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Butter and This Act, designed to prohibit improper
Cheese speculation in the sale of butter and cheese, received its first reading on the 17th inst. The crime and its punishment is thus set forth in section 3 of the Bill:—

"Every one who, by himself or through the agency of another person, sells, or offers to sell, or agrees to sell, any butter or cheese which at the time such sale, offer or agreement is made, has not been manufactured and is not his property or the property of some person for whom he is duly authorized to act, is guilty of an offence, and liable, on summary conviction, to the following penalties:

For a first offence, to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for not more than three months, or to both such fine and imprisonment;

For a second, and any subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for not more than six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment."

An exception is made in the case of any person who is duly authorized to act for those who supply milk to any dairy or butter or cheese factory. Such person may sell or agree to sell butter or cheese to be manufactured at such dairy or factory.

The entire purpose of the Act would seem to be the prevention of speculation in butter and cheese. We do not dispute the necessity for special legislation to protect those engaged in this very large and important business; but we cannot quite understand why the Act was not made to include other articles in which it is equally sinful and wrong to speculate.

An Excellent
The Hon. Mr. Power obtained the first
senate Bill.
reading on the 17th inst. for an act
well calculated to better secure the safety of fishermen. The preamble of the Bill reads as
follows:—

1. No dory, flat, whaler or other boat whatsoever shall be launched or set out from any vessel engaged in deep-sea or Bank fishing for the purpose of fishing with hooks and lines, trawls or other similar appliances, or with intent that the same shall be used in so fishing, or for the purpose of examining trawls, set lines or other similar appliances for fishing, unless there is placed in such boat and retained therein dur-

ing absence from such vessel an accurate and serviceable mariners' compass, and unless there is placed in such boat at least two quarts of drinking water and two pounds of solid food for each man of the crew of such boat:

2. The owner of such vessel shall supply her at the commencement of her voyage with as many serviceable compasses as she carries boats, in addition to the vessel's compass, and also with the necessary utensils for holding water and with a fog-horn or trumpet.

If the fishermen in whose interest this excellent Bill has been introduced by Senator Power will report the owner of any fishing vessel who fails to perform the duty imposed upon him by this addition to the Fisheries' Act, much protection will be afforded to the hardy men who every season face the perils inseparable from deep-sea fishing.

Only those who are familiar with the stories of exposure and death common in so many of the fishing villages on the coast of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island can realize how much this useful Act was wanted.

With every dory launched on the Grand Banks, or elsewhere, provisioned and carrying a compass, the brave fellows who man the fishing fleet of Canada will have a fair fight for life when separated from their vessels by fog or gale. The new Act will appeal strongly to the wives and children of fishermen, and we trust the men will see that the master of any vessel who fails to comply with the provisions of this excellent Bill is duly punished.

Such a story of piteous suffering and death as that which comes to us from the ice-fields of Newfoundland will make Senator Power's bill an eloquent appeal on behalf of our fishermen. The details of the sad loss of the crew of the sealing steamer "Greenland" enable us to judge of the fate of the fishermen so frequently reported by the schooners of Gloucester and Nova Scotia as "missing." There is no need for any picture of what becomes of those whose names serve to fill the yearly death list of the Gloucester fishing fleet. Adrift in dories, without food, water or compass, they slowly perish of thirst, starvation and exposure, or are run down by one of the numerous Atlantic steamers.

An interest ing Case An interesting law suit has just been concluded in the Supreme Court, at St. Johns', Newfoundland. The Merchants'

Bank of Halifax sued Messrs. T. & M. Winter, merchants at St. Johns', for \$500 and damages. The allegation of the Bank was that the defendants authorized one Wickham to draw a bill of exchange on them for \$500. The authority from the defendants to Wickham was contained in the following telegraphic nessage:

St. Johns,' N. F.

To J. J. Wickham, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

"May draw to extent of \$500, if necessary.

"T. & M. Winter."

Wickham produced the telegram to plaintiffs, who, on the faith thereof and by reason of the undertaking and representation therein, were induced to discount the bill of exchange drawn by Wickham for \$500, but the defendants, on due presentation thereof, refused to accept the same.

In the course of the exceedingly long and interesting judgment delivered by Mr. Justice Emerson, a large number of cases were cited to show that a letter or telegram such as that sent by the defendants in this case to Wickham was sent or wired for the express purpose of being exhibited to all the world, and that all the world was, therefore, invited to trust the representations of the persons who thus wrote or telegraphed, and, therefore, these persons were held bound. In closing, the Judge said:—

"On the whole then we have to give a judgment for the plaintiff Bank, upon the authorities and principles laid down—principles, which, to use the words of Mr. Justice Story, "are founded on a wholesome, nay, necessary justice, to prevent gross fraud, and manifest and irretrievable mischief, in the intercourse of the commercial world."

Let judgment be entered for the plaintiff Bank for \$500 and costs of protest, and interest to date, and interest to date of payment, together with the costs of this action."

An English
Johe. Homans quitted forever the scene of his actuarial labors, yet an advertisement in the New York Spectator informs us that he may still be consulted on insurance matters at his office in New York. We very much doubt whether any respectable spiritualistic medium would consent to establish communication on so prosaic a subject.—

Insurance Observer, London.

A contemporary published the above item under the heading of "an English Joke," and proceeds to ask what are evidently intended to be the following funny questions:

"Then how do Crosse & Blackwell in your town still make pickles. Thomas Holloway make ointment and a few pills, Day & Martin make blacking, and Madam Taussaud run the wax 'figger' show at Baker street?"

The cases of insurance and pickles are not parallel. We join the *Insurance Observer* of London in very properly expressed doubts as to the possibility of establishing communication with the spiritualistic shade of Sheppard Homans, the celebrated actuary, and we question the business morality of advertising him as being at an office in New York for consultation.

But the pickles named we have always with us, the pills are never failing in supply or effect, the blacking still shines like the sun, and the wax "figgers" of Baker street have not yet melted, but still delight the young and curious. No one can object to the names of successful men being used to perpetuate their business.

Consultation with the late Mr. Homans is not possible; but we are able to relish the pickles of Messrs. Crosse & Blackwell which still bear their name as evidence of excellence.

On the street, in the office, at the home Under a Neutral Flag fireside, we frequently hear this question asked: "what effect would war between the United States and Spain have upon Canada?" Although no right-thinking Canadian desires to profit by the sorrows and misfortunes of other nations, there can be no harm in predicting that war between the powers named would probably stimulate and increase the trade of Canada in a very marked degree. A neutral flag covers an enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war. The possibility of a blockade of any of the great seaports of the States by Spanish ships would doubtless induce a large number of shippers of grain and produce to seek safety under a neutral flag and in a foreign port. In this way many cargoes hitherto dispatched via Portland, New York and other outlets to the Atlantic ocean would doubtless start by the overland route to Montreal, Quebec, Halifax and St. John, for shipment thence to England, or elsewhere, thus assisting in building up the business of the cities named.

Promises. The breaking up of the roads, rivers and lakes is unusually early this year, and the outlook all over the country is promising for business. The reports from trade centres are mostly in keeping with the condition of things revealed by the February statement of the chartered banks, which clearly showed that the improvement in general business noticed last Autumn has been maintained.

With navigation opening earlier than for many years past, and such encouraging news coming in from our manufacturers and merchants, we may reasonably hope for a prosperous year. But the unsettled condition of affairs in the United States is having some influence on the money market, and considerable on stocks. The Banks are reported to be displaying a desire to increase rates and nearly all stocks are declining, presumably owing to the fear of war and the consequent further disturbance of values. But the Spring promises for trade throughout the Dominion are distinctly of a cheerful character.

Fire Insurance
Legal Decisions.

cially prepared by Mr. R. L. Maclennan for the Subject matter dealt with herein being: change material to the risk; insurance in other companies; the insurance agent; loss, proof and payment; subrogation; legal actions.

We also print in this number a summary of the Parliamentary Estimates and will review same next week, letters from correspondents at New York and Toronto, and extracts from an interesting paper on the risks attending the use of acetylene, read at the annual meeting of the Insurance and Actuarial Society of Glasgow.

It will indeed be a good thing for the Railway travelling public if the outcome of the Rate War. continued fighting between the rival Railway Companies should be a two cent a mile rate. It is thought by some railway men that increased travel would compensate the roads for the reduction. But whether the inducement of cheap fares will ensure permanency to the present activity on the part of the travelling public is something for Railway managers to ponder upon and decide. Whatever the reason may be, there is evidence of a disposition among travellers to take advantage of the inducements offered them by the war of rates, and also a notable increase in the receipts of some of the competing lines.

Government
Rate of Interest.

Tate of interest will be reduced on July 1st next to 2 1-2 per cent. Such a course is very commendable, as the credit of Canada is now so well established that her future Governments should have no difficulty in providing for any public requirements without paying as in the past a high rate of interest to an army of small depositors throughout the Dominion. The handling of money received through the Government Savings' Banks necessitates the maintenance of a large staff of officials, payment for whose services adds greatly to the cost of the money thus received by the Government.

Altogether, we are glad to hear of the reported reduction, and hope it may be followed by a similar movement on the part of the chartered banks who may, in course of time, be thus enabled to make a corresponding reduction in the rate of interest on loans. We know there are many bankers who fear that any lessening of the rate of interest now paid for deposits will lead to the withdrawal of a large amount of same. This is not likely to happen. The ordinary Bank depositor accepts a low rate of interest rather than invest or, as he thinks, risk his money in some labour-employing industry.

We regard the action of the Government in reducing the rate of interest as an indication of their intention to obtain money in future upon the best terms possible. Accepting deposits from the people

at 3 per cent, is not profitable to a country able to obtain money at a lower rate from Banks and foreign investors.

WHAT WILL GREAT BRITAIN DO?

There is much significance attached to the news wired from Halifax regarding the movements of Admiral Sir John Fisher and General Montgomery Moore. That the commander of the Forces in Canada with some of his officers should visit Washington would not be a subject for remark at any other time than the present, and that Admiral Sir John Fisher should concentrate the ships comprising the North American fleet in the blue waters of Bermuda would not excite attention if it were usual.

Both Admiral Fisher and General Moore are probably acting under instructions from the British Government, and what their movements may portend we can only surmise. But the serious aspect of the situation is deepened by the possibility that the supposed conference at Washington between the United States Government and representatives of the British Army and Navy is for the purpose of discussing what action will be taken by the latter to protect British commerce and British interests in the West Indies in the event of an outbreak of hostilities with Spain and the United States as antagonists.

Diplomacy and a very free press play so large a part in determining the fate of nations that 'tis difficult to foretell what may be the outcome of the hurried preparations for war in both the countries most concerned.

However, it is still almost incredible that the Government of the United States will yield to the clamor of a certain section of the population for war with Spain, merely advancing the fir lings of the enquiry into the loss of the battle-ship "Maine" as a pretext.

The calm and dispassionate judgment of other nations would unhesitatingly condemn our republican neighbours for giving such a flimsy reason for resorting to the sword.

The Court of enquiry into the loss of the "Maine" was not an independent and unbiased tribunal. A number of United States officers searching for signs of the dreadful means by which hundreds of their countrymen and a noble ship were destroyed must, if they are ordinary mortals, insensibly have been influenced by their feelings. Their report, briefly stated, is that the loss of the "Maine" was due to an explosion from the outside of the ship, and possibly from a powerful sub-marine mine, the exact character of which the Court cannot determine.

They admit being unable to fix the responsibility for the explosion. Surely the United States President will hesitate before committing his country to war upon the "Maine" incident alone.

As those most familiar with events transpiring at Washington now seem to expect war, we may reasonably indulge in reflections upon what part Great Britain will take in the struggle. Will the protection of her mercantile marine and West India possessions be possible of accomplishment without involving us in war? Will the immense amount of English money invested in the United States lead to English interference for the protection of Atlantic sea-ports from Spanish guns? Will the huge debt of Spain to France be the means of bringing the latter power into the quarrel for the defence of Cuba? Has the sudden activity of Russia in China arisen from knowledge of the fact that France in conjunction with Spain may keep England and her supposed new ally busy in the western world? Surely France, eternally on guard and watching Germany, will not share the fortunes of Spain in a fight with the United States.

We can hardly believe in any of these talked-about possibilities as likely to be the explanation of the recent sounding of the shrill clarion of war in the arsenals and dockyards of the nations most interested in the complications in the far east and the near west.

We prefer to hope and believe that, in the event of an outbreak of hostilities between the United States and Spain, the ships of Admiral Sir John Fisher will only be employed in protecting the commerce of England, the volume and never-ceasing activity of which is so well described in an old poetical tribute to the noble river Mersey:

That stream which, fretted by a thousand prows, No liquid rest no silent slumber knows:
Whate'er the hour, whate'er the tide prevail, leehold, the outward and the homeward sail, Winged messengers that haste, with sail unfurled, To barter produce with some distant world.

We cling to the conviction that the maintenance of peace is yet possible, and we are unwilling to attach too much importance to the reported recent meeting at Washington between the President of the United States and representatives of the Imperial Government forces in the Dominion of Canada.

CAN PRESIDENT McKINLEY PRESERVE PEACE?

(Two Views of Public Ofinion.)

That President McKinley should be reported as pleading with Congressmen to restrain themselves during his present correspondence with Spain is not surprising.

If he is able to preserve peace it will be a triumph for the statesmanship and diplomacy of modern times. With a Senate thirsting for blood and the clergy breathing fire instead of the blessed gospel of peace, the good President and his immediate supporters are being sorely tried. Blatant demagogues in the senate and pulpit are disgracing a great nation and form a far from pleasant spectacle.

It has remained for a foolish and fiery Senator from the State of Illinois to outstrip all competitors in the struggle to provoke a bloody and useless war. The passionate declamations and senseless vapourings of a portion of the United States press has been offset by the splendid work of the New York Evening Post and other well conducted papers, and we venture to hope that the speech of Senator Mason of Illinois will not remain unanswered. Men may come to think unless a warning voice is heard that this indiscreet Senator, who, in the course of his speech, remarked "Mr. President, I speak only for myself, and I am for war," really represents the honest public opinion of his country. We refuse to believe this. and we absolutely decline to accept this Illinois gentleman's declaration of belligerent intentions as any proof of his willingness to fight. We may be doing Senator Mason injustice. But when we read his references to Concord and Bunker Hill, and ponder upon his invitation to the nation to "awake to glorious war," we find ourselves doubting his sincerity. and even sceptical about his courage.

The concluding peroration of this warlike Senator is said to have fairly electrified his hearers. 'Tis not a cause for wonderment. Here it is:

"Let us awake. Shake off the Chinese narcotic that locks us in drowsy indolence, murmuring 'Peace at any price.' Awake, as our forefathers did at Concord and Bunker Hill; awake to glorious war against a nation that burns homes and murders women and children; awake to glorious war that seeks no gain for us in treasury or territory, but a war to drive the oppressor from the continent, to set the Cuban flag in the sky forever, and a war that will help us for generations to come, by giving notice that the honor of our flag and the lives of our citizens must be respected among the nations of the world." (Long continued applause in the galleries).

We choose to believe, for the honour and credit of our neighbours, that the long continued applause was largely ironical and mixed with laughter. The man who talks of setting the Cuban flag in the sky knows but little of the ability or inability of the insurgents (whom the owners of Cuba are always trying to find and pacify or kill) to govern the island he longs to liberate.

Again, by what right would Senator Mason's countrymen proceed to "drive the oppressor (Spain) from the continent."

It is refreshing to turn from the perusal of these American Senators' declarations of war to a calm and sensible review of the situation published in the New York Commercial Bulletin, and it is comforting to know that the President and his best advisors are more likely to be impressed by such expressions of public opinion as this paper gives than by the frantic appeal contained in Senator Mason's speech—which it is amusing to note "was read from a manuscript, but was delivered with all the vigour and fire of which he is capable."

Let the gentleman from Illinois go to Cuba and wrestle with its climate or the Spaniards single handed, whilst we take comfort in considering the following extracts from the sensible article in the Commercial Bulletin,

"We have stated that the open commitment of our Government to the Cuban cause, backed by a large-

ly preponderant public opinion, has put the United States in a position which virtually compels a resort to war in the event of Spain rejecting our demands. However unfortunate it may be that affairs have been permitted to take this drift,-and we regard it as profoundly and inexpressibly so,-yet it must be conlessed that the country has gradually and half-unwittingly allowed itself to slide into a belligerent attitude from which it can hardly recede without humiliation. One of the best means of mitigating this misfortune is to acknowledge it in all its breadth of significance and consequence. Up to the present time, public opinion and to a large extent official opinion have viewed this question chiefly on its emotional side. Our close proximity to the scene of conflict has deepened the impressions produced by the unparalleled sufferings of the Cubans and the heartless tyranny of With our humane sensibilities thus aroused to the pitch of positive passion, we have seized our swords almost unconsciously, and without stopping to consider what war involves,-how it must widen the area of bloodshed, how it may carry grief and suffering to homes of hundreds of thousands of our own citizens, how it may add to the horrors endured by the Cubans and place them beyond reach of the charities we are now able to extend to them, and how it may involve destructions and losses alike to Cubans and Americans far exceeding anything we can hope to avert by intervention. When our naval forces confront those of Spain within a few hours' sailing distance of each other, naturally we turn to some consideration of the sacrifices to which we have lightly committed ourselves, and it is to be hoped that this counting of the costs may pacifically modify public and official attitudes.

The military and naval preparations of both countries have undoubtedly increased the dangers of collision from undersigned causes. It is therefore of the utmost importance that no needless fuel be added to the prevailing belligerent spirit. Senators and Representatives should be given to understand that there is nothing the sober-minded public so much dread and reprobate as their inflaming appeals to popular passion. It is well understood that their lingoistic harangues have too often no higher purpose than the purely selfish one of securing the re-election of the orators; and this egoistic patriotism will therefore prove a very mistaken way of bespeaking public favor. The Congressmen who thus selfishly prostitute their high position for precipitating the greatest of national misfortunes presume upon a larger lack of public perception than actually exists, and so far they affront the public common sense. Nevertheless, it is not to be denied that their harangues do very seriously aggravate the dangers of the perilous situation, and therefore should be met by unmistakable public denunciation. The only hope we have under the complicated circumstances is that the President may justify his continually professed desire to preserve peace and his confident expectation that war will finally be averted. His official power is great, and his wisdom and tact are a match for it; and in that there is some hope that a way may be found out of our commitments without derogation of the national honor."

"After all, the chief danger to peace lies in the stubbornness and unbridled pride of the Spaniards; and one of the main, but little considered, questions is—what may or may not be done towards modifying that obstacle."

INSURANCE AND ACTUARIAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW.

We have much pleasure in printing the following report of the meeting of this Society.

The annual meeting of this Society took place on Monday evening. 14th March, the meeting, by permission of the Governors of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College, being held in the Chemistry Lecture room, Andersonian Buildings, George Street, Mr. W. A. Tipping, the president, in the chair. The balance-sheet then submitted showed the Society to be in a most flourishing condition, and Mr. Tipping congratulated the members upon the satisfactory state of affairs, and referred to the excellence of the work that had engaged the attention of the Society during the past session He thereafter, in felicitous terms, proposed as president for session 1898-1899 Mr. W. Smith Nicol, F.F.A., assistant manager City of Glasgow Life Assurance Company, Glasgow, whose election was unanimously The following office bearers were also elected :- Vice-pres idents-Mr. G. W. M'Ewen Bremner, Northern Assurance Company; Mr. N. B. Gunn, Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society; Mr. W A. Tipping, Scottish Alliance Insurance Company. Fxecutive Committee—Mr. P. Macneil, Caldonian Insurance Company; Mr. D. L. Laidlaw, North British and Mercantile Insurance Company; Mr. Archibald Blair, London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company; Mr. J. M. Barr, Lancashire Insurance Company; Mr. Robert Blyth, general manager Union Bank of Scotland, Limited; Mr. Adam K. Rodger, Scottish Temperance Life and Accident Assurance Com-pany, Limited; Mr. A. Guthrie, Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Company, Limited; honorary treasurer, Mr. Stewart Lawrie, Alliance Assurance Company; honorary secretary, Mr. Henry G. Andrews, Scottish Union and National Insurance Company. A sub-Committee, consisting of 12 members of the various insurance companies in Glasgow, was likewise elected; and Mr. R. G. Campbell, Royal Insurance Company, was re-elected auditor. The President then introduced Dr. G. G. Henderson, M.A., F.I.C., professor or chemistry, Technical College, who proceeded to deliver an address upon "Risks attendingthe Use of Petroleum and Acetylene," in the course of which he introduced some interesting experiments,

We are compelled to condense the excellent report of Dr. Henderson's address forwarded by Mr. Secretary Andrews. The lecturer commenced by explaining that the risks incurred in transport, storage, sale and use of oil in lamps and stoves arise mainly from the character of the oil. As a means of obviating these risks Dr. Henderson suggested the use of properly constructed lamps and the prohibition of the sale of low flash oil or, in other words, to compel the manufacturer to separate the naphtha from the burning oil more completely. Although doing this would raise the price of oil the increase cost is not too high a price to pay for comparative safety. Dealing next with the second branch of his subject—"Acetylene".—

Dr. Henderson pointed out that it is the peculiar properties of this substance which give rise to the risks attending its use as an illuminant. It is a colourless gas, with a strong, peculiar smell, which burns under suitable conditions with a brilliantly luminous flame. It is very inflammable, ignites at a much lower temperature than coal gas, and develops great heat in burning. A mixture of acetylene with air explodes with exceptional violence when ignited, and it has been shown that all such mixtures containing from 3 to 82 per cent. of acetylene are explosive, while mixtures of coal gas with air containing less than 7 or more than 30 per cent. of coal gas are not explosive. But under certain conditions, i. c., when liquefied or when subjected to a greater pressure than two atmospheres, acetylene will explode, or rather will decompose into its elements with explosive violence, even when unmixed with air, if heated to a red heat. It is in this respect especially that acetylene differs from coal gas or any other gas illuminant. It is necessary therefore, if acetylene is to be used with safety (1) to avoid any admixture of acetylene with air, (2) to guard against the possibility of an explosive decomposition of the gas. Acetylene is prepared by acting with water on calcium carbide, which is now made by heating a mixture of powdered lime and coke or characteristics. coal in the electric furnace. Calcium carbide itself is neither combustible nor explosive, but when acted on by water great heat is developed, so that if a little water were added to much carbide the mass might become red hot, and, if this happened, the acetylene formed would be decomposed explosively. To guard against this, in acetylene generat is either the carbide is added to water, a little at a time, or else, when water is allowed to drip slowly on the carbide, a cooling arrange-ment is provided. The carbide should be of the best quality, or there may be formed such substance as phosphuretted hydrogen, which is

spontaneously inflammable in air, and which, therefore, would ignite the acetylene. With good carbide, and with a proper generator, there is little or no risk in producing acetylene. Liquefied acetylene, or the gas if subjected to compression, should not be used under any circum-An Order of Council has declared acetylene to be an explosive within the meaning of the Act when subjected to a higher pressure than 20 inches of water above that of the atmosphere (i. c., about 11-10th atmosphere). Hence the pressure of the gas in the generating, storing and distributing apparatus, or in any part of it, should never be allowed to exceed this limit. Acetylene requires to be burned at a much higher pressure than coal gas, hence particular attention must be paid to the gas fittings in order to prevent leakage, and the possible formation of an explosive mixture with the air. Calcium carbide must be stored in such a way that water, or even air containing moisture, as it always does, cannot come in contact with it-that is to say, it must be kept in strong, hermetically sealed drums or cases. According to some authorities no copper or brass should be used in the fittings of the generators, because under certain conditions acetylene is capable of forming a very explosive copper compound. Probably there is little or no chance of this happening if the best carbide only is used, for then the acetylene will be pretty pure. Altogether it appears that with proper precautions there should be little or no more risk in using acetylene than in using coal gas. At the close a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Henderson for his interesting and instructive address.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The Balance Sheet and Yearly Statement of Accounts of this excellent Company for the year 1897 are clean, concise and eminently satisfactory. Benefitting by the acquisition of the business of the Companies now merged in the Manchester, the Capital Accounts, and Reserve Funds continue to grow in strength. The net premiums for the past year amounted to some \$4,250,000, from which had to be deducted losses (57.8 per cent.), \$2,455,000, and the expenses in connection with the conduct of the business \$1,485,000, leaving a surplus of about \$310,000.

With the handsome increase of some \$600,000 in premiums and the ratio of losses to premiums reduced, the officials of the Manchester have good reason for rejoicing at the prosperous condition of their old yet ever-progressive Company. An excellent idea can be formed of the extraordinary growth of the insurance business from the figures representing the total assets of the Manchester which have increased in the past year by some \$410,000. In 1890 the funds in hand were \$1,837,000, whereas in Dec. last, seven years later, the total has reached \$4,730,000.

Examination of the assets of the Manchester show a very comfortable condition of things, no less a sum than three millions of dollars being invested in railway debentures, United States Government and municipal bonds, and Canadian and Cape of Good Hope Government Stock.

Altogether the Manchester promises to continue increasing in size and strength, and ought to give great satisfaction to its shareholders, who will receive as a dividend and bonus on April 5th, the snug amount of \$100,000. We are quite certain that no small share of the success and popularity of the Company in Canada is due to its good representative, Mr. James Boomer. The Directors, we note with pleasure, cordially acknowledged the valued services rendered by the various Local Boards and Representatives of the Company at home and abroad.

FIRE INSURANCE.

THE BRITISH AND COLONIAL DECISIONS AFFECTING-REPORTED IN 1897.

(Compiled by R. J. Maclennan, Toronto, for the CHRONICLE,) (Continued from previous number.)

5. CHANGE MATERIAL TO THE RISK.

CHATTEL MORTGAGE, - A policy covering a factory as well as its machinery and other contents contained a condition making the insurance void, if the property should be sold or conveyed, or the interest of the parties therein changed, or if the policy should be assigned without the consent of the company obtained in writing. thereon. The assured having given a chattel mortgage on the property, it was held that his interest therein had changed, and the policy had accordingly become forfeited.

Torrop vs. Imperial Ins. Co., 26 S. C. R. 585.

6. INSURANCE IN OTHER COMPANIES.

FURTHER INSURANCE.—A warranty that property shall not be insured beyond a named amount means that it shall not be effectively insured to a larger amount; and such a warranty is not broken by the assured taking out a new policy to cover the probable deficiency upon a policy effected with a company which has become insolvent, although the total nominal amount insured is thereby made to exceed the amount limited by the warranty.

General Ins. Co. of Trieste vs. Cory (1897), 1 Q. B. 335.

During the illness of an insured, his son applied for \$1,000 add-During the illness of an insured, his son applied for \$1,000 additional insurance in another company; the father did not know of the new insurance until after he had suffered a loss. The only notice to the first company of the additional insurance was in the proofs of loss presented by the insured. In an action to enforce this poincy the company was held not liable, as the insured had not complied with a condition on his policy requiring him to give notice of any additional insurance, and that even if he had the company would still have the option of refusing their consent, and thereby rendering the policy void.

Temple vs. Commercial Union, 33 C. L. Jour. 446.

7. THE INSURANCE AGENT.

GENERAL AGENT.—The authority of a general agent is restricted to the range of his employment, and to such acts as a prudent and ordinarily segacious person might expect him to perform. The possession of blank policies and renewal receipts signed by the president and other principal officers is some evidence that he is a general agent with authority to complete the contract. It should not, however, be expected that a general agent has authority to receive a chattel in payment of a premium, or to credit the premium on his own debt to the assured, for this would be out of the usual course of business. There is nothing in the ordinary course of business to make it unreasonable for an agent to take a premium note.

Merchants' Accident Ins. Co. vs Pudsey, 27 S. C. R. 374.

DEALING WITH THE ASSURED.-Where a Company accepts its agent's promissory note in discharge of an account current between them, in which account the agent is debited with the amount of a premium for which the agent took the assured's note, that affords no presumption that the Company intended to treat its own agent as agent for the assured, or the insurance as subsisting contrary to the terms of the contract with the policyholder.

London & Lancashire Life Assee. Co. vs. Fleming (1897), App. Cases 499.

WAIVER BY .- An agent with powers limited to receiving and forwarding applications for insurance has no authority to waive a forfeiture caused by a transfer of the property without his Company's consent.

Torrep vs. Imperial Ins. Co., 26 S. C. R. 585.

8. Loss, PROOF AND PAYMENT.

NOTICE OF LOSS .- A notice of loss delivered to the Company on the twentieth day after the fire is not a compliance with a condition of the policy which requires that such notice shall be given forthwith after loss, and compliance with such stipulation is a condition precedent to an action upon the policy.

Manchester Fire Assec. Co. vs. Guerin, 5 Quebec Q. B. 434-

WHEN TWO COMPANIES PAY .- When the same premises are insured against fire in two different Companies, and there has been a fire in respect of which each has paid the loss, this is a state of things which must be got rid of.

West of England Fire Ins. Co. vs. haacs (1897), 1 Q. B., 226.

9. SUBROGATION.

Assured Must Preserve Remedies .- A policy of fire insurance being a contract of indemnity, the Company upon payment of a loss is entitled to recover from the assured, not merely the value of any benefit received by him by way of compensation from other sources in

excess of his actual loss, but also the full value of any rights or remedies of the assured against third parties, which have been renounced by him, and to which, but for such renunciation the Company would have right to be subrogated. A person whose property is protected by a are insurance policy cannot deal with remedies, which he has against third parties to the prejudice of the Company.

Hest of England Fere Ins. Co. vs. Isaacs (1897), 1 Q. B. 226.

COMPANY'S RIGHT AGAINST WRONG-DOER .-- Under the Quebec COMPANY'S RIGHT AGAINST WRONG-DOER.—Under the Quebec Code, an insurance company on paying a loss is entitled to a transfer of the right of the assured against the person by whose fault the fire or loss is caused. Where therefore sparks from a locomotive have set fire to a building not insured, and the fire spreads to buildings covered by insurance, the Company on paying the loss are entitled to be subrogated to the assured's position, and may maintain an action against the railway corporation for damages for the loss.

Central Vermont Ry. Co. vs. Stanstead, etc., Fire Ins. Co., 5 Quebec O. B. 224.

bec Q. B. 224.

10. LEGAL ACTIONS.

COMPANY MUST FURNISH PARTICULARS. - When a Company re sists payment of a loss upon the ground that the assured made false and fraudulent statements in statutory declarations forming part of the proofs of loss, the Company must give particulars of what they intend to set up as false and fraudulent. They are bound to communicate what they know, so far as they can without disclosing their evidence, so hat the insured may know what he has to meet at the trial.

Kat ine Lumber Co. vs. Liverpool & London & Globe Ins. Co., 17

Ont. P. R 318.

WHEN CLAIM MATURES.—The object of litigation being to settle disputes, it is obvious that some date must be fixed upon, when the respective rights of the parties may be finally ascertained, and the line of the writ may be regarded as a line of convenience which has been settled by uniform practice for at least seventy years. The return of property after the commencement of the action does not disentitle the assured to recover as for a total loss.

Rui. vs. London Assee, Corporation (1897), 2 Q. B. 135.

1. Bunnell vs. Schilling, 28 Ont. R. 336.

2. Central Vermont Ry. Co. vs. Stanstead, etc., Fire Ins. Co., 5 Quebec Q. B. 224.

3. Cope vs. Scottish Union, 5 British Columbia 342.

- 4. C nard vs. Nova Scotia Marine Ins. Co., 29 Nova Scotia
- 5. Elkington vs. The Phænix Assce. Co., 14 New Zealand L. R. 237.
- 6. General Ins. Co. of Trieste vs. Cory (1897), 1 Q. B. 335. 7. Katrine Lumber Co. vs. Liverpool & London & Globe, 17 Ont.
- P. R. 318. 8. London & Lancashire Life Assec. Co. vs. Fleming (1897), App.
- Cas. 499. 9. Manchester Fire Assee. Co. vs. Guerin, 5 Quebec Q. B. 434.
- 10. Manufacturers' Accident Ins. Co. vs. Pudsey, 27 S. C. R. 374 (N. S).
- 11. McPherson vs. Guardian Assee. Co., Newfoundland, Morris p.
- 12. Reberts vs. Security Co., (1897), 1 Q. B. 111-
- 13. Ruys vs. London Assee. Corporation (1897), 2 Q. B. 135.
- 14. Stokell vs. Haywood (1897), 1 Ch. 459.
- 15. Temple vs. Commercial Union, 33 Canada L. J. 446 (N. B.).
- 16. Terret vs. Imperial Fire Ins. Co., 26 S. C. R. 585 (N. B.).
- 17. Trinder vs. Anderson & Co. vs. North Queensland Ins Co., 66 L. J. Q. B. 802.
- 18. United States vs. American Tobacco Co., 166 V. S. Reps. 468. 19. West of England Fire Ins. Co. vs. Isaacs (1896), 1 Q.B., 226-
- 20. Buck vs. Knowlton, 1892, 21 S. C. R. 371 (N. B.).

BOOK NOTICES.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE YEAR BOOK FOR 1898 is all that the title page claims for it:-A careful digest of information relating to the origin, history and present position of each of the public securities and joint stock companies known to the markets of the United Kingdom. This is the 24th year of publication for the work, which is compiled carefully as usual by Mr. Thomas Skinner.

If Joint Stock Companies continue to multiply as at present the Year Book will soon be big almost to unwieldiness.

WE HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF "LONDON BANKS". For those who require a well arranged list of London banking and kindred companies, foreign and Colonial Banks and firms, towns in Great Britain with the banks in each, the same information regarding foreign and colonial towns and a list of the partners in banking firms of the United Kingdom, the London Banks will be more than useful.

WE AREIN RECEIPT of a bound copy of that excellent English insurance journal, The Policy-Holder, for 1897.

RAILWAY RATE WAR.

The meeting of representatives of the railways engaged in the war of rates has been adjourned for two weeks during which time we look for an adjustment of differences existing between the Companies. It is prejudicial to the welfare of the Railway Corporations to continue fighting and even the travelling public prefer to know exactly the cost of a contemplated journey.

THE SENATE AND THE YUKON RAILWAY BILL

The caution of our Senators as displayed in their desire to ascertain if the contract made by the Government with the contractors and since approved by a majority of the members of the Dominion Parliament could be improved upon, is most commendable, and we have no wish to see them depart or deviate from the path of independence they claim to have the right to follow.

By a majority of 38 the Senate have seen fit to reject the Bill, and we are unwilling to believe that party prejudice had anything to do with a decision arrived at after such thorough discussion of the measure in question.

Public opinion strongly favours the building of a railway to our new possessions in the Klondyke. But the enterprise must bear no political significance and must be conducted on business-like principles and without any undue expenditure of public lands or public money. If, owing only, we believe, to the desire of the Government to establish rapidly communication with the Yukon, any objectionable features have been found in the contract made with Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, the discussion in the Senate will doubtless have thrown a lot of additional light on the matter.

The information obtained from the thorough investigation given by the Senate and Commons to the question must, of necessity, prove of vast benefit.

Sir George Russell, Bart, M.P. whose death on the 7th inst. it is our sad duty to chronicle, was perhaps best known to the public as a politician. Among other offices, however, that he held was that of Chairman of the Eagle Insurance Company, in whose affairs he took the very greatest interest, his speeches at the annual meetings always indicating a close grasp of his subject. The deceased baronet was 78 years of age, and is succeeded by his son, George Arthur Charles Russell.

SUMMARY

Of the Estimated Expenditures of the Fiscal Year ending 30th June, 1899, together with the sums granted for the Financial Year ending 30th June, 1898, and the Statement showing the Increase and Decrease for each Service.

					Compared v	with Estimate	
Service.	Total, 1897-98.	Total Voted, 1898-99.	Authorized by Statute.	Total, 1898-99.		897-98,	
					Increase.	Decrease.	
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts	. \$ ets	
Public Debt including Sarking Funds	13,016,857 86		12,833,397 56	12,833,397 56		183,460 3	
Charges of Management	150,650 00	152.843 80		152,843 80	2,193 80		
Civil Government	1,420,866 91	1,182,371 50		1,418,438 16			
Administration of Justice	777,875 00	98,375 00		792,775 00	14.900 00		
Police	22,100 90	22,000 00		22,000 00			
Penitentiaries		417,200 00		417,200 00		5,450 0	
Legislation	709,783 68	66,550 50		705,450 50		4,332 5	
Arts, Agriculture and Statistics	357,200 60			332,000 00		25,200 0	
Quarantine	113,600 00			114,000 00	400 00		
Immigration	200,000 00 91,891 95	2 0,000 00		200,000 00			
Superannuation		27,535 72		100,678 22	8,786 27		
Milita	315,240 00 1,411,696 00	240 00		334,240 00	19,000 00		
Railways and Canals, Income	313,762 83	1,388,171 50 378,372 33		1,397,371 50			
Public Works do	2,420,211 72	1.646,950 00		378,372 33			
Mail Subsidies and Steamship Subventions	646,910 40			1,656,950 00			
Ocean and River Service	136,400 00	387,733 33 136,000 00		632,400 00		14,510 40	
Lighthouse and Coast Service	514,610 00	506,510 00		136,000 00		400 0	
Scientific Institutions	79,639 00	80,700 00		506,510 00			
Marine Hosp. & Sick & Distressed Seamen.	38,000 00	38,000 00		80,700 00			
Steamboat Inspection	27,300 00	28,300 00		38,000 00			
Fisheries	432,185 45	243,000 00		28,300 00		***************************************	
Superintendence of Insurance	11,500 06	8,000 00		403,000 00	• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	29,185 45	
Subsidies to Provinces	4,239,500 00		4.237,500 00	11,500 00 4,237,500 00	••••	0.000.00	
Geological Survey	57,000 00	60,000 00		60,000 00	3,000 00	2,000 00	
Indians	978,320 78	940,523 00				37,797 7	
North-west Mounted Police	385,000 00	353,750 00		953 750 00		31.250 00	
Government of the North-west Territories	341,699 00	357,859 00		357,859 00	16,160 00		
Govern. of the Yukon Provisional District		396,450 00		396,450 00			
Dominion Lands-Income	90,938 25	94, 233 25		94,233 25			
M.scellaneous	207,819 91	135,910 00		135,910 00			
Customs	973,015 00	983,780 00		983,780 00	10,765 00		
Excise	467,674 25	451,776 25		451,776 25			
Culling Timber	18,450 00	19,350 00		19,350 00	900 00		
Weights, Measures, Gas & Electric Light Insp.	93,160 00	81,860 00		81,860 00		11,300 0	
Inspection of Staples	4,500 00	4,560.00	************	4,500 00			
Adulteration of Food and Fertilizers, &c	25,000 00	25,000 00		25,000 00			
Minor Revenues Kailways and Canals—Collection of Revenue	1,200 00	1,200 00		1,200 00			
Public Works do	3,939,222 50	4,500,200 00	************	4,500,200 00	560,977 50		
Post Office	171,700 00	169,450 00		169,450 00		2,250 00	
Trade and Commerce	3,637,917 00	3,596,311 00				41,606 00	
	the second of the second	24,100 00		24,100 00	5,000 00		
Total—Chargeable to Consolidated Fund	39,282,147 79	19,951,106 18	19,174,773 39	39,125,879 57	1,108,498 07	1,264,766 29	
Redemption of Debt	\$ 108,879 68 .		114,391, 71	114,391 71	5,512 03		
Militia	330,000 00	231,600 00			0,012 03	98,400 0	
Public Works-Capital	393,000 00	321,000 00				72,000 00	
Railways and Canals-Capital	5,771,696 00	4,969,700 00		4,969.700 00		801,996 00	
Dominion Lands do	95,000 00	150,000 06		150,000 00	55,000 00		
Total—Capital Expenditure	6,698,575 68	5,672,300 00	114,391 71	5,786,691 71	60,512 03	972,396 00	
Grand Total	42 000 200 42	25,623,406 18	19,289,165 10	44,912,571 28	-	-	

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by Correspondents

OUR LONDON LETTER.

(Special to the CHRONICLE.)

LONDON, 16th March, 1898. FINANCE.

A change in the Bank of England discount rate is threatening at last, and might be published at any time now.

"Bears" are always growlers, but those who were selling Spanish bonds have been so successful as to be almost cheerful this week. Rumours that the next coupon would be defaulted on are belied by the facts, and Spain puts up as punctually as could be desired. There is no 'selief on 'Change in the possibilities of a war between Spain and America, notwithstanding the lurid cartoons in some of the New York weeklies. Railroad shares are depressed though, and very unreasonably. The outbreak of war would mean the movement of men and munitions on a grand scale all over the country. Rates would probably rise, and even roads which had up till then only known assessments might begin to pay bonuses and dividends.

Four per cent. Grand Trunk debenture stock is being largely and favourably recommended over here as a good investment, yielding a round 4% with only an infinitesimal risk of default.

The other markets are featureless, even the Kaffir Circus prices being practically unaffected by the murder of Woolf Joel. Most of the jobbers in this department are in complimentary mourning for the deceased, whom many of them knew intimately.

The topic which has most seized attention this week has been

the great Lipton issue. Many times over subscribed, the price of the \$5 ordinary shares is at the moment of writing just touching \$15. The anxiety of waiting for allotment is now being allayed, and the men who fancied they would get a couple of thousand are putting up with fifty. Strenuous and excited endeavours were made by many subscribers to obtain marked prospectuses which were to obtain preferential treatment. Just at the height of the excitement, application forms bearing the well known initials, of course quite authentic, were being sold for \$25. Lipton has sold his business to the British public for \$12,333,330. The total value of the real property only amounts to \$4,883,920. The difference is the amount the investors have paid for goodwill, trade marks, brands and trade-names! Lipton has taken in cash \$8,166,660 and the balance in shares, which at present prices is worth considerably over five millions.

The sad and unaccountable suicide of Mr. Salviati, just after the successful flotation of the Salviati-Jasurum Company has not affected prices.

The London Electrical Omnibus Co., Ltd., was organized in 1896 with a nominal capital of one and a quarter millions. \$175,000 was subscribed, of which the vendors took in cash \$30,000. In the two years which have passed, in place of putting 125 Ward's electrical 'buses on the road and piling up the \$350,000 profit that was promised, it has put a one 'bus which ran fourteen miles and then stopped forever. Now the directors want \$75,000 more capital.

INSURANCE.

The combination of all branches of insurance with an easy house purchase scheme has been a splendid success with the British Homes' Assurance Corporation and more than \$5,000,000 of business was written last year. And the British Homes' is only a couple of years old. It is management that tells. At the general meeting last week a new feature was added. Upon all policies which have acquired a surrender value of at least \$25, temporary loans will be advanced at 5% interest.

The Credit Assurance and Guarantee Corporation are further extending their operations. Frank Child and Owen Jepson have been appointed inspectors at Birmingham and Leeds, respectively. Both these gentlemen come from the North British & Mercantile.

The wretched weather has claimed a great victim in Sir George Russel, Bart., M. P., who for a great number of years was chairman of the Eagle. Influenza and congestion of the lungs were the fatal causes which cut short a life of immense value to the insurance world.

Burglary insurance is a growing business, but one about which it is very hard to get useful information. Competition is so jealous and keen amongst the rival offices that details of trading are rigidly guarded. However, the Goldsmith's & General differs commendably from this tendency. Here are some facts elicited by its 1897 annual report. It is but six years old, and the net premium total of 1892, \$29,340, has become in 1896 \$77,645. The working expenses' ratio has dropped from 59.2% to 38.11%. \$10,515 is reserved to cover unexpired risks, and a credit balance of \$3,670 is carried forward. Lastly, here is an interesting comparison of the loss-ratios of the six years, in chronological order, 29.5, 79.7, 29.3, 58.1, 49.7, 58.72.

The Guardian has a new pamphlet out explaining what it is willing to do with regard to meeting the Employers contingency over the new Workmen's Compensation Act.

The Employers' Liability proposes to erect a block of offices on the Thames embankment. I have seen the plans and elevations, and it will be a splendid addition to London's noble structures. Thomas Fenwick's Non-Tariff Mutual Fire Insurance Company was compulsorily wound up last week on W. F. Calvert's petition.

Independent tests of fire-resisting materials will be one of the occupations of the newly formed commercial section of the British Fire Prevention Committee.

TORONTO LETTER.

Retrospective—The Death of Mr. Geo. W. Wood—The Introduction to the CHRONICLE Readers of Two New Fire Insurance Companies—Some Good Advice Gratis.

DEAR EDITOR:—After a somewhat protracted silence, I have much pleasure in once more inditing an epistle to the CHRONICLE. A retirement of this sort is good in many ways not necessary to enumerate, but it is wholesome to stand aloof at times from one's accustomed haunts and ways and just note how well everything with which we have had to do can go along without one. It is easy to grow to think our presence and oversight almost indispensable to the proper running or success of this or that. Just stand aside for a moment, as I have said, and learn a lesson from seeing how quickly things adapt themselves to the altered circumstances—how quickly gaps are filled, and the accustomed even flow of everything results.

The death of Mr. Geo. W. Wood on the 15th instant came somewhat suddenly after an illness of only ten days, pneumonia the cause, Mr. Wood has worthily represented under the firm name of George W. Wood & Son, the Fire Assurance Co. for several years in Toronto. Of a quiet, unassaming disposition, attentive to his own business, and industrious, he attained a very fair success. As a member of the Toronto Board of Fire Underwriters, Mr. Wood was not prominent either in debate or speech-making, but his vote was always cast on the side of law and order and in support of tariff and board rules and regulations. He was always a loyal, consistent member of the Board, and a very regular attendant at all its meetings. The tributes of respect and regret from his friends and intimates were many, and the evidence of his appreciation very marked and general. Societies of which he was a member, as well as the members of the Toronto Board in a body, attended his funeral to Mount Pleasant on Friday, the 18th

The early months of this year have brought amongst us, as competitors in the insurance field, the Merchants' Fire Insurance Company and the Equity Fire Insurance Company. These two opened their doors for business within a month of each other, and, under what may be called favorable auspices, they are now out and hustling for the spring trade. These two are, of course, licensed to do business only in Ontario, holding Provincial Charters. The Merchants' have for their president the Hon. George E. Foster, M. P., and Mr. E. Coatsworth, jun., of Toronto, as vice-president, Mr. John H. C. Durham, formerly with the Quebec Fire Assurance Co., is at present the Chief Executive Officer. The Equity has in Mr. Archibald Campbell, M.P., an excellent President, with Mr. Thomas Crawford, M.P.P., in the Vice-Chair. Our old friend, Mr. William Greenwood Brown, late Inspector of the Phoenix of Hartford, is Manager. Mr. Brown ought to know a thing or two insurancewise. I first knew him in the bygone " spacious times " of the great Glasgow and London Fire. Those were his working days. He was not paid to think, but to work. The General Manager did the thinking. Later, we find him under the Gerald Hart regime, acting as Inspector of the then newly introduced to Canada, Phœnix of Hartford. To Mr. Brown's energy and field knowledge the Phoenix was indebted for its rapid agency extension here. In the course of time, as has been said, the Phoenix lost Hart, and the shadow of a great fear fell upon them, and, as sometimes happens, the management in Canada from being extremely liberal writers of risks swung round to be timid ones, and then the trials began for Inspector Brown, who, naturally, in constant touch with the agents, was also in constant receipt of their loud complaints and grumblings at the change in the Company's ways of doing business. So in due sequence it came about that the Phœnix and its Inspector

parted, and he has been able to form a Company to carry out his views, and which has a certain measure of support guaranteed to it. Mr. Brown's varied underwriting experience should be of great value to him. He has seen the stress and trend of extremes, and should run a safe middle course. He has for assistant Mr. George Denoon, wellknown in Western insurance circles. Now, both these Companies have started out as non-tariff offices. In this they but follow the good old paths and customs established, and made illustrious by the example and footsteps of some of the biggest and bravest of the Fire Insurance Companies that to-day are known as the most loyal tariff-keepers and tariff-promoters in our midst. There is a time for the sowing of "wild oats" in the life history of Fire Insurance Companies it would thus appear, and they sow very properly when they are young. Therefore, the manner and style of commencement of the aforesaid twins has at least some notable precedents to refer to. Being Canadian born, we must wish them well, and express the hope that caution, care and a cool judgment may ever attend their footsteps and preside over their destinies. They must learn the lesson of making haste slowly; so shall the prospect of a fair success be theirs.

TORONTO, 28th March, 1898.

ARIEL.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

Movement of a serious nature concerning the Guarantors' Finance Company of Philadelphia—The Insurance Commissioner suggests the appointment of a Receiver—"The Stipulated Premium Life Insurance Bill" becomes a law—The Kansas Insurance Superintendent backs down—An Ohio politician introduces a war measure regarding Insurance—The effect of the Spanish situation on Marine Insurance rates—Suspension of rates on "fire-proof" buildings in New York city.

To the Eliter CHRONICLE.

After a rough and hard time from the very start under the manage ment of Mr. Richard F. Loper, the Philadelphia liability insurance concern now known as the "Guarantors' Finance Company" (the third title it has had since commencement) has seemingly encountered a large sized snag in the river of its farther progress. Judge Mc-Pherson of Harrisburg, at the instance of the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, has granted an order returnable on April 4th requiring the Guarantors to show cause why its business should not be closed and a receiver appointed. This decisive action is said to have been taken on the suggestion of Insurance Commissioner Lumbert after two examinations by the department had reported the business of the Company in an unsafe condition. A report dated on the first day of this present month, says the Commissioner, shows him that the Company is insolvent; its liabilities, including capital stock being at that time \$1,047,500, while its admitted assets were but \$582,967.03, betraying an impairment of \$164,532.07. Manager Loper in reply is reported to have said that the Guarantors' Finance Company "will continue in business, and that it can save 100 cents on the dollar." He says that the Company will make answer to the order, but will not antagonize the insurance department, and that he " does not think the motion for a receiver will be pressed when the Insurance Com missioner knows the facts in the case." Having made two examinations of the Company, the commissioner should already know the facts in the case it would seem. The Spectator of this city has always criticized the Guarantors sharply, and will now have its innings (naturally enough).

The Continental Fire Insurance Company of this city, which has been the backbone of the movement to tax foreign insurance companies, has made a bid for the line on the building of the New York Clearing House, and in its letter says: "If we are correctly informed, the Clearing House is insured in one of the English companies direct, no broker placing it; and under such circumstances we desire to make a bid for the insurance, being willing to accept it at a rate of five (5) cents for five (5) years, which means that the charge for \$100,000 of insurance will be \$50, or \$500 for an insurance of \$1,000,000 for five years. This bid is made with the understanding

. . .

that you are to have the right to have our policy for the who'e amount of insurance desired, we re-insuring such excess as we think best, or direct that the line be divided among the prominent American companies." The Continental appears to be willing to take business at "almost any old rate," to use a well-worn expression, provided it can get the best of the "English companies" or any one of them.

What is known as the "Stipulated Premium Life Insurance Bill" introduced into the New York Legislature has passed both houses, been signed by the Governor, and is now a law. Under its provisions (if I understand them correctly), it will hereafter be impossible for an assessment life insurance organization incorporated in this state to issue any policy having a premium stated unless it establishes and maintains a legal reserve therefor. This bill it has been openly claimed is an "insurance department measure," that is to say that it was fathered if not drawn by the Superintendent of Insurance himself, Mr. Louis F. Payn. Whether he intends to organize and promote a company under its provisions is matter for speculation. If the larger of the assessment life associations now in existence continue to do business, they must do it under the provisions of this law from the day it becomes one. If they propose to issue policy contracts with a set premium during its continuance, they must put up a legal reserve on all such business. This being the fact it will require a radical change in their methods. Can they bring that change about? It will neces sitate some expert actuarial ability apparently-and something beside I guess. Mr. Saperintendent Payn may be long-headed enough in insurance matters to see how it may be done. A company might be started that could carry it through, but how the present organizations are going to switch directly upon a legal reserve basis is somewhat problematical, isn't it?

Several insurance companies, life and fire, have with lrawn from the State of Kansas rather than submit to the continued ridiculous manifestoes of its insurance superintendent, who really seems to insist upon making himself as disagreeable as possible. He lately thought he had discovered that the "Anti Rebate Syndicate," as it is sometimes called (composed of a union of the majority of American life insurance companies for the purpose of catching, convicting and punishing rebating agents), was opposed to the anti-trust laws of Kansas, and notified the companies composing it that they must give up their connection therewith or he would cease to issue them licenses to do business in Kansas! It is now responsibly stated by the CHRONICLE of this city and the United States Review of Philadelphia that after investigation Mr. McNall has made another discovery, which is that he on this occasion awakened the wrong passenger, and that he has concluded to withdraw from his determination to ostracise these companies on this account. "And while the lamp holds out to burn, the vilest sinner may return." Has Mr. McNall started back?

The slight probability of war with Spain has brought to the front some curiosities in connection with the insurance business. An Ohio politician named Cox, is one of them. He has introduced into the Legislature of that State a bill providing that "no insurance company doing business in Ohio shall cancel or in any way impair the obligation of any endowment or life policy of any citizen of the State, or deduct any part of the face of the same on account of the insured enlisting or being compelled to serve in any war in defence of the honor or credit of our nation. Any insurance company violating the spirit of the act shall be debarred from doing business in the State until any and all claims by policyholders are amicably adjusted." This politician knows just enough about the life insurance business as it exists to be fitted for a State insurance official somewhere! It may be safely asserted that no American life insurance company will impose any extra premium tax upon, or deny any benefit to the beneficiaries of, any policyholder who enlists in his country's service and falls while on

The Spanish situation is having a perceptible effect upon marine insurance rates. Marine underwriters yesterday reported a sudden

the following upon the rumours concerning the movements of the Spanish flotilla, the condensed publication of the contents of the Maine Inquiry Board and the inflammable speech of Senator Thurston-Rates which had ranged from one-eighth of one per cent. to one quarter on steamships and from three-fourths of one per cent to one and a quarter on sailing vessels doubled up yesterday, and a further raise is anticipated. Even at the double rates not all risks offered were taken the refusals being principally among those for a longer carrying than a fortnight. One broker said yesterday, "the war risks that we are placing now are mostly on vessels on the sea to arrive, or to sail from the East. Not until yesterday were there many offers for vessels to sail out. We wrote yesterday on vessels bound for the West Indies, but if war comes it will be hard to find any one who will cover vessels going anywhere near the scene of hostilities."

* * *

The New York Tariff Association last Friday ordered a suspension of rates upon a large number of so-called fire-proof buildings in this city, some three hundred of them not having reference to the contents of the same. All rules relating to these buildings, including the So per cent. co-insurance clause, remain in force, and brokerage is limited to twenty-five per cent. This action has caused cuts of no inconsiderable degree on these lines, some policies having been cancelled and re-written at ten and fifteen cents for five years. Speculation is rife as to what will be the next developments in the Tariff Association.

J. H. BIMMA.

NEW YORK, March 26th, 1898.

gotes and giems.

The Merchants' Bank of Canada is opening a branch at Souris, Man. H. M. P. Eckardt, of the Winnipeg office, has been appointed manager.

The Chairman of the Senate Inter State Commerce Committee of the United States has fixed Friday and Saturday, April 8 and 9, for hearing on the Plate bill for Federal supervision of insurance.

The Liverpool & London & Globe of New York has been licensed to do business in Illinois. The company's paid-up capital is \$200,000 for the United States.

We understand that Mr. B. Hal. Brown, Manager of the London & Lancashire Life is leaving tor Winnipeg and the North West Territories, in a few days, on a business trip in the interests of his Company.

Superintendent McNall of the Kansas Insurance Department, hnas notified the Aetna, Norwich Union, Phenix of Brooklyn, and American Central of St. Louis, to settle in full a "total" loss in which the claim was compromised for less than the face of the policy. The demand for settlement is based upon the contention that the compromise settlement was in violation of the valued policy law of Kansas.

There is a case in suit in the Superior court of Boston, Mass., to determine whether the Globe Fire can recover from the town of Lexington, Mass., under the gypsy moth act, the amount which is paid upon an insurance policy covering a wood-pile which was destroyed by exterminators of the moth. The act provides compensation to every owner of land who is damaged by the acts of the moth exterminators; the State, and the town where the land lies, are made equally liable. The trial is not finished.

The Guardian Fire and Life Assurance Co'y., which has hitherto confined its business to fire and life insurance, is now issuing accident policies of all kinds, and is prepared to consider proposals for the insurance of the entire liability of employers under the Employers' Liability Act and the new Workmen's Compensation Act, without any limitation.

The examination of the Lincoln Fire Insurance Company of New York, within a few months of its organization, and at a time when the examiners of the insurance department of the State of New York have their hands full elsewhere, has been much commented upon. The examination has been completed and a hearing will be given the management by the Insurance Department in the usual way if the report calls for any explanation.

The Supreme Court of Massachusetts recently decided a case of some importance under the surrender value law of that State. A man having a policy in the Massachusetts' Mutual desired to claim its surrender value. The policy was written for the express benefit of his wife and surviving children. His wife is still living, and he has four children all over twenty-one years of age. The company declined to pay a surrender value, contending that the policy being in favour of his wife and four children could not be surrendered by him, although his wife and children joined in the application. The company was sustained in the lower Courts, but the Supreme Court has a right to surrender the policy if the other parties interested resign their claim.

The net earnings of the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific, Montreal and Toronto Street railways up to a recent date were as follows:—

a recent date were as to	mows		
	G. T. R.		
Week ending	1898.	1897.	Increase.
Feb. 14	\$415.437	\$355.854	\$59,583
21	411,644	387.692	23.952
28	451,587	405,526	46,061
Mar. 7	445,048	397,587	47,461
14	476,407	403,556	72,851
21	453,470	410,545	42,925
	C. P. R.		
	1898.	1897.	Increase.
Jan. 1-7	\$426,000	\$340,000	\$86,000
8-14	404,000	325,000	79,000
15-21	396,000	315,000	81,000
22-31	472,000	353,000	119,000
Feb. 1-7	385,000	332,000	53,000
8-14	375,000	323,000	52,000
15-21	351,000	310,000	41,000
22-28	377,000	306,00	71,000
Mar. 1-7	454,000	325,000	129,000
7-14	492 000	323,000	169,000
" 14-21	463,000	325,000	138,000
	\$5,595,000	\$4,577,000	\$1,018,000
	AL STREET R		a thair wa
Week ending.	1898.	1897.	Increase.
Feb. 21	\$29,184	\$25,773	\$3.411
28	29,403	25,853	3,550
Mar. 7	26,294	22,364	3,929
14	25,656	21,800	3,856
21	26,634	22,479	4.154
28	25,112	22,5;6	2,556
	STREET RY	1.	
Week ending.	1898.	1897.	Increase.
Feb. 21	\$23,144	\$18,878	\$4,266
28	23,612	20,244	3.368
Mar. 7	21,796	18,184	3,612
14	20,747	17,752	2,995
21	20,856	17,248	3,608
28	10.000		3,000

The Canadian RailwayAccident Insurance Company's bill was withdrawn by its promoter, Mr. Belcourt, as he considered the conditions imposed by the committee at the suggestion of the superintendent of insurance too onerous to be complied with.

What is said to have been the oldest life insurance policy in America became a claim upon the death of the late Charles A. Dana, of the New York Sun. The policy was for \$20,000 in the State Mutual of Worcester, Mass., dated March, 1848.

A dispatch from Berlin announces that the University of Freiburg, in Breisgau, will insure all students attending the lectures against accidents within the precincts of this University, including gymnastics, duelling, or during excursions conducted by the professors. Fifteen thousand marks will be paid in case of death. The University has lost much of its old-time popularity, owing to theological and other squabbles.

Richard F. Loper, Vice-President and General Manager of the Guarantors' Finance Company of Philadelphia, was arrested on Monday afternoon, charged with "conspiracy to cheat and defraud the People's Bank." He was placed under \$25,000 bail. It is stated that the cashier of the bank, who lately committed suicide, had advanced to Loper about \$780,000 upon practically worthless collateral. The order to show cause why a receiver for the Guarantors should not be appointed is returnable on Monday.

Each member of the Royal Queen Hockey team was presented on Saturday last with a pair

of solid gold sleeve links.

The presentation was made by Mr. Mackay on behalf of Mr. George Simpson (now in Europe.) The ceremony took place in the office of the Royal Insurance Company, and the links not only indicate the good feeling which binds the Manager and staff together, but also represent the series of victories won by the Royal-Queen team in the championship hockey series of 1897-98. Bravo! Royal-Queen.

Royal Victoria Life Insurance Co'y. The first annual meeting was held at the offices of the Company, Montreal, on the 30th inst. In the evening, the worthy President entertained the Directors and a few friends at dinner, at his residence, 32 MacGregor st., where a most enjoyable evening was spent. The future of the Co'y. was spoken of in the most encouraging terms, and judging from the financial standing, business ability and recognized integrity of the Directors, added to good management, the Victoria should have a brilliant career.

The following gentlemen were guests of the President:—Mr. A. F. Gault, Dr. Roddick, John Cassils, G. L. Lemoine, S. Finley, Geo. Caverhill, G. B. Hanaford, S. H. Ewing, David Burke, J. Stevenson, Geo. Sumner, R. Wilson-Smith, I. B. Learmont, C. R. Hosmer, Robt. Mackay, J. Hodgson and Geo.

Hague.

A hearing upon the bill providing for Federal regulation of insurance has been appointed for Friday and Saturday. April 8 and 9, at Washington. It is expected that at that time the representatives of several big insurance companies will appear and will have some thing to say upon the general proposition of Federal regulation. Col. Nathaniel Tyler, who prepared the bill, has been in consultation with repre-

sentative insurance men in New York and Connecticut, and they have expressed keen interest in the subject. The constitutional question whether Congress has the right to regulate insurance without specific grant by the States is bothering some members of the committee, but Col. Tyler has submitted a careful brief, giving his reasons for his conviction that regulation of insurance properly comes under the provisions for the regulation of Inter-State commerce. This point will be discussed at the hearing as well as some of the details of the bill. There is not yet perfect agreement upon these details, but specific criticisms have not been numerous or important. subject seems likely to excite some attention in Congress in the immediate future, but its importance may prevent action until after considerable discussion. It is somewhat doubtful whether a report is made at the present session by the Senate committee, but action may be taken at the short session next winter.

The Banking and Commerce Comittee this morning reported to the House the bill promoted by Mr. Quinn, incorporating the Victoria (Montreal) Fire Insurance Company, the word "Montreal" being inserted to meet the objections of the Victoria Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which does business in Hamilton. The incorporators are Samuel H. Ewing, Allen R. Macdonell, and Jas. A. Wright, of Montreal; Wm. Pugsley, of St. John; and J. D. Reid, of Cardinal. The capital stock is a million dollars in \$100 shares. \$300,000 stock must be subscribed and 25 per cent, of that amount paid up before the election of directors, and before commencing business \$80,000 of stock must be paid in cash into the funds of the company. Another \$80,000 must be called up and paid in within a year. The company is invested with the usual powers.

ON THE FLOOR OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Wednesday, 3 p.m., 30th March, 1898.

The report of the market during the past week can only deal with the effect caused by the political situation in the United States and the East. The scarcity of money has also aided to unsettle public opinion for the moment. Friday was the worst day of the week. The continuation of unusual pressure for money at home and most alarming reports from New York, where there was a panic on the Stock Exchange, broke our own market from two to ten points. Towards the afternoon, however, the bargain hunters came in, and a very little investment turned the course of the market, which, assisted by a hopeful feeling, generally restored prices to about the level of a week ago. No advice can be given or useful information added until questions of war, national and industrial, are settled. The Stock Exchanges of the world will be footballs for operators who spread reckless rumours.

On Monday there was a report that the Railway rate war had been settled. Our market immediately revived in sympathy with New York which recorded material advances of nearly all stocks. This report was not however confirmed. As the officers of the rival lines are still working towards an agreement, we are in hopes that a satisfactory result of their labours will be attained.

Bankers have shown no disposition to encourage borrowers sending their money to New York for investment in American stocks and securities. There is, however, sufficient money remaining for all practical needs, and any temporary inconvenience suffered by calling loans was readily overcome. It is probable that after the first of the month the purse strings will be loosened slightly, but we do not expect to return to cheap and plentiful money for some time to come.

Canadian Pacific showed a remarkably good increase of \$138,000. It declined to 79 on the New York panic, but reacted to 82 1-2 bid. When the rate war is ended it should advance readily to the highest figure it has yet seen.

Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic earnings continue to show increase of about \$6,000 a week, which will probably become larger as the iron business in the West becomes more active.

Commercial Cable dropped to 165, and closed steady at about 170 1-2.

Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co. went down to 92, but reacted 5 per cent., closing about 97. The early opening of navigation should be favourable to this Company.

Montreal Street Railway had a remarkable fall to 245, but investors quickly availed themselves of the opportunity, and prices reacted to 259.

Halifax Trams, declined to 117, but closed ten points higher—127 to 129.

Montreal Gas touched 184, but closed 190 3-4.

Toronto Railway sold in large amounts at 91, but recovered to 95 1-4. The reaction in this was not so strong as in some other stocks, owing to a large speculative holding.

Banks.-We have nothing of interest to report.

Industrials. These have also been neglected and are inactive.

Money. Nominal 5 per cent., but bankers are not disposed to increase their loans.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

HURSDAY, 24TH M.	ARCH.	25	Montrea!	Street	257
MORNING POLICE		25	**	"	25634
MORNING BOARD,		25	**	"	256
No of Shares.	Price.	Ico	**	"	255
		3	"	"	257
7 Bank of Commerce	. 139	20	Gas		192
4 Union Bank	103	50	"		191

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50	"	16834	1 75 " " 18	,
25	Halifax xd	1281/2	25 " " 186	
25		127 1/2	25 " " 186	
10	Toronto Street	98	75 " " xd 18	12
100	"	97	100 " xd 18	
50	" "	96%	50 Cable 16	
75	Dominion Cotton	92		
\$20	oc Col. Cotton 1/1s	96	95 Halifax Tram 120	
	Pacific	8114	50 Richelieu 9	
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5	Bank of Montreal	240	25 Pacific 79	•
25	Bank of Toronto	230	1 125 " 75	34
200	Montreal Street	254	25 " 28	36
25	" "	25378		3/
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25	Montreal Gas	1901/2	460 " 79	
25		190%	/	,
200	: ::::::	189 1/2	SATURDAY, 26TH MARCE	1
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	" "		MORNING BOARD.	
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5		166 1/2	50 " " 251	
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7.5		167 1/2	100 " " 25	
75		167	50 Montreal Gas 18	
25	Halifax Tram xd	127 1/2	22 " " 18/	
110	Toronto Street	961/2	50 " " … 186	
50		951/2	300	
25	Richelieu	96		
50	Dominion Cotton	91	25 Halifax Tram 121	
25	Montreal Cotton	1441/2	200 Cable 165	
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STOCK LIST

Reported for The Chronicle by J. TRY-DAVIES, 23 St. John Street, Montreal.

Corrected to March 30th, 1898, P. M.

			to Ma								
BANKS.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up.	Rest or Reserve Fund.	Per centage of Rest to paid up Capital	Par value of one share.	Marke value of one share.	for last	tkevenue per cent, on investment at present prices	Cios pric (per c on p	ent.	When Divide
British Columbia British North America Canadian Pank of Commerce Commercial Bank, Windsor, N.S. Dominion	2,920,000 4,806,699 6,000,000 500,000 1,500,000	6,000,000 348,380	1,387,000 1,000,000 108,000	16.66 28.50 16.67 31.00 100.00	\$ 100 243 50 40 50	80 00 316 30 70 25 46 00 127 50	Per cent.	Per cent. 4 44 3 59 1 99 5 22 4 70	107 130 1374 110 251	1124 134 1404	April O
Fastern Townships Exchange Bank of Yarmouth Halifaz Hanking Co Hamilton	1,500,000 280,000 500,000 1,250,000	250,075 500,000	30,000 350,000	52:33 12:00 70:00 58:00	50 20 100	80 00 33 80 174 00	34 21 34	4 37 4 10	150 138	'A MARK'	Feb, May Aug. N January Ju
Hochelaga. Imperial La Banque Jacques-Cartier La Banque Nationale.	1,000,000 2,000,000 500,000 1,200,000	2,000,000	400,000 1,200,000 285,000	40-00 58-79 47-00	100 100 100 25	125 00 193 12 25 00	31	4 57 4 51 4 14 6 00	174 156 192	155 1934	June D March Se June D
Merchant Bank of P.E.I Merchants Bank of Canada Merchants Bank of Halifax Molsons X D	200,020 6,000,000 1,500,000	200,020 6,000,000 1,500,000	55,000 55,000 3,000,000 1,175,000	4.17 25-47 50-00 78-83	30 100 100	28 80 182 00 190 00	1	6 18	96	97	June De May No
Montreal New Brunswick Nova Scotia Ontario	2,000,000 12,000,000 500,000	2,000,000 12,000,000 500,000	1,500,000 6,000,000 600,000	75 00 50 00 120 00	50 200 100	103 00	5	3 68 3 89 4 08	190 196	206	February At April O
Ottawa	1,500,000 1,000,000 1,500,000	1,500,000 1,000,000	1,600,000 65,000 1,125,000	106-66 6-50 75-90	100	253 00 230 00 110 00	6 4 2,	4 74 3 48 4 55	253 210	230	January Ju June De
Quebec	700,000 180,000 2,500,000	700,000 180,000 2,500,000	220,000 120,000 600,000	31·43 66·67 24·00	100 20 150 100	197 00 25 20 120 00	74 & 1 3 4 3	5 10 4 76 5 00	190	126	June De
Standard St. Stephens St. Hyacinthe St. John	1,000,000 200,000 504,600 500,200	1,000,000 200,000 312,790 261,499	600,000 45,000 65,000 10,000	60-00 22-50 20-78 3-82	****	87 00	4 2 3	4 55	174	:::	April Oc
Summerside P.E.I Foronto Fraders Juion Bank of Halifax	48,666 2,000,000 700,000 500,000	48,666 2,000,000 700,000 500,000	16,000 1,800,000 40,000 205,000	32-87 90-00 5-70	100	235 00 99 00	2 34 5			35 J	une De
nion Bank of Canada file Marie Vestern armouth	1,500,000 500,000 500,000	1,487,878 479,620 384,136	325,000 10,000 112,000	21:84 2:08 28:16		63 00 69 00 100 00	3 3	5 55 5 22 6 00	123 1 103 1 92 1	26 N	larch Se Cebruary Au une De
INCELLANGUS STOCKS & BONDS.	300,000	300,000	40,000	13-33	75	90 00	3	5 00	117	J	une De
do Bonds	3,168,000	3,168,000	910,000	254	100	177 50	20	4 51	1734 1	774	Quarterly
do Bonds Dominion Cotton Mills do do Bonds	2,700,000	2,700,000 3,000,000			160	75 00 152 00	3	6 25	45	75	far Jun Sep De
Iontreal Telegraph Iontreal Gas Co do Bonds ornwall Street Railway Stock	,000,000 2,907,704	2,000,000 2,997,704 600,000			40	72 00 76 30	7	4 44 5 24	175 18 190) 18	80	Quarterly pril Oct
t. Johns Street Railway.	100,000 100,000 500,000					50 00 45 00	•	::::		50	
fontreal Street Railway do do Bonded Debt do do New Stock Jontreal Cotton Co ichelieu & Ont. Nav. Co	4,000,000 973,333 1,000,000 1,400,000		******			29 50	24.	3 86	258 25 102 16 2554 25	19 M	lay Nov.
de Bonds	6,000,000	1,350,000	250,000	184	1	75 00 98 00 03 00	3	5 33 6 12	40 15 95j 9 01 10	8	ay Nov
do do Bonde	2,800,000 800,000 600,000 65,000,000				100 i	95 25 28 00	1* 2j	3 90	954 95 06 10 27 12 05 10	8	an.Apr.July Oct
uluth S.S. & Atlantia	18,423,000 12,000,000 10,000,000	12,000,000				3 00	24	4 84	824 8	24	April
do Registered Bonds	15,000,000	10,000,000	2,608,329	The second second	100 1	6 00	12-& 1	···· 16	170		Quarterly
	1,250, 1,475, 5,900,00 500,000	5.900,000		::::	100 10	1 00 3 75 2 50	20	5 30 14	174 151 13 15	1.	Quarterly
nada Central	250,00			::::	100 10	0 00		::: 8	0 52 12 50 10 100	.::	Jan.
indeor Hotel inrantee Co., of N.A. sople's Heat & Light of Halifar do Bonds	700,000	304,600		::::	50 5 100 3	0 00 6 00 7 00	3	6 00 9	24 100	1:	•••••
minion Coal Preferred	200,000						"		2j 88 4 108	1	July
do Bonds	2 0000 0000	**** ***	********					10	19	JAI.	July

Quarterly. | Bonus of | per cent. | Based on the Dividend and Bonus for last half year.

Montreal Street 256

Montreal Gas..... 192

Cable 170

" " …… 128

"

"

.....

..... 96%

.

.....

Dominion Coal pfd. 105

Richelieu

Toronto Street

Pacific

......

.........

......

......

.

\$15,000 Col. Cotton bds.

AFTERNOON BOARD.

Montreal Street 258

New Mont, Street .. 255

..

235

2

25

25

20

150

10

25

100

50

75

200

50

100

200

125 \$00

125 100

25

25

75

" ... 257 " ... 258 " ... 257¼

" 1911/4

" 1921/2

.... 17016 Halifax Tram 129

..... 191 1/2

120

94

96

951/2

9614

961/2

96%

82 5

82%

821/

82

96

.. 255%

.. 255%

75

100

150 25

35

82 1/

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES .- Continued. Halifax Tram 128 Price 25 " 127½ Pacific 82 525 81 3/8 ** 12734 50

Montreal Gas 1913 8176 8176 100 " 1911/2 .. 25 81 3/8 100 250 1911/2 81% 50 Cable 1693 50 8136 100 io \$4,000 Dom. Coal bds ... 104 Royal Electric 1483 TUESDAY, 29TH MARCH. 14814 Toronto Street 125 96 MORNING BOARD. 95 14 Bank of Montreal ... 240 Pacific 250 82 Hochelaga Bank ... 15234

> \$1,000 Dom. Coal bds . . . 104 WEDNESDAY, 30TH MARCH

MORNING BOARD. Merchants' Bank . . . 180 Halifax Tram 128 8; 75 Montreal Street 259 259% 425 2591/2 New Mont, Street .. 257 .. 2561 75 " .. 2561/2 Montreal Gas 192 50 100 " " xd.... i87 1911/2 50 Cable 1701/2 50 171 " 170 25 50 1701/2 97 96 Toronto Street 25 100 " 95% 125 821/2 350 82 58 335 *********** 82 1/2 8234 825 25 824

AFTERNOON BOARD	
Montreal Street	259
New Mont. Street	256
Montreal Gas	101
" "	1003/
" " xd	187
Toronto Street	951
Cable	170%

Bell Telephone.... 174

......

Pacific

........ 170%

82 1/2

825

THE LARGEST FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE WORLD.

London and Globe

Winnipeg, Manitoba,

February 11th, 1898.

LOSSES ADJUSTED PROMPTLY AND LIBERALL IATES MODERATE.

E. J. BARBEAU. CHAIRMAN. **\$**49,782,100.

WM. M. JARVIS, ST. JOHN, N.B., GENERAL ACENT FOR MARITIME PROVINCES

G. F. C. SMITH,

lai insurance

OF LONDON, ENG.

Subscribed Capital, - \$6,000,000 Paid-up Capital, - \$1,500,000 Assets, - \$8,000,000 Head Office for Canada: Imperial Building, MONTREAL. G. R. KEARLEY, President Manager for Canada.

City of Winnipeg DEBENTURES.

SEALED TENDERS marked "Tender for Debentures," addre-sed to the undersigned, will be received at the office of the City comptroller, City Hall, Winnipeg, up to 3.30 o'c lock pm., on

SATURDAY the 9th APRIL next.

For the purchase of \$306,117.00 of city of Winnipeg debentures, as follows : LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS.

\$25,307.00, running 7 years, with interest at 4 per cent. \$124,907,00 running 10 years, with interest at 4 per cent. \$37,053.00, running 15 years, with interest at 4 per cent. \$25,350,00, running 20 years, with interest at 4 per cent.

STRAIGHT CITY.

\$27,500.00, running 35 years, with interest at 4 per cent. \$66,000.00, running 40 years, with interest at 3½ per cent.

Of the Local Improvement, \$53,952 00 is for the City's share of the cost, the remainder being for the property owner's share,

and guaranteed by the City.

Principal and Interest (half yearly), payable at the Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg.

Purchasers to take delivery in Winnipeg. Any accrued interest to be added to the purchase money

Tenders may be for the whole or part. No tender necessarily

accepted.
Further information desired can be obtained from the City

H. WILSON,

Chairman Finance Committee

and FINANCE Chronicle

Published every Friday.

AT 151 ST. JAMES ST., MONTREAL.

R. WILSON SMITH, Proprietor.

Prices for Advertisements on application

The Manchester Fire Assurance Company.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SHAREHOLDERS AT THE 74TH ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE COMPANY'S HOUSE, 98 KING STREET, MANCHESTER, ON TUESDAY, THE 5TH APRIL, 1898.

The directors have pleasure in presenting to the shareholders the 74th Annual Report of the operations of the company.

The net premiums for the year 1897, including these of the " American" of New York, amounted to £850,599 13s. 9d., being £3,120 more than the combined premiums of 1896. The combined losses thereon, including full provision for all unsettled claims, amounted to £491,754. 15s. 9d , say 57.8 per cent.

FIRE AND REVENUE ACCOUNT.

After paying all expenses, commissions and taxes, the fire a/c for the year closed with a surplus of. £61,754 13 0 The income from interest, etc., yielded 24,358 17 5

Balince carried to funds, as per other side ... £86,113 10 5 Add " American" of New York Funds from its last year's a/c. £180,434 18

Lets cost of "American" stock. 163,333 6 8 17,101 11 7

DIVIDEND.

An interim dividend of 2s. per share was paid in September last, and the directors now recommend a further dividend at the same rate for the past half year, and also a bonus of 2s, per share, making 15 per cent....

£30,000 0 0

Interest paid and accrued on "Times Mutual," "Sprinkler," and "Cambridge" bonds.... 2.992 1 Amounts written off ledger value 5,178 17 1 commuted Bonus payments, etc. 17,425 10 2 "Cambridge" bond cancelled ... 55,606 8 11 10 0 0

Leaving to be added to the funds for the year (after providing for dividend, interest, and amounts written off, as above)..... £47,608 13 1

The directors have pleasure in reporting that the businesses of the "American" of New York, and of the "Commercial" of Cape Town acquired during the year have both, so far, yielded favourable

The Capital Accounts and Reserve Funds now stand at £801,891. s. tod., and the growing financial strength of the Company during the past five years is shown by the following figures :-At the 31st December, 1892, the Funds in hand amounted to £463,699

The Directors retiring by rotation are C. W. Farbridge, Esq. the Honourable John E. Cross, James Eckersley, Esq., and Alfred Neild, Esq., who are eligible, and will be proposed for re-election.

he Directors cordially acknowledge the valued services rendered by the United States Trustees, and by the various Local Boards and Representatives of the Company at home and abroad.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
Net premiums	850 599		9
Interest and dividends	24,358	17	5
	-		

£874,958 11

£946,898 14 11

7,046 19

2103,215 2 0

EXPENDITURE,	£	S.	d
Fire losses paid and outstanding	491 754	15	9
Agents commissions and expenses	149,925	17	11
rtome, foreign and colonial state taxes	15,323	12	2
Expenses of management	131,840		
	86,113	10	-5
Balance carried to funds	788,845	0	9

ASSETS. Railway and other Debentures, Bonds and Stocks.... 282,662 United States Govt. 4 p.c. Registered Bonds.....

£874,958 11 2

85,873 15

BALANCE SHEET

Management of the state of the	В,	A L.	ANG
LIABILITIES,			
Capital A ₂ c 100,000 Shares of £20 each, £2 paid Funds from Last Year's Account	200,000		đ. θ
Add "American" of New York & s. d. 610,286 3 2 Funds from its last year's age, 180,434 18 3 Less cost of "American" Stock, 163 333 6 8 17,101 11 7			
Interim Dividend paid Sept 10,000 0 0 627,497 14 9 Dividend & Bonus payable 5th April, 1898 20,000 0 0			
Interest paid and accrued on			
"Times Mutual," Ac., Bonds 2,992 1 8 Written off Ledger values of			
Company's Property 5,178-17-1 Cost of Commercial of CapeTown business, "Times Mutual" and "Sprinkler"			
Bonuses, &c			
Reserve Funds	571,901	9.0	10
Total	£771.901	*	10
Sundry Bondholders :-	2.11,501	0	10
"Times Mutual" 10 p.c. Bonds, Series 1 £10,000 0 0 "Cambridge" 10 p.c. Bonds, Series B			
Less Bond carcelled (£10 0 0)	29,990	θ	0
Outstanding Losses	801,891 117,960		

British Railway and other Ste	ock	25.083	18	4
Canada Govt. Inscribed Stock	k	43,785	8	1
Cape of Good Hope Govt. 31	p.c. Inscribed Stock	9,853	6	0
Transvaal Govt. 5 p.c. Loan		5,256		4
Austrian Govt. 4 p c. Gold R	entes	8,710		0
Spanish Govt. 4 p.c. Redeen	able Stock	628		2
Mortgages on first-class	Property (with ample			-
margins) and Loans on app	proved recurity	26,386	5	0
Interest accrued, not yet paya	ble	7,365	*	1
House Property and Furnite London & Newcastle, &c	are, Land, Manchester,	50,327	0	8
Balances in hands of Branch	nes and Agents (Home			
and Foreign)	······	87,473		
Due by other Offices	** ****** ***** *****	45,377		
Outstanding Premiums		39,617	10	3
Cash at Bankers and in hand.		64,714	12	2

T. BARHAM FOSTER, Chairman, W. FARBRIDGE, Deputy Chairman. WILLIAM LEWIS, Manager and Secretary.

£946,898 14 11

"Including Bonds for £37 los to be issued

Other Liabilities

Dividend and Bonus payable to Shareholders, 5th

April, 1898 £20,000 0 0

Andrews' Valuation Tables.

Compound interest, showing value single payment due at end of any half year, value of payment due half yearly for any number of half years, value of paymen due yearly at end of any haif yearfrom 6 months to 30 years inclusive at rates to yield from 2 per cent. to 7 per cent., ascending by eights. By Walter S. Andrews.



The British America INCORPORATED 1833.

ASSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE

TORONTO.

OLD

RELIABLE

PROGRESSIVE

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

Cash Capital. Total Assets.

\$750,000,00 1,510,827.88

Losses paid since organization, \$16,909.240.72

DIRECTORS:

Hon GEO. A. COX.

J. J. KENNY. Vice-President

Hon. S. C. WOOD

President

JOHN HOSKIN, Q.C., LL D

S. F. McKINNON

THOMAS LONG

ROBERT JAFFRAY AUGUSTUS MYERS

H. M. PELLATT

P. H. SIMS, Secretary.

C. R. G. JOHNSON, Resident Agent, MONTREAL Canada Life Building.

Bond Values by Montgomery Rollins

Tables showing net returns of Bonds and of er investments maturing in from six months to fifty years, and tearing interest at rom 31/2 per cent. to 7 per cent, payable half yearly, at rates to yield iom 2.90 per cent to 6 per cent, ascending by eights and tenths. Copies may be obtained to this office. Price \$3.00.

A Valuable Asset

Financially, in respect to life insurance, is GOOD HEALTH. Without it a man cannot secure to his dependents the munificent results of life insurance; therefore, while you enjoy good health, make the necessary provision for the protection of your dependents in the event of you death, before the fell hand of disease lays hold of you and you are debarred from investing life's valuable asset to such advantage.

THE COMPOUND INVESTMENT PLAN

North American Life Assurance

exactly meets the requirements of a large number of insurers, and may be just the policy you desire under which to Take the above provision.

The Nor h American has a larger ratio of assets to liabilities and net surplus to liabilities than any other Canadian company.

For pamphlets explanatory of the Compound Investment and other attractive plans of insurance, apply to

HEAD OFFICE; TORONTO.

WM. McCABE, Managing Director.

THE

ESTER

Assurance Company.

FIRE AND MARINE.

INCORPORATED IN 1851.

Head Office,

TORONTO

Capital Subscribed \$2,000,000 Capital Paid-up 1,000,000 Cash Assets, over 2,400,000 Annual Income, over...... 2,280,000

LOSSES PAID SINCE ORGANIZATION, \$25,300,000

DIRECTORS :

Hon. GEORGE A. COX, President.

J. J. KENNY, Vice-President and Managing Director

Hos. S. C. WOOD

GEO, R. R. COCKBURN

GEO. MCMURRICH

ROBERT REATY

W. R. BROCK

J. K. OSBORNE

H. N. BAIRD

Agencies in all the principal Cities and Towns in Canada and the United States.

TOTAL FUNDS EXCEED \$67,244,500.00



Canadian Investments \$5,564,200.00





INSURANCE CO.



HENRI BARBEAU, Esq. W. W. OGILVIE, Esq. ARCH'D MACNIDER, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE FOR THE DOMINION: 72 ST. FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET, MONTREAL.

Adarts in all Cities and Principal Towns in Canada.

THOMAS DAVIDSON.

Managing Director.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

Standard Life Assurance Company

OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA, MONTREAL.

INVESTED FUNDS. INVESTMENTS IN CANADA.

\$41,500,000 12,500,000

DEPOSITED WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, over

3,150,000

Low Rates, Absolute Security, Unconditional Policies. Claims settled immediately on proof of death and title. No delays.

J. HUTTON BALFOUR, Superintendent.

W. M. RAMSAY, Manager for Canada.

Municipal Debentures, Government and Provincial Bonds, Railway and other Investment Securities

BOUGHT, SOLD OR NEGOCIATED.

TELEPHONE 950.

R. WILSON-SMITH

FINANCIAL AGENT

CABLE ADDRESS! CHRONICLE.

151 St. James Street MONTREAL.

SPECIALTY:

NVESTMENT SECURITIES-SUITABLE FOR

BANKS, TRUST ESTATES, INSURANCE COMPANIES

PERMANENT INVESTMENT OR DEPOSIT WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

FIRE.

LIFE.

MARINE.

Assurance Company Ltd. of London. Eng.

Capital and Assets, - \$32,500,000 Infe Fund (in special trust for Life Policy H Iders) 9,548,535 Total Annual Income, - 8,170,190 536,000 HEAD OFFICE CANADIAN BRANCH:

1731 Notre Dame Street, MONTREAL

McGREGOR Manager

Applications for Agencies solicited in unrepresented districts,

INSURANCE COMPANY

Incorporated 1794

PHILADELPHIA.

Capital.

\$3,000,000 \$10,023,220

Total Assets,

ROBERT HAMPSON & SON, Gen. Agts. for Canada

Corn Etchange, . MONTREAL

AGENTS WANTED IN UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS

CANADIAN BRANCA OFFICE MONTREAL

M. C. HINSHAW. Branch Manager.

HEAD OFFICE

LONDON, ENG.

SAM. J. PIPKIN. General Manager & Secretary.





MONTREAL

ESTABLISHED IN CANADA 1863.

CANADIAN

YEARS,

8

POLICY-HOLDERS

PAID

ONDON & LANCASHIRE

Assurance Company.

EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT, 1896:

New Policies issued, 2742, for Premium Income, Total Income, Added to Funds during Year 1896,

84,432,140 1,093,293 1,316,333 491,300

ABSOLUTE SECURITY. LOW RATES.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

B. HAL BROWN, Manager.

Total Funds,

J. L. KERR,

Assistant Manager.

5,790,295

ANNUAL INCOME, \$1,316,333.

NCREASE

HEAD OFFICE

FOR CARADA

ROYAL BUILDING.

. . MONTREAL

COMPANY

WILLIAM TATLEY,
Resident Director GEORGE SIMPSON . MACKAY,

Assist ant Manager

ISURANCE

ABSOLUTE SECURITY UNLIMITED LIABILITY. RATES MODERATE.

AND PROMPTLY PAID.

THE LARGEST FIRE OFFICE IN THE WORLD.

\$10,248,125. CANADIAN FIRE INCOME \$605,357.

GUARDIAN

FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD. OF LONDON, ENG.

Head Office for Canada Guardian Assurance Building, 181 St. James St., MONTREAL.



has the largest Paid-Up Capital of any Company in the World transacting a FIRE Business.

Subscribed Capital, - \$10,000,000 Paid-Up Capital. - 5,000,000 Invested Funds Exceed 22.580 000

Established 1821.

E. P. HEATON, . Manager.

Maritime Province Branch. HALIFAX, N. S.

CHARLES A. EVANS, Resident Secretary.

E. F. DOYLE. Assistant Secretary. INSURANCE CO. OF AMERICA

RDS OF \$3,000,000 DOMINION DEPOSIT. .

Chief Office for the Dominion:

MONTREAL

CEORCE SIMPSON,

W. MACKAY,

ST. JOHN, N.B.

C. E. L. JARVIS, General Agent

TORONTO.

MUNTZ & BEATTY.

Agenta

1898

The QUEEN paid \$549,462 for losses by the Conflagration at St. John's, Nfid., 8th July, 1892.

1850

The United States Life Insurance Co.

All Policies now issued by this Company contain the following clauses:

"After one year from the date of issue, the liability of the Company under this policy shall not be disputed."

"This policy contains no restriction whatever upon the insured, in respect either of travel, residence or occupation."

All Death Claims paid WITHOUT DISCOUNT as soon as satisfactory proofs have been received.

Active and successful Agents, wishing to represent this Company, may communicate with RICHARD E. COCHRAN, 31 Vice-President, at the Home Office, 361 Broadway, New York.

OFFICERS:

GEORGE H BURFORD, President.
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BALANCE SHEET, JANUARY I, 1898

United States Bonds (\$4.323,000), and State, City, County and other Bonds (\$103,850,803); cost of both \$103,384,604; market value	All other Liabilities: Policy Claims, Annuities, Endowments, etc., awaiting presentment for payment
Total \$200,694,44	O Total \$200,694,440
CASH INCOME, 1897 New Premiums \$6,659,815 Renewal Premiums 26,321,145 TOTAL PREMIUMS \$32,980,90 Interest, Rents, etc. 8,812,13	risks (\$201.125)
Total \$41,793,08	4 Total \$41,793,084
INSURANCE ACCOUNT—On the Basis of Paid-for Business On	y COMPARISON FOR SIX YEARS—(1891—1897)

INSURANCE ACCOUNT-On the Ba	sis of Paid-fo	r Business Only		co	MPA	RISON FOR SIX	YEARS-(1891-	-1897)
	NUMBER OF POLICIES,	AMOUNT.				DEC. 31st, 1891.	DEC. 31st, 1897.	Gain in 6 Yrs.
In force December 31st, 1896 . New Insurances paid for, 1897 .	299,785 63,708	\$826,816.648 135,555,794	Assets			\$125,947.230	\$200,694,440	\$74,747.150
Old Insurances revived and in- creased, 1897	699	2,007.825	Income	is.	of	31,854,194	41.793,084	9,938,990
DEDUCT TERMINATIONS:	364,192	\$964,380,267	Year to		licy.	1,260,340	2,434,981	1.174.64
By Death. Maturity Surrender, Expiry, etc.	31,234	87,359,342	Numbe Policy-	100		182.803	332.958	150.158
IN FORCE, DEC. 31, 1897	332.958	\$877,020,925	Insurance	e	in	,		100770
Gain in 1897 New Applications declined in 1897	33,173 9,310	\$50,204,277 25,020,936	force (prer	niun	\$575.689,649	\$877,020,925	\$301, 331,276

Certificate of Superintendent, State of New York Insurance Department. ALBANY, January 6th, 1898.

I. LOUIS F. PAYN, Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York, do hereby certify that the NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, of the City of New York, in the State of New York, is duly authorized to transact the business of Life Insurance in this State.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that in accordance with the provisions of Section Eighty-four of the Insurance Law of the State of New York, I have caused the policy obligations of the said company, outstanding on the 31st day of December, 1897, to be valued as per the Combined Experience Table of Mortality, at FOUR PER CENT. interest, and I certify the result to be as follows:

Total Net Reserve Values-\$164,956,079

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the admitted assets are-\$200,694,440

The general liabilities \$2,366,330. The Net Policy Reserve as calculated by this Department—\$164,956,079
The Surplus Reserve Fund voluntarily set aside by this Company, which, added to the Department Policy Valuation, provides a liability equivalent to a THREE PER CENT. RESERVE ON ALL POLICIES, \$16,195,926. The net Surplus, excluding Surplus Reserved Fund, is shown to be \$17,176,105.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused my official seal to be affixed at the City of Albany, the day and year first above written.

LOUIS F. PAYN, Superintendent of Insurance,

Valuation on the same basis as last year would show surplus of \$33,372,031.40, an increase for year 1897 of \$6,690,-034.42.

The Company is prepared to treat with gentlemen of influence for appointments as District Representatives. Some valuable positions now vacant will be conferred on suitable applicants. For particulars apply to any of the following Branch Offices:

WESTERN CANADA BRANCH, 496 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba. TORONTO BRANCH, 20 King St., East, Toronto, Ont, NEW BRUNSWICK BRANCH, 120 Prince William St., St. John, New Brunswick, HALIFAX BRANCH, 181 Hollis St., Halifax, N.S. R. HOPE ATKINSON, F.S.S. Agency Director, Company's Building, Montreal.

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Established in January, 1881. Annual Subscription.		Principles and Practice of Life Insurance, A treatise on the principles and practice of Life Insurance. With valuable tables of reference. A complete arithmetical explanation of the computations involved in the science of Life Contingencies. By NATHAN WILLEY, with additions by H. W. SMITH, Actuary, Revised Edition, 1893, Pocket Edition, flexible leather cover.	
FIRE INSURANCE.		reference. A complete arithmetical explanation of the computations	
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panies have adopted this excellent system, and it is steadily growing		new and revised edition of this well-known hand-book. The aim of the publishers has been to supply a full and complete manual of the rates of all life companies actively doing business in Canada and of the conduing upon which being the conduing the conduing the conduing upon which being the conduing the condu	
in favor as the Underwriters become more familiar with it. Cost		manual of the rates of all life companies actively doing business	
Ducat's Practice of Fire Underwriting Single and	25 00 1 50	manual of the rates of all life companies actively doing business in Canada and of the conditions upon which their policies are issued. Tables of reserves, interest and discount have been added, and also explanatory notes respecting special policies. Bound in flexible leather, weighs about four ounces, 6½ x 3½ inches, Contains 220 pages of solid, useful information which no life agent should be without. Price.	
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