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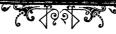
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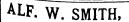
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474

Insurance and Hinance Chronicle.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

R. WILSON SMITH, Editor and Propriesor.

J. GRISWOLD, Associate Editor.

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JAMES W. TAYLOR,

of TAYLOR 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 enterprising 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, Longueuil, 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 11 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 Corn

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 Insurance 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 The subject by them, it was established in Canada in 1866. 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. Taylor, 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 lieu 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 business to furthering the interests of the Caledonian.

We regret to learn that any question should have arisen to mar the termination of the pleasant relations which existed for so many years between the Northern and Messrs. Taylor Bros., which we hope will, 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 confrères 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 circulation among the local agents of his companies, is a model of conciseness, clearness and preciseness, while at the same time covering the principal points connected 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 among 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 £1 1s, upon a share of £5. Its assets in Canada Dec. 31st ulto. were......... \$138,790 Total liabilities (including reinsurance reserves

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 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 business, and fixed by-law, hence compulsory; while the other is voluntary and optional as to amount, on the part of the company, and for safety should be made a permanent and constantly 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 earned 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 cancellation of the policy and return of the unearned portion, or 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 fund 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. 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

FIFTY PER 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 of business.

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 any 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 premium 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 comments. 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, where -amounting in the aggregate to about 55 per cent, where uch long term business of much long term business is done,—is largely in excess of the sum actually needed. the sum actually needed to re-insure the outstanding business of an office terms. ness of an office transacting an average line of fire business. And when enforced—in cases of younger offices especially, it results in great injustice by making capitals appear as more or less impaired when such is not the fact. The sooner that the Commission and the fact. that the Commissioners of the several Insurance Departments take at the commissioners of the several Insurance made ments take steps to revise the Procrustean rule—made originally to most the originally to meet the peculiar laws of a single State,—the sooner will justice be dere no sooner will justice be done to companies of States where no such necessary 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.

VICTORIA, B.C., 22nd Oct., 1887.

Editor Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

SIR,—Perhaps you or some of your subscribers will kindly favor me with their views on the following point, viz.:

A frame building, situated within the fire limits of a city, is damed by fire The conditions of the city is damed by fire The conditions of the city is damed by fire The conditions of the city is damed by fire The conditions of the city is damed by fire the city is damed by fir aged by fire. The municipal regulations forbid the rebuilding or repairing of any wooden street, in ing of any wooden structures which may be destroyed or damaged, if such building be within the cold for the c such building be within the said fire limits

The damage to the building in question is assessed at say \$200, which m the insurance community sum the insurance company carrying the risk is prepared to pay and the assured to accept, provided he be permitted to apply same to repairing the building. The municipal authorities will not, however, grant such permission, and the assured therefore claims the total cash value of the permission, and the assured therefore claims the total cash value of the property insured property insured.

The company denies all liability beyond the amount of the assessed

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 of the ed sections of a city or town, are operative in many of the larger cities, both in America and on the European Continent. We even bear followed. ent. 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 a small be a small by a small structures shall be erected or repaired where such repairs will necessitate relationship. will necessitate raising, lowering or changing the roof, of making repairs thereon when seriously injured by fire, putting up a new front, side or rear. But we do not understand that the law harms stand that the law has any bearing upon inside repairs. The construction of the law and its requirements will depend entirely upon its many entirely upon its wording. In the policies of some offices are to be found claused. 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 the 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 reject. be requisite to reinstate or repair the building, if the house could be lawfully and a second be lawfully a second be lawfully and a second be lawfully a second be 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 companies would only be liable for requisite repairs and cost of reinstatement as it is a requisite repairs. 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 covering the reinstatement clause of the policies covering v form, covering the risk in question to be the customa y form, giving the risk in question to be the customa y form, giving the risk in question to be the customer; the company the option to repair, rebuild, or replace

property damaged, with others of like kind. We answer: The decision of all the courts of last resort are unanimous upon the question of all the courts of last resort are unamaged property within "fire limits," set apart by municipal enactments within which only certain classes of buildings shall be erected. The erected. They hold the obligation of the insurer to be one of covenant tiels have bound covenant, and not of condition only; by which he is bound to ind. to indemnify the insured, for any damage to the property covered, within the amount of the insurance, where such injury arises directly from the peril insured against.

In the case cited the damage was done by fire, the peril especially insured against; that the law forbade the company to rebuilt insured against; that the law forbade the company to rebuild or repair, under its optional clause, except in the manner prescribed by law, was no fault of the insured, but a portion of the risk assumed, and supposed to be known to the insured says, to the insurer when the risk was taken. The insured says, Rebuild (or repair) my house, and I will accept it;" but, on the other hand, the municipal ordinance forbids the erection erection or repairing of frame buildings within certain limits in which or repairing of frame buildings within company's rein which the loss occurred. So, between the company's refusal to make good the loss on the one hand, and the requirement.

ments of the law on the other, the insured gets no indemnity. The insurer must pay the loss to the extent, within the amount of the policy, that would be required under the law to real to restore a similar building as to size, dimensions, etc., etc., regardless of the original material. It is an axiom of law that law that a plea shewing performance to be impossible is no answer. answer to a suit against the company for failure to comply with a with the conditions of the contract. If the impediment be an existing law, the insurer should have known the bearing of the conditions of the contract. If the imperimental states are the conditions of the contract. If the imperimental states are the conditions of the contract. of that law upon the risk when he accepted it. Under this ordinance the insured could not be made good as before the lose. loss; after the loss the only value to him was the materials, if if any remaining; hence his only recourse is against his insurer 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 agreement to put in the same state of repair does not necessarily imply the employment of the same, perhaps not even of similar material. The same state of repair may be effected by other materials of equal or greater value, suitable and able and appropriate for the purpose, in view of the location, uses, architectural style, or appearance of the property. The company's election imposes no particular obligation to build with wood, if for any other reason wood could not be employed no impossibility; employed. The contract therefore involved no impossibility; it did involve, perhaps, a greater expense than was antici-Pated, but the insured was in no way responsible for that; and the existence of a police regulation prohibiting the use of wood, of which they may have had no knowledge, cannot any more relieve them from the obligation of their contract, than would the rise of prices of materials in the market. They agreed to put the premises in repair, and they were bound to comply with their contract, using such materials as were suitable for the purpose and were allowed by law.

The parties, of course, contracted with reference to the law as it existed at the time, and consented to be bound by it; whether the city authorities would permit the building to be repaired to be bound by it; repaired in wood was, therefore, a risk which the insurers assumed in wood was, therefore, a risk which they re-assumed at the issuing of their policy, and which they re-the Country as a sum of the classification. In support of its opinion, the Court cites, Brady vs. N. West Insurance Co., 11 Mich. 425, a leading case, as authority. There are some English cases also to the point, among them Brown vs. Royal Insurance Co., I Ell. and Ell. Q. B. 858, reported at length in A. D. in 4 Bennett's cases 371, and cited by same Court on p. 153 of 4 Ins. Law Journal; also Wharton on Contracts sec. 623, and cases there cited.

Yondon Tetter.

A neat 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 Annuitants good subjects for Railway Accidents.

Edi or of the CHRONICLE.

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES SWINDLED.

DEAR SIR,—I have been hoping that I 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 about the affair, and I can personally vouch for the highly respectable appearance of the "Countess," whom I had 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 assistants, 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 principle 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 suggestions about actions for damages. Amongst these is one to the effect that when an accident policy becomes a claim through the negligence of a railway company, the said company should reimburse the Accident office. There is much to be said in favor of the idea, 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 insurance altogether. There is scarcely ever an accident for which somebody is not to blame, and, in fact, the principal thing which one assures against by taking out an accident policy is the criminal folly of other people, and, it may be added, of oneself, this latter forming a not unimportant part of the risk. On the whole, I am disposed 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, however, would not apply satisfactorily to those directors whose lives were largely assured, and there are other difficulties which would become apparent if any scheme of this kind were carried out in anything like a thorough manner.

LONG-LIVED ANNUITANTS.

Notwithstanding the efforts of railway directors and others to shorten our lives-efforts which are crowned with a considerable amount of success,—we all manage to live, on an average, a little longer than we did; and the result to our profession is that annuity business doesn't pay. Interest is falling steadily, and there seems little hope of any 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 reasonably safe investments of the ordinary kind, they toddle into the life offices and purchase life annuities—"Once an annuitant, always an annuitant" appears to be the motto of their existence; and they act up to their principles 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 thereabouts, and takes her fiftieth half-yearly payment of her annuity, and for the liftieth 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 SUBJECTS FOR RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

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 started to assure the lives of annuitants only, that is, of course, if it could have got annuitants to assure their lives, which I think doubtful. I have never heard of an annuitant being killed in a railway accident, or anything of that sort; but if the idea of making railway companies pay up for killing assured lives is ever carried into practice, I think it only fair that they should be allowed to plead as a set-off any annuitant or annuitants they night have the good fortune to smash. Under this arrangement, reduced fares might be charged to annuitants, and, indeed, on some of our lines, a few might be taken for nothing, especially on what we call excursion trains. I think there is something in the idea which I leave to others to develop.

TAMESIS.

LONDON, Oct. 20, 1887.

Railroad, which burned recently, was covered by insurance to the amount of \$150,000, of which \$75,000 was in the Pennsylvania Railroad Insurance fund, the remainder in New York and Philadelphia offices and agencies.

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WHY SHOULD I INSURE NOW?

Because 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 you are in possession of health and strength, and that to-day is yours; to-morrow belongs alone to Him who is the maker of days.

Because if you ever intend to insure, you can never have a better or more favorable opportunity; you are getting older daily, and your premiums will be larger next year than this.

Because if you delay it another day, disaster may overtake you, and it may be impossible for you to insure.

Because if you were called to your account before to-morrow's sunrise, those dependent upon you would have cause to remember you, mainly 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 relations for assistance to support herself family.

Because you can gain nothing 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 it, and your delaying the matter is an evidence of your want of a correct idea of your obligations to your family and society 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 example is set you by the very best men in every community, and in every country. A man who fails to insure his life, no matter how wealthy he may be, is not worthy the name of a shrewd business man.

Because when you leave your desk, or workshop, or counting-house to-night, 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 sooner 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 of 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 are alive.

Because it is the one means by which alone all classes of the community can, independently of any one, friend or relative, rich or poor, leave a competence for their families.

Because 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 attach it, no lien can be placed upon it under our laws; and although you may die hopelessly insolvent, and all the rest of your assets be swept away, leaving your family otherwise destitute, the life insurance is a fund which no power can despoil them of. If men would only stop and consider this phase of the question, there would be fewer cases of dependent widows, and fewer children would be cheated by their own fathers out of the fair chance of getting 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 afford to pay for, and having insured keep your premiums paid up, and you will never regret having made the sacrifice necessary to enable you to do so.

INTEREST.

In the last issue of the Chronicle 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 1886. Since it was published, we observe that it was the principal question dealt with at the recent annual meeting of the National Convention of United States Insurance Commissioners. The following resolution was offered by Mr. Sprague some time ago, and submitted to a committee of three of the Commissioners, who made a report upon the matter.

Whereas, The rate of interest received on securities has for several

years been gradually declining; and,

Whereas, The foundations and prosperity of the institution of life insurance depend largely upon accretions from invested capital and assets; and,

assets; and,

Whereas, The stipulations in policies vary regarding the time of pay-

ing claims as well as in other conditions; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to make a full and careful examination, and report at the next Convention their conclusions on these two subjects:

(1) Whether the rate of interest, present and prospective, does not appear to require in the near future the establishment and maintenance of a reserve on a higher standard than a four per cent, interest.

(2) Whether a reasonable compliance with the provisions of the law does not require that policies shall be valued in accordance with the stipulations, date of payment and other terms and considerations.

After most careful consideration and extended inquiries, the Committee of Insurance Officials has arrived at the following conclusions:

1. That there is not at pre-ent or in prospect that condition of interest rates which would render a change of the standard of net values

either necessary or expedient.

2. They recognize a theoretical liability from the stipulation for premature payment of death claims, and, if it is deemed important to provide for it by a technical reserve, would suggest the above described method of computing it rather than to disturb the present form of the valuation tables. Practically, however, they do not consider the matter of sufficient relative importance as at this time to require or justify a departure from existing usage.

The provisions in the policies allowing days of grace in premium payment, while at variance with the theories of net values, do not seem

toneed any remedy under the resolution.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

As indicated in our last issue, we make the following interesting excerpts from the annual report of the Board of Trade of British Columbia, for the year ending June 30, 1887.

Increased activity among the miners of the Province 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 1886 was an unfavorable one, in consequence of late freshets in the rivers, the seventeen canneries in the Province sent out 163,004 cases of cans, against 107.088 in 1885, and 57,394 in 1879.

Some idea of the business done in the city of Victoria can be gained from the following figures of exports for the fiscal

year ending June 30, 1887.

Produce of	of mine:	, gold	\$684,689
"	"	ore	420
44	16	fisheries	001-010
Animals:	and thei	r pro/luce	380,126
Manufacti	urcs		15.867
Agricultu	ral proc	ucts	3,328
Miscellan	cous		240
Total, the	produc	e of Canada	\$1,994,169
Total	export		\$2,094,384

Exports from the Port of New Westminster for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1887.

Produce of the forest......\$230,589 Exports from Nanaimo for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887.

Produce	or mines, coal\$1	,137,618
44	" iron ore	lol
44	fisheries	Co
4.6	forests	3,520
Manufac	tures and agricultural produce	195
Total in umbi: On whic	al\$1 ports into the Province of British Col- i for the fiscal year 1887, June 30\$6 th the duties paid were al duties paid on imports for 16 years	5.60S.014

The foregoing data give pleasing indications of the growing prosperity of the Pacific slope of the Dominion, which will be much increased when the great transcontinental pathway to China and Japan shall be in full operation.

FIRE UNDERWRITERS' ASSOCIATION

OF THE MORTH-WEST.

The eighteenth annual session of this Association was held at Chicago, on Sept. 14th ult. The attendance was fully up to that of former years. Many valuable papers were read before the Association, extracts from some of which will be found in this issue accredited to the several authors, and others will be given in future issues. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: I. W. Holman, President; J. C. Myers, Vice-President; J. C. Griffith, Secretary-Treasurer.

Commissions and Brokerage.—" Proceeding on that assumption (that 23'39 per cent, is now paid by the companies in the States, as commissions and brokerage), you will at once perceive that 23'39 per cent, is an increase of 8'39 over 15 per cent, the former ample commission paid. Now what does 8'39 per cent, mean in connection with the fire premiums of 1886?

"Even when limited to American companies alone, and those doing business in the State of New York alone, it means \$5.500,000 of money. And what do \$5.500,000 mean in connection with the emergencies over which we are now howling? They mean the difference between care, anxiety, and possible embarassment on the one hand, and comfort,

ease and enlarged surplus on the other.

"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 radical reform. The fact that a hardy broker can bulldose you into paying him 40 per cent, to-day only gives him the reason to expect and the cheek to demand 50 to-morrow. Where will you stop? This thing is a bottomless pit, you cannot fill it up, you cannot safely bridge it; but you can turn aside and walk in a safer road." C. C. Hine.

"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 cost where it rightly belongs, and reducing the former rates upon the safer hazards. The benefit to the public of compacts in insurance is obtained through a comparison of the views of the many; otherwise those companies, whose experience had been phenomenally bad, would charge a high rate, and other companies would creep along up to that figure as closely as possible. The grouping of the experience of all brings education in the business, cures defects in hazards, henefits the manufacturer and the merchant, improves the property through intelligent tables of schedule rating, and cheapens insurance to all who avail themselves of the improvements suggested." A. Williams.

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 annual proceedings of this Association, and the programme of the present meeting, to have ample evidence of the possible scope of fire underwriting. There is scarcely a branch of physics 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 barns are about 85 per cent. incendiary; in rinks, about 66 per cent.; in livery stables, about 63 per cent.; in slaughter houses, about 59 per cent. 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 proper-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 runs 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 known 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 purposes 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 WEBSTER.

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 account, 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 utterly groundless 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 streets, and even telegraphed to other sensational sheets 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 which published the item had to say in their very next issues that enquiry 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 than it is to collect them again.

London Assurance Corporation. We have received a circular issued by Mr. C. C. Foster, announcing the appointment of Mr. A. B. Gwit, as joint agent with himself, of this Corporation for the Dominion, and hereafter the business will be conducted by these gentlemen as joint Chief Agents. We referred to this appointment in our last issue.

THE FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

As stated some time since in THE CHRONICLE, 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. Clirchugh, 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 January 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 Kennedy, Superintendent of Agencies under Mr. Robertson, assuming the management of the Fire Insurance Association.

Mr. Robertson has held the position of Manager of the Fire Insurance Association since its arrival in Canada, about six years ago, and has succeeded in establishing a valuable system of agencies for it throughout the Dominion. During his control as manager, the A ciation has passed through the fiery ordeal of the last few years—exceptional in the history of fire insurance for loss occurrences—without having lost money. 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 friends unite in the hope that after a brief sojourn among the orange groves of the balmy South, he will return in restored health, and prepared to push the interests of the London & Lancashire Life 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 1st prox., as above intimated, is, according to his present chiefs estimation, "the right man in the right place;" and further, he is the best man that the Association could get for the position. Mr. Kennedy, 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 years. Messrs. Gault & Tatley, together with the other officials of the Royal, manifested the esteem 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 discharge of his duties, straightforward, 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 employed by the Company in Canada would do credit to any company, and we may safely assume that they will use even greater energy in the future in the interests of the Fire Insurance Association, as a display of their 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 THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

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, en-

AN ACT TO IMPOSE CERTAIN DIRECT TAXES ON CERTAIN COMMERCIAL CORPORATIONS.

(45 Vict., Cap. XXII. 1882.)

[Assented to 27th May, 1887.]

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislature of Quebec, enacts as follows:-

- 1. In order to provide for the exigencies of the public service of this Province, every Bank carrying on the business of banking in this province, every Insurance Company accepting risks and transacting the business of insurance in this province, every Incorporated Company carrying on any labor, trade or business in this province, every incorporated Loan Company making loans in this province, every incorporated Navigation Company 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 Telephone Company, working a telephone line in this province, every City Passenger or Tramway in this province, and every Railway Company working a line of railway or tramway in this province, and every Railway Company working a railway or part of a railway in this province shall, annually, pay the several taxes mentioned and specified in section III. of this act, which taxes are hereby imposed upon each
- of such Commercial Corporations respectively.
 2. The term "Bank" includes Savings Banks, the term
 "Insurance Company" comprises Life, Fire, Inland,
 Marine, Guarantee and Accident Insurance Companies, but does not include Mutual 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 compan-

ies publishing newspapers or periodicals.

3. The annual taxes, imposed upon and payable by the commercial 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 million dollars; and an additional sum of two hundred dollars for each million or fraction of a million dollars of this paid-up 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 each office or place of business in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of twenty dollars for each office or place of business in every other place.

II. INSURANCE COMPANIES.

(a) An insurance company carrying on solely the business of Life Insurance five hundred dollars.

(b) An insurance company carrying on any other kind of insurance, four hundred dollars, and when it combines two or more kinds of insurance, including life insurance, an additional sum of fifty dollars for each kind of insurance carried on beyond one.

(c) An additional tax of one 1 indred dollars for each office or place of business in the Cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of five dollars for each office or place of business established in every other place.

III. INCORPORATED COMPANIES.

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

IV. INCORPORATED LOAN COMPANIES.

(a) A company with a fixed capital, four hundred dollars, with an additional sum of fifty dollars for each million dollars or fraction of one million dollars of the paid-up capital of the company, over 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 business in the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and of fifty dollars for each office or place of business in every other place.

V. INCORPORATED NAVIGATION COMPANIES.

(a) One hundred dollars when the paid-up capital is one hundred thousand dollars or less; two hundred dollars when the paid-up capital is from one hundred thousand dollars to five hundred thousand dollars; with an additional 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 COMPANIES.

(a) One thousand dollars.

(b) An additional tax of five dollars for each office.

VII. 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 each mile of railway or tramway worked.

IX. RAILWAY COMPANIES.

(a) The railway companies mentioned in the schedule of this act, twenty dollars for each mile of railway worked.

(b) All other railway companies, five dollars for each 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 commercial corporation has its chief or head office; 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 husiness, factory or workshop, for which it is payable, is

situated.

6. If any such annual tax be not paid, the same may be recovered with legal interest thereon from the date upon which such tax became due, by an action brought, in his own name, on behalf of Her Majesty, by the license inspec tor of the revenue district in which such tax was payable.

7. All actions for the recovery of such taxes shall be brought in the judicial district in which they are payable, either before the Circuit Court or the Superior Court, according to the competency of the Court with reference to the amount claimed.

8. Costs shall not be adjudged against the license inspector in any action instituted by him under this act, but on the recommendation of the tribunal, the provincial treasurer may, in his discretion, pay to the commercial corporation, in favor of which judgment has been rendered, the

costs to which he may deem it equitably entitled.

9. The clerks or secretary-treasurers of every municipal corporation shall, annually, on or before the first day of June, return to the provincial treasurer the names of all commercial corporations of the nature of those mentioned in this act, established or doing business within their respective municipalities, specifying the number of offices, places of business, factories or workshops of each; and in default of so doing, they shall severally be liable to a fine of twenty-five dollars, and in default of payment of such fine to an imprisonment of twenty-five days.

10. The taxes imposed by 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 lieutenant-governor-in-council, to the payment of the expenses incurred for the carrying out of this act.

12. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanc-

tion.

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 Territories are required to pay a fee of \$200, where the capital was \$400,000, or more, and upon smaller capitals the fee is to be graduated accordingly. The fire underwriters, very properly, proceeded to assess this tax upon the insured by raising the rates ten per cent., which, of course, created quite a sensation among the insuring public, and the question was raised as to the authority of the Council to assess this tax, some claiming it to be ultra vires, under certain restrictions said to be imposed by Section 13, sub-sec. 2, of the North-West Territories Act. Our correspondent asks if we can give him any information upon the matter.

Not having access to the Act referred to, we are not familiar with its requirements, hence cannot give any information founded thereon. But we take it as a general principle that every country, 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 to 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 Act 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. A marked difference, however, exists between the two Acts; in one the amount of the tax is fixed, and the companies can know just what they will be called upon to pay; while 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 companies in entire ignorance as to the amount they may be called upon to contribute.

In the issues of THE CHRONICLE, of July and August ulto (pp. 298-340), 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 meet 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 tax mequitably exacted from the insured by the Govern-This course, recommended to the companies in the States by the Committee on legislation and taxation, of the National Board in year 1875, was put into operation in several cities, and found to work admirably to the end pro-

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., im-

posed upon all articles of use or consumption.

THE FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS ANALYZED.

From a series 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 1885, under three general heads, viz.:

Percentage of losses to fire premium receipts.

to amount of risks written. of expenses to total premium receipts. " commissions to premium and interest receipts.

We get the following several results: Number of offices, all American, 1860..... 1885..... 285 Ratio of losses to fire premiums, 1860.... 58.50 p.c. 55.88 p.c. 1885.... Av.rage for the whole period......... 57.40 p.c. Ratio of losses to the amount written, 1860..... 1885.... .4280 Premium rate advanced from .6099 in 1860 to .7512 in 1885. 28.86 p.c. Ratio of expenses to fire and inland premiums, 1860.... 36.79 Average for the whole period ... 33.40 "

A difference of 7.93 per cent. between 1860 and 1885 Ratio of commissions paid to premium, and interest receipts. 1860 9.44 1885..... Average for the whole period.... An increase of 7.93 for 1885 over 1860.

Commenting upon these tables, our contemporary says :-"It will be seen that the commissions have increased 7.93 per cent. from 1860 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 statute regulating insurance bears unmistakable marks of ignorance of and prejudice 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 coffee, as cotton or corn, and should be a matter of inter-state regulation rather than 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 steam engine. 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. IV. Holman.

VACCINATION.

Our worthy confrère, 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 matter thrown in here and

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 little and care less. Their opinions may be valuable, or they may be utterly worthless, even if correctly quoted. They may be of the class who are without honor in their own country. It is quite possible, for instance, that "Doctor" Alex. M. Ross, of Toronto, is referred to as an authority by the anti-vaccinationists of England and Australia. Moreover, we are quite certain from an examination of them, that many of the quotations are garbled extracts, and that if the whole connection were given in each a e, the views of most of the leading persons quoted would be found to be very different from the impression given of them by these bare extracts. But we will not waste more time over this point, but will pass on to the statistics given.

"Doctor" Ross takes the ridiculous ground of asking the advocates of vaccination to "prove by facts that the vaccinated never take the small-pox, but are safe under all circumstances, while the unvaccinated are certain to take the disease whenever exposed to it." Few, if any, sensible people claim this—all that is claimed is that vaccination is a very valuable preventative, and therefore should never be neglected. But "Doctor" Ross' position 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 statistics brought forward by him merely prove that even vaccinated persons sometimes take small-pox, but so do people who wear overcoats sometimes take cold. All that we claim is that the vaccinated are much less likely to take small-pox, just as those who wear overcoats are much less likely to take cold. When this is borne in mind, the greater part of all the so-called proofs at once seem to be entirely irrelevant and valueless.

But those statistics which are to the point prove conclusively that vaccination is a great protection. Take for instance the table referring to the Montreal epidemic of 1885. He first gives figures which, if correct, would show that about sixty per cent. of the persons admitted to the small-pox hospitals were vaccinated, and only forty per cent. unvaccinated. He then follows this up by a table which was prepared for him by a medical man, from enquiries made of the relatives and friends of the persons who had died of small-pox, and of whose names he had a register. The following is this table.

Summary of Montreal small-pox epidemic 1885:

	Roman	Catholics,				
Age at death.	French Canadians,	Others.		Vaccin- ated.	Unvaccin-	Total.
Under one year One year to twenty. Twenty to fifty Fifty to ninety	2,243	27 113 36 10	16 49 29 3	186 1,062 128 24		537 2,405 209 26
Total	2,803	187	97	1,400	1,777	3,177

correct, as regards the vaccination or non-vaccination of the cases which proved fatal, they would show that fifty six per cent, of the deaths from small-pox, even of unvacconated persons, while the proportion of unvaccinated cases admitted to the hospitals as quoted by him was only forty per cent. This would seem to be clear proof from 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 again. 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 unvaccinated, or the mortality among those vaccinated was much lighter than among those who were not. But will even "Doctor" Ross claim that more than at the outside twenty-five or thirty 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 only furnished forty-four per cent, of the deaths, while the thirty per cent. unvaccinated furnished fifty-six per cent. of the deaths. "Doctor" Ross has evidently proved more than he intended.

But one step further and the proof is then as it seems to The information in the above table as to us conclusive. whether the deaths were those of vaccinated or unvaccinated persons was obtained, we are told, from "the friends and relatives of the deceased." These people were chiefly of the most ignorant class of French-Canadians, most of whom are bitterly opposed to vaccination, and who may be expected therefore to give the most unfavorable tinge possible to anything they had to say on this subject. In how many cases was a doubtful 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 been carefully washed off as soon as the public vaccinator was gone." But we need not go further on this point. It is sufficient that "Doctor" Ross's own statistics show that vaccination is a great protection.

Let us just glance now at the latest official testimony from

"During the first 15 years after the passing of the compulsory vaccination act, 1854 to 1868, there died of smallpox in England and Wales 54.700.

"During the second 15 years, 1869 to 1883, when 95 per cent, of all children born were vaccinated, the deaths rose to 66.447."

During that 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 further back.

ANNUAL DEATHS FROM SMALLPOX IN ENGLAND.

Period.	Annual deaths.	Rate per million of population.
Average of 30 years before m- troduction of vaccination 1807-1837	40,000	3,000
Average number of deaths now as above (66,447 in 15 years)	4,430	180

From this it is evident that while small-pox has not been and probably never will be entirely extirpated, it has been reduced to trifling proportions, compared with what it was before vaccination was introduced. The small number of persons (excepting French Canadians) who are pitted with small-pox at the present day, as compared with the last

generation, is a self-evident proof of this.

But what about the "official evidence from Scotland." "Doctor" Ross says that in the small-pox epidemic which prevailed there in 1871-3, there were 517 deaths of vaccinated children (under one year) against2 45 unvaccinated. We Now, if we assume for the moment that these figures are | have not the means at hand of checking these figures, but

even if to by are true, they tell against the anti-vaccinationists. For will it be claimed that in a country like Scotland, in which vaccination had been strictly carried out since 1864, and in which there was compulsory registration of births. and at a time when, on account of the epidemic, the vaccination 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 April, 1877, 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 "Doctor's"—that in which he 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 persons who are attacked. For this purpose, he quotes four 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.

Number attacked of whom died

4,000, or 1 in 2 1,875, or 1 in 2 1-10 of those attacked. of the 30,000 vaccinated. 2,000, or 1 in 15 20 or 1 in 100 of those attacked.

But we have already said quite enough on this subject. As our Toronto 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 dismissed, so far as we are concerned.

EQUITABLE LIFE; ONTARIO BRANC...

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 needful 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 annual 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 \$75.510,872.76, an increase of \$8,957,085.26 over the previous year.

The surplus, in excess of all liabilities, upon a 4 per cent. On a 4½ per cent. basis, it basis, was \$16.355,875.76. would have been \$20.495,175.76.

The premium income for the year 1886, was \$16.272,155 being \$2,810,475 over 1885. Total income was \$19,-

873,733.19.

Such a splendid shewing is evidently the result of the liberal systems of insurance offered to its policyhodlers, including the non-forfeiture feature, after the second year, as well as the prompt and satisfactory manner in which all loss claims are settled. The Equitable came to Canada in 1868 It has assets here, cash value \$738,480. The amount c insurance in force December 31, 1886, was \$12,436.288. Paid to policyholders \$223,511.95, with no unsettled claims.

The reputation 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

success in his new position.

YOU PAYS YOUR MONEY AND YOU TAKES YOUR CHOICE.

From the Insurance Record. N. Y.

Here is the wonderful acrobatic feat of Napoleon Homans, performing 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.

" A life insurance company must be furnished each year with sufficient funds to provide (1) for current death claims, (2) for the creation of a moderate guaranty fund available in case of excessive mortality or other unfavorable contingencies, and (3) for the necessary expenses of conducting the business."-Sheppard Homans.

" No policy-holder has any right, title or interest in the deposit of any other policyholder, each one having his own proper and sufficient sum in the treasury of the company. No deposit can properly be used to pay the claim by death of any one, except that of the person for whom the deposit was made, nor can any deposit properly be used for expenses of management or even for adverse contingencies." — Sheppard Homans.

Now you see it and now you don't.

"By the New Plan you pay as you go and get what you pay for. By the Old plan you over-pay. over-payment does not relieve you 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 necessary thought or thing." -Sheppard Homans.

"It may be urged as an objection to this plan (New Plan) that payments required will increase each year, until in time they may exceed the uniform annual premium at the age of entry. This is unavoidable, and must be true of any system. Life insurance must be paid for, and the cost increases with the risk assumed, and risk assumed usually increases with the age of the person whose it is now stripped of every un- life is insured."-Sheppard Homans.

Encore! Encore! Hi! Hi! Bring him out.

Every Level premium includes not only the full provision for the cost of insuring the net amount at risk at | furnished, for expenses of the actual age attained, no management and for possible matter what the age of entry may have been, and a provision for expenses (comprising. as stated above, all that is er a sum sufficient to procure absolutely required for in- a substitute equally satisfacsurance under any form of tory, in case he should terpolicy), but includes also minate his contract."—Shep-something else, which has pard Homans. nothing 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 insurance to be furnished in the distant and uncertain future, when the individual insured may not be living, or if alive may not then need insurance." -Sheppard Homans.

"A life insurance company must be compensated each year for the insurance adverse contingencies, and should retain from the first payment of each policy-hold-

Wanted .- Twenty-five copies of the January issue of the INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE. We will gla by 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 co-operatives. Many an earnest agent for legitimate live 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 their 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 enough for me," and much more of the same kind. No argument he can use will convince these people that the persons named are not well qualified to judge of the merits of the company in which they risk their money. And it is not to be wondered at. If men posing as authorities in legal, medical and commercial life continue to lend their names in this reckless manner, it must follow that men accustomed to look 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 responsibility rests on those who lead in the encouragement of any doubtful scheme. 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 have only paid the cost of our insurance."

The trouble, is they have not had insurance and if they find themselves 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 illness will prevent their getting insurance and 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 strength 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 soon be a thing of the past. Some time ago, in a neighboring city, a gentleman who had given his name as one of the Canadian 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 seen your name as one of the local board of the ---- association, and knowing you to be a shrewd man, and one well up in financial matters, I have decided to drop my life insurance in -and--- 'naming two of the oldest and most trustworthy of companies—" and save the large premiums I have been paying." This was a new phase of the question to the gentleman interviewed, and the result was that he at once declined to be responsible for any such 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 startling in some quarters, and that very soon.

A new Fire Insurance Company, bearing the royal title of the "King," with a capital of $\mathcal{L}_{100,000}$, is announced in Great Britain.

AVERAGE.

The true signification of the word Average is: the mean sum, quantity or value made out of unequal sums, quantities or values, by adding these together and dividing 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 upon some kind of measurement of probabilities, the contingency insured against may happen, or it may fail, 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 contract. 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 while the individual life is uncertain, yet among a number of lives the death occurences are subject to the law of average.

Rating of risks is experimental, tentative only. Some offices 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 re-arrangement 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 known 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 other, 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 thousand with a profit at a rate based on the average loss on a thousand risks of like character; neither can he fix an adequate rate of premium to a single risk, while he may, in the light of experience, fix a proper rate to a thousand; the law of average prevails to a wonderful degree 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 accidental destruction by fire present an equal certainty for calculating the premium."

Hence it is only by the application of the theory of aver

age, the adding together of individual risks, or happenings, under the several contingencies covered by the insurance, and dividing by the number of each, that anything like reliable data can approximated in underwriting. Hence come the "average rate" and the "average line" in fire insurance.

Average, in fine, is the underlying principle of commerce and of many other subjects, more or less intimately connected with the common affairs of life.

AN ANCIENT INSURANCE POLICY.

The followin, is a verbatim copy of what is known as the "Ancona Policy." written in Latin, issued in the year 1576, and said to he oldest policy on record.

Maria, die 20 Octobris, 1567.

In Nomine Dei, quod felici itineri, incolumitati & lucro vertat. Notum as manifestum fit cuilibet lecturo hoc Assecurationis instrumentum, quod Dn. Johannes Straccha, Nobilis Anconitanus, se assecurari faciar super telis undulatis, pannis, & omnes generis aliis mercibus, impositis sive imponendis per Dn. Nicholaum Pilestri, sive quamlibet aliam personam, navi, cui nomen S. Miria Loretuna, cui Magister proepositus est Angelus Picchi, sive quælibet ali persona mandato, d. Dn. Johannes Stracchæ, instructa, sive alius quem ca res spectiat, sicuti ex literis vecturæ constat vel constabit ex portu Constantinopolitano ad portum usque Aconitanum, data ei potestate cum dicta nave & mercibus ci impositis intrandi quemcunque portum & locum, & navigandi antrorsum et retrorsum, à dextris & à sinistris pro placito & voluntate istius Magistri navis, itinere non mutato; Dictis Assecuratoribus suscipiontibus in se periculum dd. mercium super omni casu maris, ignis, jactus in mare, repressaliarum, direptionum foediratorum vel hostium, & omnis alius casus portentosi, fortuiti, infortunii sinistri, impedimenti & casus mali & qualiscunque fuerit vel intervenerit. Omnia dicta pericula illi subcunt, & omnia in sese recipiunt illi infra scripti Assecuratores ab eo tempore quo d. navis vela fuerit ex d. portu Constantinopolitano cum dd. telis undulatis & alius generis mercibus, donec appulerit in portum Anconitanum, ibique salva steterit horas 24, sicuti supra dictum est; Et si dictis telis undulatis superveniat vel supervenerit infortunium aliquod (quod Deus avertat) Assecuratores tenentur dare et solvere d. Dn. Joh. Stracchæ vel mandatario ejus nummos illos assecuratos intra duos menses ex eo die quo Anconæ istius rei vera nova habebuntur; Et si prætenderent ratione aliqua contradicere, non possint audiri ab aliquo Judice aut ullo Magistratu, nisi prius reipsa persolverint numeratam illam pecuniam; Et si abhinc intra menses duodecim de dicta nave non fuerint vera nova perlata, Assecuratores obligentur dare & solvere pecuniam istam ab illis assecuratam d. Dn. Johannes, absque ulla exceptione; Et si postmodum salva devenerit, (uti supra dictum est,)d. Dn. Johannes debeat restituere nummos istos quos à d. Assicuratore acciperit; Adhibitur insuper hæc declaratio, Assecuratores defraude magistri navis sive scribæ et de quibusvis aliis periculis, casibus, simstris, infortumis personaliter velle obstrictos & obligatos esse in omnibus & per omnia, & ad Dn. Gubernatorem Anconstanum, vel ipsius Auditorem vel qualemeunque alium officialem super Jure & facto Judicem agnoscendeum, renunciantos domicilio, moratoriis, secundum pleniorem Cameræ Apostolicæ formulam, et se submittentes cuivis loco Judici vel tribunali, Renunciant quoque dd. Assecuratores omni privilegio, indulto, prorogationi, legibus, statutis & immunitatibus, & teriis quæ in illorum favorem facerent; Et tenentur primum Assecuratores solvere 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 sufficienter satisdet restituendo cuilibet quod contra, quam oportebat, acceperit, cum usuris viginti pro Centum, quodque or his representative, the sums by them assured, within two

Assecuratores ad probandum tempus duodecim mensium habeant, super eo quod in contratrium asserrere voluerint, quodque elapso d. tempore Dn. Johannes fit liber et exemptus ab omnia molestia quærem libet prædictarum Causarum, Jurentque Assecuratores & se obligent d. Dn. Johannes, scipsos & omnes suos hæredes et bona mobilia et immobilia, præsentia et futura, omni meliori modo quo se obligare possent juxta forumlam Cameræ Apostolicæ, se submittentes omnibus locis ubi fuerint inventi observatis solts termmis soltis celebrari & consuetis, dictó modó & forma Cameræ Apostolicæ, & velint hoc Instrumentum habere easdem vires et formam, quas per omnia habere queat contractus secundum formulam Cameræ.

Etiam declarant istius se esse propositi, quod super ominbus rebus non expressis in d. Instrumento, observandus fa

usus et Stylus fori Florentini.

Præterea volunt Proxenetam sive mediatorem qui faciet d. securitatem solum valere authoritate, & sufficere fidem authenticam sua manu, suoque Juramento exhibere, si præsens intererit recognitioni literarum sive manus cujuslibet, qui hâc de causa pecuniam accipiat.

Factum per me Marianum Benincasa, ex mandato Perri Fantolini, impræsentiarum Proxenetam d. securitas, Ancoiac.

SUBSCRIPTIONES ASSECURATORUM.

Ego Benedictus Gondola assecuro secundum modum et carrem hujus instrumenti pro nummis scutatis trecentis, quorum singuli Paulinos undecim valent; et ob periculum meum accepi ab Odda Gualterucci quindecim scutatos dicti valoris, quo Deus ipsi servit.

Ego Antonius Trionsi assecuro, uti supra, pro scutatis trecentis, quorum singuli undecim Paulinos valent, et ob periculum meum accessi ab Odda Gualterucci quindecim

scutatos. Deus illos servet.

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

Deux illos serves.

OUR LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE ANCON! POLICY.

Jesus Maria, 20th day of October, 1567.

In the name of God. May be make the voyage prosperous, safe and profitable. Let it be made manifest to all who read this instrument: That Don John Straccha, a noble of Ancona, makes insurance for himself upon watered silk, drapery, and all other kinds of merchandise ladened or to be ladened by Don Nicholas Pilestri, or whatever other person, upon the vessel, named St. Mary of Lorreta, of which the chief 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 apprar, 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 changed. The said assurers taking upon themselves the risk upon said merchandise against all misfortunes of the sea, fire, jettison, reprisals, wreck, from friends or enemies, and all other injury whatsoever, chance, disaster, loss, impediment, and causes of loss, whatsoever it may be or shall happen All of said dangers shall be borne by them, and shall fall upon themselves, the said assurers, hereon 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 above 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 Straccha,

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 possible to have been heard of, before any judge or other magistrate, unless before that time he himself shall pay the util sum of said

money.

And if, from that date, for the space of twelve months no true news of said vessel shall have been received, the assurers obligate themselves to give and pay the said money to the said assured, Don John, to the full amount, without exception, and if thereafter it (the vessel) should return in safety (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 fraud of the master of said vessel, or of the clerk or, other persons, and all other dangers, misfortunes, losses, personal accidents and detentions, acknowledging judgment upon the law and the fact, before the Governor of Ancona, his auditor, or whatever other official, renouncing domicile and delays according to the forms of the full Apostolic Court, and submitting themselves to the judge and court of what ever place. Renouncing to the said assurers all privileges, exchange, subrogations, laws, statutes and immunities, and holy days, which 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 addition the cost of litigation.

· It is also agreed by the said assurers that the said Don 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 months time for proof, in addition to that which to the contrary is asserted. And that after the lapse of the said time, the said Don John shall be free and exempt from all molestation on account of the suit aforesaid. The assurers swearing and obligating themselves to the said Don John and all his assigns and heirs, in their goods, movable 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 Apostolic Court, and agreeing that this instrument shall have the same force and form as have all such contracts made according to the

Court formula.

Also declaring it to be in itself important, that upon all matters not expressed in thi instrument, reference shall be made to the usage and style of the Florence Court.

Furthermore, it is agreed that the broker or other intermediary who made the said receipt shall alone be held authority sufficient, if authenticated by his hand and by his oath shown; or if it shall be unknown before whom this writing was acknowledged, then the hand of whomsoever shall have received the money will suffice.

Done by me, Marinum Benincasa, by order of Peter Fantolini, in the presence of the broker, the said security, at Ancona.

SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE ASSURERS.

I, Benedict Gondola, do assure according to the mode and tenor of this instrument to the sum of 300 scudi, of which each 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 are as above to the amount of 300 scudi, the value of each of which is 11 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 11 Paulos. May God preserve

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

REFUSAL OF A BANKRUPT TO SUEMIT TO A MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF HIS CREDITORS.

A very interesting case was recently decided in the Court of Appeal, London, Eng., in re "Betts and Block," the point at issue being whether a bankrupt could be compelled to submit 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 follow:

In September, 1885, Messrs. Betts and Block, partners in business, were adjudged banl rupts. The liabilities were £1,433, and the realized assets £206 only. A further asset was a contingent reversionary interest in £2,000, to which Block was entitled in the event of his surviving his mother, aged sixty nine. The trustee in Lankruptcy could sell this reversionary interest for £800, if an insurance were effected on Block's life. In order, therefore, to protect the creditors of the estate, Block was called on to submit to a medical examination, which he refused to do, and declining to give any reason for his refusal. Some six months before the bankruptcy of the firm, Block had endcavored to raise money upon this reversionary interest for business purposes, and had been medically examined for the purpose of effecting an insurance upon his life; the proposal was accepted, but the negotiations for the loan fell through. Block having thus failed to aid to the utmost of his power in the realization of his property, within the terms of the Bankruptcy Act, the Official Receiver withheld his discharge. In taking the matter into court, the Registrar in Bankruptcy declined to take the question of Block'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 bankrupt had assisted in rendering this asset marketable. The Court of Appeal consisted of the Master of the Rolls, (Lord Esher,) Justice Fry, and Lord Justice Lopes. The majority of the court were of opinion that the refusal to submit to a medical examination did not come within the meaning of the section of the Act under discussion; on the other hand Lord Justice Fry, dissenting, was of the opinion that the bankrupt had no right to deprive the creditors of a valuable property by withstanding the demand of the trustee in bankruptcy.

The Insurance Record of London, from which we get these fact; in commenting upon the decision, says:

" We thus have it laid down, in a decision entitled to the greatest weight from the eminence of the judges, that a bankrupt cannot be called upon to supply a medical report of the eligibility for insurance of his life, in order to give an enhanced value to co tain property which he possesses. *** In the present case it appeared that the reversioner had some time previously passed a satisfactory medical examination, and had made a statement to 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 creditors be great or small, partial or complete. The present suit clearly goes to prove that, under the existing bankruptcy statutes, creditors upon an estate may have some of their property gratuitously wasted through the perversity of a debtor, this we can hardly conceive to be the intention of the framers of the Acts; but it affords still another instance of the madequacy of human legislative effort to grapple successfully with all conditions 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 further held that the mortgagees could go forward and make the proofs.

MONTREAL'S FIRE LOSS RECORD.

FOR SIX YEARS AND TEN MONTHS, 1881-1887.

We have prepared a statement of the fire losses in Mont. The following table shows the losses for each month for 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, 188,038,598, out of which the Insurance Companies paid to October 31st, 1887.

\$4,376,358.

_	• 18	£1.	181	32.	185	83.	13	34.	188	s	18:	36.	188	37.
Months.	Total Loss.	Insurance Loss	Total Loss.	Ins. Los.	Total	lnc. Locs.	Total Loss	Ins. Loss.	Total less.	Ins. Loss	Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.	Total Less.	Inc. Loss,
lanuary February March April May June Ju'y August September October November Docember	\$28,250 29,603 51547 3.5% 5.250 7.500 117.193 31,541 12,916 4.375 4.420 70,790	\$20,750 27,044 5,447 2,279 2,700 6,300 94,215 27,557 6,492 3,530 3,537 59,705	1,276 26,442 14,139 7,771 347,555 12,572 6,834 14,289 38,574 19,735 22,110	914 20,198 13,991 (7,749 279,739 9,272 5,481 12,795 25,177 11,451 17,381	25,,959 167,681 56,842 16,344 9,387 7,260 81,210 12,375 97,701 16,760 168,750	23) y25 112,622 39,682 15,134 9,387 5,197 60,052 9,359 81,908 9,790 115,678	15,73° 4,4°0 22,77° 5,4°75° 173,6'35° 6,05° 12,5'54 10,2'55 6,27° 10,0°0 (9),6'74	2,200 19,770 47,575 134,442 6,050 20,384 8,965 6,270 5,000 40,554	151.14- 32,120 75,70- 7,70- 31,77- 94,640 21,958 11,770 12,500 240,750	32,120 54,010 4,460 6,490 30,635 84,614 16,530 9,020 7,000 111,972	18,,123 75,487 208,175 107,860 2,250 11,970 2(1,07	·	19,375 4,373 5,010	

The losses as given for 1582 are evidently below the actual figures, as our files for that year were not cuite complete.

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

1881 1882	518,310	Ins. Loss. \$259,436 405,860	Total Loss. 1885	Ins. Loss. \$505.914 773.547 1,084,235
1883 1884		754,866 592,480	Totals\$3,038,596	\$4,376,358

BUSINESS OF FOREIGN BRANCH FIRE OFFICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

FROM DATE OF ENTRY THEREIN TO DECEMBER 31, 1886.

COMPANIES.	No. of Years.	Premiums.	Losses.	Total Income.	Total Expenditure.	Total	Ses to Total Expenditure.	llalance to credit of Prem, in excess of ex- penditures, d the reverse.	Outstanding Liabilities Dec. 31, 1816.
Liver & Lon. & Globe Queen North British & Mere'l Imperial Commercial Union Guardian London Assurance Lancashire. Royal British America. Western, Canada Northern Assurance London & Lancashire. Norwich Union. Pheenix, London Scottish Union & National Fire Insurance Association City of London	26 21 20 16 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	58,458,944 18,229,709 24,448,906 13,226,417 18,037,669 4,935,177 8,387,331 11,760,666 6,171,786 8,345,219 6,101,342 7,256,425 4,355,680 7,761,138 2,307,254 4,331,837 2,592,503	37,781,056 11,055,056 11,055,056 16,979,528 8,525,866 10,454,624 2,444,871 4,723,310 15,235,349 3,905,500 5,193,546 3,650,450 4,661,450 2,497,566 4,612,392 1,321,022 2,933,319 1,699,241	64,702,034 17,996,982 25,773,492 13,846,312 18,670,506 5-354,629 8,906,639 12,090,625 29,421,895 6,546,085 8,640,497 6,480,030 7,582,802 4,607,832 8,016,208 2,533,684 4,522,241 2,692,253	54,731,169 16,873,282 23,962,321 13,130,967 15,920,476 4.254,115 7,604,084 10,760,210 23,693,458 5,954,417 8,176,668 5,695,004 6,910,971 3,976,155 7,116,217 1,988,380 4,411,486 2,695,872	58.4 61.2 65.7 65.7 65.7 65.7 55.1 57.7 69.1 56.5 57.5 63.7	64.6 63.8 69.4 66.7 57.9 49.5 56.3 62.2 60.3 64.2 56.8 59.4 57.2 67.7 65.5	3.727,775 1,356,427 486,585 95,430 2,117,193 681,062 783,247 1,009,641 4,067,208 217,369 168,551 406,338 345,454 408,925 645,921 318,874 6 79,649 6 113,369	\$79.033 2,500,580 420,372 535,149

Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the views expressed by Correspondents.]

TORONTO JOTTINGS.

Editor CHRONICLE,

DEAR SIR,—The past month has been one with its usual number of excitements, not the least of which was the action of the Montreal Bank in calling in certain loans, thus precipitating a period of stringency in the money market. It is said that one of our local banks relieved the pressure to the tune of half a million dollars in a single day lately. It is an encouraging sign of the times that, so conservative and substantial an institution as the one in question should have come to the aid of our people, when bankers not in sympathy with our city's enterprises ruthlessly curtailed their accounts.

WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS.

We are promised an interesting passage at arms, unless a certain executive officer consents to "eat the leek," and take back some slanderous statements made against the medical directors of another of our chartered companies. The gentleman in question has always shown a disposition to under-rate every body but himself, but his predictions have been unfulfilled in the case of the company whose officers he has slandered; and fancying that because he was apparently unnoticed he could with impunity damage the character of reputable men, he has gone just too far, so that his airest on a criminal charge may be looked for at any time.

THE DEAD-BEAT'S FALL.

The suit for commission about which I advised you last month has taken the shape of an arbitration, and, as expected, some strange things have been developed. The genius in question, it now transpires, sold for valuable consideration in Montreal, his interest in the commission he now claims; and having done specimes to Toronto and enters a suit to recover it from the agents here. There appears to be a clear case against him for attempted swindling; but whether those in interest will punish him as he deserves, or let him go rether than have his family thrown upon the city's charity, is not yet determined. Not the least amusing, and at the same time deplorable phase of the case, was the ease with which the claimant got certain sore-head, old-time lammers, to appear and give evidence tending to show the usages of companies, in repayment of commissions to brokers.

One old-timer, who spends most of his time around the court houses when anything salacious is being dished up, intruded himself into the private room in which the arbitration was being held, and was ignominiously bounced. It is suspected that he was to receive as remuneration for his services, a portion of the commission which was to have been squeezed out of the agents of the company.

The party in question is now working (?) for an assessment concern, and its foster-father is acting as his wet-nurse for the time being.

THE GREAT HANKI-PANKI AS AN INSURANCE COMPANY.

A resident of this city recently deceased, was insured in the Canada Life and in the ——— Life Association—I beg pandon,—he had a certificate in the coroperative association.

The Canada Life, the company in which he was intract, has paid the claim, but the concern issuing the certificate is said to be still endeavoring to compromise with the widow by paying one half the amount of the certificate. The plea under which this action is taken is that about fourteen years ago, the certificate holder was not of very temperate habits. The amount of the alleged insurance is \$3,000, but it is said that \$1,500 is all the Association thinks should be paid. Will the company assess for \$3,000, plus \$3\frac{1}{2}\$ per cent = \$4.000? and if so who gets the little extra? It would be most interesting to many people to know just how they settle that kind of problem, and yet this concern is beened by the Dominion Government; yet Cabinet ministers profess to believe in it; yet lay preachers desert their pulpits and people to sing its praises, and expose their own ignorance of things finantial at the same time, and the poor duped public suffer and will continue to do so.

A BANKER IN TROUBLE-

One of the excitements of the month has been the difficulties in which Mr. H. R. Forbes, banker and broker, has found himself, the result be-

ing his sudden departure for the "City of the Straits," So far as can be determined, there was no reason why Mr. Forbes should have left the city. There is nothing criminal in misfortune, and that seems to have been his trouble.

One of his best friends was heard to say "I'm sorry for Forbes and his family. He was a good fellow, but a chronic speculator, and a chronic bull."

A SENATOR'S WILL

Seldom has public opinion been so unanimous as in the condemnation of the provisions of the last will and testament of a Toronto Senator recently deceased. I never remember to have heard such universal executation of any similar document, and all because he seems to have ignored any claim upon him of kindred, affection, or charity, leaving almost his entire wealth to a religious institution.

"Man proposes," the adage says, but does not always "dispose." According to an existing statute, a will devising moneys to any religious institution must bear date six months previous to the decease of the testator, and in this case it is considered providential by some that he died a few days before the expiration of the six months.

REAL ESTATE.

Prices are firm, and buyers are looking around for purchases. stiffness of the market during the summer strikes has renewed confdence in city property, so that everything points to a boom in the near future. Eligible sites are being rapidly picked up at advancing prices, and any one who wants a good location had better "speak now." I do not think I am at all optimistic, but I predict a still more extraordinary rise in values than we have had at any time in the past. During the past year the city assessment has increased over \$14.000,000. while the population has advanced in a corresponding ratio, so that I believe nothing can interfere with our material progress short of a general panic. Of course the few pessimistic nobodies who see ruin in advancement, danger in the prosperity of the people, and disaster in the confidence displayed by our citizens in their own city, declare that we are on the brink of a volcano; but our financial kings are men of good judgment, who have more than once met successfully crises which have routed weaker men in other places. During the great crisis precipitated by the failure of Jay, Cooke & Co., which swert over this continent like a simoon, the men at the head of the finarcial institutions in this city stood famly at their posts, and so net the current of demoralization, that it is a matter of history that in no city in America was there so little shrinkage in values as in Toronto. Many of the same men are still at the helm, and those who are gone have been replaced by men who are as far-seeing and as enterprising, so that we have no fear of what the future has in store.

THE DON IMPROVEMENTS.

New Parliament Luildings, Canada Life building, and the Bank of Commerce buildings are among the large contracts already made, so that "e have buildings and jubble works of one kind and another in view or contracted for, the value of which reaches up into the tens of millions.

If you take into account the large influx of population consequent on these great contracts alone, you will see that the city must increase in wealth and importance for years to come. Hadn't you better move your head-quarters to Toronto?

NEMESIS.

Competition in Lase Assurance.—There are evils to overcome. They cannot be smiled or succred out of existence. They must be crushed. The rebater must go. The backbuter must go. The sender of anonymous documents and unfair comparisons must go. The viniving of sound and solvent companies must be stopped. The land must be purified. The decayed parts of our organism must be

cut out. With us it is cleansing or death; and so I say that with men who are aggressive and independent, men who will not need to apologize, men who will neither hedge nor truckle—with such men our life as an organization is assured. Our success will be complete. Our fairness and

integrity will be the admiration of our fellow-men -J. Burr before the Life Under writers' Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

INSURANCE PROBLEM NO. 4.

We have received the three following solutions of Insurance problem No. 4, given in the last issue of the CHRONICLE:

The insurance covers wheat in warehouse "A," which is divided irto 9 sections or divisions, numbered from 1 to 9 respectively, viz:

Company A. (certificate for 30 days) covering Insurance to the extent of nineteen thousand dollars on 20,955 bushels of wheat contained in the warehouse "A," subject to the following co-insurance clause: "The assured agrees to maintain insurance to the full value of the property at risk, failing which he agrees to be held as co-insurer for any deficiency of such insurance." 3,000 Company B, in same warehouse with average clause Company B specifically in section 7 No Average Clause. Company C, covering in section 7, only "

D, " " 7, " " " 3,000 12,000 10,000 Total Insurance..... \$47,000 The total loss in A warehouse was..... \$19.591 Of which there was in section 7..... Balance elsewhere in warehouse..... 16,007 \$19,591 45,501 The total value of the wheat was Of which the value in section 7 was.... \$1 .968

\$45.501 The price of the wheat on the day of the fire was \$7 cents per bashel.

outside of sec. 7 was...... 28,533

Proposition: What will each company pay in contribution to the

FIRST SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 4. Liability of each Pelicy (Fractions emitted).

				Sec. 7.	Balance.
A policy \$1	9,000 cove	rs \$19,591its 1:	iability is	•	
اب-۳ دا ده ۱٫۲٫۱	ich ilem			=\$ 3.470	\$15.530
B policy \$3,	000 averag	e,its liability i	is - 3000		
each item			•••••		1,920
B policy \$3.	, ekki spec. s	cc. 7		~ 3,00o	-
	11 000.5	•••••••		= 12,000	
D " 1	טייי,ט נירייף,ט	•••••		= 10,000	
-					
\$ 4	7,000			\$28,700	\$16,550
	•	D. D D. D D. D			

APPORTIONMENT OF Loss.

		Sec. 7.	Balance.	Total.
A	rays	3170 = \$433	1550 17551 - S15017	\$15.450
	**	- 20 = 29	103n = 990	1,019
11	44	5000 = 374	••••	374
C	"	1450 = 1450	••••	1,499
D		10mm = 1,249	••••	1,249
		\$3,584	\$165-17	\$19,591

Total insurance being more than total value, co-insurance clause in Policy A is inoperative, and said policy is apportuned according to Hunyon's Law of Fire insurance, see also Mr. Hore's Rules for fixing liability of Policies.

The apportionment of remaining policies is simple enough.

"B. H. L."

SEACND SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 4. APPORTIONMENT.

				• • • •					
Amount los	s in	Se	द्यांका 7		· ·		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	·	\$3:584 00
Conjuny	· A 1	25					21.44%	85	
Company	7,				_		228	77	
44	C	**				• • • • • •	225	77	
44	1)	"					915	95	_
44	1	46					71.2	54 =	3.554 m
							· · · ·	-	

2	•	•	• •	
Amount loss clewhere			\$16,007	 (10
Company A pays	21240	19		
Owner unincated pays	1 22.4	712		(1)

JOHN N. NEILL, Adjuster. TORONTO, Oct. 14th, 1887.

THIRD SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 4.

Total value \$45,501 as above, at 87c. per bushel, gives 52,300 bushel,

in the warehouse at time of the fire.

Company "A" is liable only to extent of 20,955 bushels, consequently:

If loss on 52,300 bushels (total quantity) is \$19,591 (total loss), the loss on 20,955 bushels (inso el by Company A) = \$7,850, which amount

is the contributive liability of Company A.

Company "B" on 2-300 bashels insures \$3,000 (with average clause), giving B's co-tributive liability \$1,290, which in the ratio of the loss gives the following

'		APPORTION	MENT.		
ı	Outside o	Sec. 7.	In Section 7.		
Company.	Insures.	Pays.	Insures.	l'ays.	
Λ	6.114	6,414	1,436	\$193.00	
B	1,054	1,054	236	31.70	
B 2			3,000	403.10	
C			12,000	1 612.47	
D	• • • • • •		10,000	1,343 73	
Totals	\$7,468	\$7,46S	\$20,6 2	\$3.584.00	

Companies A and B cannot make a salvage at the expense of the assured, and must apply the contributory amounts of their respective policies remaining unexhaused after payment of their proportions of the loss in Section 7, towards completing the payment of their lability in respect of the loss in warehouse A (outside of Section 7). A teapportionment is, therefore, necessary, as follows:

REAPPORTIONMENT AND FINAL CONTRIBUTION.

	Outside of Section 7			
Company.	Pays.	Sec. 7.	Total.	Insurance,
Α	7,657 00	193 00	7,850.00	7,85444
B	1,258.30	31.70	1,290.00	1,250 (H)
1; 2		403.10	403.10	3,000.00
C		1,612.47	1,612.47	12,000.00
D	•••••	1,343.73	1,343.73	10,000.00
	S,915.30	\$3,584.00	\$12,495.30	\$34,100.00

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

SIX MONTHS FIRE BUSINESS IN THE U.S.

We present herewith the figures of the fire business done in the United States, by the several companies indicated, as reported to the Georgia authorities, for the six months ending June 30th, 1887. By the addition of 35 per cent. of the premium receipts to the losses for the expenses of the business, the actual results for the period will be found:

Companies.	Piemiums.	Losses.
American, Pa	667.575	444,800
British America	298.821	217,cm/6
Citizens N.Y	257-997	202,583
Commercial Union	937,621	633,500
Continental	1,128,616	841,830
Connecticut	401.830	317,434
Fire Insurance Association	358,8,9	252,555
German American	1.377,002	646,076
Guardian, Eng	350,236	210,063
Germania	615,400	313,178
Hanover	577,078	419.755
Hamburg Bremen	413.250	308-447
Hanford	1,148,175	642.026
Home, NY	1,764,910	1,102,900
Impenal	5·m.379	350,782
Ins. Co. of N.A	1,575-317	1,170,002
Lancashne	613.127	477-713
Laon	192,015	137,388
Liv. & Lon & Globe	1,800,139	1,257.938
London Assurance	333-729	262,143
London & Lancashire	454-530	304,418
Norwich Union	395,169	302,057
North Britt h & Mer	801,722	5-12,152
Ningara	764.004	375,400
Northern	433-415	202,146
Phenx. London	587,231	517,815
Phenix, N.Y	2,458,675	1,555.340
Plegnix, Conn	1,089,847	672,285
Queen	649.111	475.358
Royal	1,190,509	845,895
Scot. Union an National	236,855	129.474
Sun Fire	417,001	428,126
Welem	129,947	354,594
	•	

NOTES AND ITEMS.

Mr. T. A. Manning has been appointed agent at Bradford for the Glasgow and London Fire Office.

Mr. John Murchison has been appointed agent at Lucknow for the Glasgow and London Insurance Company.

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

Mr. W. C. Turner, of London South, Ont., has been appointed special agent of the Glasgow and London Insurance Company.

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

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

Mr. J. W. Fitzpatrick, late of Halifax, has been appointed General Agent for Maine for the Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York.

Co-operative Life Insurance.—The only thing certain about co-operative life insurance, says the Coast Review, is that the officers will get their salaries.

The National Benefit Society of New York has followed the footsteps of the Mutual Reserve Fund Association, and is said to be now a competitor for business in England.

The American Mutual Liability Insurance Co., organized upon a basis similar to the old Boston Manufacturers' Mutual, has been recently incorporated in Boston.

Charles J. Harvey, F.I.A., of the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society, has been appointed consulting actuary of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York.

The Western Union of Underwriters, at its recent session, elected officers as follows: C. H. Case, President; Thos. S. Chard, Vice-President; and E. A. Simonds, Secretary.

New Buildings in Montreal.—'The building inspector states that fully 1,000 new buildings have been erected in this city during the year. The number erected last year was 700.

Talk of Jumbo Lines! the American Steam Boiler Insurance Company, of New York, has recently written a policy of \$150,000 upon the works of the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Co.

The United States Life Insurance Company, of New York, made a gain of \$1,000,020 in new business and of \$2,000,000 of insurance in force during, the nine months ending September 30th ulto.

New Company.—The Liverpool Mortgage Insurance Company, limited, is a new undertaking, with a capital of £1,000,000, of which the first issue consists of £500,000 in 50000 shares of £10 each. The Company has been formed for the purpose of insuring against loss of principal or interest by the nolders of mortgages upon real and personal projecty. It is also empowered to grant insurances for securing mortgage debentures, debenture stock, and other securities of a similar character.

Mr. Henry Bonham-Carter, of London, one of the principal directors of the Guardian Assurance Company, visited the Canadian head office of the Company at Montreal, during the latter part of October.

Incendiarism.—Deportation to Siberia for long periods is the punishment meted out to meendiaries in Russia. The services of Judge Lynch may be called into requisition when that incendiary ruffian is caught in Montreal.

Sir Robert N. Fowler, Ex-Lord Mayor of London, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the London & Lancashire Life and Fire Insurance Association, spent about a week in Montreal during the latter part of October.

The Insurance Critic says: "The first thing the solicitor needs is an adequate mental grasp of the life insurance plan." The Weekly Statement thinks this to be undoubtedly 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 proportion to its population, is possessed by Berlin. It has a brigade consisting of \$50 men and costing £60.000 per annum. Whilst London, with five times the population of Berlin, has only 600 firemen, and the total cost is about £50,000 per annum.

The London Metropolitan Board of Works has for the fourth time, been compelled to withdraw its Bill from the British House of Commons, which was intended to compel the fire insurance companies of London to contribute a larger assessment than that now levied for the support of the fire brigade.

Mr. George Herbert Marks, who has been connected with the London Assurance Corporation for some years, the last two of which he has filled an important position in the U.S. branch office, has been appointed United States Manager, as successor to J. M. Duane, who retires to engage in the banking business at Philadelphia.

Complimentary: "No agent can afford to be without the Chronicle. I devour a fair amount of insurance literature and relish it the best of all."—E. M. S., St. John, N. B.

Please send my bill for subscription to the Chronicle. I would not be without it for five times its price.—J. S. S., Winnipeg. We doff our chapeau, gentlemen.

Natural Gas Explosions.—On 19th ulto., three explosions of natural gas occurred in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., in the Hotel Albemarle and Bijou Theatre block, badly wrecking and firing the buildings a large quantity of lumber, and a score of small buildings; the losses are estimated at some \$200,000. Some fifteen persons were injured.

Mr. Alfred Jones, the well known insurance agent and adjuster of Winnipeg, has been appointed special agent for the Pacific Coast of the Western Assurance Company of Foronto, with headquarters at San Francisco. Mr. Jones has had considerable experience in the insurance field, and his many friends wish him abundant success.

"The Poetry of Life Insurance," by Mr. Dyer, of New York:-

To urge men to drop the insurance they've got

Is nonsense, you know, flat nonsense, you know;

Not to urge men to keep the insurance they've bought

Is nonsense, weak nonsense, you know.

If to build yourselves up you first must undo

The work done by others, your own act proves you

An incompetent sneak, a human cuckoo,

And that's nonsense, ———nonsense, you know.

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

Payment of Death claims.—The time of payment of death claims by the various British Life Offices, under the terms of their several policies, varies in length; out of eighty-five companies, forty-three pay on proof of death and title; the remainder require various allowances of time, ranging from eight to ninety days after satisfactory proofs have seen rendered.

Spring Poet:—" My dear, I am going to have my poems published."

Wife:-" How much will it cost?"

Poet :- "About three hundred dollars."

Wife:—" Well, have your life insured instead, then you may be the first spring poet who ever left a penny when he died."—Weekly Statement.

Life Association of Canada, having ceased to do business, gives notice that on the 20th day of next December it will apply to the Minister of Finance for a 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 Montreal. 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 plaintuffs.

Mr. David Lawrie, of London, General Manager of the Fire Insurance Association, favored us with a call when in Montreal recently. Mr. Lawrie made a careful and exhaustive examinion of the general business of the Fire Association, both in Canada and the United 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 Alliance.

National Insurance Convention.—The eighteenth annual session of State Insurance Officials was held at Niagara Falls, September 21st and 22nd ulto. The attendance was quite full, and the exercises interesting, as usual, to the participants. The following officers were elected for the current year: Philip Cheek, Wis., President; O. R. Fyler, Conn., Vice-President; J. M. McEwen, Dep. Sup., Ohio, Secretary. The next annual meeting will be held at Madison, Wis.

Industrial versus Co operative Life Insurance; The Insurance Guardian, of London says: When a great mining accident or other casualty affecting the working classes takes place, the local press informs us that the agents of the Providential, the Refuge, the British Workman and other industrial institutions, put in an appearance within a few hours, and begin at once to arrange for the payment of the claims as soon as the requisite proofs can be got together. Our common sense working men will contrast this promptitude with the delay which must inevitably take place if the money has to be raised by the collection of small installments from a large number of persons." The Guardian has put the thing in a nutshell. The difference between the two systems is the difference between cash in hand, and passing around the hat.

Among the callers at the office of the Chronicle during the past month, were:—Messrs. David Lawrie, of London, General Manager of the Fire Insurance Association; F. Holloway of Quebec; James Boomer, Secretary, Western Assurance Co., Toronto; H. C. Hill, Boston; W. H. Hill, General Agent Sun Life Assurance Co., Peterboro; David Smith, Quebec; A. Dean, Inspector of the Fire Insurance Association, Ridgetown; W. G. Brown, Inspector of the Glasgow & London, Toronto.

Fire Brigades and Insurance Offices.—The idea seems to be growing apace that the fire insurance companies, or mother 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—for they have to pay any taxes imposed on insurance offices—for the benefit and protection of the uninsured? It means simply taxing the thrifty for the benefit of the unthrifty. It seems to be a backhanded method of encouraging thrift.

Hand-in-Hand Insurance Company:—The license of this Company expired on March 31st, 1887, and has not been renewed, owing to the fact that under "The Insurance Act," the privilege of obtaining a Dominion license, in case of companies having Provincial charters, is restricted to companies which transact the business of life insurance.

The Hand-in-Hand continues to transact Plate Glass insurance in Ontario under provincial license, but has ceased to transact business in the other Provinces of the Dominion. The deposit, \$5,000, is still in the Receiver-General's hands.

Briton Medical and General Life Association:—Superintendant Fitzgerald says: The affairs of this office are in litigation, orders having been made by the Ontario and Quebec courts, having for their objects the winding-up of the affairs in Canada, and the distribution of the deposit held by the Receiver-General, which amounts to \$103.370. The orders above referred to were both appealed; but the appeals have been withdrawn, and there is now a fair prospect of the Company's Canadian affairs being speedily woundup. Superintendent Fitzgerald, is liquidator for Canada; and Messrs. Hatton & McLennan, attorneys.

In Memoriam.—We are in receipt of an In Memoriam card, commemorative of the sad death of the eldest son of Mr. J. K. Macdonald, Managing Director of the Confederation Life Association, Toronto, upon the recurrence of his eighteenth 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. Macdonald and his family have the heartfelt sympathy, not only of the insurance fraternity and their many friends but of the public as well, generally to which we add our own, in their sad bereavement.

The Mutual Reserve Fund.—A correspondent of the Insurance World, hailing from New York city, says of the Mutual Reserve: "I hear from pretty reliable sources that some of the most active officers of the Mutual Reserve have concluded to withdraw and start in business for themselves. This recalls to my mind the old adage of "rats describe, a sinking ship." I mean no disrespect to the retiring geatle men by this illustration, for, to tell the truth, I consider their retirement will mean the loss of most of the brains of the concern. Of course, there were some who were always making themselves heard by reason of their noise and bluster; but noise is not brains, and if the Mutual Reserve does not get a black eye before long, I will be much mis taken. I am sorry that I cannot 'give away' some of the facts that have reached my cars, but to do so might spoil a very pretty game. In my opinion, the sky-rock has nearly reached its highest elevation, and it will not be long before something will drop."

Railway Tracks as conductors of Electricity:--At the recent session of the Northwestern Underwriters' Association in Chicago, Lieut. Finlay, of the Signal Service department, 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 considering westerly exposures the most hazardous. That tornadoes and heavy wind storms were not increasing in number, but simply more were heard of now than formerly, because of the greater facilities for getting news. That there was no cause for lears from the increasing use of electricity for light and power.

Life Insurance 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 widows 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 greatest success in America, and among its patrons may possibly be discovered by the future American romancist, the material for the original story or play long sought."—Chicago Journal.

A Warning to Incendiaries; Two Fire-bugs capture de One sent-need 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, named 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 penitentiary, for burning the Salvation Army barracks, and 21 years for attempted burning of the Third Methodist Church, the terms to run concurrently. While Andrews was sentenced to confinement for life. These are exemplary sentences, and a few more of them judiciously applied will tend to make incendiarism unprofitable and unpopular.

Mr. John N. Neill, of Toronto, in response to the wishes of his insurance friends, has decided to devote his attention more exclusively to the adjustment of fire losses. Mr. Neill has had an extended experience of some 30 years in underwriting. He commenced as an articled clerk of the National of Ireland in 1858, at Belfast, and served for seven years, thus becoming well-grounded in the principles of the business. He then crossed the channel 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 Etna of Dublin, and Agent of the Scottish Commercial and the Norwich Equitable, and was made Hon. Secretary of the Belfast Board, acting at the same time in the responsible position of correspondent for Lloyds of Lon-

In 1868 he came to Canada, devoting the first years of his stay to the marine branch; but for some years past he has confined his attention to the fire branch, including the adjustments of fire losses, a calling for which his early insur ance education, and familiarity with the numerous and various special hazards abounding in and around Belfast and other points within his experience, both in England and in Canada, must have eminently fitted him. We take pleasure in saying that we feel assured that any adjusting business confided to Mr. Neill will receive prompt and careful attention. Mr. Neill has been for some years connected with the Toronto Office of the Guardian Assurance Co. His address is No. 24 Scott Street, Toronto.

Mr. L. C. Phillips, General Manager of the City of London Fire Insurance Company, spent some days during the past month in Montreal. 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 reason to hope, however, that this decision will be reconsidered; we cannot afford to lose from our city such a company as the City of London has proved itself to be since its advent here; an enterprising young office which has always dealt honorably and liberally with its clientele, and won the respect of all brought into business contact with it.

Mr. Phillips is a genial gentleman, and stands high in the estimation of his confreres, and is greatly esteemed 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 columns 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, because 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, left Canada for the United States. The British America seems peculiarly unfortunate in the selection of some of its directors, and is gaining an unenviable reputation in this direction. Witness, Henry Taylor, one of the trio by which the Company has, until recently, been controlled, whose operations as President of the London Bank and Director of the Ontario Investment Association, have gained for himself such notoriety.

A warning to Dilatory Agents .-- A local agent was recently directed by the State manager 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 occur 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 property burned. brought by the company against the agent, and the court held that his letter was "sufficient evidence that he understood the instructions of his superior to be a direction to cancel, and a recognition of the authority of the State agent to so order." (Phenix Ins. Co. v. Pratt et al., S. C. Minn. 31, N. W. Reporter 454.)

We might cite a number of similar decisions where recoveries were had against agents for failure to obey instructions promptly.

The Fire Brigade Investigation still goes on; and if it has no other effect than to bring the acknowledged inefficiency of the Fire Brigade prominently before 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 really had no authority, as the entire department is managed by the Fire Committee of the City Council.

Our readers will remember that we did not consider it within the functions of fire underwriters to go on with this investigation before a committee, from which but little was to be hoped for beyond scant courtesy, it being their business, in our estimation, to confine themselves to rating the city risks as they find them. We, nevertheless, admire the pluck and persistency of some of the insurance Committee in the matter. However, this one thing has been accomplished, the Fire Committee has been shamed into procuring a test pump for the hose, upon the sly.

Total Abstainers vs. 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 23rd inst., in order to consider the opportunity for a reduction of the capital stock of the insti-

tution, 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? 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 all 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 companies come from? Answer: When they did not come out of accrued assets they came from investments outside of business, about as follows:

Income from interest, rents, etc.\$12,540,462 Dividends 12,277,005

Excess of interest over Dividends.... Hence the policy-holder did not contribute one penny in 1886 for the support of insurance capital.

Mr. S. Foster Magurn, late Chief 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 of his time to the life-branch, in which he was most successful. For the last six years Mr. Magurn has been the representative of the City of London for the Province of Ontario. Both management and directors of this Company speak in very complimentary terms of the ability displayed in the control of his agency, of the satisfactory result of his business, as well as the cordial relations which always existed between himself and the head office.

Mr. Hill and the New York Life are to be congratulated upon securing Mr. Magurn's services, who, we venture to predict, will have a successful career in his new field. We also take occasion to tender congratulations to friend Magurn upon his connection with one of the best life insurance companies in the world.

Paris (France) Fire Brigade consists of 1,744 men, including 51 officers, who are quartered in 11 barracks. Each barrack is provided with a hand engine and two pumps, carrying about 650 feet of hose, an escape ladder, a ventilator to be used when the fire breaks out in a place full of novious full of noxious gases, and safety lamps of various patterns. There are also 11 steam engine depots in Paris, and 85 look-out posts, of which 62, each with two, three or four men are in the there is the three or four three or four men are in the three or four men are in the three or four three or fou men, are in the theatres. The length of the telegraph wires connecting the difference of the telegraph wires the connecting the different stations is about 350 miles. number of fires which occurred in Paris during the year 1886 was 953, on which the losses are estimated at £248,

Criminal Fires.—We have seen that the property losses by criminal fires reach an enormous figure; the aggregate is of a magnitude and it is of a magni 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 placed in the first other causes place the Agricultural districts in the first place as regards intensity of incendiarism; and that the passions and weeks are the passions and weakness of human nature, which have existed since the world have since the world began, 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 the same and certainty the same are same as a same as and certainty, there will be much less of it, and the people can save money in can save money in two ways: by preserving millions of dollars worth of preserving lars worth of property now destroyed every year by criminal acts, and by obtaining from the fire insurance companies the lower rates of 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 still 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 change is said Amalia should die before the insured, the sum should be paid to their children 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 children, through a guardian of the children. ren, through a guardian ad litem, claim that the payment was illegally made. was illegally made. The Court below sustained the will by dismissing the complaint. The insured died in New Iersey and the mill Jersey, and the will was probated there. The question is what weight shall be " 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 Superintendent of granging founded with the superintendent of grant of tendent of agencies for the Dominion. This gentleman had a large supposite the Dominion. had a large experience in the life insurance field, in connection with some of the life insurance field with the lif 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 accumulated funds roads area funds area funds roads areas ated funds reach \$5,304,250. Total income for 1886 was \$1,120,379 Its policies in force were 18,000, assuring \$29,000,000. Its business is increasing annually under the wery able and energetic management of its popular Secretary,

Mr. Edwin Bowley.

It entered the Dominion 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 Canada, for 1886, amounting to \$141,475, and the sums assured reaching \$1,436,000. Its investments in Canada are now over \$650. are now over \$600,000.

THE INSURANCE JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The sixth annual meeting of the above Association was held at Hotel Lafayette, Philadelphia, on 27th ulto., and was largely attended. Mr. N. B. Freeman of the Record was a largely attended. was elected chairman of the meeting. The question: "What are the present needs and requirements of Insurance Journalism Present needs and requirements of Insurance Present needs and requirements of Insurance Present needs and P nalism?" created a lively and interesting discussion. A higher and more independent course in the conduct of the

Journals was urged. The following named gentlemen were all re-elected members of the Executive Committee: J. H. C. Whiting, of the American Exchange A Review, Phila.; Dr. C. C. Bombaugh, Editor Editor Baltimore Underwriter; Franklin Webster, Editor The Chronicle, New York; Nat. B. Freeman of the Record, Nat. Property of New York; New York; New York; Nat. B. Freeman of the York; New York; Walter S. Nichols of *The Monitor*, New York; and C. M. Ransom, of *The Standard*, Boston. The election for officer. officers of the Executive Committee resulted as follows: Chairman, C. M. Ransom; Secretary, Franklin Webster; and Treasurer, Walter S. Nichols.



Oxford & New Glasgow Railway

	_
1st.—Birch Hill Road to Pugwash Junction13	miles.
2nd - Dugweek Innetion to Pugwash.	IIIIICS
3rd - Dugmach Innetion to Wallace Station	IIIIICa
4th.—Wallace Station to Mingo Road17	miles

TENDERS FOR GRADING, BRIDGE & CULVERT MASONRY, FENCING, &c.

SEALED 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 18th day of November, 1887, for the grading, bridge and culvert masonry, fencing, &c.

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

Ottawa, and also at the office of the Oxford and New Glasgow Railway at Wallace, Cumberland Co., Nova Scotia, on and after the Ioth day of November, 1887, where the general specification and form of tender may be obtained user acceleration.

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. BRADLEY,

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 JANUARY next, and that the control of the canadian side of the Saint Mary's River, are hereby informed that the control of the canadian that that the most favourable time to examine the locality will be between the present time and the early part of November 2.

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,

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

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

DIVISION OF PROFITS, 1890.

Persons taking out policies before November 15th, will rank for four full years share in profits to be divided in 1890.

Upwards of \$19,000,000 added to policies in Bonus additions.

N.B .- Time extended to December 1st.

A. I. HUBBARD,

W. M. RAMSAY, Manager.

City Agent.

THE

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 120 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.

WANTED

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 Address, X. Y. Z. Care of required:

INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE, Montreal.

Bonds, Mortgages, etc.

The Editor of the INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE will be glad to hear from Insurance Agents and others who may have or know of any Municipal Debentures to be disposed of in thier neighborhood. We have inquiries for Investments of this nature in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$500,000. Please address the Editor INSURANCE & FINANCE CHRONICLE, Montreal.

FIRE AGENT'S LAW BOOK.

By HINE & NICHOLS.

It is a work of a hundred pages, and is a legal instruction book for the agent treating of his relations to his company and his customers, and of all those practical, treating of his relations to his company and his customers, and of all those practical, treating of his relations of which circumstances so every-day details of the agent's work, in the prosecution of which circumstances so often arise wherein a knowledge of his legal status would be of infinite value to him and to all parties concerned.

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CAPITAL,

£3,000,000 STG.

Subscribed Capital, Life Reserve.

£2,729,860 Stg. 724,585 Stg. Paid-up Capital, Fire Reserve,

£272,986 Stg. 348,638 Stg.

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S. C. DUNCAN-CLARK & CO., MONTREAL OFFICE, 260 St. James Street,

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QUEBEC OFFICE, Union Bank Building,

JAS. F. BELLEAU, Agent.

INSURANCE

COMP'Y

ANADIAN AGENCY. HARTFORD, CONN.

ESTABLISHED 1821 ESTABLISHED

HARTFORD, CONN.

CASH ASSETS

89,000,000 CASH ASSETS,

\$4,500,000

Fire Insurance Exclusively.

FIRE AND INLAND MARINE INSURANCE. L. J. HENDEE, President.

J. GOODNOW, Secretary.
W. B. CLARK, Asst.-Secretary.

GEO. L. CHASE, President.

P. C. ROYCE, Secretary.

EVANS, TY OOD æ

MONTHEAL. AGENTS.

INSURANCE COMPANY. MUTUAL FIRE ESTABLISHED IN 1863.

HEAD OFFICE

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8246,448.00 11,997

Intending Insurers of all classes of insurable property have the option of insuring at STOCK RATES or on the Mutual System.

CHARLES HENDRY, President. J. B. HUGHES,

Inspector.

C. M. TAYLOR, Secretary. GEORGE RANDALL, Vice-President.

INSURANCE COMPANY. INCORPORATED 1875.

HEAD OFFICE

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SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL GOVERNMENT DEPOSIT - - - - -

- 20,100.00

The Business for the past nine years has been :

\$391,751.00

PREMIUMS received LOSSES paid

217,640.29

++ Losses prompily adjusted and paid. ++

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W. C. Shillie, President.
G. Herm. Drechsel, Sec.-Treas.

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THE UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

OF PORTLAND, MAINE.
(Incorporated in 1818.)
(ITT. HENRY D. SMITH, ARTHUR L. BATES.
President. Secretary. Asst.-Secretary. JOHN E. DEWITT. H

\$6,124,716.82 Assets, December 31, 1886. 701,270.98 Surplus, (N.Y. Standard) Total Amount paid to policy | - - holders to Dec. 31st, 1886 - \$22,334,971,57

Policies of this old and reliable company indisputable after three annual payments. Matured policies are payable it once without rebate of interest on receipt of satisfactory proofs of death, together with a valid discharge from proper parties interested.

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CANADIBNNE

LIFE INSURANCE CO.



Capital Stock, - - - Government Doposit,

\$300,000 - 25,000

INCORPORATED BY A SPECIAL ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

HEAD OFFICE:

13 St. Lambert Street,

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AGENTS WANTED.

✓ EQUITABLE LIFE ✓

Taankanda Zodiely,

120 BROADWAY, - - NEW YORK.

HENRY B. HYDE, President.

Assets, January 1st, 1887 - \$75,510,472.76 Liabilities, 4 per cent. valuation - 59,154,597.00 Surplus - - - - \$16,355,875.70

(SURPLUS on N. Y. Standard 4½ p. c., interest \$20,495,175.76.)

Surplus over Liabilities, on every standard of valuation, larger than that of any other Life Assurance Company.

IMPROVEMENT DURING THE YEAR.

INCREASE	OF	PREMIUM INCOME	82,810,475.40
INCREASE	OF	SURPLUS	2,493,636.63
INCREASE	OF	ASSETS	8,957,085.26

New assurance written in 1883, the largest basiness over transacted by the Society or by any other company in a single year; the business of 1884 three millors over that of 1883, and that of 1885 eleven millions over that of 1884.

Skilful life insurance agents can do more business for the Equitable than for any other company, and consequently can earn more money for themselves. Interviews and correspondence invited.

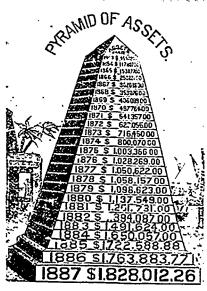
≈ ACRICULTURAL ≈

INSURANCE COMPANY.

OF WATERTOWN, N.Y.

ESTABLISHED - - - - . .

CAPITAL,		_	\$ 500,000 00
NET ASSETS, to protect Policy Holders			1,763,883 77
NET SURPLUS to Policy Holders, -	-	-	656,220 43
NET SURPLUS to Stock Holders			
DEPOSIT AT OTTAWA,	-	-	125,000,00



The Progress of a Successful Company.

The attention of Owners of Private Residences is invited to the Pyramid above which shows the uniform and sure growth of the AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COMPANY during twenty three of its thirty-three years of existence. The figures represent the amounts set apart at the dates given for the Projection of its Policy-Holders.

Thirty-three years of patient toil has made this the strongest and largest Company doing an exclusive dwelling business in the United States, if not in the world. It now issues over 70,000 Policies a pear. No other like Company can show such growth and increase.

The history of this Company proves that a LARGE business, well scattered, managed with prudence, CAN BE DONE WITH A VERY SMALL PROFIT FROM EACH RISK, and afford perfect security, which will grow stronger every year.

While nine-tenths of the "Mutual" fire insurance companies, and many of the Stock companies, have failed, on account of reckless or extravagant management, or doing too small a business, the OLD AGRICULTURAL, by economy, energy and prudence, has every year added a substantial amount to its Assets, for the indemnity of its patrons, and it now occupies a position in the confidence of the public second to none.

From year to year it spreads the base of its Pyramid and gains strength.

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NOVEMBER, 1887.

-िक THE (६०%-

Government Deposit \$100.000

CAPITAL, \$10,000,000

CITY OF LONDON

OF LONDON, ENG.

COMPANY

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INSURANCE EFFECTED AT LOWEST CURRENT RATES

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«ASSURANCE COMPANY*

OF CANADA.

BUSINESS OF 188B.

Income, \$355,278.86. Assets, \$1,573,027.10. New Life Applications, \$3,116,348.40. Life Policies in force, \$9,342,520.23. 35,291.51. Increase, 162,022.97. Increase, 508,276.92. Increase, . .

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Managing Director.

THOMAS WORKMAN,

President.

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FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

(Limited.)

HEAD OFFICE,

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AUTHORIZED CAPITAL,

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Capital and Surplus Assets, - \$7,669,000.

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Twelve per cent. Dividend, annually, in reduction of Natural Cost now enjoyed by those enrolled in 1881 !1 An annual dividend larger than that declared by any other Company after 5 years enrolment.

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CASH CAPITAL, ONE MILLION DOLLARS. CASH ASSETS, TWO MILLION DOLLARS.

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General Manager, London, England.

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GUARANTEF FUND, Deposited with the Government for the Security of Policy Holders, \$100,000. 50,000.

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AGENTS WANTED in all parts of the Dominion.

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Dominion Deposit,



\$100,000.00

THE ONLY PURELY MUTUAL CANADIAN LIFE COMPANY.

Total Number of Policies in Force, December 31st, 1886 .. Covering Assurance to the Amount of Not Reserve to Credit of Policy-holders, " Surplus over all liabilities, Dec. 31st, 1886,
New Assurances written during 1886, -9.774.543.00 \$831,167.24 \$61,849.28 \$2,565,760.00

The rapid growth of the Company may be seen from the fact that, in 1870, the first year of its business, the total assets amounted to only \$6,216, while last year these savings!

In addition to the rapid growth of its assets, there has been #11 Increase in Premium Income, an Increase in Interest Income, an Increase in Total Assets, att Increase in Total Assurances, an Increase in Surplus to Members, and a Decrease in death losses for the year.

ITS CASH INCOME AVERACES NOW \$1,000 DAILY.

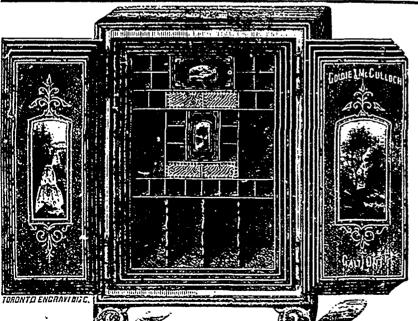
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And all Highest Prizes wherever exhibited

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Office and Warehouse, 298 St. James St.,

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REAL.

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\$250,000

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ASSETS, -SURPLUS, over

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MARIA Incurrence Agent and Vice United States Concul
Western, British America, Imperiar and The
and Travelers' CUARANTEE: Guarantee Co. of N.A.
Net Premiums after paying all losses for year 1884:— FIRE, \$8,080.58. Life AND ACCIDENT, \$6,023.18.
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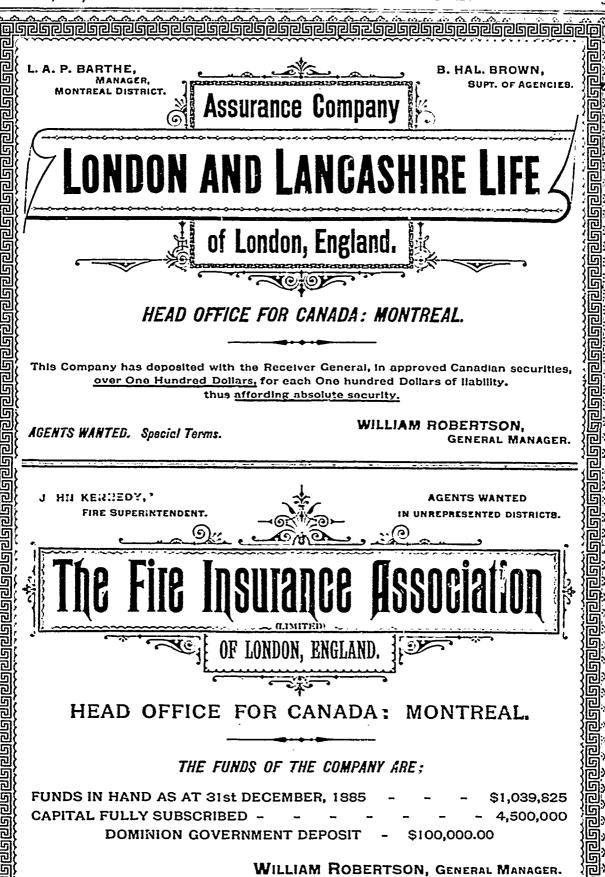
Managing Director,

TORONTO.



FIRE LIFE AT

ACCIDENT



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PROGRESSIVE RECORD SINCE 1872.

Year.	Assets, Dec. 31st.	Insurance in force Dec. 31st.	Premiums Received.	Interest Received.	Death Claims Paid.
1872	\$21,667,000	\$118,622,605	\$ 6,308,901	\$1,206,506	\$1,408,519
1S73	. 24,518,004	123,672,386	6,131,521	1,418,005	1,446,123
1874	27,343,667	122,835,123	6,414,455	1,645,106	1,469,680
1875	. 30,645,955	126, 132, 119	6,069,003	1,870,658	1,524,814
1876	33,311,413	127,748,473	5,910,841	1,906,950	1,547,648
1877	34,957,250	127,901,887	5.799,699	1,867.457	1,638,128
1878	. 36,837,295	125,232,145	5,725,567	1,948,665	1,687,675
1879	38,996,952	127,417,762	6,003,036	2,003,650	1,569,854
1\$\$o	. A7.183,934	135,726,916	<i>6</i> ,646,831	2,317,889	1,731,721
1881	47,228,781	151,760,824	8,050,712	2,432,654	2,013,203
1882	. 50,800,396	171,415,097	9,152,627	2,798,018	1,955,292
1\$\$3	55,542,902	198,746,043	10,948,487	2,712,864	2,263,092
1884	. 59,283,753	229,3S2,5°6	11,268,851	2,971,625	2,257,175
1885	66,864,321	259,674,500	12,722,103	3,399,070	2,999,109
1886	75,421,453	304,373,540	15,507,906	3,722,502	2,757,035

THE NEW YORK LIFE

*

*

INSURANCE COMPANY

RECORD FOR 1886.

CASH ASSETS,																				
Surplus,																				
Annual Income,																				
New Risks Assumed,																				
TOTAL RISKS IN FORCE,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	~	-	304,373,540 00

Intelligent men of good address, tact, and industry, who can procure first-class business, can find profitable employment, and build up a competency without capital, as Agents of the NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY. Gentlemen of ability and culture, without previous experience, can soon acquire the knowledge essential to success. Apply to

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