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OFFICE:

MONTREAL, APRIL 1, 1895.

52.00

Sunschiption:

THE

## Insugance and Pinance Chronicle.

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month.
AT 1724 NOTER DAME ST., MONTREAL.
R. WILISON SMITH, Proprietor.

All Communications intended for THE CHEONICLE must be in hand not later than the 10th and 25th of the month to secure invertion.

A Winnipeg proposal refire insurance. THE Winnipeg Free Press says that a member of the Board of Trade of that city has given notice of motion that the council consider the advis

ability of sending a representative to England, to arrange with first class fire insurance companies to establish agencies in Manitoba, who would not enter into any agreement with regard to the iniquitous so called provincial licence tax, and remarks: "It was the general opinion of the council that such agencies, on being established here, would receive practically the whole insurance business of the city."

We wonder if this "Member of the Board of Trade" is aware that insurance companies established in this country, whether British or American, have to take out a Dominion license, and deposit \$50,000 with the Government as a condition of their existence here, and that others, before commencing business in Canada, would have to observe the same conditions?

Fire underwriting in the Dominion is not so promising and profitable as to induce more British companies to enter this field, which is now well stocked.

If those already here cannot make money below current rates, as is the case, what better prospects would new comers have?

As to "the iniquitous Provincial tax," would that be rescinded in favor of the new comers, and if not, would they not have to consider it in making their rates?

It is highly improbable that "first class" companies would be found willing to "receive practically the whole fire insurance business in Winnipeg."

Many business men, members of Boards of Trade, and so on, fail to comprehend that insurance rates are necessarily graded to cover the hazards incurred, and that where a local tax is imposed on fire insurance business, the companies are compelled to re-coup this expense by increasing their rates. The representative sent to England would have a pleasant trip; his interviews too with insurance managers there would in crease his knowledge, though his pre-conceived ideas would probably be dissipated, and, almost certainly, the business of his mission would be a failure.

German Mortgage Bonds,

THE mortgage loan companies of Canada are represented in Germany by mutual credit associations, which

are organized, as the name implies, on a mutual-capital basis, much after the style of the old-fashioned building societies. They issue bonds which are listed on the The last official list of these gives the gross exchanges. amount of bonds of 18 of these associations, from which we learn that those at 3 per cent, were \$9,800,000; at 31. per cent., \$296,000,000; at 4 per cent., \$23,600,000; and at rates not stated, \$\$3.600,000, making a total of \$413. 000,000. This is an interesting fact that the loans on properties under this system in Germany are 49 per cent, of their value, the standard proportion for advances on real estate here being 50 per cent. These bonds are not issued direct to investors, like our loan company debentures are, but are given to borrowers in payment for mortgages, who dispose of them in the market for securities, or otherwise. It speaks well for the financial skill and the steady character of the German people, that these mortgage bonds are remarkably free from fluctuations in value. In long terms of years they will not vary more than half a point. They afford also evidence of the well known thrifty character of Germans, as they are very widely distributed throughout the Empire, being held largely by small investors. These bonds are not held outside Germany. The Bankers' Magazine gives the total amount of mortgage loans represented by this class of bonds as about \$1,297,000,000, which enormous sum has been obtained from the public at an average rate of 3 4 per cent. The loans which are the basis of these bond issues are made for from 30 to 50 years, payable by small instalments, a great contrast to the system prevailing in this country, and one that would be dangerous in any new country where land values are not in the settled condition they are in the German Empire.

An Estimate of what the Configuration Harard costs Toronto Monthly On the 9th March an Emergency meeting of the Toronto Board of Fire Underwriters, fully at tended, passed a resolution, to

the effect that a special increased rate of 25c per \$100 be charged, as a conflagration hazard extra, until such time as the city gives the required fire protection. which meant steam fire engines, water tower, enlarged water mains in certain localities, and so on. Dwellings only and their contents were excepted under this rule. All insurances, new and renewal, are liable to this extra 250 per \$100 at this date. We have ventured to make a necessarily crude estimate of what the citizens are paying monthly in this way, as extra premium. There are 34 companies members of the Toronto Board, bound by its laws and regulations. We consider we are away safely below the actual facts when we assume for our purpose, that these companies effect and renew assurances in Toronto averaging \$30,000 per month per company, and assuming Tper cent as a fair average rate, this would give the average premium intake of each company as \$300 monthly (many companies average three and four times this sum), and \$300  $\times$  34 = \$10,200, shows the catea amount the citizens of Toronto are paying monthly for insurance, as one more unfortunate result of the neglect of the city to provide adequate fire protection. Moreover, the insurance companies are by no means desirous to have the state of affairs justifying this extra rate continue, for heavy as the rate may press on those who have to pay it, the hazard the companies are now running is greater than any such extra will compensate them for. The companies will most gladly repeal the extra and have the fire protection; the earlier the better. As it is said, more than six months must elapse before the full measure of fire protection can be supplied, this means that Toronto for six months, according to our moderate estimate, will pay in \$61,200 to the companies under the special conflagration extra' Why, those affected by the extra would save money by clubbing together for the immediate purchase of three or four steam fire engines to present to the city.

A Canadian International Exhibition. This movement just inaugurated to organize a Canadian International Exhibition to be held next year in this city will, we earnestly hope.

meet with sympathy and active support in all parts of the Dominion. It is essential to the success of this scheme to have the country, as a whole, thoroughly in terested. The features of it needing to be brought out most prominently, and to be emphasized at the start, are, that the proposed Exhibition is to be "Canadian" and "International. Efforts should at once be made to arouse the interest of the people at large by securing the endorsation of the Boards of Trade wherever such bodies exist in Canada, and of all other public organizations of a mercantile and financial character. Local jealousies should at the initial stage be removed as far as possible by an appeal to every section of the Dominion to give aid and countenance to an enterprise

which, if successful, as it can be made, will redound highly to the reputation of Canada, and do eminent service in promoting the trade interests of all the land. The hand is on the plough, there must be no looking back, the team is amply strong enough for the work, if the work is pushed with the necessary vigor, skill and determination, such as brought success to a number of foreign Exhibitions. We regard the time fixed as most opportune. To Canada is due the holding of the first inter-Colonial Conference by which she challenged the attention of the whole Empire. The proposed Exhibition will serve to show not the Empire alone, but the world at large, what are the natural resources and the vast capacities of this country, what too are its opportunities, by displaying its industrial achievements. By thus inviting other peoples to display their products in arts, in manufactures, as well as those supplied by Nature, alongside those of Canada, we shall make such an exhibit of national confidence as will raise the Dominion to a dignity she has hitherto not enjoyed, and compel a recognition of this country the wide world over, which will advance its material interests and establish its prestige as a land of enterprise and of vast possibilities. It augurs well, it is an assurance of success, that such prominent men as Sir Donald A. Smith, who is president of the Management Committee; Messrs. George Hague, general manager of the Merchants Bank; L. J. Seargeant, Andrew Allan, Sir W. C. Van Horne, the Mayor of this city, the Presidents of the Board of Trade and Chambre de Commerce, and a number of other leading citizens have shown their practical interest by serving on the Committee. To these men, "failure" is a word outside their sphere.

The prices of cotton mill stocks in the States and in Canada do not indicate that such excessive profits are being made by these concerns as some represent who have merely a political object to serve. The stock market is a better criterion in this question than any outside critic. We have taken the five groups of these enterprises as arranged in New York stock lists, and

compiled therefrom the following table giving the latest quotations of cotton mill shares:—

	Averages.		
	Par value.	Last sales.	
37 Fall River mills	119	124	
14 New Bestford mills	100	112	
64 New England mills	367	406	
15 Southern mills	100	110	
6 Canadian mills	100	94	
2111			

The aggregate of the par values of one share in each of the above cotton mill companies is \$31,425; the aggregate market value of one share in each of them is \$34.389, this gives an average premium of \$21.79. If, however, the 64 New England companies are omitted, which seem to be exceptionally high in price, the remaining 72 companies show only an average premium of \$6.61. Out of the 136 mills there are 47 whose stocks are below par. Those whose shares have a par value of \$1,000 seem to be less prosperous than those whose shares are of a lower denomination, for out of 13 companies with \$1,000 shares, 5 are below par. The

highest premium is shown by the Troy Cotton & Woollen Co., which runs close up to 100 per cent. We have recently com; ired the retail prices for several lines of cotton goods made up for wear, as quoted in this country, in New York and in Chicago, and in British papers, and the differences on the whole are so evenly balanced that it is difficult to say in which market prices are highest. If, as is contended, the prices for cotton goods on this continent are enhanced by the amount of duties paid upon them, the manufacturers on this side are making cottons at less cost than those in England, for with the duties added, as is alleged they are, the cotton goods made on this side are as cheap as those in the Old Country.

## LIFE INSURANCE IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1894.

A few weeks ago we hazarded the prediction that when the reports from all the companies were in for 1894, it would be shown that the volume of new business transacted by the life companies of the United States would show a decrease as compared with the preceding year. The returns have now all been made to the New York Insurance Department, and although the official report of Superintendent Pierce has not been published, a recent issue of our New York contemporary, the *Spectator*, prints a table giving the figures in advance of the regular report. Assuming these figures to be correct, several very interesting things are suggested by their perusal-

One, and a very important one, is that, if not actually ended, the days of "padding" in the annual reports of new business are numbered. It will be remembered that we called attention soon after the meeting of State superintendents of insurance last year at Alexandria Bay, to the fact that an agreement had been reached to require the use of a revised blank for the returns of the life companies in the several States, following the sug gestions of Insurance Commissioner Merrill of Mas sachusetts, as made in his annual report a year ago In accordance with this agreement, the New York Sup erintendent furnished the companies blanks constructed to show the exact amount of premiums received in cash for new policies issued and the amount of the new issues. Heretofore it has been the practice of all the companies (the New York Life in 1893 being in part an exception) to report as new business paid-up insurance or additions purchased by reversionary dividends, paid-up insurance purchased by surrender of the original policies, changed policies issued in place of original policies, and the like. For illustration, one of the large New York companies in 1893 included fifteen and a half million dollars of old policies revived and a million and a half of "dividend addition" policies in its total of "business written." Other companies, as usual, did a similar thing. In any statement of new insurance issued, it is manifest that such a method of making reports is very misleading. About a dozen of the companies reporting to the New York Department have filled out the new blanks, whate the others, according to the Spectator, have thus far failed to do so. From

the extensive tables of our contemporary we have compiled the following, showing the actual premiums received on new policies and the amount of the new issues for 1894 compared with 1893, the figures showing new insurance issued being, in the main, those given in the Massachusetts report. Following is the table —

	Premiums on New		NewInsurance
pany.	new Policiesdums 1891. N Y	issued, 1891.	lssued, 1893,

Astna Life	\$504,063	\$578,219	\$ 17,191,601	\$ 22,881,713
Brooklyn Life.	22,023	44.490	\$22,826	1,260,282
Berkshire	180,940	354,544	0.857,400	6,758, 183
Conn. General.	46,853	66,120	1,731,975	1,771,116
Conn. Mutual.	310,153	534,890	10,110,220	10,510,006
Equitable	4.415,322	7, 226,718	166,803,895	188,220,094
Germania	399,771	624,720	10,992,018	12,711,955
Home Life	212,800	469,029	9,760,069.	12,766,024
Manhattan	263, 66	438.735	13,419,004	17.593,254
Mutual Benefit.	772,404	1,422,733	30,473,225	28,350.717
Mass. Mnt	494.046	\$14,270	20.394,550	19,481,200
Mutual Life	5.420,183	9,209,677	178,199 800	182,436,160
National of Vt.	394.328	430,211	14,619,046	12,417,674
New Eng. Mut.	220,815	318,296	10,200,350	9,407,000
N. W. Mat	1.265,512	1,714.518	44,838, 194	48 468,781
New York Life.	5,980,274	0,300,503	108,601,374	223,848,991
Penn. Mutual.	535,587	1,093,792	18,750.559	21,766,360
Prov. L. C. T	420,00X	44.000	11,721,820	13,020,194
Prov. Savings	344,480	385.775	21.807.901	23,470,808
Phonix Mat	287,205	224,829	9.937,658	5,520,062
State Mutual	280,774	317,205	4.751,500	S.049.700
Travellers				
(Life)	363,734	432,931	10,815.444	19, 181, 159
Union Central.	209,295	601,905	22,079,62.1	20,760,65.1
United States.	207,253	276,505	10 659,271	10,512,221
Union Mutual,	237,162	255,152	8,124,983	4,037,647
Washington				
Lafe	187,676	409,132	6,968,683	6,718,963

Totals. .... | \$24,042,757 \$34.749,605 \$573,368,140 \$940,227,248

Of course the "new premiums" as reported for 1893 include the policies revived, purchased additions, etc., while the " premiums on new policies" for 1894 mean just that and nothing more. The "new insurance issued," however, covers the same thing in both years. We have, then, a decrease for the twenty six companies of \$66,859,168 in the new issues of 1894 as compared with those of 1893. It will be noticed that the decrease belonging to the large companies, which have been noted for "setting the pace" in the annual race for new business for some time past, is pretty large, and may be taken, we think, as a hopeful sign of the times. Such a decrease is, under the circumstances, every way commendable, and holds out the prospect that mere volume is henceforth not to be the great aim of life insurance management in the United States. A decrease of nearly sixty-seven millions in new business in a single year, over sixty-two of which was by eight companies, means something more than that hard times have not been favorable to the acquisition of life policies. Some of the smaller companies, it will be noticed, customarily doing a steady, quiet business at moderate expense outside the beaten race track, made handsome increases.

If this falling off means, as we hope it does, that extravagant commissions, big bonuses to agents and indiscriminate rebating is to be a thing of the past, we may well rejoice over the outcome. Rational methods, applied to stimulate legitimate competition on the line of real enterprise, belong to good life insurance management, and that such methods are foreshadowed by

the past year's experience we are more than willing to believe. A return all around to old-fashioned ideas of what a life insurance company is organized for will augment dividends from a growing surplus, and in a great measure stop the present enormous waste from lapses, which is getting to be the nightmare of the business. On the whole, we believe that life insurance in the United States is on a better basis to day than it was a year ago, and we hope a year hence to record still further improvement.

#### WHAT IS A RESERVE FUND?

A considerable variety of opinion has been expressed by financial writers as to the nature, the objects and the proper disposition of a bank's reserve fund. The same principles affecting these funds in banks apply also generally to them when held by other business A bank when organized commences business without a reserve fund. While it remains in that position it is liable to incur losses in excess of profits; such a result has occurred. Whenever this happens, there has been an impairment of the Capital to the extent of the difference of excess between losses and profits. This will suggest to the management the necessity for making some special provision against any such dangerous contingency, by laving aside out of profits in a more prosperous year a sum which is reserved specially to keep the Capital intact Primarily. then, a Reserve Fund is a sum laid by out of profits to protect Capital from impairment. This, which is the primary function of a Reserve, is also the only one which is an absolute prudential necessity Its other functions, though not a necessity, are highly desirable in order to enhance the credit and the public reputation of a bank, and to maintain the dividends at a fair rate, undisturbed by fluctuations, so that shareholder may rely upon their incomes from their investment being as far as possible a fixed quantity. Were it absolutely certain that a bank would always clear, every year, a net profit enough to pay an average dividend, say from 7 to 10 per cent., no Reserve Fund would be necessary, for then the Capital would be in no danger, nor the dividends of one year need helping out from those reserved in preceding years. But such certainty in banking is impossible. Therefore, every prudent banker from the start reserves some of his profits, which he stores up to meet future contingencies, the sum of these undistributed profits being his Reserve Fund.

This Fund becomes practically a part of the Capital of a bank, as the buttress of a wall is part of the structure. Every shareholder has a proprietary interest in a Reserve Fund as a partner in the business out of the profits of which it has been built up. When he wishes to retire from such partnership by selling his shares, the bank does not hand him over his prevata share of the Reserve, any more than it does his share in the Capital. But in transferring his interest in the concern, by the sale of his shares to someone who is to take his place, he expects and, as a rule, finds that the far value of his shares has been enhanced by a sum-called

the premium, which represents, mainly, the share he owns in the Reserve Fund and the dividend advant-Thus a shareholder who complains of ages it secures. the whole of a bank's profits not being distributed, as though their reservation had deprived him of something to which he had a right, overlooks the fact that his partnership rights have been thereby enhanced in value, as he finds when he seeks to sell those rights by transfer of his stock, or, if he keeps his shares, by sharing in profits reaped out of the Reserve Fund. If he is observant of stock quotations, he will note that, whenever a bank reduces its Reserve Fund, the value of its shares declines, - a manifest proof of the close relation which exists between the value of stocks and the extent of the reserves held which constitute that fund. As those reserves are not subject to any call for dividends, as is the Capital, and, as they are either invested or put into active use, in order to earn some annual income return, it is clear that the larger the proportion which exists between the Reserve Fund and the Capital, the more profits can be made to pay dividends on the Capital, and the greater certainty there is in the dividends being maintained. Take seven of our largest banks as an illustration. The Montreal, Merchants, Commerce. Toronto, Molson's, Dominion and Imperial: they have a combined paid up Capital of \$31,462,000, with an aggregate Reserve Fund of \$15,957,000. To pay an average of 8 per cent. on that Capital will take \$2,516,-960. Now, allowing the gross Reserve Fund to earn 5 per cent., that amounts to \$797.850, which is equal to 3.17 per cent. on the Capital. So those 7 banks, if combined, need only to make 4.83 per cent. on their Capital to pay an S per cent. dividend. As a profitearning power then the Reserve Fund is of extreme value, a value in which every stockholder is directly interested. The earning capacity of a Reserve Fund suggests the question as to the use to which such money should be put. On this point some difference of opinion prevails. We believe the majority of bankers do not regard it necessary to separate their Reserve Fund from other resources by special investments. Some, however, do hold that this fund should be kept in securities, so that they can point to some one box in their vaults, and say, "Therein is my Reserve Fund." A new bank established in Birmingham, to replace the two local ones that went down in the crash of 1866, obtained very considerable prestige by the manager declaring that he would have his Reserve Fund locked up in Consols and other gilt-edged securities, which caught the public mind in its then excited and anxious condition. His neighbors, however, regarded this as a rather smart bit of advertising, the effect of which would pass off, as it did. The 7 banks above grouped, with an aggregate Reserve Fund of \$15,957,000, have bonds and other marketable securities in their vaults of the aggregate value of \$12,800.000; so they, to a very large extent, comply with the theory that a Reserve Fund should be kept apart from the general, the active funds of a bank. Indeed, taking the whole of the banks, they stand well in this respect, for with a total Reserve Fund of \$27,545,000, they hold \$21,574,000 worth of bonds and other marketable securities. We do not, however, lay any stress on the desirability of locking up such reserves in special securities, as, in case a bank goes into liquidation, there is no lien upon them by shareholders, as they must go into the genera! assets for the benefit of all the bank's creditors. Such securities are mainly kept as a reserve for other purposes, they are valuable as a quick resource when some emergency arises which calls for the prompt liquidation of assets to provide the money needed by such emergency.

As to the relation between investments in bank premises and the Reserve Fund, little need be said. An imposing building is very helpful to a bank, as Gilbart points out. Such a building is part of its capital, which, if at all judiciously laid out, is profitable by giving it prestige and in aiding its business operations. To build as a mere building enterprise, to secure rentals, is, however, like other "lock ups," not prudent. Looking, however, at the premises owned by our banks, we believe they could be fairly valued at a much higher figure than they are down for in their books.

As the risk of fire and other disturbances are increased by having other tenants in a bank building, those in such places need to take special precautions against such dangers, as whatever else a Reserve Fund may be laid up for, certainly it ought not to be exposed to such risks.

In regard then to the general question, we regard the fact that the banks of Canada have an aggregate Reserve Fund of 44.66 per cent. on their paid up Capital, as highly satisfactory evidence of their having been conducted with prudence and a sagacious appreciation of the value of a Reserve Fund, as a protection to the Capital, a protection to the shareholders, as a basis also for public confidence and as a source of income.

## THE MANUFACTURERS LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The eight annual report of the above Company shows an increase of business last year which is regarded as very gratifying. Application for new business were accepted to extent of \$2,695,755, making the total amount in force \$9,021,117 or 44.069 policies.

The movements in the Company's affairs are shown in the following table:

Financial Mo	vements.		
	1 S93.	1S94.	Increase.
*Premiums	\$249,086	\$267,396	\$18,310
Interest	25,281	29,057	3,776
*Total Income	274,36S	296,453	22,085
Payments to Policyholders	47,821	49,053	1,232
Expenses and Dividends	95,954	119,449	23,495
Total outgo	143,775	165,502	24,727
Excess of income over outgo	130,593	138,213	7,620
Total Assets	673,738	821,320	147,582
Policy Reserves and other liabili-			
ties	509,701	643,531	134,830
Surplus to Policyholders	164,037	177,789	13,752
Divisible Surplus	36,717	50,469	13,752

<sup>·</sup> Excluding re-assurances.

The surplus for policyholders, including \$493,680 of uncalled capital stock is given as \$671,469. The total amount of mortgages, Dominion bonds and municipal debentures held is \$656,060. The Directors have declar ed a 4 per cent. dividend for the last year payable on 1st July next. In his address at the annual meeting,

Mr. Gooderham, president, pointed out that the death rate had diminished in spite of enlarged business, and the policies have advanced in age. In 1889 the death claims were \$61,000, while in 1894 they were on \$44,-000. The push and energy of Managing Director Ellis are becoming increasingly manifest in the development of the Manufacturer's Life. At the annual meeting on 28th ult. the following were elected directors: Messrs. Geo. Gooderham, William Bell, S. F. McKinnon, J. G. Blackstock, E. J. Lennox, R. R. McLennan, A. F. Gault, R. L. Patterson, F. Nichols, R. Archer, D. D. Mann, J. F. Ellis, James Mills, R. Crean, A. E. Gooderham, C. D. Warren, Theo. Davie, J. A. Onimet, S. May, H. Loundes and Ald. J. D. Rolland. Messrs. Archer, Gault, Onimet, McLennan, Rolland and Strachan from the local board for Quebec.

### THE BANK STATEMENT FOR FEBRUARY.

It is always a pleasant task to review the February bank returns. Not that they have any charm in themselves, for they are sadly wanting in attractions, but they mark the turning point in the road where the prospect is more interesting and hopeful. There is, however, nothing to complain of in the statement for last February. It compares favorably with that for same month last year. Indeed, it stands well with the February of some years when business was not so generally depressed. The decrease of circulation by \$101,842 is too trifling for comment; a heavier decline has occurred when business was far more active and prices much higher. When deposits are pouring in faster than the calls for money in such forms as require note issues to meet, the circulation, of course, runs down. When, too, the payments being made out of credit balances are made by cheques, as is becoming every day more and more customary, the volume of note currency must shrink, and we are much inclined to think that this is likely to have a permanently lowering influence upon circulation.

When we find one or two millions withdrawn from the current balances without any sign at all, or a very triffing one, of such withdrawals on circulation, we must conclude that these sums were, either not paid out in notes, or if in notes, they were instantly re-deposited. The note issues are having a shorter run in the hands of the public than they used to have, owing to the very greatly extended facilities now afforded for depositing money. In February, 1873, the note issues formed 29 per cent. of the habilities of the banks; this last February they were only 1234 per cent, of the liabilities. In view then of this displacement of notes by cheques, and the more prompt return of notes into savings banks and branches, we cannot regard the decline of the note issues as wholly attributable to a falling off in trade. Deposits on demand frequently fall off in February; in this respect the returns this year only follow a number of precedents, of which the following table gives recent examples:

	February,	january.
1S90.	\$50,922,513	\$52,069,119
1891.	50,848, 338	52,568,861
1893.	66,822,851	67,459,632

So also did last February follow the usual course in regard to "Deposits payable after notice" by increasing over the January amount, as the following figures show:

	Petronny	January.
1500	\$72,470,215	\$71,809,081
1891.	S2, 30x1,754	\$1,753,200
1892.	93, 304,227	92,299,422
1593.	103,140,204	102,0817,129
1895.	115,081,710	114,200,862

The average increase in the last 5 years in these funds has been \$8,0,000 during l'chruary, which is nearly the amount they were enlarged in February, 1895. The steady rising of this monetary tide into bank channels. at the rate of 10 millions a year, is a scricus factor in banking business, and points to decreased rates of interest and cheaper money, unless trade revives so actively as to very largely increase the demands for loans The enlargement of the discount item in Feb ruary by \$1.867,261 we trust is an indication of more activity. It is very much larger than the increas s in a number of previous years, and almost as much as in 1892, when the discounts rose by leaps and bounds over those of 1891 Call loans remained without changes of any moment. It will be interesting to note what effect the recent regrettable trouble in Stock Exchange circles has had on these advances. We shall be much gratified to hear of the Quebec Bank closing up its con nection with the recent affair without any loss, more especially for the sake of General Manager McDougall, who is so highly and so generally esteemed in financial and business circles. There seems a general feeling

abroad that we have seen the worst of the depression, even professional grumblers admit the indications to be quite hopeful. The coming Election, like all such events, will do trade no good, as the turmoil, the excitement, and the uncertainty as to the future fiscal policy of the country are each and all adverse to business.

#### THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The above Company's preliminary report is published in this issue. A striking feature is the statement that the Company has now \$11,165,500 invested in Canadian securities, the bulk of it, \$10,320,000, being Government and Municipal bonds, and mortgages on real estate. This large sum equals close upon 30 per cent. of the total accumulated funds of the Company. During the year the Standard issued 4,029 policies covering \$8,723,-835, reaching the high average of \$2,165. The accumulated funds now amount to \$39,353,822, an increase in past year of \$842,065. With such figures to show it needs not be said that the Standard occupies a leading position amongst the strong English life assurance companies.

The local representative of the Standard, Mr. W. M. Ramsay, is one of the most highly respected and generally popular of insurance managers. The esteem which his judgment and honor have won for him at the Head Office is reflected in the confidence shown by the Company in Canadian securities.

Special attention is called to 1895 being Bonus year, in the benefit, of which persons insuring early will participate.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE PEBRUARY RETURNS OF THE CHARTERED BANKS IN CANADA.

### Comparison of Principal Items.

•							
Assets	28th Feb., 1895	31st Jan., 1895.	28th Feb., 1894.		rease and crease for month.		rease and crease for year.
Specie and Dominion Notes	\$23,921,828	\$24,045,461	21,472,607	Dec.	<b>\$</b> 123,633	Inc	\$2,449,221
Notes of and Cheques on other Banks	5,865,781	6,935,631	6,385,758	Dec.	1,069,850		
Due from American Banks and Agencies	23,508.848	23,949,166	15,469,984	Dec.	440,318		519,967
Due from British Banks and Branches	3,100,550	3,452,532	2,892,089	Dec.	345,652		8,038,864
Canadian Municipal Securities and Brit., Prov. or )	3,10,	3143-133-	2,092,009	MACC.	343,032	THC.	214,791
Foreign or Colonial, other than Dominion	9,681,513	9,629,580	10 502 060	Ina		D	
Railway Securities			10,593,060	Inc.	\$1,933	Dec.	911,547
Loans on Stocks and Bonds on Call	8,705,965	8,608,127	7,103,757	Inc.	187,538	Inc.	1,092,208
Comment Long to the Public	18,054,628	18,086,905	14,780,002	Dec.	32,277		3,274,626
Current Loans to the Public	195,622,126	193,754,805	199,523,609	Inc.	1,867,261		3,901,483
Overdue Debts	3,216,112	3,406,348	3,006,637	Dec.	190,236		209,475
Total Assets	310,084,728	310,742,757	201,,052,441	Dec.	58,029	Inc.	11,632,287
Liabilities	•					1	
Bank notes in Circulation	28,815,434	28,917,276	30,603,267	Dec.	101,842	1300	0- 0
Due to Dominion Government	5, 387,021						1,787,833
Due to Provincial Governments		4.927.247	2,696,410	Inc.	459,774		2,690,61
Deposits made by the public	3.367.454	3,575,681	3,837,472	Dec.	208,227		470,018
1)0 payable on demand or after notice between Bks	179.030.113	180,870,981	168,131,923	Dec.	1,231,868		11,507,190
The to Assessed Banks and Assessed	2,099,779	3,381,710	2,370,423	Dec.	384,961	inc.	629,356
Due to American Banks and Agencies	150,427	153,708		Inc.	2,719	Dec.	145
Due to British Banks and Branches	4,162,576	3,627,031	4,666,497		535,545	Dec.	503,921
Total Linbilities	225,139,473	225,945,606	212,940,625	Dec.	806,133	Iuc.	12,198,848
Capital.						1	
Capital Stock paid up	61,657.571	61,685,329	62,105,409	Inc.	2,242	Dec	417,838
Reserve Fund	27,545,341	27,545,341	26,655,024			Inc.	
Directors' Lubilities	7.618.378	7.731,021	S,311,SS9		115,643		\$90,317
	7,	. ,,,,,,,,,,,,	*,3.1,009		**5,045		693,51.1

Deposits with Dominion Government for security of note circulation being 5 p.c. on average maximum circulation for year ending 30th June, 1894, \$1,812,301, an increase of \$1,565. This is shown in Banque du Peuple and Western Bk. of Canada. The seeming reduction of capital during the year is owing to the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, in liquidation, being struck off the list.

### LIFE INSURANCE IN CANADA IN 1894.

In our last issue we published an Abstract of Life Assurance business in Canada in 1894, compiled from the advance report of the Superintendent of Insurance. The table showed the figures of last year in a form to enable a comparison to be made with those of 1893. The more salient features of the changes made in 1894 are now presented.

The new assurances issued were for \$54,065,337, an increase of \$5.851,466 over 1893. Of this sum the Cana dian companies secured \$33,220,770, the result of their operations at home and abroad being an excess of \$2. 120,309 over their previous year, and also e qual to 61 per cent and over of the total increase. The British coan panies secured \$3,219,583, showing an increase of \$251. 728 for 1894, which is the more satisfactory as last year they showed a decrease in amount taken up comparing 1893 with 1892. The American companies are credited with an increase of \$3,479.429 over the previous year. The business in force of all companies now amounts to \$321,405,128, a gain of \$16,487,461, towards which the Canadian ones gave \$13.496,196, the British, \$311,820; and the American \$2,679.445. The total premiums for the first time reached eight figures, the amount being \$10,348,299, a net increase over 1893 of \$427,583. wards this enlargement of premiums the Canadian com panie contributed \$395,485, the British, \$36,591, from the total of these, \$432,076 has to be deducted a decrease of \$4,493 shown in receipts of the American companies, leaving the net increase as given above. The total amount of claims for the year was \$3,807.310, in 1893 they were \$3,439,630, a net increase of \$427,583. In this feature the American companies were much less fortunate than the Canadian and British, as their claims last year exceeded those in 1893 by \$515,703, while the two other classes had decreases respectively of \$81,886, and \$66,137. If we take the amount of assurance in force in 1893, and add the "assurance issued and taken in 1894," we get a total of \$358,983,004, but the gross amount of assurance in force in 1894 was only \$321,415,128, leaving the large amount of \$37,577,876 to be accounted for by lapses and policies cancelled by becoming claims The net amount of policies that became claims in 1894 was \$3,797,310. By deducting this from the above sum of \$37.577,876, we arrive at the total amount of policies lapsed or surrendered last year, which was \$33,780, 566.

Considering the depressed state of trade in 1894 the life assurance companies may consider themselves for tunate in having, on the whole, done so well last year.

### BOILER EXPLOSIONS.

Two very disastrous boiler explosions last month will, we trust, lead to legislative action for the protection of the public, and of those who are in more immediate danger from such, so called, accidents. The one in Toronto providentially caused no loss of life, but had it occur red earlier in the day, it would have certainly killed several scores of persons. A crowded street car narrowly escaped being crushed by the walls of the factory falling outwards when the explosion occurred. A number of houses were seriously damaged by the violence of the shock, breaking ceilings and wall plaster. In

the other case, several fatalities resulted. In both instances as indeed in almost every case of a boiler exploding, there was some defect which would have been revealed and removed had the boilers been officially inspected. In one case, the pipes were encrusted with salt scale, in the other the safety valve was out of order. In the former case there must have been some indications of obstruction in the pipes which a competent engineer would have observed, and been warned by to remove the risk. In the latter case, there might not be any indication at all of the safety valve being stock, unless tested, which a careful engineer sees is done per iodically. But as a rule, those in charge of boilers are content to follow a daily routineat as little cost of labor or thought as possible; familiarity deadens the sense of danger. The public have a direct and very serious interest in this matter. There are many boilers so placed as to threaten heavy losses of life to street passengers in case of explosion. There are some under our pavements; others within a few feet of crowded streets, others in buildings where hundreds of work people are congregated. Such boilers ought to be compelled by law to be insured and inspected. No man has a right to jeopardize human life or property by his business arrangements, as every boiler owner does who runs it without adequate provision for its perfect safety and the safety of the public. A Federal law is urgently needed to enforce boiler inspection, and to make its neglect a penal offence.

### LONDON LIFE IMSURANCE COMPANY.

The 20th annual report of the above Company, published on a later page of this issue, furnishes information as to its last year's business, from which we have compiled the following table:

Pinan	ial Movem	ent.	lucrease (+) or
	1893.	lònją.	Decrease (-)
Premiums	5118,852	\$132,581	1 \$13,729
Interest	18,391	21,480	+ 3,089
Total lucome	137,243	151,060	+ 16,818
Payme to Policyholders	31,265	44,258	+ 12,993
Expenses and Dividends	46,689	57,737	11,048
Total outgo	77,954	101,995	24,041
Exe of income over ontgo.	59,289	52,365	<b>—</b> 7,224
Total Assets	402,462	.170,608	+ 67,046
Policy Reserves and Liabi	•	• •	• • • •
littes	358,350	407.523	4 49,173
Surplus as regards Policy- holders including capital			
stock	44,312	63,085	4 18,773
Divisible surplus	10,562	13,085	2,523
•	•	5. 5	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

The above figures show the London to have done a satisfactory business last year. The report states the total assets as \$470,608, of which \$407,523 is given as a Policy Reserve Fund and for other liabilities, and \$63,085 as a surplus as regards policy holders, of which \$13,085 is divisible. The Company was fortunate in having only 4 death claims, aggregating \$5,000 in the General Section, a feature in which the companies generally were much favored in 1894. The Industrial Section had losses of \$19,401 on a total assurance in force of \$2,207,061, which is a very moderate amount. The death of the late President, Mr. Jos. Jeffery, was feelingly alluded to at the meeting by his successor, Mr. John McClary. Mr. J. G. Richter, manager and secretary of the London Life, is to be commended for the results attained last year. We are informed that the Company is considering the policy of opening connections in this Province.

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#### NATIONAL ASSURANCE CO. vs. SIMPSON

The Press of Toronto and of this city have taken prominent notice of this case, arising out of the last Toronto conflagration. March 3rd. The notices in some of the Toronto papers have the appearance, as far as we can judge, of having been inspired, if not drafted by those interested, in the success of the cause of Mr. Robert Simpson, and, as is not infrequently the case, the very spirit of partiranship has led to a one sided and incomplete statement of the condition of affairs.

While the case is sub judice, it is not our intention to consider the merits of the case, or dilate upon any of the features of interest to our insurance readers,—these will follow in the natural order of things; nor are we disposed to prejudge the case by a supposed quotation of facts, which can only be ascertaized and proved when the case comes to be tried by the proper tribunal. We are, however, assured that in no case have the facts as known to exist been correctly reported.

The position of the National Assurance Company is simply that they dispute their liability for loss on Sumpson's building. on grounds which to them are considered good and substantial. legal, moral and equitable, the other side claim the Company  ${\bf s}$ protection and the maintenance of obligations which they claim have been entered into. It is not a question of a sufficiency of notice of cancellation, as has been reported in the Toronto press, it is a question of the existence of any obligation at all. To determine whether the National is under any Lability or not is a question the courts have to decide, and we are quite sure the Company known throughout the world as a straight forward. liberal and honest liquidator of just debts will not interpose any frivolous or technical point to involve subtle legal questions that must inevitably lead to protracted litigation. We do not believe the National have the slightest desire to evade the payment of a just debt, and when the question is settled, if it be against them it will be found that they will accept their responsibility and meet it with as good grace as they have shown in their adjustment of other claims over which legal complica tions have not arisen.

In our columns we have frequently shown that, taken as a whole, the companies are not litigious, the very fact that nearly a million and a half of dollars have been paid in the three Toronto fires without dispute or delay is evidence conclusive on this point; but when a company believe they have no meral, equitable or legal obligation in any given case, it is not sufficient to tustify the press in publishing statements of a one-sided and inadequate nature to the creation of a public sentiment necessarily prejudicial to the interests of one of the parties.

#### FINANCIAL ITEMS.

The Bank of Hochelaga will open a branch at 1756 St. Catherine street early in May.

Mr. Farwell, general manager Eastern Townships Bank, Sherbrooke, has left for a trip to Bermuda.

Bank clearings in the States last week were about 13 per cent above the figures for same week in 1804, business being better all round.

The Bank of Montreal was recently attempted to be swindled by a forged cheque. The officials detected the forgery, and the perpetrator is now awaiting a trial.

Notices of new Companies seeking incorporation have dropped off to a remarkable extent since an early election began to be probable. Capital is the real "sensitive plant." Customers of banks must count money received at the counter, or lose whatever they find to be short; this has been laid down as the law in a United States court, where a claim for shortage made against a bank was dismissed, there being no legal ground for action, as the receiver did not count his money before leaving the wicket.

Western Assurance stock is having quite a boom, which is sending it up to the prices quoted before the decline; sales have been made at 160. In 1890 it ranged between 15934 and 135; in 1891 between 15212 and 141; in 1892 in July it stood as lov as 133, but ran up to 163 in December; in 1893 the highest point was 17314, the lowest 139; last year the range was from 140 to 157. It is being freely dealt in, the impression being that it is on the up grade. The company is reported to be about to pay its dividend quarterly.

The Clearing House Returns for the week ending 28th March compared with previous week were as tollows:—

Clearings.	March 28.	March 21.
Montreal		11,031,140
Toronto		4,996,259 \$71,228
Hahfax		
Winnipeg	601,910	695.459 524,657
Hamilton	473,990	2-4.027
	\$15,261,276	\$18,118,955

Aggregate balances this week \$1,985,058; last week \$2,734.131. The clearing house totals for the 4 weeks of March are as follows:—

Montreal	\$39,503,123 20,603,406
Halifax Winnipeg	3,855,952
Hamilton	2,277,362
Total March	569,045,612

Public Revenue and Expenditure returns in last Official Gazette are given as follows:—

	Total to Sth February, 1894.	Total to Sth February, 18 5
Customs Excise Post Office Public Works Miscellaneous	. \$13,093.708 . 5,571,386 . 1,892,197 . 2463,732	\$11,334,606 5,190,986 1,921,236 2,354,366 1,003,551
	\$24,086,519	\$21,804,945
Expenditure	S21,632,463	\$22,335,052

The expenditure on Capital account up to same date in 1894 was \$3,532,380, this year it was \$3,153,895. While then the Consolidated Fund outlays were increased \$702,580, those on Capital account decreased \$378,485, leaving a net increase on both classes of expenditure of \$324,104,—nothing very alarming.

The new issue of United States bonds sold at 112'4 have been quoted at 120'2. Large purchases of American securities have been made in Europe, as a result of confidence being restored. A large number of American papers, several indeed of the official organs of leading religious bodies, have been abusing the Rothschild Syndicate, by whose means the recent bond issue was floated, and to whom is to be attributed the revival of European and home confidence. The animosity to capital and capitalists is an ugly feature in the United States, and bodes no good to their peace and stability. A prominent bank president says that "the working classes are restless, uneasy and dissatisfied," so he fears strikes will again be prevalent.

## Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by Correspondents

### TORONTO LETTER.

Toronto is not so good now-Shabby treatment of the widow of a faithful servant. The T. Eaton Co., Ltd., and their insurance.—Increased demand for insurance—and more runners —The extra 25c per \$100 for conflagration hazard—R. Simpson building and stock appraisement—Mason A. Louer, the House Agent!

Dear Editor,

Yes, Toronto is not just quite so awfully "good" as it used to be. Murders, suicides, incendiary fires, life assurance frauds, and the late lamentable and disappointing failure of the special investigation into the boodle charges against certain members of the City Council, all go to show that our whilom goodness is not our standard now. It does not seem likely that the investigation into the late Simpson fire is going to result in establishing anything satisfactory as regards the cause of it. Only too seldom do investigations of this sort ever yield the expected results, owing to the extreme difficulty of bringing crime home when incendiarism is suspected.

One of the mean things that big cities can do through their corporations, without any member being individually responsible, has just been done, in the treatment of the widow of our late fire chief Ardagh. I am told that had the Chief lived to complete one more year of service, he would have been entitled to a retiring allowance of \$1.300 a year for life. When one calls to mind the antiquated and inefficient traps hitherto supplied by this city to the Brigade to fight fires with, it is reasonable to suppose that a proper equipment would have saved to us the Chief's life, and to such extent may his death be imputed to civic negligence. Under these circumstances, and the admitted value and faithfulness of his service for years, it would only have been the decent thing for the great and good Toronto to have allowed his widow an annuity of \$650, £c., half the annual retiring allowance, which would have been Mr. Ardagh's due next year had he lived. What the city did do was to vote the widow a year's salary!

The T. Eaton Co., Ltd., seem to have placed much confidence in the insurance supplied by sundry American Lloyds and Mutuals, judging from a list of the companies carrying their stock, recently published. There are other prominent firms in the city enjoying similar protection. (?) The Toronto Board, which guards so religiously the rights and privileges of its members, would do well to investigate whether or no any of its members, as has been alleged, have been instrumental in facilitating the placing of business for their clients, with companies unauthorized to operate in Canada. The larger demand for fire insurance, consequent on the late scare, together with the larger premiums to be handled under advanced rates, has brought out to the front an increased number of touts for insurance business. The payment of commission or consideration of some kind, to parties unlicensed by the board, and who whether as owners or canvassers, introduce business, is greatly on the increase. The loan companies, lawyers who have interests of clients to protect, life agents who take insurance "on the side," and the rank and file of occasional contributors of a risk, all these get away yearly, in one way or another, with enough commission, which they in no sense earn, to make a respectable dividend. There seems to be no sure and certain way of controlling these things.

Local agents find the extra 25c per \$100, known as the "Conflagration Harard Extra" yields a very welcome additional revenue. Taking insurances of \$10,000 to \$20,000 (irrespective of the other increases, and whether new or renewal business), loaded with \$25 and \$50 respectively as an extra, is like securing so much new premium. But the way people who have to pay grumble and kick about it is awful.

The luss on the Simpson building has been appraised at \$217,000, with an insurance thereon of \$200,000. On stocks, loss is \$210,000 with insurance of \$225,000. This is a case where the companies, Laving what is considered the better part of the risk,—the building, have a total loss, and those on contents have a salvage.

I close by giving you a little story that was told to me, the point of which may be more appreciated in your latitudes than mine. I vouch for all the facts herein, as true. An American lady and gentleman recently went to Montreal to reside, never having been in Canada before. Temporarily they boarded at the same place as my friend who tells the story. Starting out to select a residence, they called on a certain house agent to whom my friend had directed them, and got his list of vacant houses. They selected one in St. Denis Street and went to locate it. On the way up they noticed the frequent and familiar board on houses at this letting season, with Maison à Louer on it; even when they reached the house they were to see they saw that same sign board on it, alongside of another with the name of the agent who sent them. At dinner that evening, my friends asked the gentleman if he had got suited yet with a house; he replied, "Oh no, the agent you sent me to has only two or three houses to "choose from in St. Dems Street, but nearly every house to let there, "and some of them fine ones too, had Mason A. Louer's card on "it, so we shall call on Loner to-morrow and get his list" You can imagine the laugh that went round that table among the natives.

This reminds me of a party fresh from the Old Country, whom I met years ago in Montreal, who, having some grievance against the firm of Gravel Frères, asked me to show him their place of business. Meeting him later, I asked if he had got satisfaction from the Gravel; she said, 2. Not fully; I have seen the Gravels, but the other partner Frères was out, and no doubt was the man to blame, and just wait till I catch him!"

Yours

ARIEL

TORONTO, 29th March, 1895.

The Editor, Insurance and Finance Chronicle :-

In your last issue "Subscriber" gives a sample of the "Estimate" branch of the Life business as he terms it, as furnished by a home company.

I furnish herewith another sample of an "listimate" furnished by another home company, not quite so young as "Subscribers" estimate, but still in its "teens."

Another "Subscriber."

#### JOTTINGS BY JUNIUS JUNIOR.

Junius is neither dead nor sleeping, although the absence of recent contributions would seem to indicate that one or other calamity had befallen him. I remember to have read some years ago a sermon preached by a colored brother, from the text "They shall flee to the Mountains of Hepzidam, where the lien reareth and the wang doodle mounted for its lost one;" that sermon made such a powerful impression on my mind that I determined to follow its precept by betaking myself, figuratively, if not literally, to the mountains, as I had and whenever I had the opportunity; hence, while seeking retirement from business in an effort to regain a normal condition of health, I concluded it not inappropriate to allow your readers to wrestle in patience with the last half of the text by "mourning for the lost one."

On my way home from the protracted sopouring in foreign lands, alias "the mountains," I called at Toronto to behold the desolation of that city; rumors had reached me,—for, be it remarked in passing, that I carefully abstained from obtaining or reading our Canadian papers—of trouble in the camp; in fact, about the only Canadian news I gathered from the foreign press was that Canada, i.e., Toronto, was doomed to inter destruction like a second Sodom. It is astomishing when you think of it, how little our immense country is resignificant a people and country we are; imisfortunes are chronicled the world over, and magnified to an almost incredible degree. Is it any wonder, therefore, that my impressions were that Toronto had been desolated?

Admitting the creshbility of the reports I had seen, I naturally sat-"a thinking," and pondered the reasons why a wise Providence had permitted Toronto to receive such a serious baptism of fite. Sodom was destroyed because of the lust of its citizens, and because even ten righteous men could not be found within its walls, but I could not bring myelf to believe that Toronto's apparent destruction could be attributed to either one or other of these causes. It could not be because of Toronto's sin, for their morality is proverbial,-they never do anything wrong in Toronto, they don't even run street cars on Sunday; it could not be because they had not ten righteous men there, for anyone sitting around the table of the Toronto Board could not but be convinced that every member of that organization fulfills to the letter both tables of the decalogue. Dismissing, therefore, both these reasons as extremely improbable. I was almost despairing of a solution, when the brilliant idea occurred to me that possibly the recent fires are a judgment upon their mordinate vanity.

For many years the people of Toronto have over-estimated their value to the Dominion, they have had an inflated opinion as to their own commercial importance, and they, too, have regarded themselves as saving the insurance business in general, and several companies in particular, from rain,—the prosperity that has undoubtedly attended them has, in a measure, turned their heads, and has led them into a false sense of their own security, and has prevented their realizing the mecessity of providing for the future; the real estate collapse is evidence of this in one direction, and their lack of proper fire extinguishing appliances is proof in the other direction. I must confess the City did not seem so "conflagrated" (this is a good word) as I anticipated from the report that had reached me, but the sight was punful enough in all conscience.

Coming further East, I find matters improved in our own City, but still there exist butter complaints against the results of the business so far this year. You could scarcely fell by the countenance of the Montreal managers the extent of this year a suffering (they bear their trials well); but five minutes conversation reveals the inner feeling which generally culminates in the capression, most suggestive, if robust,—the business has gone to the D-, name unmentionable. Yet this august personage has had nothing to do with it, surely, for I find churches and colleges have contributed most largely, apart from Toronto, to the ducful result. But, stay, perhaps after all the statement may have more truth about it than poetry, for it is generally admitted that His Majesty does not approve of moral teaching, and may, therefore, be desirous of removing the places where such teach ing is learned and propagated. This reminds me, too, that in Toronto I heard it said some people did not approve of departmental stores, and it is thought some of the recent fites may have emanated from those who were equally desirous of temoving the places where such were carried on. In both cases, if the supposition is correct, the work

But what has come over the Methodist churches "they preach fire, as it is said, and this year they have experienced it. Where will it next strike? Five Methodist churches burned in less than three months in the western part of Ontaro is sively a record! What a satire on the best laid schemes of men! Two years ago the Methodist Church had under consideration the establishment of an Insurance scheme of their own; I believe it was foitunately knocked on the head by the conservative, pendent element. What a story they would have had to relate this year. And what shall we say about Toronto's insurance scheme. It should be dead, and doubtless will die; but its penmoters are evidently both to admit the insanity of their cherished plans.

Let Toronto, the Methodist chirch, and all sorts and conditions of men, who think they know how to "run" insurance companies, keep their hands off for, if they do not, they will assuredly find, by bitter experience, that everyone should "stick to his last."

## Motes and Stems.

In the official bank return for February a discrepancy appears by a sum having been accidentally misplaced by a bank officer. The second edition corrects this error.

The real national anthem:—

My country 'ti\$ of thee,

\$weet \( \frac{f}{ant} \) of \( \frac{f}{berty}, \)

Of thee I \( \frac{f}{ant} \). Wertd.

Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada. Commendatory notices are frequent in our exchanges, regarding the late action of the Sun in adopting a 4 per cent. basis as its future standard of valuation.

The Liverpool & London & Globe insurance company's 47th annual statement shows the aggregate assets in the United States on December 31st to have been \$8,498,268; the liabilities \$5,427,079; and the surplus \$3.071,189.

A bill has been introduced into the House of Representatives at Springfield, Ill., prohibiting insurance companies to insure the lives of minors without first obtaining the consent of the insured and their signatures to applications.

The exposure hazard again. We learn that Tivoli Hall Building, in Brooklyn, lately burned, was rated and insured at 3 per cent, but the dwellings nearby, and exposed by it, and actually burned with it, were rated at 15 cents for three years!

Conundrum. What is the resemblance between a life office guaranteeing large bonuses and a body of cathedral choristers newly outfitted?—The one was a case of a big surplus required, and the other, that of a big choir resurpliced.

Probably the largest fire insurance policy in existence, or ever written, is that covering the property of the Santa Fe Railway Company. It was issued by the Phienix Fire, of London. Eng., is in amount \$17,000,000, and takes a premium of \$170,000 to carry.

The Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society.—From an advance statement of this Company we gather that the revenue account gained considerably over previous year, and an increase of \$500,000 is shown in the surplus. When the report arrives we shall give a fuller notice of the operations of the Norwich in 1894.

In reviewing the latest ten years' statistics, the Spaclator. N. Y., says it is rather noteworthy to find that there are but fourteen of the larger companies that can claim the distinction of having realized an uninterrupted "profit in underwriting" during that period Among the fourteen it mentions our friends, the Etna, Hartford, Liverpool & London & Globe, London & Lancashire, National, and Royal.

The Provident Savings Life Assurance Society.—The 20th annual statement of this Company exhibits that the income was increased last year by \$100,000; additional payments to policy-holders were made to extent of \$94.000; and the surplus was enlarged by \$110.000. The income of the Provident Savings is given as \$2,249.398, and its surplus, at 4 per cent. valuation, \$960.930. Under the energetic management of Mr. R. H. Matson, the Canadian business is making good progress.

The Royal has discontinued writing farm risks in New England.

An agitation for municipal fire insurance has commenced in England. The moving spirits are how ever, men of no standing, and certainly of no experience, or judgment.

The Comptroller-General of South Carolina declares no Lloyds are licensed to do business in that State, and no pains will be spared to punish anyone who solicits and writes insurance without a license.

Governor Morton has signed the Bill passed by the Legislature, authorizing foreign insurance companies to do a bond business in New York State. The measure is mainly in the interest of a Baltimore Fidelity Deposit Company.

The following figures are compiled from the census report on insurance, and are, it is presumed, as nearly correct as any statistics on the subject. The report shows that the United States pays over \$157,000,000 per annum in fire premiums, an increase in the last ten years of about \$50,000,000, the amount per capita being about \$2.43. There are 2.325 companies represented, carrying insurances aggregating \$1,000,000,000 nearly, while the actual losses paid were \$82,000,000.

—Insurance Times.

The Ball Nozzle is something new in fire appliances. It consists of a small ball inserted in a bell-shaped nozzle, wherein it moves freely, with the effect of spreading the water in such a way as to form a perfect shield and protection against flame and smoke, to the party carrying it. It spreads an everwidening umbrella-shaped thin sheet of water to a great distance under fair pressure. There is said to be no loss from "mist" or fine spray in the use of it. One fireman can readily hold and control it. Where exhibited in the United States, underwriters have approved it.

We have received a copy of an official statement issued by the Copyright Association of Canada, reviewing the copyright question from the Canadian standpoint. It is a clear and intelligent exposition of the claims of the Canadian Government and people, that they have the right to legislate fully on copyright, it being one of the classes of subjects entrusted to the Parliament of Canada by the B. N. A. Act of 1867. Lie statement before us meets in detail, and ably refutes all objections and incorrect statements, which have been circulated regarding this vexed question. Without doubt great injustice has been done to Canadian interests in the past, in matters of copyright, and we hope the endeavor of the Copyright Association to have right done us will be successful. Messrs. J. Ross Robertson and Dan Rose of Toronto, are respectively president and vice-president of the Association and Mr. Rich. P. Lancefield of Hamilton, honorary secretary.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Edward J. Wohlgemuth of Detroit, Mich., who has recently published the Michigan Insurance Directory, will shortly publish an insurance director, for the entire state of Ohio. Besides giving the names, addresses and companies represented of all the agents in the state, the book will describe the fire protection and give the population of the various cities and towns, a "Directory of Authorized Companies," etc., all of which will make the book very complete and correct.

The Argus Insurance Chart issue of 1895, being its nineteenth year of publication, is a welcome contrition to our insurance statistics for 1804.

The Forty fifth Annual Report of the Aftna Life (and Accident) Insurance Co of Hartford, Conn., has reached us through the courtesy of that Company.

Bound Volume No. 12, of the Policyholder, Manchester has reached us "with the compliments of Mr. Harold Elverston"—many thanks

To Mr. Eugene Moore. Insurance Commissioner of Nebraska, we are indebted for a copy of statement of fire and other insurance companies (except life and accident) transactions in that state during 1894.

The Prudential Assurance Company of London, England, has a premium income in the Ordinary department of \$10.389.780, and funds of \$47.496.795, in the Industrial department a premium income of \$21,221.120, and funds \$54,876,220.

We have to thank the Commissioner of Insurance for the state of Michigan Mr. Theron F. Giddings for copies of the Preliminary Report of Life, Casualty, Assurance and Fraternal Insurance companies, doing business in that state in 1894.

We have received, "Fire Insurance in Pennsylvania for twenty-two years" an interesting compilation of figures, showing premiums and losses in that state during the period named. Published by the Insurance World of Pittsburgh, Pa. Price 50c.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### THE LATE R. H. BETHUNE.

The death of Mr. R. H. Bethune, general manager of the Dominion Bank, Toronto, is an especially sad event, one which will cast a gloom over a very wide circle-The deceased was a son of Bishop Bethune. Horn in 18:6 at Cobourg, he entered the Bank of Montreal in 1854, in its Brockville branch, from thence he was moved up to Toronto, afterwards to Hamilton, St. Catharines and New York. In 1865 he entered the service of the Quebec Bank, and when manager of the Toronto branch, received the appointment of first general manager of the Dominion Bank. To Mr. Bethune's shrewdness, remarkably sound judgment in financial matters and high executive talent is owing the eminence attained by that institution. He was especially conservative in his policy, prefering a safe to a large business. He succeeded in 24 years in raising a reserve fund equal to the paid up capital and placing the shares of his Company at the head of the list. He was a Director of the N. W. Land Co., and the North of Scotland Loan Co., and a much esteemed member of several church and social organizations. A man of few words, when he did speak, he did so with a weight that commanded especial respect. He was in a most emi nent sense, a man to be relied upon. Generous without display, he veiled a warm heart under an exterior manner which strangers misjudged. The Rev. Dr. Bethune of Port Hope School and Mr. George Bethune. manager of the Farmer's Loan Co., are brothers of the deceased. A widow and daughters are left to mourn over an inexpressible loss; yet proudly to cherish the memory of one who did honor to Canadian banking and to Canadian character.

\$812.005

### PERSONAL MENTION.

THE CHROSE LE sanction was honored during the past fortught by the following callers:

MR. J. P. JUNKIN, Sun Lafe Assurance Co., Hamilton.

Mr. A. K. Br & KADER, Desurance Department, Ottawa.

Mr. James Roomer, Manager Manchester Fire, Toronto.

MR WM, BLLL, Joint Manager of the Palatine Ins. Co., New York.

MR. E. W. HENDERSHOT, Sun Lafe Assurance Co., St. John, N.B.

Mr. E. F. HUBBELL, of the firm of Rogers and Hubbell, Ottawa.

MR W. W. Wellett, Secretary Quebec Fire Assurance Co., Quebec

Mr. J. W. Molson, Manager of the Haitford Fire, Montreal, who has been travelling in higypt for some time past, we are glad to inform our readers, is now convalescent, and hopes shortly to return to Montreal

## BARLOW & CO'S MONTREAL STOCK AND SHARE LIST.

From 16th to 28th March, 1895

Prom 10th to 25th .	marca, 1	2 <b>9</b> )	
STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing
Canadian l'acific	39	37 12	38
do do Land Grant Bonds.	1094		1094
Commercial Cable Co., Ed. D	146	1.13	14312
Duluth Common	3/2	21	3
do Pref	74	1 (	73
Montreal Telegraph	160	1575	15712
Dominion do	117	115,5	117
Dominion do	97	92	95
Montreal Street Ky	19112	187	18814
Montreal do do New Stock	1893	185	186
Hell Telephone Co	157 '=	156	157
Royal Electric	143	140	141
Montical Gas Co	1994		1993
llank of Montreal	220	217	21812
Ontario Bank		92	91
llank of British North America			••••••
La Banque du l'euple	115	1104	11212
Molsons Bank	1711	17"	160
Hank of Teronto	244 %	2407	340 r
La Ranque Jacques Cartier	110	110	•••••
Merchants Bank	1634	163 128	16212 16212
Quebec Bank	128 137 *2		127.2
Canadian Bank of Commerce	178,5	1.50	136 178
Imperial	26712	20-1-	
Standard		1011	
	120	161 <sup>1</sup> 4 120 153 <sup>1</sup> 4	101
Hamilton	1523.	1521.	15:13.
Hochelaga Bank Hamilton Intercolonial Coal Co British America Assurance Co Western Assurance Canada Life Canada Central Bonds Champlain & St. Lawrence Bonds. Confederation Life Canada Pater	•33.4		*20.4
But ish America Assurance Co.	120	1134	
Western Assurance	1605	155%	160
Canada Life			
Canada Central Bonds		<b> </b>	
Champlain & St. Lawrence Bonds			
Confederation Life			
Canada Paper			
Montreal Cetton	120	118	118
do do Bonds			
Canadian Col. Cotton Mills Co.	3"	35	40
do do do Bonds	9712	97	97
National Cordage Co			•••••
Merchants Manufacturing Co	114%	3 4 4	••••
Dominion Cotton Mills Co	. 40	چ. ن <u>ۍ</u>	90
Canada Pajer  Montreal Cotton  do do Bonds  Canadian Col. Cotton Mills Codo  do do do Bonds  National Cordage Code  Merchants Manufacturing Code  do do Bonds  New Higland Pajer  Loan & Montreage Code	16-14-2	1007	•••
New England Paper		••••	•••••
Losn & Mongage Co Toronto Electric Light Co Incandescent Light Co General Elect. Co do do Preferred	•••••		••••••
Intends and Local Co	100	10.	. 170
Consultant C.			!
do de la balancia	',,	•20	40
Oliman Montes Street Par		*****	• • • •
Diamond Glass Co			•••••
Ottawa Electric Street Ry Diamond Glass Co Consolidated Land & Investment			••••
Montreal Harbor Bouds			
Toronto Street Railway Co	-8	75	75
Montreal Harbor Bonds Torouto Street Railway Co Western Loan & Trust Co. (Ltd.).		ot.	; di
	7.	<b>,</b>	, ,
			•

Since our last report the market has had a great shaking up, large blocks of stocks having been thrown on it, on account of Meredith & O'Brien who suspended on the 16th inst. But, on the whole, all the stock offered was taken up very well, which goes to show the strength of the present market. We cannot see any cause for much of a decline at present, unless the money market brightens, which we do not look for just now. The market this evening closes very strong, and we think there is a turn in Juying Gas and Montreal Street Railway, these two have been the principal stocks dealt in, some thousands of shares having been sold. The test of the market is dull, with very little doing. Cable is steady, and, compared with other stecks, or ght to sell much higher, as they are doing a very good business. Richelien is another stock that looks like going higher-Toronto Street Radway is dall and rather weak, but we think it good at present prices. There has been quite a lot doing in Dulmhs, for which there is a better demand. Canadian Pacific is stronger, and higher prices are talked for it. In bank stock there is very little doing; they keep about steady. Cottons are better, and ought to be cheap at present prices. On the whole, the market closes very strong and looks like going higher.

# THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

At the 6th ANNUAL GENERAL MERTING of the STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, held at Edinburgh on Toesday, the 5th of March, 186, the following Results for the year ended 15th November, 1891, were reported:—

1	teported;— 4029 Policies were issued, assuring	44 72 ×11
ļ	•	
	The Total Existing Ass. rances in force at 15th November, 184, amounted to	113,274,280
	The Claims by Beath or Matured Endowments which arose during the year amounted, including Bonus Ad- ditions, to	2,947,073
	The Annual Revenue amounted at 15th November, 1994, to.	3,139,161
	The Accumulated Funds at same date amounted to,	39,333,822

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tioverument and Municipal Bonds	\$6.523,(63 0.00,052; 0.00,652;
Smidries	4(0),5(0)

In the above, \$5 are taken as equivalent to £1.

### LONDON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The twentieth annual meeting of the shareholders and policyholders of the London Life Insurance Company was held at the Company's office, London, Ont., on Thursday, the 7th day of March, 1895.

There were present: the President, Mr. John McClary, in the chair: A. O. Jeffery, Wm. Bowman, G. M. Harrison, W. F. Bullen, Geo. C. Gibbons, A. S. Emery, T. H. Smallman, H. Tatham, A. Bretz, J. W. Humphrey, B. Allen, J. E. Jeffery, Geo. F. Jewell, D. McAlpine, the Secretary, J. G. Richter, and others.

After reading the notice calling the meeting, the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed, and the Directors' report and financial statement submitted, as follows:

#### TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Directors of the London Life Insurance Company beg to submit their annual report and duly audited financial statement for year ending December 31st, 1894.

During the year, 13,716 applications for insurance of \$1,484, \$26 00 were received, of which 13,658 applications for insurance of \$1,459,181.50 were approved of and policies issued therefor.

The net premium and interest income of the year was respectively \$132,580.49 and \$21,479.71, making together \$154,060.20, an increase over the previous year of \$16,816.93.

The sum of \$28,604,48 was paid for death claims, and \$15.653.-64 additional for matured endowments, surrendered policies, and cash profits to policyholders, making a total of \$44,258.12 paid policyholders or their heirs during the year.

The insurance in force on the Company's books at the close of the year, after deducting all re-insurance, amounted to \$3,724,505 21, under 1,623 "General" and 23,606 "Industrial," or a total of 25,229 policies, an increase of 5,476 policies for insurance of \$607,031.86 for the year.

During the year, 250 new shares of the capital stock of the

APRIL 1, 1895 Company for \$25,000 were issued, and a call of twenty per cent., with twenty per cent. premium thereon, was made. A further call of five per cent. was also made in respect of all shares previously allotted. The new shares were duly subscribed for and all calls promptly paid. The Company's subscribed capital is now \$250,000.00, of which twenty per cent., or \$50,000, has been paid up.

The assets of the Company, exclusive of uncalled but subscribed capital, now amount to \$470,658.11, an increase of \$67,500 per payments falling 945.26 for the year. The interest and other payments falling due during the year were in the main satisfactorily met. No losses on investments have been incurred during the year, and no real estate came into the Company's possession by foreclosure or otherwise. We have to record, with much regret, the removal by death since last annual meeting of Mr. Joseph Jeffery, president, who had been a director of the Company from its inception, and was greatly esteemed. JOHN McCLARY, President. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEM-BER, 1094. Net invested assets, 31st Dec., 1893 ....\$382,742 15 Calls on account, capital and premium thereon .... \$17,330 00 Less transferred from share-4.486 67 holders' account...... 12,843 33 \$395,585 48 Receipts. Industrial Premiums ...... \$93,136 87 General Premiums, less Re-Ins. Pre-39.443 62 miums, \$201.60..... Interest on Investments..... 21,479 71 \$154,060 20 8549,645 69 Disbursements. Cash Profits to Policyholders..... Paid for Surrendered Poli-... \$ 2,919 94 cies ....... Matured Endowments.... 9,200 00 General Claims paid ..... 10,000 co Industrial Claims paid.... 18,604 48 . \$ 44.258 12 2.36 50 Dividend to Shareholders... Salaries-General..... \$ 6.461 31 Commissions-General ... 4,431 67 \$ 10.812 98 Salaries-Industrial. ..... \$ 10,009 00 Commissions-Industrial. 24.603 52 \$ 34,612 62 Office Furniture, \$110.36; Directors' fees, \$809.00; Government fees and taxes, \$509.00; Government tres and taxes, \$210.70; printing and stationery, \$1,166.95; com. on investments, \$261.18; medical fees, \$1,413.98; legal expenses, \$287.52; lexpense Account, \$2,029.01; postage and exchange, \$421.02; travelling expenses, \$2,642.30; advertising, \$516.16. \$ 9.868 18 \$101,994 40 8447,651 28 Net Invested Assets, 31st Dec., 1894...

Assels as fol	เเงะเร
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Cash in Office and Banks \$ 5,042 51
Loans on Policies 27,301 50
Loans on Stocks 32,509 38
Bonds and Debentures 60,000 00
Loan Company Stocks S7.195 ∞
Mortgages on Real Estate. 235, 602 S9

### Additional Assets:

-14444	war Assers :
Premiums in course of col-	
lection, net	5 1,197 06
Premium Notes, net	
Deferred Premiums, net	
Interest due and accrued	12,027 39 \$ 22,956 83
Total Assets 31st Dec., 1894	3470,608 11

### To cover Liabilities as follows:

	•
Total Reserve on Police	ics
in force	\$387,891 01
Less Re-Ins. Reserve.	1,442 52
-	\$386,448 49

Shareholders' Special Account Contingent Fund Accumulating Profits Claims Accrued	13,861 78 3,000 00 2,955 01 960 95
Advance Premiums	293 76 \$407.522 99 863,085 12 50,000 00
Divisible Surplus	813.085 12

To the Shareholders of the London Life Insurance Co.:

GENTLEMEN,—I hereby certify that I have completed a careful audit of the books and accounts of the London Life Insurance Company for the year ending December 31st. 1894, and find the same correct and in accordance with the above statement, the Reserve Fund and all other liabilities being fully provided for. The securities are in order, and the books of the Company are in their usual condition, correctly and neatly kept.

GEO F. JEWELL, F.C.A.,

.luditor.

LONDON, ONT., February 15th, 1895.

The President, Mr. John McClary, in moving the adoption of the Report, said :-

GENTLEMEN,—On behalf of my fellow-Directors, as well as for myself, I desire to express our pleasure in meeting so many of the shareholders and policy-holders of the Company at this Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting.

The report of the Directors and accompanying financial statement before us can hardly fail to convey a full, fair and intelligible exposition of the affairs of the Company. The business transacted during the year and in force on the Company's books at the close of the year, the several items of income and outgo, the assets and liabilities, are all plainly set forth in such detail, that no one is left in the dark as to any feature of the Company's business about which information can reasonably be desired.

I am not unmindful that such comprehensive exhibits are seemingly not altogether feshionable, if I may use the expression, but be this as it may, there can be no question as to the right of the shareholders and policyholders of the Company to know the whole truth, and any annual or other periodical statement purporting to convey such, but falling short of this, cannot be considered as fulfilling the legitimate purpose of such a statement.

Comparing the results of the past year with those of the previous year, I find premium and interest receipts show an increase of \$16,\$16.93, or about 12 per cent, over the like receipts for 1893. In payments to policyholders or heirs, there is also an increase of \$12,993.28, or about 41 per cent, resulting chiefly from a larger number of endowment policies having matured during 1894 than during the previous year. The further items of disbursements are also somewhat in excess of 1893; but considering that the new business transacted during 1894 exceeded the new business of 1893 by about 40 per cent, the increase in this respect is considerably less than might have been expected. The assets of the Company, none of which have been taken into account at more than their actual value, while some of the items have been taken in at considerably less than their market value, have increased \$67,945.26, or about 17 per cent.; and the increase in the reserve fund and all other liabilities is \$49,172.59, or about 14 per cent.

Included in the statement of liabilities are several items, viz.;

Included in the statement of liabilities are several items, viz.; shareholders' special account, contingent fund and accumulating profits, aggregating \$19,819.79, which need not necessarily have been entered under this heading, but notwithstanding the strict manner in which the accounts have been treated, and the fact that in computing the reserve liability in respect of the whole of the Company's industrial business, a standard one half of one per cent, per annum more stringent than the Government standard has been adopted, the surplus security to policyholders, not including uncalled but subscribed capital, is \$63,085.12, and the divisible surplus over all liabilities and capital is \$13,085.12. I am sure you will all agree that the Company occupies a strong position financially, and that the record of the year is one that one have every reason to be proposed.

year is one that we have every reason to be proud of.

Before moving the adoption of the report, I would also refer to the death of our late much esteemed president, Mr. Joseph Jeffery. The loss which the Company sustained by his demise was fully realized by his colleagues, and at the first opportunity the directors gave expression to their feelings in the following resolution:—

"That the Board of Directors of the London Life Insurance "Company desire to record their deep scuse of the great loss "the Company has sustained in the death of Mr. Jeffery. He "was an active participant in the formation of the Company,

" was elected president at the first meeting of the Board of "Directors, April 20th, 1874, and continued so up to the time "of his death, rendering great and valuable assistance by his sound and able counsel and advice. His well-known integ-" rity and devotion to the interests of the Company were fully "appreciated in life, and now that he has passed away we feel"ingly honor his memory with this tribute to his many
"virtues."

With these remarks I beg to move the adoption of the report. The vice-president, Mr. A. O. Jeffery, in seconding the adoption of the report, said:—"The satisfactory character of the Company's assets was evidenced by the fact that the amount of overdue interest at the close of 1894 was only \$1,684 03, or about

one-third of one per cent. of the assets.

"The rates of interest obtainable on high class securities such as we hold have ruled somewhat lower during the past year. than were formerly obtainable; nevertheless, the per cent. of interest earned upon the average amount of invested assets for

the year was 5 03 per cent.
"The directors have aimed at a steady and solid increase of business, selected with care and obtained at a moderate outlay, rather than a large volume of business less carefully selected and costing much more in proportion. The wisdom of this course is manifested in the almost uniformly favorable death rate which the Company has experienced and the liberal profits

which have been paid to participating policyholders. # During the past year only 4 general policies for \$5,000 became claims, giving a mortality rate of 2.46 per 1,000 in number, and \$1.28 per \$1,000 in amount. This would be considered a very favorable death rate for a company whose risks were but a few years removed from the Medical Examiner's hands; but for a company in its twentieth year, the experience is certainly a most remarkable one. In our industrial branch the claims were 305 for \$19,401.00, giving a mortality rate of 12 95 per 1,000 in number, and \$8.79 per \$1,000 in amount, which, when allowance is made for the fact that in this branch we insure both males and females between the ages of a and 65, and are thus subject to the higher mortality incident to childhood and old age, and that at the younger ages and for certain amounts no medical examination is required, the mortality rate expe rienced in this branch was also considerably below what might have been expected. For the very favorable results in this connection, much credit is due to the agents, assistant superintendents and superintendents of the Company for the manner in which they have observed the rules of the Company, and their

real to advance its interests. "Before closing, I would suggest that during the current year both shareholders and policyholders avail themselves of every opportunity to extend the business of the Company among their acquaintances, and thus assist the manager and staff to make the record of 1895 even better than the one under considera-

tion

Before the adoption of the report, the President called on Mr. Geo. I' Jewell, the Company's auditor, to offer any remarks which he might wish to make. In responding to the invitation, Mr. Jewell called attention to the fact that from an auditor's standpoint, which was one of critical examination, the affairs of the Company were in excellent condition, the securities bearing evidence of being of a substantial character and valued upon the lowest reasonable basis, and were well looked after. The very satisfactory showing of the report was the result of no fictitious methods of business, but the legitimate consequence of diligent and brainy effort, and that such steady and substantial increase of both income and assets was matter for congratulation to both the shareholders and policyholders of the Company, and, further, that such accumulations of the people's wealth as were represented by the insurance reserve of a company like this was evidence, not only of financial prosperity, but also of the high moral tone of the community, evidencing a recognition of the duty and importance of such provision for the dependent ones, the neglect of which is chareterized in Holy Writ as a denial of the faith and worse than infidelity.

The report was unanimously adopted by the meeting

Mr. Geo. C. Gibbons moved, seconded by Mr. G. M. Harrison: That the thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to the agents and other employees of the Company, for the very agents and other employees of the company, for the very autisfactory manner in which they have discharged their several duties during the past year. Both the mover and seconder spoke of the dependence which this and every like company had to place in their field force, and those who were responsible for the proper carrying on of the business of the Company. It was a great satisfaction to the directors to feel that the Commay's employees are gentlemen of high character, and that all have done their duty

The vote of thanks to the agents, etc., was heartily adopted and suitably acknowledged, after which the balloting for directors was proceeded with, resulting in the unanimous re-election of John McClary, A. O. Jeffery, W. Bowman, Geo. C. Gibbons, W. F. Bullen, A. S. Emery, T. H. Smallman, G. M. Harrison and Judge Bell.

At a subsequent meeting of the directors, John McClary was re-elected president, and A. O. Jeffery, vice-president.

## THE MANUPACTURERS LIFE INSURANCE .

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company was held at the head office, Toronto, on Thursday, the 28th ult. Among those present were: Messrs. Geo. Gooderham, president; Wm. Bell, president of the Traders Bank; Robt. Archer, Montreal; Ald. J. D. Rolland, Montreal; A. E. Gooderham, T. G. Blackstock, C. D. Warren, R. Crean, R. L. Patterson, Dr. Strathy, E. J. Lennox, H. Lowndes, R. Torrance, Guelph; Prof. Mills, Guelph; W. H. Storey, Actor. Co. J. Hocking, Baterbary, H. A. B. Co. Acton; Geo. J. Horkins, Peterborough; H. A. B. Calvert, Guelph; W. J. Milliken, barrister, Galt; Ph. DeGruchy, J. K. McCutcheon, Inspector; Sherman E. Townsend, and others.

Mr. Geo. Gooderham was elected chairman, and the managing-director, Jno. F. Ellis, acted as secretary.

The following report was submitted:-

The directors have much pleasure in meeting the stockholders and policy-holders of the Company, and submitting to them a statement of its affairs for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

The applications for new business for the year amounted to \$2,925,507, of which \$2,695,755, were accepted, and policies issued, showing a handsome in-

crease over 1893.

The cash income from premiums and interest amounted to \$306,713.63, being an increase over the

previous year of \$19,375.44.

The total assets of the Company now amount to \$821,320 88, showing an increase for the year of \$147; 582.26. Of this increase \$135,339 has been added to the Reserve Fund for the protection of policyholders, which now amounts to \$628,429.

These large increases in every branch of the Company's business, during a year of financial depression,

is most gratifying.

The Company's surplus over all liabilities is equal to 40 per cent. ot the paid-up capital. This guarantees to both policyholders and stockholders a handsome dividend on their investment.

The statement submitted herewith shows plainly the position of the Company, the nature of its assets, and

its financial standing.

The auditors have made a careful monthly audit of the Company's affairs, and at the close of the year examined each security held by the Company, the same being further verified by the audit committee of the

The directors have much pleasure in acknowledging the energy displayed by the Company's agents throughout the country and the success that has attended their efforts, as shown by the large amount of new business secured in the face of keen competition and stagnation in every line of business.

The Directors desire also to recognize the valuable assistance the Company has received from the advice and counsel of their consuling actuary, D. Parks Fackler, Esq., of New York.

SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 315T, 1894.

Cash income \$306,715.63; expenditure (including death claims and all payments to policyholders) \$169,-066.25: assets \$821,320.88; reserve fund \$628,429; surplus for policyholders \$17,789.772.

Mr. Gooderham, in moving the adoption of the Re-Gentlemen,-

I have much pleasure in moving the adoption of the Report you have just heard read. In doing so I beg leave to call your attention to a few facts in connection with the progress of the Company. We will go back a few years in the Company's history and see what has been accomplished. For five years, the Company has been under its present management. Five years ago, in addressing you, I pointed out what had been done in order to place the Company in that strong financial position that was necessary to enable it to successfully compete with its rivals in the Insurance field. To do this, several of the directors gave the Company \$100, 000, trusting to the stockholders, as the Company im proved its position, to return to them this money. I am glad to inform you to day that, with the exception of a very few shares, this has been done, -that is, a large proportion of the stockholders have voluntarily contributed their share in proportion to the stock held by them to return this money to those who gave it to the At that time our income, including premiums and interest, only amounted to about \$150,000 for the year. Jast year it amounted to over \$300,000. Its assets did not then amount to \$300,000, now they are over \$300,000. The reserve on account of policy holders then amounted to \$160,000; now it amounts to over Then there was no surplus out of which to pay dividends to either stockholders or policyholders. now we have over \$50,000 of a surplus over and above all liabilities, including capital stock. This guarantees not only to the stockholders, but to the policyholders, good dividends on their investments.

And what is more satisfactory is that these large increases in every branch have not been followed by a corresponding increase in expenditure On account of the very careful and conservative selection of risks, and although the amount of business in force has very largely increased and the policies have increased in age, yet with the exception of one year the death-rate has diminished instead of increased, the total death rate for 1889 being \$61,000, while for 1894 it amounted to only \$44,000. These facts, I am sure, convince you that the Company is being carefully managed. This conservative policy we intend to pursue in future, being very particular to secure first class business at the very lowest possible cost. I am glad to hear from our representatives scattered throughout the Dominion that the confidence of the insuring public in "The Manufacturers" is now well established, in fact, the only object tion as to the stability of the Company now raised by rival agents is that, according to the Blue Book, the \$100,000, item is not yet paid off. I am glad to inform you that this will disappear from the 1894 edition, as over 98 per cent of the stockholders have voluntarily contributed their share of the amount.

In regard to a dividend, this has received the very careful consideration of the directors, and I am glad to inform you that they have declared a dividend of a per cent, for the half year, payable on 1st July next, which is at the rate of S per cent, per annum, and which the Company can well afford to pay

With these few remarks I have much pleasure in moving the adoption of the Report.

This motion was seconded by the Vice-President, Mr. Wm. Bell

Professor Mills. Guelph, in support of the motion spoke as follows —I am specially gratified at one thing in your report, that is the fact that the share holders have nearly all now united in assuming their share of the liability for \$100,000, which a few of you were so good as to place at the disposal of the Company to put it in a proper financial position a

few years ago. The fact that a number of the shareholders held back for a length of time was to me a source of annoyance because, it seemed to complicate things and make the future of the Company doubtful. It was certainly a handsome thing on the part of the few who could afford it, the president of the Company especially, and one or two others associated with him, to advance the money that was so required. I must admit that I rather severely criticized the action that made us responsible for the loss that unfortunately incurred, but I am glad to know now that more than 98 per cent, of the stockholders have voluntarily contributed their share of the amount. Now, I for one should not care when I went into a Company if I lost all I put in if all came in on the same footing. Under the present careful management I feel that the Company has a brilliant future and that the prospects are much brighter at this time thou they have ever been in the past. I think that all along the policyholders have been perfectly safe, everything has been quite satisfactory as far as they are concerned, while it may not have been so pleasant for the stockholders. But from the very outset I have had the utmost confidence in the managing-director of the company as a safe and economical man. In any undertaking, everything depends an the management, no matter how shrewd the shareholders or directors may be, we must rely in a very large measure upon our Executive. The executive particularly in an insurance company have a great deal of work for little or no remuneration, and a great deal of responsibility devolves upon them. I congratulate the Company on the report that has been submitted, it is an excellent shewing, and when that objectionable item, to which the President has referred, is removed from the next issue of the Blue Book I think the Company will be in a much better position. This has certainly been a great drawback to the agents of the Company and I have been surprised that they have been so successful in securing new business in the face of such difficulties. Now that we have crossed the bar, so to speak, I feel sure that the Company will continue to prosper.

Mr. W. H. Storey of Acton, and others, spoke in the same complimentary strain. The motion was then

carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Medical Directors was proposed by Mr. T. G. Blackstock and seconded by Mr. E. J. Lennox, to which Dr. Strathy suitably replied.

Ald. J. D. Rolland, in moving a vote of thanks to the agents, expressed his pleasure at the result of their efforts in furthering the interests of the Company, and remarked that in such a year of general stagnation in business it is greatly to their credit that they were enabled to secure more new business than they did in 1893. This was seconded by E. J. Lennox and unanimously carried. Several of the agents replied in suitable terms, expressing their gratification that the Directors of the Company were satisfied with their efforts, and that their appreciation of the same will be an incentive to all the Agents throughout the Donnnion to work for the Company to the best of their Also that they were glad to notice that the two great obstacles in the way of securing new business had been removed, viz, the \$100,000 bug bear had been wiped out, and the Board were now paying a dividend to their stockholders. Nothing now remains in their way towards accomplishing what they alldesire,a very largely increased volume of new business.

Messrs. Townsend & Stephens were appointed auditars for the ensuing year and the following gentlemen were elected Directors: Geo. Gooderham, Wm. Bell, S. F. McKinnon, T. G. Blackstock, E. J. Lennox, R. R. McLennan, M.P., A. F. Ganlt, R. L. Patterson, F. Nicholls, Robt. Archer, D. D. Mann, J. F. Ellis, W. H. Storey, Jas. Mills, Robt. Crean, A. E. Gooderham, C. D. Warren, Theo. Davie, J. A. Onimet, Samuel May, Henry Lowndes, and Ald. J. D. Rolland.

At the close of the shareholders' meeting the Direc tors of the Company re-assembled, when Mr. Geo. Gooderham was elected president, and Messrs. Wm. Bell and S. F. McKinnon, vice-presidents, for the year. Messrs Robt, Archer, A. F. Gault, Hon. J. A. Onimet, R. N. McLennan, M.P., Ald. J. D. Rolland, and W. Strachan were appointed a Local Board for the Province of Quebec.

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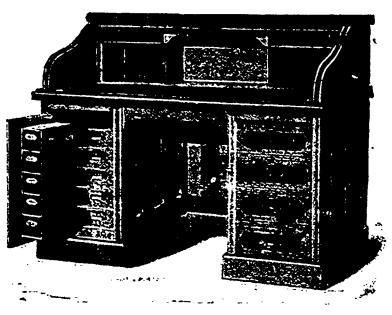
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