis, casibus, simstris, infortunus personaliter velle obstrictos \& obligatos esse in ommbus \& Gubernatorem Ancontanum, vel ipsius Auditorem vel qualemeunque alum offictalem super Jure \& facto Judicem aynoscendeum, renunciantos dumciiio, moratoriss, secundun pleniorem Camerx Apostclice formulam, et se submittentes canvis loco Judice vel tribumah, Remunciant quoque dd. Assecuratores omni privilegio, indulto, prorogationi, legibus, statutis © immuniatibus, \& teriis que in illorum favorfin facerent; Et tenentur primum Assecuratores shlvere d. D. Johanni, sive ei, cui ille mandaveri, nummos ab ipsis assecuratos, et postea de causis litigare.

Volunt etiam dd. Assecuratores, ut d. Dn. Johannes sufficiemter satisdet restituendo culabet quod contra, quam oportebat,acceperit, cum usuris viginti pro Centum, quodque

Assecuratores ad probandum tempus duodecim mensium habeant, super eo quod in contratrium asserrere volueriut, quodque elapso d. tempore Dn. Johannes fit liber et exemptus abs omuia molestia quarem libet predictarum Causarum, Jurentque Assecuratores \& se obligent d. Dn. Johannes, scipsos ic omues suos hieredes et bona mobili, et immobilia, presentia et futura, ommi meliori modo qui) se obligare possent juxta forumham Camera A postolice, se submittentes ommibus locis abi fuerint inventi observatis solis termmss sohus celebrarı $\mathbb{\&}$ consuetis, dictô modù is forma Camere Apostolica, \& velunt hoc Instrumentum habere casdem vires et formam, quas per omnia habere queat contractus secundum formulam Camere.

Euam declarant istuss se esse propositi, quod super omaibus rebus non expressis in d. Instrumento, ubservandus it usus et Stylus fori Florentini.

Preterea volunt Proxentam sive mediatorem qui faciat d. securitatem solum valere authoritate, \& sufficere fidem authenticam suâ manu, suoque Juramento exhibere, si presens interert recogntom hiterarum sive manus cujushbet, qui hâc de causa pecuniam acciphat.

Factum per me Marianum Bemncasa, ex mandato Perri Fantohni, mprasentarum Proxenetam d. securitas, Anculat.

## SUBSCRIrTIONES ASSECURATORUM.

Ego Benedictus Gondola assecuro secundum modum at …구em hujus instrumenti pro nummis scutans trecentic, quorun singuit Paulinos undecim valent; et ob periculum meum acceppiab Odda Gualterucci guindecim scutatos dirti valoris, quo Deus ipsi servit.

Ego Antonius 'lrionsi assecuro, uti supri, pro scutatis trecents, quurum singuli undecim Paulinos valent, et nt peracalum meum accessi al) Odda Gualterncei quinderim scutatos. Deus illos servet.

Ego Franciscus Bernabei assecuro, uti supra, pro scutatis trecentis, (yuurum singuli undecim Paulinos valent.

Deus illos serves.
Our literal transtation of the above
Ancon: Policy.
Jesus Maria, 20th day of October, 1567.
In the name of God. May he make the voyage prosperous, safe and profitable. Let it be made manifest to all who read this instrument: That Don Join Straccha, a noble of Ancona, makes insurance for limself upon watered silk, drapery, and all other kinds of merchandise ladened or 10 be Jadened by Don Nicholas Pilestri, or winatever other person, upon the vessel, named St. Mary of Lorreta, of which the clief master is Angelo Picchi, or whatever other person selected by Don John Straccha, or any other whom these things may concern, as per bill of lading appears or may app-ar, from the port of Constantinople to the port of Ancona, giving to him authority, with the said vessel and the merchandise laden thereon, to enter whatever port and place, and to sail forward and backward, to the right hand and to the left hand, at the pleasure and will of the master of said vessel, the voyage not being cilanged. The said assurers taking upon themselves the risk upon said merchandise against all misfortunes of the sea, fire, jeution, reprisals, wreck, from friends orenemics, and all other injury whatsoever, chance, disaster, loss, impociment, and cans"; of loss, whatsoever it may be or shall happen All of said dangers shall be borne by them. and shall f.ill upon themselves, the said assurers, hucon below written, from the time that the said vessel shall set sail from the port of Constantinople with the said watered silk and other kinds of merchandise, until it shall be brought to the port of Ancona, and there safely remain for the space of 24 hours, as abore said. And if to the said watered silk any injury happens or may happen (which may God avert), the said assurers shall be held to give and pay to the said Don John Strarclia, or his representative, the sums by them assured, within two
months from the day on which true information of this thing shall be received; and if for any cause it shall be reasonably disputed that it is not poss: ble to have been heard of, before any judge or other magistrate, unless before that time he himself slall pay ${ }^{1}$ : ull sum of said money.

And if, from that date, for the space of twelve months no true news of said vessel himill have leen feceived, the assurers obligate themselves to give and pay the said money to the said assured, Don John, to the full amount, wihout eacyption, and if thereafter it (the vessel) should return in safely (as above said), the said Don John will have to re-pay the sums which he may have received from the assurers. Moreover, in this declaration the assurers assume all fratud of the master of said vessel, or of the cherk or, other persutis, and all other darigers, misfortunes, losses, personal accidents and detentions, acknow ledging judsment upon the law and the fact, before the Governor of Ancona, his auditor, or whatever other official, renouncing domiciie and delays according to the forms of the full Apostulic Court, and sub. mitting themselves to the judge and court of what ever place. Renouncugg to the said assurers all privileges, exchange, subrogations, laws, stautes and immunities, and holy days, wheh operate in their favor. Provided first, that the said assurers shall pay to the said Don John, or him whom he shall authorize, the money to him, the said assured, due, and in addution the cost of litigation.
It is also agreed by the sadd assurers that the said Dun John shall have security, as much as may be needful, with 20 per cent. interest. And it is also agreed that the said assurers may have 12 munths time for proot, in addition to that which to the contrary is asserted. And that after the hapse of the sadd tume, the said Don John shall be free and exempl from all molestation on account of the suit aforesaid. The assurers swearing and obligating themselves to the sad Don John and all has sssigns and heirs, in their goods, morable and immovable, present and future, and other property. in the manner in which they can bind themselves according to the form of the Apostolic Court, submitting themselves in all places where they may be found, carefully observing the customary limits of the said form of the Ayostolic Court, and agreeing that this mstrument shall have the same force and form as have all such contracts made according to the Court í C mula.
Also decharing it to be in itself important, that upon all matters not expressed in thi mstrument, reference shall be m:ade to the usage and style of ne Florence Court.
Furthermore, it is agreed that the broker or other intermediary who made the said recept shall alone be held authority sufficient, if authenticated by has band and by las oath shown ; or if it shall be unknown before whom this whting was acknowledged, then the hand of whomsoever shall have received the money will suffice.
Done by me, Marmum Bemncasa, by order of Peter Fantolini, in the presence of the broker, the sad security, at Ancona.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS Of the assurers.

I, Benedict Gondola, do assure according to the mode and tenor of this instrment to the sum of 300 scud, of whech ench is valued at eleven Paulos, and for my risk have received of Odda Gualterucci, 15 scudi of the aforesaid value. Which may God himself preserve.
I, Anthony Trionsi, as aut as above to the amount of 300 scudi, ine value of each of which is ir Paulos, and for my risk have received of Odda Gualterucci 15 scudi. May God preserve them.
I. Francis Bernabei, assure as above for 300 scudi, the value of each of which is in Paulos. Nay God preserve them.

The New York Life Insurance Company, on the 25 h ulto., paid their policy of $\$ 20,258$ on the life of the late Senator Sunecal.

REFUSAL OF A BANKRUPT TO SUEMIT TO A medical examinalion for ilil. manefil of mis crediturs.
A very interesting case was recently decided in the Court of Appeal, London, Eng., in re "Betts and Block," the poim at issue being whether a bankrupt could be compelled to summit himself to a medical examination in order to give a market value to a reversionary interest belonging to him. Briefly stated the facts are as fullow:
In September, $18 S_{5}$, Messrs. Butts and Bluck, partners in business, were adjudged baul rupts. The liabilities were $\notin 1,433$, and the realized assets $£ 206$ only. A furtherasset was a contingent reversionary interest in $£ 2,000$, to which Bluck was enuted in the event of his surnougg his mother, aged sixty nine. The trustec in Lambruptes could sell this reversionary interest for $£ 500$, if an insurance ne ere effected on Blach's life. In ordar, therefure, to protect the creditors of the estate, Block was called on to submit to a medical examination, which he refused to do, and declinine to give any reason for his refusal. Sume six mumbs befuet the bankruptcy of the firm, Block hod endayored to raise money upon this reversiunary interest for Lusiness purjuses, and had been medically carmined for the purpose of effecting an insurance upon his life; the propusal was accepted, but the negotiations for the loan fell through. Block having thus failed to aid to the utmost of his puwer in the redization of his property, within the terms of the Baukrupty Act, the Offictal Receiser withheld his discharge. In tahing the mater into cuurt, the Registrar in Buhruptey declined to take the question of Bloch's refusal to be examined into account, and the board of Trade appealed, contending that the Registrar ought to have refused the discharge until the bankruph had assosted in rendering this asset marhetable. The Court of Appeal consisted of the Master of the Rolls, (Lord Esher,) Justice Fry, and Lodd Justice Lopes. The majority of the court were of upinion that the !cfusal to submit to a medical enarnination did not come within the meaning of the section of the Act under discussion; on the other hand Lord Justice Fry, dissenting, was of tice opinion that the bankrupt had no right to deprive the creditors of a valuable property by vilistanding tine demand of the trustee in bankrupley.
The Insurance Record of London, from which we get these fact; in commenting upon the decision, says:
"We thus have it haid dowr, in a decision entitled to the greatest welght from the eminence of the judges, that a bankrupt camot be called upon to supply a medical eqpor, of the eligibility for insurance of his life, in order to give an enhanced vilue to co tain property which he possesses. *** In the present case it .ppeared that the reversioner had some time previously passed a satisfactory medical examination, and had made a statement in the effect that no change had taken place in the material conditions affecting his life, between the date of acceptance of his proposal and that of his bankruptcy. But it should be observed that the case did not at all turn upon this condition; and the ruling holds good, whether the loss so placed upon the shoulders of the credtors be great or small, parial or complete. The present suit clearly goes to prove that, under the existing bankruptey statutes, creditors upon an estate may have some of their property graturously wassed through the perversity of a debtor, this we can hardly conceive to be the intention of the framers of the Acts; bur it affords still another instance of the madequacy of human legislative effort to grapple successfully with all condtuons of the problem which it seeks to solve."
Similar rulings have been made in the United States in the case of a mortgagor, in the event of loss, and such mortgagor refuses to make the proofs called for by the terms of the policy, such refusal has been sustained by the courts there in several instances. But it was furtior held that the mortgaspes cuutd go forward and make tha proofs.

## MONTREAI'S FIRE LOSS RECORD.

## FOR SLX YEARS AND TEN MONTHS, $1881-18 S 7$.

We have prepared a statement of the fire losses in Mont- The following table shows the losses for each month fir real, giving the total loss and the amounts paid by the In- | the several years named. The total loss amounts to surance Companies for such losses, from January 1st, 1881, $\$ 8,038,586$, out of which the Insurance Companies $p$ aid to Uctober 3 ISt, 1 iSS7.
$\$ 4,376,358$.


The losses for each jear according to the above table, were:

| 1851 | Total Lnss S320,2S5 | Ins. Loss. | Total Loss. <br> 1S85..................... $\$ 692,649$ | Ins. Joss. $\$ 505.914$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ISS2. | $\$ 320,255$ $51 S .310$ | $\leqslant 259,436$ |  | 7505.984 775.547 |
| ${ }_{185} \mathrm{~S}_{3}$ | 951,292 | 754,866 | 18S7 to Oct. $3^{\text {Ist....... } 1,696,449 ~}$ | 1,054,255 |
| ${ }_{1 S S}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 712.393 | 592,4So | Totals......... S3,038,598 $^{\text {a }}$ | S1,376,358 |

## RUSINESS OF FOQEIGN BRANCH FIRE OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

From Date of leitry therein to Decfmuer 3i, iSSO.

| compailes. | Yumif | Premiums. | Lossc. | Total focome. | Tural <br> Expendizure. | Imases to |  | I hlanestocredit of lrem <br> in cxies of $c x$ in execrence d the icrerse. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Taral | Tosal <br> Expe:ti:iture |  |  |
| 1.iver E- Lon. EGlobe | 26 | $5 S$ | 37,781,056 | 64,702,034 | 54.731.169 | 5S.4 | G. 6 | 3.727,775 | 3,615,107 |
| ? ${ }^{\text {acen }}$ | 21 | 1S, $=29.709$ | 11,655,05 | 17,996,952 |  | 61.2 | 63.5 | 1,356-4 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1,255.144 |
| ※ionh BritihEr Mercl | 20 | 24.4.45.906 | 14.979,528 | 25.7730402 | 2.3,962,328 | 65.8 | 69.4 | 486.555 | 1,365,48 |
| Imperial. | 19 |  | S,S2S,566 | $13,546.312$ | $13,130,965$ | 63.7 | 66.7 | 95,450 | S2n.033 |
| Commercial Uno | 16 | 15,037.663 | $10 \times 154.634$ | 18.670.506 | $15.5=0{ }^{4} 46$ | 55.9 | 579 | 2,117.193 | 1,598.93i7 |
| ©uardian | 15 | 4.935 .177 | $2.444,931$ | 5-354.699 | 4.754.115 | 45.6 | 49.5 | 651,062 | 572,102 |
| Londori Assurane | 15 | 8,357.35I | 4.j23.310 | \$,906,659 \| | 7,604,054 | 53.0 | 56.3 | , 753.2471 | 5S0,610 |
| 1 aneashire | 15 | 11, $0^{60} .551$ | 7,148,606 | 12,090,625 | 10,760,210 | 59.1 | 60.7 | 1,009,641 | S70,093 |
| lioyal. | 14 | 27,760,606 | 15,233.319 | 29-421,505 | 25693.458 | 51.7 | 52.5 | 4.067, 20 S | 2,500,550 |
| Mritish Amer.ca | 13 | 6,171,756 | 3,905,500 | 6,546,055 |  | 59.7 | 63.3 | 217,369 | ${ }^{420,372}$ |
| Vesken, Canada. | 13 | S.345,219 | 5.193 .546 | S.640,497 | S.176.668 | 60.1 | 62.2 | 165,351 | 535, ${ }^{219}$ |
| 2iorthern Assurnace.......... | ${ }^{18}$ | 6,301,372 | 3.650,456 | 6,480,0501 | 5,695,004 | 56.5 | 60.3 6.2 | 406.33S | 521,92\# |
| Inandon Ef lancashirc. ....... הiorwich Uniun.......... | 8 | 7.256 .425 4.555 .050 | $4,661.950$ $=2403,566$ | ${ }^{7} \mathbf{7} 52, \mathrm{SU2}$ | $6,910.971$ 3.976 .155 | 61.5 54.5 | 6.2 56.5 | 3454541 <br> 405.925 | Sos,15, |
|  | $\stackrel{8}{8}$ | 4.355 .080 $7,151,135$ | 2.497 .566 $4,612.592$ |  | 3.976 .155 $7.186,17$ | 54.5 | 56.5 59.4 | 403595 <br> $645.9=1$ | 1,254,605 |
|  | 7 | $7,151,13$ $2,307.254$ | $4,612,392$ $1.521,022$ | S,016,20 $2,533,654$ | ${ }_{1}{ }_{1,98 S}$ | 36.3 52.8 | 59.4 57.2 | - 315.S74 | $1,201,762$ |
| Fire lusurance Asveciation.... | 6 | $4,531,537$ | 2.933.319 | 4,522,24 | 4,413,456 | 64.9 | 67.7 | i 39.649 | 535,64, |
| city of London.. | 6 | 2.592,503 | 1,679,2;i | 2,692,253 | 2, $\mathrm{Hy}_{2} \mathrm{~S}, \mathrm{~S} / 2$ | 63.1 | 65.5 | C $\quad 103.569$ | $404.35^{\prime \prime}$ |



## 

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the views exprested by Correspundents.]

## TORONTO JOTTINGS.

## Eidor Cibuniclre,

Dear Sir, -The jast month has leen one with its ueual numice of excitements, not the least of which was the action of the Montreal liank in calling in certain loans, thus precipitating a period uf stringency in the money market. It is said that one of our local lanks relieved the pressure to the tune of late a nillion dullars in a single day lately. It is an encouraging sign of the times that, so consersatite and sulatantial an institution as the one in question sliould have come to the aid of our people, when bankers not in simpathy with our cty's enterprises ruthlessly curtailed their accounts.
viras and memons of wins.
We are promised an interesting pasage at arms, unless a certain exccutive officer consents to "eat the leck," and ta'e lack some slanderous statements mate against the medical directors of ancther of cur chariered companies. The gerileman in question has always shown a cisp. ${ }^{\circ}$ xition to ander-rate eversboly but himself, hut his predictions have been unfultilled in the case of the company whose officers he has slandered; and fancying that becaue lie was appareatly unnoticed he could with impunity damase the chatacter of reputable nen, he lias gone just too far, so that his arrest on a criminal charge may be louked for at any time.

TIIE DEAD. TEAT'S FAIL.
The suit for commis,ion about which I aulvised you last month has taken the shape of an arlitration, and, as expectel, some strange things have leen developed. The genius in queston, it now transpites, sold for veluable consileration in Mortreal, his intereit in the commision he now claims; and having done sjecmes to Toronto and :nters a suit to recover it from the agents liese. There alpears to ire a clear cave against him for attempted swindling; but wheiher those in interest will punish him as ne deserves: or let him ge re ther tian have his family thrown upon the city's charity, is not jet decotminct. Niot the irast amusing, and at the sametime deplomble phase of ahe case, was the ease with which the clainamt got certain sore-hent, olldinme hame mers, to appear and give evidence tending to show the usages of compunice. in eppayment of commisions to brokers.

One old-imer, who spends most of his tine around the count houses when anything salacions is lecing divhed up, intruded himself into ahe proate room in which the arbitration was lecirg held, and uas isnomininasly bounced. It is sucpected that he was toreceive as remuneration for his service, a prontion of the commision which was to lave leen sylueczed out of the agents of the company.
The garty in question is now working (?) for an assessment concern, and its foster-father is acting as his net-mure forfle time lecing.

A resident of this cit; recenty deceasel, was insurel in the Canada
 sifouste in the crreprotive aswriatoon.

The Canada Life, tie ecmpany in which ree was insongen, las pail the claim, but the concern iscunge bre cettificate is saitl to le still emideavere ing to comptomise with the wodow by paying one lialf the amount cof the cervifieate. The plea under which this action is tahen iv that alout foation years ago, the eentiticate henliter was ant of very teniferate
 that $\$ 1, j \infty 0$ is all the Association thanks stionlit le jatel. Will the

 In hnow just how they seitle that hised of jroblem, atul yet thes concers is heencet by the Dunumon Government ; yet Lalunat ministers profensto believe in it ; yet lay preachers desert their palpits and people to sing its praises, and exprose ther own ignorance of thuggs linan al at the same zirre, and the poor duyed public suffer and wall contin cto do so.

## A BANKER IN TROHURE

One of the excitements of the monith has lxeen the difficulies in whela Mr. 11. N. Foibss, banker and broker, has found himself, the resule be-
ing liv sudden defature for the ". City of the Straits." Sofaras can le determined, :lere was no reason why Mr. Forbes should have left the city. Theie is nothing crininal in misfortune, and that scems to lave been his trouble.

One of his best friends was heard to say "I'm sorry for Forless and hus family. Ife was a good fellow, but a chronic speculator, am, 1 a chronic bull."

A SF.NATUR'S Wis.
Soldom has pulilic ofinuon been so unanmous as in the condemnatuan of the provistons of the last will and testament of a furonto sonator recently deceased. I neter rememiter to lave heard such universal exceration of any sinilar ducument, and all becauce he seens to lave ignored any clam upon lim of kind-ed, affection, or chanty; leaving almost his entire wealth to a religious institution.
". Man proroses," the adage sass, but dies not always "disprice." According to an existing statuie, a will devicing moness to any religicus inctitution must bear date six momilis previous tos the decene of the testatur, and in this case it is considered providemial by some thet be dicela few days befure the capration of the six months.

## RF:MI. Hint.ite.

Irices are lirm, and bayers are luoling around for jurchace. The stifiness of the market during the ammer strakes has renewed contidincein city froperty, so that crerything forinte to a loom in the near future. Eligible sites are beng rapully ficked up at odvancing prices, and any one who wants a georl lacation had lectur "speak now." I do not hink I am at all oplimistic, hat I preitict a still mere exiraordinary rise in values than we have liad at onst time in the jast. Ihuring the gast year the city assessment ins increased over Eli4.000, con, while the population has advanced in a corresponding gatio, so that I believe nothing can interfere with our material jrigress shon of a geacral panic. Of course the few pessimistic ronorlies who see min in zelvancement, danger in the prosperity of the people, and dicasicr in the confidence displayed lyy our citizens in their own city, deciate that we are on the brink of a volcano; lnat our financial lings are men of good judgment, who have more than once met succestilly crices which have routed weaker men i.a cilher places. Jurirg the great crinis precigitated liy the failure of Jay, Cerke is Co., which su cr: neer this continent like a simem, the men at alie locad of the finar cial institutions in mis city sticod fismly at their proste, ard sor n.ct the current of ilemoralization. that is ivamatier of hivory that in nocity in Amessea was there so litile shitikige in values as in Trorciato. Nany cofthe same uren are stull at the helm, anil thuse whu are pore bave luen replaced hy men who are as far-sceing and as enterpricing, so that we have t:0 fear of what the future has in shise.

## TIE DOS IMPROVENFST:-

New Imaliament luiddinge, Canala Life luidling, ant the lank rif Commerce buildings are among the larec comratis alrealy mate, so
 tiew or centracted for. the value of which reaches up intu the tens of millin-ns.
If ymatak into account the large influx of repulation concequeat
 in wealth ard imponance for years to cume. lladnit yua leticer nove your heal.juarters to Turuntu?

Dinnents.

Competition in Lufe Assurance.-There are cvils on overconse. They camme be smiled or sucered out of existence. They must be cruvned. The rehater must go. Tlie hackinter mast $\mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{o}}$. The sender of anonymons docaments
 and solsent compeancs masi lic stopliced. The land must te purtice. The decayed parts of our organism must le cut out. With us it is cleansing or death; and so I say that with men who are agstesiste aml milependent men who will not need to apolegize, men who whil nether hedge nor ruckle-with such men our life as an orgnization is assured. Oir success wiil he complete. Our fairness and integrity will lie the admiration of our fellow-men - $f$. Fiure


## INSURANCE PROBLEM NO. 4.

Wre have received the three following solutions of Insurance froblem No. 4 , given in the last issue of the Chronicle:
The insurance coves wheat in warehouse "A," wheh is divided intog sections or divitiins, numlered from 1809 respertively, viz:

Company A. (certiticate fur 30 days) covering Insuratece to the extent of ninctent thousend dullars ont 20,955 hublels of wheat conttainerl in the warchouse " $A$," sulject to the folloning co-jisurnice clause: ss The asvutal agrees to mamtann insuramee to the full value of the property at ri.k, failing which lie agrees tos le held as co-ir.urer for any deliciency of such insurance."
Company B , in same watehouse with avetage clause...... Cimpany is specilicilly in section 7 No Average Clause. Company $C$, curecing in section of unly " "

|  | "* * | $\begin{aligned} & 12, \times 10 \\ & 10, y, v 0 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Thal Incurance |  | \$47,8u' |
| The total lriss in A warchouse was |  | \$19.591 |
| Of whech there was in section 7 | 3,54 |  |
| dhance el-where in warehouse | . 16.1007 |  |
| The total value - fthe wheat wa |  | 19,598 $+5,501$ |
| Of which the salue m scetion 7 was... | . 11.965 |  |
| $4{ }^{4}$ " cutude of sec. 7 was. | 2S, 3.3 |  |

The price of the wiseat on the day ofthe fire was $S_{i}$ cents per busidel.
frotosifions: What will cach company pay in c-atribution to the luas?

Firnt Solithon of Promena No. h. Linhijity of asch R-liay (ricadins auitcus).


| Artorthosamet of lens. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sce. 7 |  | 1balarice. | Tutal. |
| A jays |  | 3059, | S15,015 | \$15-45 |
| 1; * | $\frac{530}{5030}=80$ | $\frac{10 m}{11950}=$ | 930 | 1,019 |
| If " | ${ }_{2 \% 000}^{2 \% 000}=3.4$ |  | .... | 3.4 |
| C ${ }^{\prime}$ | ${ }_{2000}^{2000}=1 \times 499$ |  | .... | 1,459 |
| 1) * | $3 \mathrm{ycou}=1,49$ |  | .... | 1,249 |
|  | S3,354 |  | Sbras | S19.502 |



 lialulity of lowicies.

". 13. 11. L.'"



Tmind Suturion uf promberi Nu. 4 .
Tutal value $\$_{4} 5,501$ as above, at 8 ; c per hashel, gives 52,300 buhtheh, in the warehouse at time of the fire.
Company "A" is liabie only to extent of 20,955 bushels, conce: quently:
If loss on 52, jon $^{20}$ bushels 'iotal quantity) is $\$ 19,591$ (total losis), the loss un 20.955 bushels (insu, el by Company $A$ ) $=57,550$, whichana, un. is the courtibuties linhilit; of Compang A.
Compray " 13 " on 2.300 buthels msines $\$ 3,000$ (with avera;-clau-e), gising ils cobesthative liability $\$ 1,290$, which in the ratis if the funs gives the fullowing

| Company. | Ambartionment. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Insures. | 19ass. | Insures. | lays. |
| A | 6.414 | 6,414 | 1,436 | S193.00 |
| 13. | 1,054 | 1,י54 | 236 | $3{ }^{1.70}$ |
| 132 |  |  | 3,000 | 403.10 |
| C. |  |  | 32,003) | 1612.47 |
| 1). |  |  | 10,000 | 1,3.13 73 |
| Total | S7,465 | S7r6S | 26,6 | \$3.584.00 |

Companies $A$ and 13 gannot make a salvage at the expense of $:^{\circ}$. asurel, and masi apply the contributory amsunts of their reypatis: pol.cies remaining mathaused ofeer payment of their prop, oris:1-if
 in respect of the lus in warchonce $A$ (o:a ive of Section 7 ). $A$ ieappoltionment i, therefure, necessary, as fullows:

Ounsile of
Sect:o: 7.

| Cumpany. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Sect:o: } 7 . \\ & \text { i'ays } \end{aligned}$ | Sce. 7. | Total. | Insumace. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 7,6,500 | 193:00 | 7, $\mathbf{S j}^{\text {no.10 }}$ | 7, S5ich |
|  | 1,25\$.j0 | 31.70 | 1,29.00 | 1,250 cms |
| $1:$ |  | 403.10 | 403.10 | 3,904, (t) |
| c. |  | 1,612.47 | 1,01こ-47 | 12,000.00 |
| 1 |  | 1,3+3.73 | 1,343.73 | $10,0000.10$ |
| Totais. | 5,915.30 | \$3,54.00 | \$12, +19\%-30 | \$3Firico.co |

We will be pleased to hear from others of our readers with their views as to the solution of this interesting problem.

## SIX MONTAS FIRE BUSINESS IN THE U.S.

We present herewith the figures of the fire lusiness duate in the lonited States, ly the several companies indicated, as reported to the Georgia anthorities, for the six monthe cins:ing June $301 \mathrm{~h}, 185 \mathrm{~s}$. 13y the addition of 35 per cemt. $i$ the premium receipis to the losses for the expenses of tie busituss, the actual results for the period will be found:


## 

Mr．T．A．Manning has been appointed agent at Brad－ ford for the Glasgow and Londun Fire Office．

Mr．Jobn Murchison has been appointedasent ai luck－ now for the Glasgow and London Insurance Company．

The Average Age of all Assessment Associations report－ ing to the New York Insurance Department is but seven years．

Mr．W．C．Turner，of I．ondon South，Ont．，has been ap－ pointed special agent of the Glasgow and London Insurance Company．

Tho Queen，it is stated，has decided to devote to nurses and nursing institutions the Women＇s Jubilec Offering of $£ 75,000$ ．

Mr．Alexander C．Cleribew has been appointed agent for the（yuebec，and Glasgow and London fire offices for Brockville district．

Mr．J．W．Fitzpatrick，late of Halifax，has been appoint－ ed General Agent for Maine for the Mutual Life Insurance Co．of Ner York．

Co－operative Life Insurance．－The only thing certain about co－operative lite insurance，says the Corast Reaicu， is that the officers will get their salaries．

The National Benefit Society of New Iork has followed the footsteps of the Mutual Reserve Fiund issociation，and is said to be now at cumpetitor for business in lingland．

The American Mutual Liabnity Insurauce Co．，organ－ ized upon a basis simiiar to the old Boston Manufacturers＇ Mutual，has lieen recently incorporated in bostons．

Charles J．Earvey，F．I．A．，of the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society，has been appointed comsulting actuary of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of N＇ew York．

The Western Union of Underwriters，at its recent ses－ sion，clected officers as follows：C．H．Casc，l＇resident； Thos．S．Chard，Vice－President ；and E．A．Simonds，Secre－ tary．

New Buildings in Montreal－i he building inspector states that fully a, 000 new buildings have been erected in this city during the year．The number erected hast year was joo．

Talk of Jumbo Lines！the American Stem Joiler In－ surauc：Company，of New lork，has recently writen a pulicy of $\$_{5} 5^{\circ}$, onn upon the works of the Wiashhurn it Moen Manufacturing Co．

The United States Life Insurance Company，of New lonk，made a gain of $S x, 000,0=0$ in new business and of Ea，coo，oon of iasumace in iorce during，the nine momhs coding Seputentier $30: \%$ ulto．

New Company．－The Liverpool Mortgage Insurance Ermpany，limited，is a new undertaking，with a capital of for，non，ono．of which the first issue consists of $f 500,000$ in Elioon shares of for cach：The Company has been firned for the parpuise of insuring against loss of principal or interest by the nolders of mortgages upon ieal and personal jriferty．It is also empowered to gront insurances for securing morigage debentures，debenture stock，and other securities of a similar characier．

Mr．Henry Bonkam．Carter，of l．undon，une of the principal directors oi the（inardian Asumanee Company， visited the Canadian hat office of the Company at Mont． real，during the latter part of Oetolecr．

Incendiarism．－Weportation to siberia for long periods is the punisl：nent meted unt to meendiartes in kissita．The services of Judge Lench may be called into tejusition when that incendiary rulfian is cauglet in Montreal．

Sir Robert N．Fowler，l：x－Iord Mayor of London，and Chairman of the loond of Directors of the london $心$ Lan－ cashire Life and lire Insurance isseciation，pent about at week in Montreal during the latier part of October．

The Insurance Critic says：＂The first thing the solicitor needs is an adergate mental grayp of the life insurance phan．＂The Weekly Statcment think thi wo bunduabt－ edly so ；but what the solicitor likes best of all is an adequate physical grasp on the first year＇s premium．

The largest fire brigade in the world，in preportion to its population，is posicssed by Derlin．It has a brigade con－ sisting of S50 men and costiug foeveo per ammm．Whilst London，with five times the population of llerlin，has only Gco firemen，and the total cont is about inso，ouo per $^{\text {and }}$ annum．

The Iondon Metropolitan Board of Works has for the funth time，been compelled to withdraw its bill from the British House of Commons，which was intended to compel the fire insurnace companic：of london to contribute a larger assessment than that now le－ied fier the support of the fire brigade．

Mr．George Exerbert Marks，who has leen connected with the loondon Assurance Corponation for some years， the last two of which he has tilled an imporiant position in the U． H ．branch ottice，has been aunnimted C゙hited States Manager，as successor to ］．M．Duane，who retires to engage in the banking business at Philadelfhia．

Complimentary：＂Nio agent cati aftord to be without the Ciskonicie．I devour a fair amount of insurance literature and relish it the best of all．＂一E．1I．S．，Sit．Jolan．N．N．

Please send my bill for subseription to the Cheonicie．I would not be without it forfive times itsprice．－J．S．S．，Wint－ nipes．IVe duff our chapeau．genalemear．

Natural Gas Explosions．－On igh uho．threc explosions of natural gas occurred in the city of Pitashargh．Pa．，in the Hotel albemarle and Hijou Ilaeate block，hady wrecking and firing the buildings a lares quantity of lumber，and a score of small buiddings；the loses are entimated at some Saco，cos．Some fitieen jersons were injured．

Mr．Alfred Jones，the well known inhmanee agent and adjuster of Wimnipeg has leen appointed succial asent for ine lacific Consi of the Western Asumance Comprany of Foronto，with headyuarters at Sin Franciveo．Mr．Junes has had considerable experience in the insurmace field，and his many friends wish him abundant succens．
＂The Poetry of Iite Insurance，＂hy Mr．I Yyct，of New York：－

To urge men to ribop the insurance they ie gat
Is nonscise，yrou hnow，dat numsenur．？eat hnow；
Nut to urge men to keep the insorance they＇ve lwaght
Is noncense，weak nansence，wid know．
lit to haild yourseles us yea firt must unto
The work done lyy others，your own act prove you
in incompelent sneak，a human cuckoo，
And that＇s nonsense，＿nonsense，you know．

Miss Blake (from the city on a visit).-" What a charming cow ! How l should love to caress her; may I, Mr. Hasseed?" l'armer H.-" May you what, mum?" Niss Blake. -" Caress the cow." Farmer H. (who is a cautious man) "Well, you mas. mum, but unless you've got an accident insurance policy with a wild-bull clause in it you had better not."

Payment of Death clains.-The time of payment of death chams by the various liritish Life Offices, under the tems of their sueral policies, varies in length; out of eighty-five companies, forty-three pay on proof of death and title: the remainder require varions allowances of time, ranging from eight to ninety days after satisfactory proofs have veen rendered.

Spring Poct:-" My dear, I am going to have my poems published."

Wife :-" How much will it cost?"
Poet :-"About three inundred dollars."
Wife:-"Weli, have your life insured instead, then you maj be the first sjering poet who ever left a pemny when he died."-Wiekly Statement.

Life Association of Canada, having ceased to do business, gives notice that on the zoth day of next lecember it will apply to the Minister of Finance fora release of its deposit with the Government. The amount now in hands of the Receiver-General is $\$ 96,075$. Canadian policy-holders opposing such release must file their objections with the Minister on or before that day:

Sun Life versus Citizens.-This suit was for an accident re-assurance policy of $\$ 5,000$, on the life of the late Mr. J. S. McLachlan of Moutreal. It came up for hearing before Judge Papineau last month. but after the first day's evidence, the defendants withdrew the case, and confessed judgment for the whole amount, admitting themselves convinced by the evidence brought forward by the plaintifi.

Mr. David Lawrie, of London, General Manager of the Fire Insurance Association, favored us wih a call when in Montreal recently. Mr. Ialurie made a careful and cehaustive examinion of the general business of the fire Association, both in Canada and the Linited States. He is determined to leave no stone unturned to make a success of his company. He is a sound underwriter, having graduated from a good school, the old dlliance.

National Insurance Convention.-The eightecnth anmu.al session of Staic Insurance Olicials was held at Niagara Falls, September 21 st and 2 and ulto. The attendance was quite full, and the exercises interesting, as usual, to the participants. The following officers were clected for the current year: lhilip Check, Wis., l'resident; O. R. Fyler, Conn., Vice-President; J. M. Mcl:wen, Dep. Sup., Ohio, Secretary. The next amual mecting will be held at Madison, Wis.

Industrial versus Co operative Life Insurance; The finsuratice Giabraian, of London says: When a great mining accident or other casualty affecting the working classes takes place, the lucal press informs us that the agents of the Providential, the Kefuge, the British Workman and other industrial institutions, put in an ap!earance within a few houre, and begin at once to arrange for the payment of the claims as soon as the requisite proufs call le got together. Our common sense working men will coutrast this promptirude with the delay which must inevitably take place if the money has to be mised by the collection of small installments from a large number of persons." The G:aralan has put the thing in a mutsichll. Thi difference between the turo systems is the difference between cish in hand, oud passing around the hat.

Among the callers at the office of the Cironicise during: the past month, were :-Messrs. David Lawric, of London. General Manager of the Fire Insurance sissociation; 1 : Holloway of (juebec; James boomer, Secretary, Wesbern Assurance Co., Toronto; H. (:. Hill, Bocton: IV. H. Hall, General Agent Sun Life Assurance Co., Peteiburo; Dawd Smith, Quebec ; $A$. Dean, Inspector of the Fire Insurame Association, Ridgetown; W. G. Brown, Inspector of the Glasgow L London, 'loronto.
Fire Brigades and Insurance Offees.-The idea seem, to be growing apace that the fire insurance companies, or in other words the insureds, should be taxed for the support of fire brigades. What justification can there be for taxing an insurance office, or, as we stated above, the insureds-fir they have to pay any taxes imposed on insurance officefor the benefit and protection of the uninsured? It means simply taxing the thrifty for the benefit of the unthrifty. I: scems to be a backhanded method of encouraging thrift.

Fand-in-Hand Insurance Company :-The license of this Company expired on March $3^{\text {Ist, }}$ iSS 7 , and has not been renewed, owing to the fact that under "The Insurance Act." the privilege of obtaining a Dominton license, in case of companies having Provincial charters, is restricted ') companies which transact the business of life insurance.

The Hand-in-Hand contintes to transact Plate Glas insurance in Ontario under provincial license, but has ceaved to transact business in the other l'rovinces of the Dominion. The deposit, $\$ 5,000$, is still in the Receiver-General's hands.

Britou Medical and General Life Association:Superimtendant liizgerald says: The affairs of this outice: are in litigation, orders having been made by the Ontari, and Quebee courts, having for their objects the winding-up of the affairs in Camada, and the: distibution of the deposit heid by the Recciter-General, which amounts to Sio3.37o. The orders above referred to were both appeated but the appeals have been withdrawn, and there is now a fair prospect of the Company's Canadian affairs being speedily womdup. Superimendent Fizgerald. is liquidat"r for Canada; and Messrs. Hatton S Mcl.enaan, attorneys.

In Memoriam.-Wie are in receipt of an In Memeriam card, commemorative of the sad death of the eldest son of Mr. I. K. Macdonald, Managing Director of the Confeleration life Asuciation, l'oronto, upon the recurrence of his cightecntl: birthday.

Our readers will call to mind that this promising young gentleman was accidently killed by a stray bullet from a shooting range as he was boating on the lake. Mr. Mace donald and his family have the heartfelt ympathy, not onk of the insurance fraternity and their many friends but of the public as well, generally to which we add our own, in their sad bercavement.

The Mutual Reserve Fund.-A correspondent of the Snsurance World, hailung from New York city, says of the Mutual Reserve: "I hear from pretty reliable sources that some of the most active officers of the MIutual Rescric bathe concluded to withelraw and start in business for themseltes. This recalhs to my minal the old adage of " rats desera:ias a siak mg ship." I mean no diseepect to the ictiring acath men hy this illustration, fon, to tell the truth, I consider that retirenent wall mean the loss of mose of the brains of the concern. ( 10 course, there were some whowere ains.is makng themselves heard by reason of their moine and hluster ; but anise is not brains, and if the Wutual lionres does not get a black eje before long. I will be much mis taken. I ann sorry that I cannot 'give away' some of the facts that have reacined my cats, but to do so might atot a very pretty game. In my opinion, the sky-roch has newly reached its highest elevation, and it will not be 'on's before something will drop."

Railway Tracks as conductors of Electricity:-At tio: recent session of the Nortinestern Underwriters' issoctation in Chicago, Lent. Finlay, of the Signal Service de partment, in reply to a question, said that in his opinion the iron tracks of railways had no effective atmospheric condition. And that electrical disturbances always moved from west to east ; that underwriters were justified in considerines westerly exposures the most hazardous. That oornadocs and heavy wind storms were not increasing in number, but simply more were heard of now than formerly, becalue of the greater facilitie:s for getting news. That there was no cause fortears from the increasing use of electricity for light and pouer.

Life Insuranco Payments, enormous as they are, are not quoted in the Exchanges, nor reported in the news columns of the daily press. The stories, touching and pathetic, which life insurance agents might tell. if they would,-of estates saved from foreclosures, and of widous and orphans raised from a condition of want by the timely receipt of a death-claim or an endowment, would be a mine of wealth to the novelist or play-wright. Indeed, are not here to be found the material and incidents for the coming American novel? Life insurance has reached its gratest stacecss in America, and among its patrons may possibly be discovered by the future American romancist, the material for the original story or play long sougint." $-\bar{C} / i c_{\text {agr }}$ Jourral.

A Warning to Incendiaries; Two Firebugs capturod: One sent-nced for life, the other for twenty-one years.Our readers will remember that several consecutive fires have been recently discovered at Kingston; we are happy to say that two men, mamed Andrews, 40 years of age, and Newman, 20 years, were caught in the act of setting fire to the Third Methodist Church. On trial they confessed to setting several fires, but pleaded intoxication in mitigation, Judge Duff sentenced Newman, in consideration of his youth, to 21 years servitude in the Kingston penitentiar:, for burning the Salvation Army barmacks, and zi years for attempted burning of the Third Methodist Chirch, the terms to run concurrently. While Andrews was sentenced to confinement for life. These are exemplary sentences: and a few more of them judiciously applited will tend to make incendiarism umprofitable and unpopular.

Mr. John N. Noill, of Toronto, in response to the wishes of his insurance friends, has decided to devote his atuention more exclusively to the adjustment of fire losses. Mr. Neill has had an evitended experience of some $j 0$ years in underwriting. He commenced as an articled clerk of the National of Ireland in $1 S_{5} S$, at Delfast; and served for seven ycars, thus becoming well.grounded in the principles of the business, He then crossed the chammel to the cities of liverpool and london, in which latter city he was for a time connected with "Lloyds." Returning to Belfast, he became District Agent for the . Finn of Dublin, and Igent of the Scottish Commercialand the Norwich Epuitable, and was made Hon. Secretary of the Jelfast Moard, acting at the same time in the responsible position of correspondent for Lloyds of London.

In iS6S he came to Canadia, devoting the first jeats of his, stay to the marine branch; bat for some years pase lie has confined his attention to the fire branch, meluding the ad jutments of lire lonses, a calling for which his early insur ance education, and familiarity with the numerous and varirus special hazards abounding in aiad aruund Belfout and nther poins within his experience, both in England and in Canada, must hove eminently fitted him. We take pleasure in saying that we feel assured that any adjusting business ronfided to Mr. Neill will reccive prompt and carefull attenlion. Mr. Neill has been for some years comnecled with the Toronto Office of the Guardian Assurance Co. His address is No. 24 Scolt Strect: Toronto.

Mr. L. C. Phillips, General Manager of the City of I.ondon Fire Insurance Company, spent some days during the past month in Montical. At an interview with the writer, he said that he would most likely decide to withdraw his agency from this city, in consequence of the iniquitous tax on commercial corporations, the defective Fire Brigade and exceptionally heavy losses and low tariff of rates. There is re:tson to hope, howerer, that this decision will be reconsidered; we cannot afford to lose from our city such a company as the City of I ondon has proved itself to be since its advent here; an enterprising young office which has always dealt sonorably and liberally with its clientele, and won the respect of all brought into business centact with it.

Mr. Phillips is a genial gentleman, and stands high in the estimation of his confrères; and is greatly esteened by his General Agents and Managers on this Continent.

British America Assurance Company:-We have not heard from Governor Morison in response to the offer of the free use of our colnmus for the refutation of any of the charges made by us in regard to the management of the Company. We therefore conclude that our statements are unanswerable, becuuse true.

We notice that the former deputy-governor of the Company, and brother-m-law of Governor J. Morison-Mr. H. R. Forbes-has recently, owing, as it is alleged, to financial embarrassments, leti Canada for the United States. The I3ritish America seems peculiarly unfortunate in the selec. tion of some of its directors, and is gaining an unenviable reputation in this direction. Witness, Henry laylor, one of the trio by which the Company has, until recently, been controlled, whose opera,ions as I'resident of the London Bank and Director of the Ontario Investment Association, have gamed for himself such notoriety.

A warning to Dilatory Agents.-- A local agent was recently directed by the State mana: $: r$ of his company to "relieve the company," of a certain risk, "as soon as possible ;' the local, instead of obeying instructions and cancelling the risk, answered by letter asking "that the policy might run to expiration" which would oecur in a few days, and stating that it would be an accommodation to him to allow it to run. Within four days thereafter, and before a reply had been received, the propurty burned. Suit was brought by the company against the agent, and the court held that his letter was "sufficient evidence that he understood the instructions of his supperior to be a direction to cancel, and a recognition of the authority of the State agent to sn order." (Phenix Ins. Co. v. Prati it al., S. C. Minn. 31, N. 11. Reporter 45.)

We might cite a number of smmar decisions where recoveries were had aganst agents for fallure to obey instructions promptly.

The Fire Brigade Investigation still goes on ; and if it has no outher effect than to bring the acknowledged inefticiency of the lïre Brigade prommently hefore the public, it will do some good by placing the blame where it belongs. It has also afforded Chief Patton an opportunity to show that the control of the Brigade is not in his hands, and that in many cases he has been censured without sufficient cause, where he realig had no authonty, as the enture department is managed by the lire Commutice of the City Council.

Our teaders will remember that we did not consider it withan the functions of fire underwriters to go on with this investigation before a commuttee, from whel but hitle was to be hoped for beyond scant courtesy, it bemg their business, in our estmmation, to confine themselves to rating the city risks as they find them. We, nevertheless, admire the pluck and prersistency of some of the insurance Committe in the matter. However, this one thung lias been accomplished, the Fire Committec has been shamed moto procuring a test pump for the hose, upon the sly.

Total Abstainers us. Non-Abstainers.-In the report of the directors of the Victoria Mutual Assurance Society, for the past year, it is said that the claims during the past five years were 39.25 per cent. of the premiums received in the general section, as compared with a percentage of but 24.19 , in the temperance section. Evidence of this kind is as nearly direct as anything that can be adduced to demonstrate the value of total abstinence as a hygienic factor ; and even the most inveterate disbeliever cannot deny that a body of total abstainers from alcoholic stimulants is a better insurance risk than an equal number of non-abstainers, even if moderate drinkers only.

La Banque Nationale gives official notice that a special general meeting of its shareholders will be held at their banking house, Quebec, on the 23rdinst., in order to consider the opportunity for a reduction of the capital stock of the institution, and for other purposes.

We have several times criticized the management and condition of this Bank, in these columns, and the above announcement chimes in with the views heretofore expressed by us. We ask now, in view of all the untoward circumstances attending the bank's present condition, would not the suggestion made by us that the institution be wound up without delay, be the wisest course to adopt?

Thirteen :-_" What ! travel with a party of thirteen? I would not think of such a thing. Thirteen is a mighty unlucky number," said a Council Bluffs man. "Thirteen is a lucky number if there ever was one," exclaimed the Omaha man. "How do you make that out?" "Why, I was one of a party of thirteen who went on a trip, and as some of us were a little superstitious in those days, we ail bought accident insurance tickets." "Good idea." "Well, sir, the train ran off the track, we all got smashed up, and every blessed mother's son of us got $\$ 50$ a week just to lay around and get well. Talk about luck! that was the luckiest thing I ever struck." -Omaha World.

Conundrum. -If there was a "trade profit" of only two per cent. in "American Underwriting" last year, where did the dividends, of insurance companics come from? Answer: When they did not come out of accrued assets they came from investments outside of business; about as follows:

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Excess of interest over Dividends. .............-26,
Hence the policy-holder did not contribute one penny in 1886 for the support of insurance capital.
Mr. S. Foster Magurn, late Chicf Agent for the City of London Fire Insurance Company for Ontario, whose resignation of that position was noted in the last issue of the Chronicle, has been appointed Assistant Manager to Mr. W. H. Hill, for the New York Life Insurance Company, for the States of Missouri, Arkansas, 'Texas, and New Mexico, with headquarters at No. 417 Pine Street, St. Louis. Mr. Magurn was for three years superintendent of agencies
for the Royal, in England, during which period he devoted the greater part England, during which period he devoted the greater part of his time to the !ife-branch, in which, he has been the representative last six years Mr. Magurn Province of Ontario. Both mane City of London for the this Company speak in very complimentary directors of ability displayed in the control complimentary terms of the factory result of his business, as whis agency, of the satiswhich always existed between as well as the cordial relations

Mr. Hill and the New York Life are to be congroftice. upon securing Mr. Magurn's services, who, we venturated predict, will have a successful career in his new fienture to also take occasion to tender congratulation field. We Magurn upon his connection with ondatutions to friend insurance companies in the world.

Paris (France) Fire Brigade consists of $1,744 \mathrm{men}$, including $5^{1}$ officers, who are quartered in 11 barracko Each barrack is provided with a hand engine and adder, pumps, carrying about 650 feet of hose, an escape ladace a ventilator to be used when the fire breaks out in a place. full of noxious gases, and safety lamps of various patterd 85 There are also 11 steam engine depots in Paris, and 85 look-out posts, of which 62 , each with two, three or wires men, are in the theatres. The length of the telegraph whe connecting the different stations is about 350 miles. year number of fires which occurred in Paris during the
1886 was 953 , on which the losses are estimated at $\mathcal{f}^{248,-}$ 000.

Criminul Fires.-We have seen that the property losses by criminal fires reach an enormous figure; the aggregate is of a magnitude equal to the total losses by the fires of one-fourth of the year; that inferior police regulations and other causes place the Agricultural districts in the first place as regards intensity of incendiarism; and that the passions and weakness of human nature, which have existed since the world beran, and not the insurance policy, are responsible for the majority of criminal fires. When the crime of arson shall be punished with promptness and certainty, there will be much less of it, and the people can save money in two ways: by preserving millions of dollars worth of property now destroyed every year by criminal acts, and by obtaining from the fire insurance companies the lower rates of premium they are constantly praying for. -Franklin Webster.
An interesting life insurance decision.-In the New York Court of Appeal, Bertha Weresthoff and others, Appellants, against the Germania Life Co. The Plaintiffs were the three children of Frederic Weresthoff and his wife Amalia. An action was brought on a policy of insurance $\$ 5$,000 on said Weresthoff's life, which provided that if the said Amalia should die before the insured, the sum should be paid to their children, or their guardian, if then under age. The wife died first, and the husband remarried, and by will made the second wife guardian of the person and estate of his children. The company paid the money to the second wife as guardian of the children. These child ren, through a guardian ad litem, claim that the payment was illegally made. The Court below sustained the will by dismissing the complaint. The insured died in $\mathrm{Ne}^{\mathrm{W}}$ Jersey, and the will was probated there. The question is what weight shall be allowed to a will probated in that State, the suit being brought in New York.

## BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE

## assurance company.

Mr. F. Stancliffe, Manager for Canada of the British Empire Life, has appointed Mr. R. H. Matson as Superin tendent of agencies for the Dominion. This gentleman has had a large experience in the life insurance field, in connec tion with some of the best offices. Mr. Stancliffe could scarcely have secured a man better fitted for the position, as from his extended acquaintance, and recognized ability, he will be a valuable acquisition for this office.

The British Empire Mutual Life was organized in 1847, and is one of the strong British Life offices. Its accumu* ated funds reach $\$ 5,304,250$. Total income for $1886 \mathrm{wa}^{5}$ \$1,120,379 Its policies in force were 18,000, assuring $\$ 29,000,000$. Its business is increasing annually under the very able and energetic management of its popular Secretary, Mr. Edwin Bowley.

It entered the Doininion early in 1883, and has within the short period up to the present time made rapid progress under the management of Mr. Stancliffe; its receipts in Canada. for 1886, amounting to $\$ 141,475$, and the sum $^{5}$ assured reaching $\$ \mathbf{1}, 436,000$. Its investments in Canada are now over \$600,000.

## THE INSURANCE JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The sixth annual meeting of the above Association was held at Hotel Lafayette, Philadelphia, on 27 th ulto., and was largely attended. Mr. N. B. Freeman of the Record was elected chairman of the meeting. The question: "What are the present needs and requirements of Insurance Journalism ?" created a lively and interesting discussion. A higher and more independent course in the conduct of the Ournals was urged.
The following named gentlemen were all re-elected members of the Executive Committee : J. H. C. Whiting, of the American Exchange d Revieze, Phila.; Dr. C. C. Bombaugh, Editor Baltimore Underweriter; Franklin Webster, Editor The Chronicle, New York; Nat. B. Freeman of the Record, New York ; A. L. J. Smith of the Spectator, New York; Walter S. Nichols of The Monitor, New York ; and C. M. Ransom, of The Standard, Boston. The election for Officers of the Executive Committee resulted as follows: Chairman, C. M. Ransom ; Secretary, Franklin Webster ; and Treasurer, Walter S. Nichols.


## Oxford \& New Glassow Railway SECTIONS.

Ist.- Birch Hill Road to Pugwash Iunction... . 13 miles. 2nd.-Pugwash Junction to Pugwash.......... 5 miles. 3rd. - Pugwash Junction to Wallace Station... 7 miles. 4th.-Wallace Station to Mingo Road.......... 17 miles.

## tenders for arading, bridge \& culvert MASONRY, FENCINQ, \&c.

$\mathrm{S}^{\mathrm{E}}$EALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Oxford and New Glasgow Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Friday, the 18 th day of November, 1887 , for the grading, bridge and culvert masonry, fencing, foc.
Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the office of the Chief Engineer of Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the office of the Oxford and New Glasgow Railway at Wallace, Cumberland Co., Nova Scotia, on and after the 1oth day of November, 1887 , where the general specification and form of tender may be obtained upon application.
No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms, and all conditions are complied with.
This Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
A. P. BRADILEY, Secretary.
Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 20th October, 1887.


## NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS SAULT SAINTE MARIE CANAL.

Contractors intending to tender for works of construction of the Canal, proposed to be formed on the Canadian side of the Saint Mary's River, are hereby informed that Tenders will be received about JANUAKY next, and that the most favourable time to examine the locality will be between the present time and the early part of November next.

When plans, specifications and other documents are prepared, due notice will be given. Contractors will then have an opportunity of examining them and be furnished with blank forms of tender, etc.

> By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,

Department of Railways and Canals, $\}$ Secretary. Ottawa, 24th August, 1887. \}

## 

TEIE

## STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

DIVISION OF PROFITS, 1890.

Persons taking out policies before November $15^{\text {th }}$, will rank for four full years share in profits to be divided in 1890.

Upwards of $\$ \mathbf{1 9 , 0 0}, 000$ added to policies in Bonus additions.
N.B.-Time extended to December ist.
A. I. HUBBARD,

W. M. RAMSAY,

City Agent.
Manager.

## I王思 <br> EQuItable life assurance society, <br> I20 broadway, new york.

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

The EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY of the United States, has appointed Mr. HUGH C. DENNIS, Manager, in respect of its business in the Province of Ontario, with head-quarters at Toronto.

New York, October 19th, 1887.

Situation as Insurance Clerk, by a young man, speaking English and French fluently; has had four years experience. Will accept moderate salary. Can furnish testimonials and security if required:

Address,
INSURANCE \& FINANCE CHRONICLE, Montreal.

## Bomat haxtyatre ktf.

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# PROGRESSIVE RECORD SINGE 1872. 

| Jear. | Assets, Dec. ${ }^{\text {IISt. }}$ | Insurance in force Dcc. 3 ist. | Iremiums linceited. | Interest Received. | Death Claims Paid. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1872. | \$21,667,000 | \$118,622,605 | \$ 6,308,901 | \$1,206,500 | \$1,408,519 |
| ${ }^{15} 73$ | 24,518,004 | 123,672,356 | 6,131,521 | 1,418,005 | 1,746,123 |
| 1874 | 27,543,667 | 122, $\mathbf{S}_{55,123}$ | 6,414,455 | 1,645,106 | 1,469,680 |
| ${ }_{1 S}{ }^{5} 5$ | 30,645,955 | 126, 152,119 | 6,0ü, 003 | 1,870,65S | 1,524,814 |
| 18;6. | 33,311,413 | 127,24S,473 | 5,910,84 | 3,906,950 | 1,547,648 |
| $1 S_{i 1}$.. | 34,95,,250 | 127,901, $\mathrm{SS}_{7}$ | 5.799,699 | 1,867,457 | 1,638,528 |
| 18-S. | 36,837,295 | 125,252, 445 | 5,725,567 | 1,948,665 | 1,657,675 |
| 1S99. | 38,996,952 | 127,4 17,762 | 6,003,036 | 2,003,650 | 1,569,854 |
| $1{ }^{\text {SSO}}$. | 4.183,934 | 135, 326,916 | $6,6,6,831$ | 2,317,3S9 | 1,731,721 |
| 1581. | 47,22S, ${ }^{\text {Si }}$ | 151,ime, ${ }_{2}$ | S,050,712 | 2,432,654 | 2,013,203 |
| 1 SS2. | 50, 500,396 | 171,415,097 | 9,152,627 | 2,-98,018 | 1,955,292 |
| ${ }_{1 S S}{ }^{\text {S }}$. | 55,542,902 | $19 \mathrm{~S}, 346,043$ | 10,944 $\mathrm{S}_{14} \mathrm{~S}_{7}$ | 2,712,864 | 2,263,092 |
| 1SS; | 59,2S3,753 | 229,352,5*6 | 11,268,551 | 2,971,625 | 2,257,175 |
| JSS. | 66, 56.4 .321 | =59,674,500 | 12,i22,103 | 3,399,0;0 | 2,999,109 |
| 1 SSC | 75,421,453 | 304,373,540 | 15,507,906 | 3,722,502 | 2,757,035 |

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