

**UNION BANK OF CANADA.**

Established 1865. **HEAD OFFICE, Quebec.**  
 Paid-up Capital, \$1,200,000.  
**DIRECTORS.**  
 Andrew Thomson, President. R. J. Price, Vice-President,  
 Hon. Thos. McCreery, E. Giroux, D. C. Thomson, E. J. Halo,  
 R. E. Webb, Cashier.  
**FORREIGN AGENTS.**  
 London—The Alliance Bank Limited. Liverpool—Bank of Liverpool, Limited.  
 New York—National Park Bank. Boston—Lincoln National Bank.  
 Minneapolis—First National Bank.  
**BRANCHES.**  
 Alexandria. Iroquois. Merrickville. Montreal.  
 Ottawa. Quebec. Smiths Falls. Toronto.  
 Winnipeg. W. Winchester. Lethbridge, Alberta.

**LA BANQUE JACQUES-CARTIER**

1862—HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL—1896  
**CAPITAL (all paid up) \$500,000**  
**RESERVE FUND \$235,000**  
**DIRECTORS:**  
 Hon. ALFRED DEJARDINS, President. A. S. HAMILTON, Esq., Vice President  
 A. L. DE MARTHORY, Esq., DE MONT LAVIOLETTE, Esq., J. N. DECHARME,  
 TACHELDE BEKVENIC, Manager.  
 K. G. ST. JEAN, Inspector.  
**BRANCHES:**  
 Montreal (St. Jean Baptiste) St. Anne de la Rivade Valleyfield  
 " (St. Cenevonde) Edmonton, N.W.T. Fraserville  
 " (St. Henri) Quebec (St. Saviour) Hull, P.Q.  
 " (Rue Ontario) " (St. John St.) St. Hyacinthe  
 Beauharnois, P.Q. Victoriaville  
**SAVINGS DEPARTMENTS AT HEAD OFFICE AND BRANCHES**  
**FOREIGN AGENTS:**  
 LONDON, ENGLAND, Credit Lyonnais  
 Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.  
 PARIS, FRANCE, Credit Lyonnais.  
 Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.  
 The Bank of America.  
 NEW YORK, The National Bank of the Republic.  
 The Merchants National Bank.  
 BOSTON, MASS. The National Bank of the Commonwealth.  
 The National Bank of the Republic.  
 CHICAGO, ILL. Bank of Montreal.  
 Letters of Credit for travel, etc., etc., issued and available on all parts of the world. Collections made in all parts of the Dominion.

**THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE**

**HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.**  
 Paid-up Capital - - \$6,000,000 Rest - \$1,000,000  
**DIRECTORS.**  
 GEO. A. COX, Esq., President. Robt. Kilgour, Esq., Vice-Pres.  
 W. B. Hamilton, Esq. Matthew Leggatt, Esq.  
 Jas. Crathern, Esq. J. W. Flavelle, Esq.  
 John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D.  
 B. E. WALKER, General Manager. J. H. PLUMMER, Ass't Gen. Manager.  
 A. H. Ireland, Inspector. G. H. Meldrum, Ass't. Inspector.  
 New York—Alex. Laird and Wm. Gray, Agents.  
 TORONTO—Head Office: 19-23 King Street West. City Branches: 712 Queen Street East, 450 Yonge Street, 791 Yonge Street, 286 College Street, 541 Queen Street West, 329 Parliament Street, 163 King St. East.

**BRANCHES.**  
 Montreal Collingwood S. Ste. Marie Walkerville  
 Barrie Dundas Seaforth Waterford  
 Belleville Orangeville Ottawa Waterloo  
 Berlin Galt Paris Stratford Windsor  
 Blenheim Goderich Parkhill Strathroy Woodstock  
 Brantford Guelph Peterboro' Thorold Winnipeg  
 Cayuga Hamilton St. Catharines Toronto Jct.  
 Chatham London Sarnia Walkerton

**Montreal Branch—Main Office, 157 St. James St., A. M. Crombie, Manager, J. L. Harcourt, Asst. Manager. City Branch: 10 Chaboulliez Square.**

**BANKERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.**  
 GREAT BRITAIN—The Bank of Scotland.  
 GERMANY—Deutsche Bank.  
 INDIA, CHINA AND JAPAN—The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.  
 PARIS, FRANCE—Lazard Freres & Co.  
 AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND—Union Bank of Australia.  
 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM—J. Mathieu & Fils.  
 NEW YORK—The American Exchange National Bank of New York.  
 SAN FRANCISCO—The Bank of British Columbia.  
 CHICAGO—The American Exchange National Bank of Chicago.  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA—The Bank of British Columbia.  
 HAMILTON, BERMUDA—The Bank of Bermuda.  
 KINGSTON, JAMAICA—Bank of Nova Scotia.  
 HALLOW—First National Bank.  
 Commercial Credits issued for use in all parts of the world. Exceptional facilities for this class of business in Europe, the East and West Indies, China, Japan, South America, Australia, and New Zealand.

Travellers Circular Letters of Credit issued for use in all parts of the World.

**THE CANADA LIFE Assurance Company**

Head Office, Hamilton, Ont.

Established 1847

**CAPITAL and FUNDS over \$16,300,000**  
**ANNUAL INCOME over \$2,700,000**

Sum Assured over \$70,500,000

President, A. G. Ramsay. Secretary, R. Hills.  
 Superintendent, W. T. Ramsay.

**THE MOLSONS BANK.**

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1855.  
 Paid-up Capital . . . . . \$2,000,000  
 Rest Fund . . . . . 1,375,000

**HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**  
 JOHN H. R. MOLSON, President. S. H. EWING, Vice President.  
 HENRY ARCHBOLD. W. M. RAMSAY.  
 W. M. MACPHERSON. SAMUEL FINLEY.  
 J. P. CLEGG.  
 F. WOLFFSTAN THOMAS, Gen. Manager. A. D. DURNFORD, Insp.  
 H. LOCKWOOD, Asst. Insp.

**BRANCHES.**  
 Aylmer, Ont., Meaford, Owen Sound, Trenton,  
 Brockville, Montreal, Ridgetown, Waterloo, Ont.,  
 Calgary, N.W.T. " St. Cathar. Smith's Falls, Windsor,  
 Clinton, " St. Cathar. Sorel, P.Q., Woodstock, Ont.,  
 Exeter, Morrisburg, St. Thomas, Ont.  
 Hamilton, Norwich, Toronto,  
 London, Ottawa, Toronto Junction.

**AGENTS IN CANADA—**Quebec—Eastern Townships Bank. Ontario—Dominion Bank, Imperial Bank, Bank of Commerce. New Brunswick—Bank of N.B. Nova Scotia—Halifax Banking Co. Prince Edward Island—Merchants Bank of P.E.I. Summerside Bank. British Columbia—Bank of B.C. Manitoba—Imperial Bank. Newfoundland—Commercial Bank. St. John's.

**AGENTS IN EUROPE—**London—Par's Bank, Limited, Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co. Montreal—Bosc & Co. Liverpool—Bank of Liverpool. Cork—Minister and Leinster Bank, Ltd. Paris—Credit Lyonnais. Berlin—Deutsche Bank. Antwerp, Belgium—La Banque d'Anvers. Harburg—Hesse, Newman & Co.

**AGENTS IN THE UNITED STATES—**New York—Mechanics Nat Bank, W. Watson and R. Y. Hobden, agents. Bank of Montreal, Morton, Bliss & Co. National City Bank. Boston—State Nat. Bank. Portland—Case Nat. Bank. Chicago—First National Bank. Cleveland—Commercial Nat. Bank. Detroit—Commercial Nat. Bank. Buffalo—The City Bank. San Francisco—Bank of British Columbia. Milwaukee—The Wisconsin National Bank. Butte, Montana—North Western National Bank. Great Falls, Montana—First National Bank. Toledo—Second National Bank. Minneapolis—First National Bank.

Collections made in all parts of the Dominion, and returns promptly remitted at lowest rates of exchange. Commercial Letters of Credit and Travellers' Circular Letters issued, available in all parts of the world.

# SUN INSURANCE OFFICE,

FOUNDED A.D. 1710.

HEAD OFFICE:

Threadneedle Street. - - London, Eng.

Transacts Fire business only, and is the oldest purely fire office in the world. Surplus over capital and all liabilities exceeds \$7,000,000.

CANADIAN BRANCH:

15 Wellington Street East, - Toronto, Ont.

H. M. BLACKBURN, Manager.

This Company commenced business in Canada by depositing \$300,000 with the Dominion Government for security of Canadian Policy-holders.

ESTABLISHED 1870

## Ontario Mutual Life

Head Office, WATERLOO, Ont.

\$20,000,000 in Force.

Reserves on the Actuaries' 4 per cent.

Every Desirable Form of Policy Issued.

PROFITS TO POLICYHOLDERS ONLY.

Surplus results declared in 1896, 10 per cent. higher than the estimates.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

I. H. DOWMAN, Esq. M.P. (President)	Waterloo	FRANCIS C. BRUCE	Hamilton
C. M. TAYLOR (1st Vice-Pres.)	Waterloo	GEO. A. SOMERVILLE	London
ROBERT MELVIN (2nd Vice-Pres.)	Quebec	J. KEHR FISKEN	Toronto
ALFRED BOSKIN, Q.C.	Toronto	R. P. CLEMENT	Berlin
ROBERT BAIRD	Kingston	W. J. KIDD, B.A.	Ottawa
H. M. BRITTON, Q.C., M.P.	Kingston		

HON. WILFRID LAURIER, Prime Minister of Canada.

### OFFICERS.

W. S. HODGINS, Supt. of Agencies, Waterloo		
WM. HENDRY, Manager.	GEO. WEGENAST, Actuary	W. H. RIDDELL, Secretary.

Total Funds in Hand over \$18,000,000

Head Office for 101, RANE STREET.

Canada: INCORPORATED BY Montreal

ROYAL CHARTER

## The London Assurance

A.D. 1720

Upwards of 175 Years Old

E. A. LILLY, Manager

## NORTHERN

Assurance Company of London.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

Capital and Funds, 1895	838,365,000
Revenue	5,714,000
Dominion Deposit	200,000

CANADIAN BRANCH OFFICE:

1724 Notre Dame Street, - - Montreal.

ROBERT W. TYRE, Manager.

G. E. MOBERLEY, Inspector.

## PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

OF NEW YORK

ESTABLISHED IN 1876.

CHARLES E. WILLARD, President.

### FACTS IN A NUTSHELL.

Year Ending Dec. 31.	Income.	Paid to Policyholders.	Assets.
1875	\$29,146	.....	\$140,507
1880	80,500	\$29,463	157,509
1885	367,517	215,256	232,767
1890	1,563,335	1,065,053	889,027
1895	2,273,533	1,506,112	1,981,355

Several good districts open for active agents.

Apply to

R. H. MATSON,

General Manager for Canada.

37 YONGE STREET, TORONTO.

1850

THE

1895

## United States Life Insurance Co.,

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

This old and reliable Company now has the experience of forty-five years of practical Life Insurance, which has taught it that the *signa non* of success is the adoption of good plans of insurance, and the pursuit of a liberal policy towards both its Insured and its Agents. These essentials it possesses in an eminent degree, but judiciously tempered by that conservatism which is the best possible safeguard of the policyholder. Its contracts are incontestable after two years. They are non-forfeiting, providing generally for either paid up policy or extended insurance, at the option of the policyholder. It gives ten days of grace in payment of all premiums. Its course during the past forty-five years abundantly demonstrates its absolute security.

Active and successful Agents, wishing to represent this Company, may communicate with the President, at the Home Office, 261 Broadway, New York.

### OFFICERS:

GEORGE H. BURFORD,	President.
C. P. FRALEIGH,	Secretary.
A. WHEELWRIGHT,	Assistant Secretary.
WM. T. STANDEN,	Actuary.
ARTHUR C. PERRY,	Cashier.
JOHN P. MUNN,	Medical Director.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE:

GEO. G. WILLIAMS,	Pres. Chem. Nat. Bank.
JOHN J. TUCKER,	Builder.
E. H. PERKINS, JR.,	Pres. Importers' and Traders' Nat. Bank
JAMES R. PLUM,	Leather

**DIRECTORY**

**R. C. LEVESCONTE**  
Barrister, Solicitor, Notary, etc.,

THE MCKINNON BUILDING  
TELEPHONE 632  
CABLE "LEVESCONTE" TORONTO  
COR. DUNDAS & MELINDA STS.  
TORONTO

ESTABLISHED 1825  
**F. BARTELS,**  
ST. HYACINTHE, QUE.  
General Insurance Agent.  
Fire, Life, Accident, Guarantee  
VICE-CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES

**G. L. RIDOUT,**  
DISTRICT MANAGER,  
Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada,  
SHERBROOKE, P.Q.

**J. B. MORISSETTE,**  
GENERAL AGENT  
Guardian Assurance Co.,  
Lancashire Assurance Co.,  
Life Assurance Society of England,  
With American Life Ins. Co.,  
Montreal Plate Glass Office  
Office: 101 St. Peter Street,  
QUEBEC.

**F. F. MACNAB,**  
General Insurance Agent,  
AIRSPRIG, ONT.

**KIRBY & COLGATE,**  
WINNIPEG.

General Agents for Manitoba and  
the N. W. Terr. of the following  
Companies.

British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Co.  
Caledonian Insurance Co. of Edinburgh  
Connecticut Fire Insurance Co.  
Manchester Fire Assurance Company.  
North British & Mercantile Insurance Co.  
Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society.  
American Surety Co.  
British America (Marine) Assurance Co.  
Canada Accident Assurance Co.

ESTABLISHED 1825  
**FRIGON & MARCHAND,**  
General Insurance Agents  
THREE RIVERS, P.Q.

**HATTON & MCLENNAN**  
ADVOCATES,  
British Empire Building,  
1724 Notre Dame St.  
MONTREAL.  
J. CASSE HATTON, Q.C.  
FRANCOIS MCLENNAN, B.A. B.C.L.

**NAPOLEON PICARD,**  
Insurance Agent,  
1731 Notre Dame St.  
Montreal.

**CHARLES RAYNES,**  
Advocate, Barrister and Solicitor,  
COMMISSIONER FOR OATHEAD & MALTBY  
SAVING BANK CHAMBERS,  
150 ST. JAMES STREET,  
MONTREAL

MEMBERS OF THE I. O. O. F.  
**ROGERS & HUBBELL**  
Insurance and General Agents,  
DISTRICT MANAGERS  
TEMPERANCE and GENERAL  
LIFE ASSURANCE CO.,  
97 Sparks Street, OTTAWA

**PERCY R. GAULT,**  
Special Agent,  
Royal Insurance Co.  
MONTREAL.

ESTABLISHED 1825  
**W. F. FINDLAY,**  
Chartered Accountant,  
Adjuster of Fire Losses  
47 St. James St. South,  
HAMILTON, ONT.

**J. F. RUTTAN,**  
Real Estate and  
Fire Insurance  
FORT ARTHUR and FORT  
WILLIAM,  
P.O. Address, Fort Arthur, Ont.

**MCCARTHY, OSLER, HOSKIN & CREELMAN,**  
Barristers, Solicitors, Str.  
Freehold Buildings, - - - Victoria Street,  
TORONTO.

D'Alton McCarthy, Q.C., B. B. Osler, Q.C., John Hoskin, Q.C., LL.D.,  
Adam R. Creelman, Q.C., F. W. Harcourt, W. B. Raymond,  
W. M. Douglas, H. S. Osler, Leighton G. McCarthy.

**MEDLAND & JONES**  
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENTS,  
REPRESENTING  
SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.  
GUARANTEE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA,  
INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA,  
CANADA ACCIDENT ASSURANCE CO.  
Tel. 1067  
Office: 1  
Mail Building,  
Corner KING and BAY STREETS, TORONTO.

Telephone 1007.  
**C. R. G. JOHNSON,** Cable Address: "INDEX"  
AGENT Fire Insurance BROKER  
MONTREAL AGENCY  
CALEDONIAN INSURANCE CO. OF EDINBURGH  
BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE CO. OF TORONTO  
CANADA LIFE BUILDING  
Corner St. James and St. Peter Streets, Montreal

**BAMFORD & CARSON**  
General Insurance Agents and Brokers,  
REPRESENTING  
LANCASHIRE FIRE INS. CO.  
SUN FIRE OFFICE.  
Offices:  
Temple Building, 183 St. James St., MONTREAL

Telephone 1713.  
**A. BROWNING**  
Insurance Broker,  
REPRESENTING  
Sun Life Fire Assurance Co., Travelers Accident Insurance Co.  
British Empire Mutual Life Assn. Co. Dominion Burglary and Fire Co.  
Surplus Lines placed with First Class Foreign Companies  
Office: 1724 Notre Dame St., Montreal.

**J. E. LOGAN**  
Insurance Adjuster,  
ROOM 15, BRITISH EMPIRE BUILDING,  
No. 1724 Notre Dame Street,  
TELEPHONE 1743. MONTREAL.

**DOMINION ADJUSTMENT BUREAU.**  
Chas. D. Hanson and John Kennedy, Proprietors.  
Adjusters of Fire Losses,  
Burglary and other Claims.  
ROOM 58, IMPERIAL BUILDING,  
TELEPHONE 1131. MONTREAL.

**O. LEGER**  
Manager French Department of  
**THE SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.,**  
Room 7 Sun Life Building,  
MONTREAL.

ESTABLISHED 1809.

TOTAL FUNDS EXCEED  
**\$86,157,780.00**

Canadian Investments  
**\$5,564,200.00**

**FIRE & LIFE**

**NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE**

**INSURANCE CO.**

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

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

Agents in all Cities and Principal Towns in Canada.

THOMAS DAVIDSON,  
Managing Director

ESTABLISHED 1825.

**Standard Life Assurance Company**

OF EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.

HEAD OFFICE FOR CANADA, MONTREAL.

INVESTED FUNDS, .....	\$40,732,590
INVESTMENTS IN CANADA, .....	12,500,000
DEPOSITED WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, over .....	3,000,000

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

J. HUTTON BALFOUR,  
Superintendent.

W. M. RAMSAY,  
Manager for Canada.



**MANUFACTURERS**  
**Guarantee and Accident Insurance Co.**

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, CANADA

The Double Liability Schedule and Annuity Accident Policy of the Company, which is most liberal in its terms, guarantees:—In case of Accidental Death or Injury when riding as a passenger in any steam, cable or electric conveyance, or whilst travelling as a passenger on the seas in first-class vessels—

\$10,000 for Death	\$3,333 for Loss of One Leg
10,000 for Loss of Sight in Both Eyes	3,333 for Loss of Right Hand
10,000 for Loss of Both Feet	2,000 for Loss of One Foot
10,000 for Loss of Both Hands	2,000 for Loss of One Eye
10,000 for Loss of One Hand and One Foot	2,000 for Loss of Left Hand

\$20 per Week for 26 Weeks of Partial Disability. \$50 per Week for 52 Consecutive Weeks of Total Disability, and a Pension for Life of \$400 per annum for Permanent Disability and for Death or Disability under circumstances other than above, One half the above amounts.

PREMIUM: Select Class, \$30 per Annum. Less Amounts at Proportionate Rates

A refund of \$5.00 will be made on the premium for the same policy leaving out the Partial Disability and Annuity features, thus making premium \$25.00.

GEORGE GOODERHAM, President.

J. F. JUNKIN, General Manager.

# The Insurance & Finance Chronicle.

Vol. XVI.

MONTREAL, OCTOBER 15, 1896.

No. 20

## THE Insurance and Finance Chronicle

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month.

AT 1724 NOTRE DAME ST., MONTREAL.

R. WILSON SMITH, Proprietor.

Annual Subscription (in Advance) \$1.00  
Prices for Advertisements on application

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

### Banking View of Insurance Frauds.

THE English *Banker's Magazine* devotes an article to life insurance frauds, which shows that they are perpetrated as freely as on this continent, and owing to the same condition. The *Banker's* says, "the number of loop holes whereby a company can be cheated is very great." There are too many who think it no sin to rob a corporation, and juries are prone to giving verdicts against the supposed tyrannous companies, while judges even construe all the conditions of policies strictly against the company. With all this we are quite familiar on this side. The English *Magazine* considers that the American companies work more in concert with each other in efforts to restrain fraud, than do the British companies. In illustration of this it refers to the system respecting impaired lives which have been attempted to be palmed off on American life offices as worthy of adoption in the old land, as under its operation every company is advised of all such attempts, and put on its guard. Frauds, it correctly remarks, often arise from having "a weak agent who has allowed himself to be talked over by a scheming client." It is also on safe ground in stating that "companies must be sometimes defrauded without knowing it, there exist no data for estimating the extent of such frauds, and, because they are not known, no provision is made in the premiums charged by the companies against risks of the nature of frauds." We should have appreciated some suggestions from the *Banker's* as to measures advisable for protecting life assurance companies from such frauds as they are victims of "without knowing it," but we are glad for so influential a magazine to have entered its protests against the unfair treatment of the companies by juries and judges.

### Weather Definitions.

THE Weather Bureau of the United States has issued definitions of tornadoes, whirlwinds, cyclones, which are likely to cause some disputes over "Tornado Insurance," unless the policies of companies doing that class of business set out clearly that by the word "tornado" is meant any violent atmospheric commotion. It seems to us that, the distinction between various classes of violent storms is mainly one of dimension, much as air movements are differentiated by speed, a slowly moving current of air being styled a "breeze," but a more rapid one a "wind." "A hurricane," is defined as, "a large stormy area, often several hundred miles in diameter, within which violent winds circulate around a centre." This is obscure, as a hurricane cannot possibly be an "area," its characteristic sphere of operation, however, is an area. A tornado, says the *Weather Review*, "is a very much small region usually less than two miles in diameter, within which even more violent winds prevail which circulate about a central axis." The same obscurity is in this definition as in that of hurricane, for a tornado cannot be a "region," big or little, the region is the place in which a tornado circulates around its axis. A whirlwind is said to be "any revolving mass of air, and includes at one extreme the hurricane and at the other extreme the dust whirl at our street corners." We object to a dust whirl at a street corner being styled a whirlwind, it grates on the sense of literary propriety in view of the magnificent imagery of the line, "rides on the whirlwind and directs the storm." A cyclone is said to be "a mass of air circulating round a centre; the lower portion near the earth has a vorticose movement in towards a centre, while the upper layers have a movement out from a centre; the line joining the upper and lower centres is the axis of the cyclone, the direction of rotation is the same in both upper and lower layers." That also is a very mixed definition, indeed it involves a physical impossibility unless centripetal and centrifugal movements have the same direction. We criticize these definitions because in disputes over tornado insurance they would be quoted as to some extent authoritative. It will be well for companies doing this class of business to have more intelligible definitions placed in their policies as to what kind of violent commotions in the air they are intended to cover.

**Assessment Insurance and Infants Insurance**

MR. Pierce, Superintendent of the New York Insurance Department, has favored us with a copy of the decision rendered in the case of that department against the Industrial Benefit Association of Syracuse, New York. The plaintiffs charged, "that defendant company under its charter and the insurance law of the State had no right to issue yearly renewable term policies on the lives of infants" which it was alleged to be doing. The pivot upon which the case turned seems to have been a decision that a corporation, organized under the act of 1883, had no power to receive infants as members, and an order was affirmed which restrained such a corporation from continuing to transact business as far as the insurance of minors was concerned. That order proceeded, "on the ground that the insurance of infants is not within the powers of corporations under that statute, and is inconsistent with the legislative intention, adult persons only were contemplated as entitled to membership." On reviewing the law bearing on the case, the Court decided that an assessment insurance company had no right to issue yearly renewable term policies upon the lives of infants.

**The Marine Death Rate**

ALTHOUGH an ocean voyage to a landsman is often highly recuperative, owing, we believe, mainly to the absolute rest it imposes upon the mind from the absence of letters, telegrams, telephone calls, and business engagements, continuous life on the ocean is by no means as healthful as many imagine. A correspondent of the *Telny Herald* has drawn attention to the following table showing the rate of mortality among officers of the mercantile marine which was furnished him by the Marine Department of the British Board of Trade.

Grade	Number employed on 30th of April, 1891	Deaths from wreck and accident reported to the Registrar General of Seamen	1891	1892
Masters.....	11,555	132	126	120
Mates.....	12,555	181	175	175
Petty officers.....	8,832	119	136	136
Engineers.....	11,189	84	85	85
Surgeons.....	360	1	4	4
Pursers etc.....	450	0	3	3
Stewards etc.....	17,893	151	62	62

The deaths per 1,000 were: Masters, 11.40; Mates 14.40; Petty officers, 13.40; Engineers, 7.50 Stewards etc., 8.50.

The general average in 1891 was 1.06 per cent. of deaths from wreck and accident. This, however, does not include those who die ashore from accidents on the water. Out of every hundred engaged as officers in the merchant service one dies from accidents incidental to their calling. This is in marked contrast to the fatalities to railway employees, there being one fatal accident yearly to each group of about 400; in 1894 the fatalities were 1 in 428 in 1893, 1 in 327. The trainmen, however, suffer more heavily as in 1893 there was one fatal accident amongst these men to each 115 employed. We take these figures from the Reports of the United States Interstate Commission, but have reason to believe they differ little from the facts respecting our railways and those of Great Britain. We should like to see statistics showing whether this special marine mor-

tality is offset by the general healthfulness of a seaman's life, and would suggest to our interesting contemporary that the requisite data for this be obtained from the Board of Trade. Life and accident insurance companies will find the above statistics of value. A paper by an eminent scientific expert was recently read before the British Association in which it was shown that ship construction was improving so rapidly that marine accidents were likely to be much reduced in the future, and he also asserted that a high class of passenger steamers could be built which would be unsinkable.

**Constructive Knowledge**

THE case of *Turnbull v. Home Fire Insurance Company of Baltimore*, recently decided in the Maryland Court of Appeals, turned upon what is to be regarded as constructive knowledge of facts not directly disclosed. The gist of the case is as follows: the Home Fire Co. had issued a policy covering a building in Baltimore occupied as a bleaching and dyeing establishment. The policy was voided if gasoline was kept or used on the premises, and the questions were whether there had been a violation of this condition by the insured, and if the company had such knowledge of the insured using gasoline as to amount to a waiver of the clause prohibiting it.

It was proved in Court that gasoline was used on the premises, but it was not proved that this was known to the insuring company. But it was contended that the rate charged for the risk, viz., \$1.00 per hundred, showed the company to have provided for the insurer using gasoline as that rate was a special one made to cover risks on buildings where it was in use. The Court held that the insurer had not been relieved by the company from the obligation to declare his intention to use gasoline. It was his duty to have read his policy and to see whether its provisions were in accordance with his application, and the premium appropriate to the risk. Having failed to do this, and failed to notify the company of gasoline being used on the premises, his claim was not allowed.

**Insurance Blue Book, 1896-97.**

THE Insurance Blue Book and Guide for 1896-97 has just been issued, being the 24th annual edition. Copies can be obtained at this office. This valuable book of reference is a rich mine of information relating to all the British and the leading Colonial Insurance Companies. A complete Directory of Insurance Offices includes the title and address of the head office of each company, the name of the manager, a list of all its branches with names of officer in charge. To this is added a Directory of Principal Insurance Officers, also a list of the Officers, Fellows and Associates of the Institute of Actuaries. The cable address of companies are given. Tables will be found of Annuity Rates, Endowment Assurance Rates, Table of Life Premiums, Forms, How to Assign and Mortgage Life Policies, Compound Interest Tables, reports of the Life Companies of the United Kingdom, and other information of value and interest to all interested in insurance.

**INTEREST RATE OF THE LIFE COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN CANADA.**

For several years we have printed annually an article prepared with great care, showing in detail the rate of interest realized by the Life companies transacting an active business in the Dominion for the previous year, compared with the rate of the four or five preceding years. This has proved to be an interesting and valuable feature, and we herewith present the result by companies for 1895, together with that of the four previous years. The continued financial depression of 1895—similar to that of the two preceding years, making the employment of money for improvements and of capital for manufacturing or the extension of commercial enterprises less in demand than in prosperous times, very naturally operates to lower the rates of interest as the demand for money has decreased. The reader will be able to judge of the extent to which this has proved true, if at all, by consulting the following tables. It will be seen that the Canadian companies show some decrease in the average rate realized as compared with 1893 and 1894, while on the other hand the American companies show an increase. In making the calculations for the tables we have adhered to our usual method, which we hold to be the only proper method, which is this: From the Dominion Insurance Report for the Canadian, and the New York Report for the American companies, we ascertain the *mean amount* of "ledger assets" at market value as our divisor, and the income from interest, rents, etc., plus the overdue and accrued interest for the current year, less the overdue and accrued interest of the preceding year, for our dividend, the quotient of course being the rate of interest realized. First we give the record of the Canadian companies as follows:

**CANADIAN LIFE COMPANIES.**

Company.	Rate 1891.	Rate 1892.	Rate 1893.	Rate 1894.	Mean amount of assets, 1895	Interest earned 1895	Rate 1895
Canada Life ..	5.51	5.33	5.37	5.19	\$15,239,132	\$681,478	4.47
Confederation ..	5.19	4.94	4.75	4.50	4,820,252	208,902	4.33
Dominion Life ..	5.32	5.23	5.24	5.27	172,914	9,044	5.23
Federal Life ..	6.50	7.43	6.95	6.46	369,290	21,343	5.78
Great West. ...	.....	.....	5.03	5.56	179,258	9,174	5.12
London Life ..	5.81	5.79	5.72	5.63	472,984	26,968	5.70
Manufacturers ..	4.57	4.89	5.13	5.12	818,233	41,401	5.06
N. American ..	6.11	5.89	5.28	5.36	2,014,317	97,288	4.83
Ontario Mut. ..	5.98	5.96	5.77	5.83	2,759,997	140,163	5.08
Sun Life .....	5.74	5.38	5.33	5.76	4,600,552	235,924	5.13
Temp. & Gen ..	4.73	4.93	4.84	4.90	341,613	15,982	4.67
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>5.54</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.35</b>	<b>5.24</b>	<b>\$31,788,542</b>	<b>1,187,667</b>	<b>4.68</b>

It will be observed that the decrease in the average rate realized as above shown was over one-half of one per cent. for 1895 as compared with 1894, while the decrease of 1894, as compared with the preceding year, was small, and as compared with 1891 about one quarter of one per cent. Just why so marked a decrease is registered we are unable to explain, further than that the accrued interest in 1894, with some of the companies, being larger than that of 1895, operated to reduce more than usual the total interest income as employed in our 1895 calculations. The further supposition that money has been loaned or debentures bought

at less than former rates during the two or three past years must, apparently, account mainly for the decline. The American companies doing business in Canada seem to have increased the interest rate realized, as shown by the following table:

**AMERICAN LIFE COMPANIES.**

Company	Rate, including profits on investments, 1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	Mean amount of assets, 1895.	Interest earned 1895.	Rate 1895.
Aetna Life....	5.24	5.17	5.20	5.20	\$41,578,937	2,165,481	5.20
do with profits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,152,568	5.25
Equitable .....	4.82	4.30	4.32	4.40	18,192,146	8,003,771	4.22
do with profits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,079,649	4.27
Germania .....	5.38	5.01	5.12	5.02	19,995,512	1,002,912	5.02
Mutual Life ..	5.06	5.02	4.87	4.77	207,408,937	10,562,261	5.09
do with profits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,837,194	5.21
New York Life ..	4.79	4.91	4.97	4.70	162,423,251	7,439,687	4.58
Prov. Savings ..	3.54	4.94	4.91	5.58	1,696,706	84,538	4.98
Travelers Life ..	5.57	6.24	5.42	5.66	15,291,466	741,289	5.84
do with profits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	750,503	4.90
Union Mutual ..	4.04	4.35	4.14	4.05	6,455,113	296,372	4.59
do with profits .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	322,355	4.99
United States ..	5.75	4.98	5.00	4.98	6,940,010	326,255	4.70
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>650,981,478</b>	<b>31,370,069</b>	<b>4.82</b>
<i>With profits. ...</i>	<i>4.97</i>	<i>4.81</i>	<i>4.79</i>	<i>4.72</i>	<i>.....</i>	<i>31,766,950</i>	<i>4.88</i>

Inasmuch as the Dominion Insurance Report includes in the "ledger assets" of the Canadian companies the securities owned at their *market* value, while the New York Report, embracing the American companies, gives only the cost or par value of such securities in ledger assets, entering the excess of market over cost value separately in "other assets," we have added that excess in computing the mean assets of the American companies. It is obvious, however, that if the cost value of assets only were considered in both classes of companies—Canadian and American—the rates of interest above given in both tables would be increased somewhat. Several of the American companies having last year realized profits from the sale of securities above cost, we have calculated, as usual, the rate of interest both with and without profits. We also add below a comparative table showing the excess of market over par or cost value for each of the past four years, as follows:

Company	Excess, 1892.	Excess, 1893.	Excess, 1894.	Excess, 1895.
Aetna Life ...	\$726,056	\$622,804	\$653,993	\$662,115
Equitable.....	3,448,896	944,704	2,466,105	3,093,308
Germania.....	113,519	90,994	59,762	85,223
Mutual.....	4,915,085	4,190,857	5,423,051	6,467,408
New York....	4,814,895	4,081,413	4,676,261	5,110,841
Prov. Savings ..	.....	26,172	37,412	15,000
Union Mutual ..	35,158	.....	69,118	71,756
United States ..	76,420	11,379	41,085	43,240
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>\$14,131,029</b>	<b>\$9,971,323</b>	<b>\$13,427,787</b>	<b>\$15,548,891</b>

In order to make our record complete we also herewith give the record of the three active British companies doing business in the Dominion, as deduced from the home office reports, following substantially the methods employed in dealing with the companies in the above tables. For example, in finding the mean assets we deduct from assets all outstanding premiums and accrued and overdue interest for 1894 and 1895 to get our divisor, the dividend being found as above by deducting from interest received and interest accrued

and due, combined, for the latter year, the accrued and overdue interest of the former year. The result compared with previous years is as below:

BRITISH LIFE COMPANIES.

Company	Rate 1891	Rate 1892	Rate 1893	Rate 1894	Rate 1895	Amount of assets, 1896	Interest earned 1896	Rate 1896
British Empire	3.55	4.15	3.92	4.35		\$8,014,040	\$117,371	4.68
Lon. & Lanc.	4.58	4.50	4.48	4.20		4,927,815	208,201	4.23
Standard Life	1.27	3.16	4.09	4.20		30,558,360	1,015,813	3.32
Totals.....	4.34	4.19	4.09	4.34		\$51,400,280	\$2,241,445	4.19

It will be seen that the interest rate of the above companies fluctuates a little from year to year, and that the average for 1895 of the three companies is a little less than for 1894, but exactly the same as in 1892. The variation of the average is however but a small one, and indicates but little change in the investment conditions.

GROUPS OF BRITISH LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The British Board of Trade returns of the life assurance companies present a summary of their revenue accounts and balance sheets from which quotations are made in the FINANCE CHRONICLE that are worth examining and comparing with Canadian companies as far as available data allows. The first table relates to cost of management.

Year	Premiums.	Expenses.	Cost of Management, Contribution	Together
1884....	\$63,810,000	\$5,717,000	\$2,674,500	\$8,391,500
1896....	88,188,000	7,970,000	4,953,000	12,923,000
Increase	27,369,000	2,252,400	2,278,500	4,530,900
	45 p.c.	39 p.c.	85 p.c.	54 p.c.

The general expenses, such as rent, salaries, etc., did not increase in the same ratio as the premiums, but the increase in commissions went far ahead of that of premiums, the net result being a 45 per cent. additional income from premiums since 1884, secured at an increased cost of 54 per cent. In the same term—1884 to 1896—the Canadian companies increased their premium income from \$1,032,500 to \$6,297,930, an increase of \$4,365,424, equal to an advance of over 220 per cent., while the total expenses increased in the same period from \$508,573 to \$1,723,309, an advance of 238 per cent. The very high rate of increase in the Canadian companies between 1884 and 1895 arose, of course, from the rapid growth incident to a comparatively new form of enterprise in this Dominion, and the general expansion of all forms of business in this country in that period. In this expansion the British life assurance companies shared, as in these years they increased their receipts for premiums in Canada by over 50 per cent., which exceeded their total increase by 5 per cent. As to funds and interest earnings our contemporary says the British Blue Books present the following results.

Date	Total Funds.	Interest less Tax	Rate per cent.
1884....	\$88,000,000	\$8,263,500	4.12
1896....	120,000,000	30,000,000	3.77
Increase....	32,000,000	21,736,500	.....
	43 p.c.	31 p.c.	.....
Decrease....	.....	.....	.....
	.....	.....	.....

\* converted at 1/2

Owing to the peculiar method adopted of reporting

the accounts of life assurance companies by the British Board of Trade, differing as it does so widely from the official returns made up in Canada, it is hardly possible to institute an exact comparison between the assets which the Board of Trade lumps into a total under the title of "Funds," and similar resources owned by our institutions. So far as the above return exhibits the changes from 1884 to 1896, it is evident that the increase in receipts of interest by the British companies did not keep pace with the increase of "Funds," which we find called "capital" by our London contemporary. This arises from the depreciation in the value of money since 1884, the drop being from \$4 12 per \$100 to \$3.77 per \$100, a decline of 35c per \$100. How serious this is can be judged by the fact that had the same rate of interest been maintained this year as prevailed in 1884, the life assurance companies of Great Britain would have had \$3,500,000 more income from their investments than they will yield. There is not as much difference in the average rate of interest in their "Funds," or the invested assets of British companies, as might be expected from the lower value of money in the old land, but their resources are placed largely in Colonial securities which yield a higher average percentage than those of a home class, those of Canada being highly in favor. The following table shows the relative proportions of the cost of fixed charges and of commissions, and of these expenses combined, for the British companies since 1884, also the rate of interest realized yearly:—

Year	No. of companies	Percentage of Premium absorbed in Fixed Charges	Commission	Total Expenses	Rate of Interest per cent.
1884....	96	9.40	4.40	13.80	4.16
1885....	95	9.27	4.45	13.72	4.12
1886....	96	9.52	4.62	14.14	4.12
1887....	94	9.80	4.72	14.52	4.10
1888....	96	9.92	4.89	14.81	4.02
1889....	96	10.13	4.95	15.08	4.00
1890....	95	10.23	5.09	15.32	4.00
1891....	91	9.58	4.77	14.35	3.98
1892....	89	9.38	4.93	14.31	3.99
1893....	90	9.16	5.16	14.32	3.99
1894....	90	9.57	5.55	15.12	3.95
1895....	88	9.42	5.43	14.85	3.89
1896....	55	9.04	5.61	14.65	3.82

The above shows a gradual reduction in such expenses as salaries, rents, and others of a more or less fixed character, while the costs incident to procuring business have steadily advanced but at a higher ratio, so the result was that while the total expenses in 1884 were 13.80 per cent. of the premium income, they were 14.65 in 1895 last year. The economies of administration were found impracticable in the work of securing business, which is becoming more and more costly as competition increases. As the rate of interest decreased while expenses were enlarging, it is manifest that the companies in later years have made less profits for distribution amongst shareholders and policyholders. As the interest earnings of the British life assurance companies pay all the costs of management, and leave a very large surplus, it is manifest that their "Funds" evidence great strength, which, in spite of the increased cost of business and lower interest rates, is progressing by leaps and bounds in each decade.



### THE EFFECT OF POSSIBLE SILVER LEGISLATION ON LIFE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

At the Convention held on 7th inst., in Washington, of the National Association of Life Underwriters, a forcible address on the above topic was delivered by Mr. William T. Standen, Actuary of the United States Life Assurance Company, New York. As the matured judgment of a thoughtful student of economics who speaks from his long experience and observation, he will be recognized in insurance and other circles as one having authority. We therefore give the argument of his able address without any more comment than is required to connect the sections which we quote word for word. The opening portion is an eloquent statement of the magnitude and the sacredness of the responsibilities resting upon the life assurance companies to "maintain the obligations of life insurance undisturbed." These financial obligations to policy holders are stated to be \$5,700,000,000 of the old line companies, and about 5 to 6 thousand of millions of the other classes of societies. The former companies have also \$1,000,000,000 of assets laid up in anticipation of future claims. Upon this basis of fact Mr. Standen proceeds to build up his argument.

"About \$275,000,000 of annual income is sufficient to provide for the United States regular life insurance companies obligations of \$5,700,000,000. If the value of each dollar paid to the companies is to be scaled down to an effective purchasing power of about 52 cents, then in order to maintain their obligations at their present value in effective purchasing power, the companies would need to increase their annual income from \$275,000,000 to about \$550,000,000. Unable to do this by reason of the nature of their contracts, their obligations of about \$5,700,000,000 will fall in effective purchasing power to about \$2,800,000,000. One or other will be an absolute necessity, if they are to maintain their present proud position of absolute, unquestionable and abundant solvency and still yield the same benefits they now confer on their patrons. Our obligations to others, and the obligations of others to us, are all based upon the value of dollars worth, or having an effective purchasing power of 100 cents each, and not upon the value of dollars worth, or having an effective purchasing power of less than 100 cents each."

Mr. Standen then points out how a dollar subject to a depreciation of 48 per cent. could not reasonably be expected to buy life insurance say of \$25,000 for a payment of money having the value of what is the cost of only \$13,000 of insurance. He then comes to the gist of his address, which reads as follows:

"The life companies would still pay one legal tender dollar's worth of life insurance for every legal tender dollar paid to them, even if the threatened legislation in favor of the unlimited coinage of silver be an accomplished result. They will still grant a legal tender dollar's worth of life insurance for every legal tender dollar paid to them; and every dollar of life insurance so paid will be nominally a 100 cent dollar, but its effective purchasing power will be impaired. If a \$10,000 policy becomes a claim, \$10,000 of 100 cents each will still

be paid, but it will be in effective purchasing power equivalent to only about 52 per cent. of the effective pure buying power of the same sum to-day. Already it has been sought to be shown that we shall be partial in repudiating our obligations. We shall do no such thing. We shall pay in the current coin of the realm as many dollars as our contracts provided for dollars of 100 cents each, but under the threatened new order of things each of these 100 cent dollars would be of an effective purchasing power of only about one half.

"The question of what the life insurance companies will have to do, in the event of their premium and interest income being paid to them in 52 cent dollars, is susceptible of very ready answer. They will pay all claims that accrue, dollar for dollar, but a power outside of themselves will have depreciated the purchasing power of those dollars. The dollars that they will pay to widows and orphans will only buy 52 per cent. of the necessities and luxuries of life as compared with what the dollar can now purchase. No one single obligation will they repudiate. No claim will be scaled down by them. They will pay the number of dollars as read—100 cent dollars each—but each dollar will buy but about one half of what it would buy to-day, and of what it would have bought when present existing contracts were made. A superior power will be responsible for the depreciation in purchasing power, not the life insurance companies. Under the proposed new conditions the life companies will not be able to declare on the payment of each 52 cent dollar of premium paid to them the same amount of dividends which they now are able to give as return premium on the payment of dollars of the present purchasing power, according to present existing tables and premium rates, because under such new conditions those tables of premium rates which are now used by us would be demonstrably inadequate for that purpose." Mr. Standen then shows how depreciating the purchasing value of the dollar would tend to double all fixed charges, and proceeds to comment on the problem of the loading or margin put upon the next premium for the purpose of providing for expense of management. He says: "The actual cost of doing business will remain as high as it is now, while the contributed resources to meet that cost will be cut in half. Or the same percentage of contribution towards expenses that we now receive, turned into silver dollars, will be incapable of liquidating expenses that in the very nature of things will be nearly doubled. In other words, it would operate about the same as though only about 52 cents were available to liquidate each dollar's worth of expense, or, compared with prevailing conditions, our margins would no longer be adequate to cover our legitimate expenses, and we would be compelled to increase our tables of premium rates, or suppress dividends, or both. The logical consequence would be, that under a new condition in which a dollar would only have an effective purchasing power of 52 cents, it would no longer be capable of purchasing the amount of life or endowment insurance that it would buy to-day. As a matter of fact, it would be found that after the necessary adjustment is

effected 52 cents would only buy then about as much life or endowment insurance as 40 cents would buy now." The argument of Mr. Standen's address so far as the present policy-holders are directly concerned is summed up as follows: "The man who intended to leave his family an annual income of \$2,000 may have insured his life for \$50,000. Under the conditions that threaten us, if such a policy becomes a claim, it will be paid just as he expected it would be paid, but when the money reaches the hands of his widow, the prices of both necessities and luxuries will have so greatly enhanced that the income resulting from his prudence and forethought will provide the widow and children with only about one-half of what he intended to provide them."

The prospect before policy holders as depicted by Mr. Standen is gloomy indeed. Although he is quite justified in declaring that the American life assurance companies could not be held responsible for the disastrous change in the purchasing value of policies when they become claims, the blamelessness of the companies would be no consolation to the sufferers. The whole argument of Actuary Standen is an endorsement of the judgment recently expressed by THE CHRONICLE. His address accentuates and emphasizes the desirability of all the policy holders in Canada whose interests are jeopardized by the silver scheme, being fully protected from all possible risk of having their policies paid in any other form of money than the currency of this Dominion, or its equivalent in value.

### BANK OF ENGLAND RETURNS.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR A SERIES OF YEARS

Items in Returns	Sept. 13,	Sept. 13,	Sept. 13,	Sept. 11,	Sept. 9,	COMPARISONS FOR 1896.		
	1886.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	July 1,	August 5,	Sept. 2,
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Circulation, excluding								
Bank post bills.....	122,700,000	128,770,000	127,650,000	131,550,000	135,760,000	139,814,000	139,100,000	137,613,000
Deposits.....	129,215,000	169,310,000	219,870,000	267,470,000	286,825,000	342,418,000	307,760,000	291,780,000
Securities.....	158,310,000	170,598,000	155,870,000	169,951,000	210,671,000	244,740,000	217,630,000	216,948,000
Reserve of Notes & Coin	63,685,000	87,922,000	155,650,000	161,940,000	161,898,000	180,612,000	180,612,000	166,608,000
Gold and Bullion.....	107,000,000	131,450,000	109,250,000	209,500,000	213,605,000	242,426,000	235,715,000	220,221,000
Proportion of reserve to								
liabilities.....	48½ p.c.	52½ p.c.	70½ p.c.	60½ p.c.	50½ p.c.	54½ p.c.	58½ p.c.	56½ p.c.
Bank rate.....	3½	4	2	2	2½	2	2	2
Market rate, 3 mos. bills	2½	2½	0 10	½	1 7-32	.....	.....	.....
Price of Consols.....	100½	98¾	102 5 16	107½	112 9-16	.....	.....	.....
Price of silver per oz ..	87½ cts	68½ cts	59½ cts.	61½ cts	61 cts.	.....	.....	.....

The above statistics show at a glance how money has been accumulating for some years in the Bank of England, and to what is owing the rise in the bank rate last month after remaining over two years at 2 per cent. The deposits show a gradual expansion since 1886 year by year, until, from the sum of \$129,215,000 held in that year, they reach their maximum of \$342,418,000 on 1st July, 1896. From that point they began to decline, the first break being in the last week in July, when \$3,500,000 was withdrawn; then a second break came at end of August by a reduction of \$13,000,000. Up to the early part of August gold had been steadily flowing in, in the second week the tide turned, and in the last week of that month, and continuously, the withdrawals of gold reached such considerable sums that the Bank put up the rate to 2½ per cent., with a marked advance also for 3 months bills. The proportion of reserve to liabilities stands higher than when the rate was 4 per cent, from which we are disposed to believe that any further advance is not probable, save possibly by a fraction should the result of the United States election cause a flutter in the money market. The decreased market value of silver in the last ten years, the decline being from 87½ cents per ounce to 61 cents, a drop of 26½ cents, is very significant, when an agitation is afoot to make silver the standard of value in the States. The present American dollar is worth its face value only when silver is at \$1 29 per ounce, at present therefore each dollar is only worth

about 47½ cents. It will be noted that the circulation of the Bank of England in ten years past only expanded \$17,000,000, or about 15 per cent., while the deposits and general business increased over 100 per cent, the same causes which keep our circulation from enlarging proportionately to that of loans being at work to keep that of the Bank of England from equally expanding. While the funds in the Bank have been enlarging, there has been developed a demand for capital for all manner of enterprises, a joint stock company mania having set in some time ago, and money being asked for railways, factories, breweries, ship building yard, mines, Government and Municipal loans, all over the world. In 1891 the total offered for subscription was \$322,975,000; in 1892, \$405,600,000; in 1893, only \$245,700,000, a check having come from the American panic; in 1894 the amount went up to \$459,173,000, in 1895 it was \$523,450,000, and this year up to the most recent date reported the sum was over \$600,000,000. The danger is that a sharp reaction will set in, as many of these enterprises and loans will prove disappointing to investors.

The contingencies of the Presidential Election about a fortnight hence are so serious that no doubt the Bank has prepared itself to meet the worst that is likely to happen if free silver wins the day. If it does not, then confidence will be gradually restored, and the money market relieved of a very disturbing element.

**THE MOLSONS BANK.**

The Molsons Bank Report for so many years in succession has been so satisfactory, it that has come to be regarded as the established order of its business. This year's record adds another success to the line. Considering the circumstances attending banking operations in the past year, the results are quite as gratifying as when the net profits were larger. What has been avoided, what losses have been averted, what salvage has been realized, are quite as proper subjects for congratulation as what has been realized. Out of the business of a year of depression, political disturbances, and suspense, the management secured net profits to extent of \$224,084. This exceeds the results of 1895 by \$1,257, the percentage to capital being 11.25. Towards this the large Reserve Fund of \$1,375,000, to which it was raised in October, 1895, contributed its due quota. To the shareholders is apportioned 9 per cent. upon their stock, in two half-yearly dividends each of 4 per cent. and a bonus of 1 per cent. Respecting this form of distribution, some adverse remarks were made at the meeting, but the President expressed the judgment of the Board to be in favor of keeping the dividend at the established rate of 8 per cent., and distributing any excess of profits as a bonus. This policy has this advantage, it is elastic, it gives a normal sum to be relied upon, and leaves it open to the Board to increase the amount distributed to the shareholders, or withhold any increase, according to the results of the year's business, without it being said that the dividend has been reduced. Out of profits the sum of \$25,000 was added to Rest, bringing this fund up to \$1,400,000, or 70 per cent. of the capital paid up, which is ample for all practical purposes. The balance also of Profit and Loss was augmented, the sum carried to next year being \$62,652. This is a balance we favor being kept at a good figure, as it is far more easy and much more agreeable to draw upon that for meeting bad debts than to interfere with what has been formally laid aside as a Reserve Fund. The interest-bearing deposits of the bank since last year have only increased \$462,000, much of which no doubt is owing to interest being added to principal. There has been, clearly, no bidding for these funds. The discounts have increased by about the same amount. Call loans also enlarged by \$439,277, most of the funds for which were drawn from balances with foreign agents. In other items the changes in the past year call for no comment. A pleasant feature of the annual meeting was a short speech by Mr. A. F. Gault, who was at one time a Director of Molsons Bank, highly complimentary to the Board and management. We were glad to hear the President "sit down upon" a proposal for directors to be changed every three years. The idea would never be favored by a business man, for it would involve withdrawing every director just when he had become most capable of efficient service.

The General Manager, Mr. F. Wolferstan Thomas, was highly and very justly complimented, and very appropriately congratulated upon the results of the past year. A very timely reference also to the ability

and zeal of Mr. Elliott and Mr. Durnford, the General Manager's highly valued lieutenants, was made at the annual meeting, which met with the hearty approval of the shareholders present.

**FIRE LOSSES IN CANADA FOR SEPTEMBER, 1896.**

DATE 1896.	LOCATION.	OCCUPATION.	TOTAL LOSS.	INSURANCE LOSS.
Sept. 2	Welland	Saw Mill (S.P.)	\$ 2,000	Nil
1	Vankleek Hill	Hotel & Dw'ling	6,000	\$ 4,500
4	Barrie	Store	1,000	1,000
3	Pine Tree	Lumber	32,000	26,000
4	Greenwood	Barn	1,000	1,000
5	Langford	do	1,000	1,000
7	Collingwood	Steamer	20,000	15,000
6	Little Current	Sawmill (S.P.)	15,000	6,000
9	Parry Sound	Lumber	15,400	15,400
4	Simcoe	Hotel	2,500	2,000
1	Tp. Carleton	Dwelling	1,500	1,000
10	Montreal	Laundry	100,000	50,000
13	Hamilton	Pat. Med. Fctry.	3,600	3,600
18	Toronto	Com'rcial block.	20,000	15,000
15	Cartier	Store	4,200	4,200
18	Toronto	Warehouse	3,000	3,000
20	Moncton, N.B.	Sugar Refinery	180,000	120,000
21	Simcoe	Stores et Dw'gs.	7,000	2,500
21	Uxbridge	Barn	1,600	1,000
23	Burke's Falls	Shingle Mill	4,000	2,500
23	Delhi	Com'rcial block.	8,000	6,300
21	St. Pierre	Butter Factory	1,800	1,000
25	Etchemin	Dwellings	2,800	1,100
22	Tp. York	Church	2,000	1,700
25	Stratford	Barn	3,000	2,000
24	Tp. Ameliasburg	do	1,300	1,100
24	Windsor	Dwelling	4,000	Nil
27	Ottawa	Store	1,700	1,700
20	Sherbrooke	Sash Fet'ry (W.P.)	7,500	5,500
27	St. Jovite	Dwelling	2,500	2,000
29	Windsor	Barns	3,500	Nil
25	Brampton	do	2,500	2,100
Totals			\$461,400	\$305,200
Add 20 per cent. for unreported losses and losses under \$1000.			92,280	61,040
Totals			\$ 553,680	\$366,240

**SUMMARY FOR NINE MONTHS**

	1895.		1896.	
	Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.	Total Loss.	Ins. Loss.
For January	\$ 1,970,760	\$ 1,438,280	\$ 422,400	\$ 267,880
" February	1,543,320	400,920	378,480	288,720
" March	1,073,700	880,560	418,200	292,680
" April	823,800	246,960	671,840	408,000
" May	457,080	246,240	1,098,240	600,840
" June	373,080	241,720	680,280	583,700
" July	650,875	333,750	390,360	331,980
" August	465,840	230,160	352,240	229,000
" Sept.	548,280	267,000	553,680	366,240
Totals	\$7,846,795	\$4,287,500	\$5,017,720	\$3,364,140

In reference to the statement of Fire Losses for September, we are much obliged to a correspondent in St. John, N.B., for stating that the loss on a shop at Moncton should have been located at Apohaqui; the sawmill reported burnt was at Newcastle, not St. John; the lumber at Joggin's burnt on 18th was insured for \$15,000, not \$4,500. We go to considerable trouble and expense to have this monthly report correct, but occasional errors must occur, so we shall be always glad for any corrections required.

**EXPOSURE OF A BENEFIT ASSOCIATION RING.**

A scandal of colossal proportions has arisen out of the exposure made by a Mr W. A. Simmons in regard to an alleged ring in the Massachusetts Benefit Association, the details of which are published by *The Insurance Herald*. Shortly after organization, an iron clad contract was entered into, by which nine directors agreed "to work in harmony for the best interests of the Association," and the signers pledged themselves "never to reveal the workings of the Association." By that contract a close corporation was formed, partaking very much of the nature of a mercantile firm, the interest of each signer being agreed to be held as a heritable property, the equitable value of which was "to be paid to his heirs, executors or assigns." The practical effect of this secret agreement was to create a firm of nine persons who were exclusive owners of the Massachusetts Benefit Association. Mr. Simmons, who is responsible for the exposure, was one of the signers of this extraordinary contract. He explains that it was made effective by the original policies under which all policy-holders had exactly the same rights, being called in and replaced by new forms, by which the original rights of the policy-holders were cancelled, and the parties to the secret agreement "legally placed in charge of the Association." He explains how the scheme brought enormous profits to the coterie in charge. He says: "It was understood during my connection with the Association that the expense fund was to be used for management purposes. In my own policy this was \$3 per year. I understood from one of the committee recently that in his policy it was \$15 per year. If the smaller figure be taken, it would represent \$150,000 per year, and if the amount is in other policies in excess of \$3, it would amount in the aggregate to the sum named by one of the committee recently, nearly \$500,000 a year." This was indeed a very nice sum to be handled by the directors as a management fund, it being stated that between \$400,000 and \$500,000 was annually appropriated by them. It appears that Mr. Simmons and other directors were Grand Army men, hence the Association "getting a stronghold among that contingent." The President, Mr. George A. Litchfield, says *The Herald*, denies the charges and courts an investigation, but that paper regards his statement, that the expenses were less than in other companies, as irrelevant. "Such a plea would apply to a stock company; but in the case of a beneficiary association, run 'solely in the interest of the members,' it is entirely out of place, and will not hold water when brought before the Courts."

The New York Insurance Report for 1896 states the total income of the above Association in 1895 as \$2,732,839, the number of policies and certificates in force 51,940, covering insurance for \$112,568,780. The assets are given as \$1,165,410, with a total of \$546,915 of "contingent mortuary liabilities." According to this Report the disbursements in 1895 were \$2,811,399, which exceeds the income by \$78,560. Our esteemed Louisville contemporary thinks the affairs of the Association are in a precarious state, and that those who

have made fortunes out of that secret agreement will have to disgorge.

**SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE.**

A paper read before the Insurance Institute of Yorkshire, by Mr. Henry Brown, raises and discusses the questions as to what constitutes "sickness," and what is an "accident" in an insurance sense, and how far they are related. As the tables for a risk of "sickness only" are lower than for "sickness and accident" combined, enquiries are made if a policy covering sickness only will secure compensation to an assured who is sick "owing to an accident," the idea being to cover the double risk at the cost one. A very odd claim for compensation was made by the holder of an accident policy, because he had caught rheumatism accidentally, which was a highly ingenious attempt to make an accident policy cover a case of sickness. As illustrative of popular ignorance, an application was named asking the cost of insuring an income to bedridden woman of \$10 per week. Between accidents proper, and sickness, the distinction should be drawn clear and sharp. Physical incapacity is the basis of the claims under both classes of policy, and discrimination is necessary as to the cause of it. The modern system of sickness insurance is merely an extension to a wider class of the Friendly Society principle, which itself is a recrudescence of a plan in vogue many centuries ago. Late in the 17th century Defoe suggested a scheme to prevent disabled persons from meeting charitable help. A century later a bill was passed by the British House of Commons, but thrown out by the House of Lords, to enable artisans to provide for sickness and old age by weekly payments. The Upper House never did a more unwise nor more unpatriotic act. The sickness insurance business proceeds more cautiously than that of the friendly societies, as medical examinations are conducted scientifically, and not as a mere form. How generally sickness prevails is shown by one person out of every ten claiming indemnity in the first year of the policy. This, however, is an English statement which is affected by the influenza epidemics which have been so serious for the past five years. In Glasgow last year, for example, the death rate from this disease rose from 23 per 1000 to 53 per 1000. Strict medical examination of applicants by a competent physician is as essential to this class of insurance as to life assurance. As the risk of sickness as a rule increases with age, a company ought to lay by a reserve to offset this increasing liability. To check policyholders from malingering or "playing the old soldier," it is advisable to place the limit of insurance at considerably less than his income when well, though even this will not wholly prevent frauds by the assured shamming sickness in order to secure an income during a fit of laziness. "Accident insurance," said Mr. Brown, as reported in the *Post Magazine*, "is not a very ancient science. In 1850 only one company was in existence; in 1860, 5, in 1880, 9; in 1895, 31. But he omits stating that under the ancient guilds, sufferers by accidents were provided for. The Employer's Liability Bill,

passed in 1880, gave rise to a number of companies, owing to a desire to insure all the workmen in a factory or mill. The usual results followed, a boom set in for new companies, which led on to competition, then the amalgamations, liquidations, and other modes of withdrawal. The accident companies had forgotten to insure themselves from sickness. In 1885, these companies had an aggregate income of \$3,000,000, in 1894 it reached \$7,000,000. The number of accident policyholders in 1895 in Great Britain was only 350,000. The author is baffled by the difficulty of defining what is an accident. Of course there is the dictionary meaning, which is, "an event that takes place without one's foreknowledge or expectation, or one proceeding from an unknown cause, or is an unusual effect of a known cause." The phrase in general use in policies describes an accident as an event which results "directly and immediately from some violent, accidental, external and visible means." This we regard as amply sufficient and sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes in protecting a company from improper claims, and shielding policyholders from unjust denials of their claims. Whether anything more definite is needed to protect companies from claims arising from injuries alleged to be accidental, but which were designedly inflicted, or were the natural consequence of some imprudence, is an open question. But if the word "accidental" is properly interpreted, such in-

juries cannot be so classed, as we cannot allow that to be an "accident" which is the ordinary, the natural, or inevitable consequence of a man's own act. If A, being unable to swim goes into deep water and drowns, that is no accident, if B, knowing nothing of fire arms or explosives, handles a gun or dynamite, and loses a limb, such injury is no accident, nor is it one if C, walks on a railway track, and is hurt. Another point is the definition to be given to "permanent disablement." It seems a hard doctrine, but it is true, that until a limb is actually severed from the body its permanent loss of power or usefulness is very uncertain, as the curative effect of a verdict in Court granting an injured person a permanent indemnity is most remarkable. As to temporary disablement the Friendly Society rule is sound, the recipient of accident insurance indemnity ought to abstain from all work, or accept a less sum. The restriction of sickness insurance to a few of the more serious diseases is a new feature. Such disorders as small-pox, diphtheria, typhus, etc., are accidental inflictions, the sufferer is usually the victim of circumstances beyond his control. Companies therefore are treating them the same as accidents, in regard to rates and compensation. The writer of the paper we have had under review warns companies engaged in sickness insurance that they must be as careful life offices, or they will endanger their safety and permanence.

THE FISHERIES OF CANADA.

Showing by Provinces the yield, the exports, and the value of the plant employed.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL RETURNS.

Year		Nova Scotia.	New Brunswick.	P. E. Island	British Columbia.	Ontario.	Quebec.	Manitoba and N. West	Total Canada.
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1869 to 1884.....	Total yield .....	95,973,895	37,050,505	12,140,186	9,258,907	7,640,209	30,554,424	54,613	192,672,808
1885.....	Total yield .....	8,253,922	4,005,431	1,293,430	1,078,038	1,342,692	1,719,460	.....	17,722,973
"	Total exports .....	4,743,876	1,111,498	400,941	727,672	271,908	649,953	54,153	7,960,001
"	Value of fishing plant .....	3,010,000	1,075,879	493,143	809,805	378,274	930,358	.....	6,697,459
1886.....	Total yield .....	8,415,362	4,180,227	1,141,991	1,577,348	1,435,998	1,741,382	186,950	18,679,288
"	Total exports .....	3,773,666	909,194	451,851	643,052	292,874	718,180	54,571	6,843,388
"	Value of fishing plant .....	2,936,425	331,075	494,230	872,445	386,710	793,410	.....	6,814,295
1887.....	Total yield .....	8,379,782	3,559,507	1,037,420	1,974,887	1,531,850	1,773,507	129,084	18,386,103
"	Total exports .....	3,899,077	729,060	350,886	910,519	313,250	618,126	54,852	6,875,810
"	Value of fishing plant .....	2,940,061	1,311,173	479,075	767,455	469,920	781,156	.....	6,748,840
1888.....	Total yield .....	7,817,031	2,441,864	876,802	1,902,195	1,839,869	1,860,013	180,677	17,418,510
"	Total exports .....	4,447,040	787,182	258,923	1,164,014	402,507	631,880	98,037	7,793,183
"	Value of fishing plant .....	3,229,845	988,007	379,890	1,036,132	558,620	670,521	.....	6,893,005
1889.....	Total yield .....	6,346,722	3,067,039	886,431	3,348,068	1,963,123	1,876,194	167,679	17,655,256
"	Total exports .....	4,269,312	705,117	221,210	993,623	397,885	553,797	71,264	7,212,208
"	Value of fishing plant .....	2,849,777	1,227,300	293,369	1,315,772	551,626	532,307	.....	6,770,151
1890.....	Total yield .....	6,636,445	2,609,055	1,041,109	2,481,432	2,009,637	1,615,120	232,104	17,714,902
"	Total exports .....	4,231,948	588,564	187,743	2,374,717	354,995	626,182	97,857	8,461,900
"	Value of fishing plant .....	3,243,310	1,184,745	348,320	1,511,279	563,443	521,544	.....	7,372,641
1891.....	Total yield .....	7,011,300	3,571,021	1,238,731	3,008,755	1,806,390	2,008,879	332,969	18,978,078
"	Total exports .....	4,936,666	809,809	490,259	2,274,654	418,894	700,667	84,452	9,715,401
"	Value of fishing plant .....	2,726,232	1,432,880	376,288	1,679,520	584,167	532,350	44,749	7,647,856
1892.....	Total yield .....	6,340,724	3,203,922	1,179,857	2,849,414	2,042,198	2,236,732	1,688,254	18,941,171
"	Total exports .....	5,137,556	661,104	302,202	2,351,083	461,468	641,844	120,141	9,675,398
"	Value of fishing plant .....	2,597,908	1,403,650	540,706	1,806,352	712,804	528,615	59,780	7,647,835
1893.....	Total yield .....	6,407,280	3,746,121	1,133,368	4,443,993	1,694,931	2,218,005	1,422,093	20,688,661
"	Total exports .....	4,760,364	756,437	433,188	1,889,072	454,552	631,901	197,510	8,743,050
"	Value of fishing plant .....	3,206,782	1,489,038	644,518	1,910,177	663,912	646,236	120,507	8,681,557
1894.....	Total yield .....	6,547,387	4,351,527	1,119,738	3,950,478	1,759,069	2,303,586	787,088	20,719,573
"	Total exports .....	5,100,873	715,619	447,813	3,541,303	436,379	672,784	187,919	11,102,692
"	Value of fishing plant .....	3,361,972	1,686,712	468,736	1,984,905	839,022	904,811	148,720	9,439,116
Total yield 1869 to 1894.....		108,259,850	72,376,308	23,089,132	36,873,555	24,966,866	49,908,071	4,201,541	379,575,323
Total exports 1869 to 1894.....		115,263,458	17,684,434	7,549,882	25,263,056	6,193,047	19,700,950	1,226,710	192,881,537

**CANADA'S FISHERY WEALTH.**

Considerable attention has been recently drawn to the proprietary rights of Canada in the fishery products drawn from waters within her boundaries. Respecting our absolute ownership of those products, and their value, there appears to be some misapprehension, as the measures adopted by Canada to protect her properties from marauders have been spoken of in public as "unfriendly to a foreign country." It is essential to a clear view of this matter for this fact to be fully understood, that the proprietary rights of Canada over the fish living in the waters she owns are indisputable. There would have been no irritation, or little, caused by our effectively protecting our rights, if the American fisheries had also been prudently guarded. But, in the waters of the United States, unrestricted fishing was carried on most recklessly until the fisheries were almost destroyed, as they would be in our waters were there not armed cruisers constantly on the watch. It takes a force of 700 men to keep poachers at bay during the fishing season, and to protect the fisheries from lawless operators during the close season. The movements of foreign fishing vessels, which are incessantly trying to trespass on our preserves, keep our cruisers busy, and call for their utmost vigilance. This being the situation, we submit that those who are perpetually menacing our rights, who are ever on the watch for opportunities to steal the property of Canada, and who do steal it in spite of our diligence, who necessitate our spending over \$100,000 a year in marine police in self-protection, have not the slightest claim to our consideration when they need any form of accommodation for pursuing their operations. The complaints made against Canada for her alleged unneighborliness in refusing to supply bait, stores, provisions, etc., to American poaching vessels, are on par with complaints that might be made by burglars against householders who refused to afford them any assistance in carrying on their nefarious business. American fishermen who are not poachers, who are willing to obey our laws, can obtain a license to purchase "bait, ice, seines, lines and all other supplies" in the waters of Canada, the license being, very justly, forfeitable if such supplies are re-sold to an unlicensed vessel. The table we publish in connection with this shows that, ever since Confederation our fishery harvests have steadily increased in value, the increase in the last twenty years being from \$10,350,000 in 1875 to \$26,719,000 in 1894. A large amount of the increase is the direct fruit of diligent protection given to our own fishermen, and the strict enforcement of a close season. Owing to the neglect of this policy the American shore and lake fisheries have been ruined. Those who revel in large figures will enjoy our calculation based on official returns, that the total weight of fish caught and reported in 1894 amounted to over 300 millions of pounds, salmon constituting about one tenth of this vast total, and herring about a twelfth. Besides edible sea products, a large sum is yearly realized from seals, fish oil, fish guano and other by products. Fisheries which yield annual harvests worth twenty millions of dollars are too important a source

of national wealth and of business to be left to the mercy of those prodigals who, having destroyed their own fisheries by the recklessness of greed, are now trying to threaten or wheedle Canada out of her exclusive rights over her treasures on the sea-board, and on those parts of the great lakes which are owned by this Dominion.

**A CHAMPION OF THE JEWS.**

THE imputation cast on the Jews as addicted to incendiarism has called out a defence of this race by Mr. Max Dembufsky. He read a paper in "The Evolution of the Jew" at the recent Session of the Fire Underwriters' Association of the North West, in which he eloquently upheld the claim of this people to a high position in all that is honorable citizenship. "If the measure of success in life is determined by such attributes as frugality and thrift, keen intellect, unbounded physical energy, supreme chastity of the female sex, love of family, commercial sagacity, and an exalted regard for honorable intercourse, the Jew," said Mr. Dembufsky, "must be accorded a position in life second to no other nationality. The noblest trait of the Jew, benevolence and charity, is the proudest badge that can adorn the breast." He went on to show how the people of Israel had been made clannish by persecution, but in modern times had assumed every public function, and fulfilled all the duties of citizenship. As to the Jew's alleged love of fire, while 90 per cent. of the wholesale liquor houses in Chicago were owned by Jews, the loss ratio in this business in past five years was only 2 per cent. The Indemnity Exchange of Kansas City insures millions of dollars of Jewish property scattered among the largest cities, yet in all its years it had never sustained a Jewish loss. Mr. C. C. Hine, whose anti-Jew articles provoked the above rejoinder, highly complimented the speaker on the ability of his address. The truth in this matter is this, no more worthy citizens are found, nor abler, than those Jews whose capital is engaged in legitimate, mercantile enterprises. But a certain class of this people, corresponding to a class in other races, are largely drawn into occupations of a more or less doubtful character, where only a very precarious income can be realized, and where consequently the temptations are strong to wrong doing. Men of evil character "most do congregate," Gentiles as well as Jews, in cities like New York, and to lay the blame of their deeds on their race is unjustifiable. In this city we have a number of Jews who are universally respected, whose honor as business men is beyond dispute, and whose benevolence to their own poor as well as to those of other races is indeed, as Mr. Dembufsky said, "the proudest badge that can adorn the breast." Those Jews who engage in incendiarism do not do evil because they are Jews, but because they are a disgrace to their race by unfaithfulness to the moral teaching of the Scriptures which the Israelite as well as the Christian regards as divinely inspired. The official criminal statistics for City of New York report that amongst all the races in that city the Jews have the best record for freedom from offences against the law.

### AN ATTEMPT FOILED TO SWINDLE THE BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The case of *West et al. v. the British America Assurance Company*, tried in the United States Circuit Court, Colorado, is one which brought out such emphatic censure from the Bench as is seldom heard. Suit was originally entered by plaintiff to recover \$6,500 on a building and contents. It was shown on trial that the building cost and was worth \$3,000, but the personal items claimed upon were proven not to have been in the house at the time of the fire and some never were there. Judgment having been given against the insured, a motion was made for a new trial. The Court at once asked of Counsel: "What have you to say for putting in a claim for \$6,500 for the house fully and conclusively proved not to have been worth \$3,000?" This searching question was met only by a general remark about men's opinions differing as to the value of property. The Court admitted this, but required explanation of so great a discrepancy as 100 per cent. in the valuation of the property. The plaintiff's Counsel contended that some improvements had been made. These, however, were not specified, which was suspicious. It was also urged that the value of certain personal items should be taken into account. The Court sharply pointed out how the plaintiff himself had testified that a good many articles which had been put in his proofs of loss were not in the building at the time of the fire, and he did not correct his proofs of loss. on the contrary, in filing a bill of particulars in the suit he put in the same items which by his own testimony he had excluded. The Judge was interrupted by Counsel who, at this point, gave a general denial to the statement made by the Court, only to draw upon him another rebuke for misrepresenting the facts. The Court went on to say: "It is not of course contended that by incorporating in the proofs of loss some small matters which were not destroyed and which were not in the house, the plaintiff will defeat his right of action; or that by a slight over valuation of his building he may defeat his right of action—this is not a case of that kind. This man had built the house, he knew its cost to be a dollar, yet he put in his proofs of loss more than double the cost of the building, for a loss of \$3,000 worth of property he claimed \$6,500. It is utterly impossible that any right-minded man can say it was done by mistake. there was a deliberate and wilful intention to deceive the company and to get more insurance than he was entitled to." The Court went on to point out that a high valuation had been put on linen which the insured had himself packed up for his wife to carry away before the fire. The Court closed its severe comments on this case by remarking, "there was a deliberate intention to swindle the insurance company." This case exposes the danger fire insurance companies incur by granting policies for amounts in excess of the value of the property insured. This is not the general policy of any fire insurance company, but the companies are very much at the mercy of some of their agents, especially at such distant points as Colorado. We are glad to note there is one judge at least in that district,

who does not shrink from denouncing an attempt to fleece an insurance company by over valuation as "a deliberate intent to swindle." By a singular coincidence the Western Assurance Company appeared as defendant in the same Court as the above case was heard in, and during the same session. This arose from a claim for loss by fire in a stamp mill. It was proved that the statements made in the application respecting the condition of the building as a risk were utterly false. So completely was this established that the Court withdrew the case from the jury and gave judgment for the Western Assurance Company. Thus these associated companies were each successful in defeating attempts to defraud them, in one case by false valuations, and in the other by fraudulent statements in an application.

### A SUGGESTION TO CANADIAN INSURANCE OFFICIALS

Meetings are held every year by fire and life insurance officials in the States, under the auspices and management of Underwriters' associations. At these gatherings papers are read on topics of practical interest, which elicit discussions both interesting and profitable. Incidental to the meetings some social function, usually a dinner, is held, which, judging by reports, is highly enjoyed, and doubtless has much value, apart from their recreative aspect, in bringing those engaged in a competitive calling which is apt to create personal friction, into such pleasant contact as dissipates any unfriendliness that may have arisen from business struggles. Would it not be well for gatherings of the same character to be held in Canada? It may be answered that meetings of Dominion underwriters are regularly held at which business matters are considered. With these we are familiar, as it is our duty and pleasure to record their proceedings. But those meetings are very restricted in their range, they are chiefly devoted to technical matters; the discussions are very useful no doubt, but dry, and occasionally productive of irritation. The meetings, or conferences, held in the States, and in the Old Country, by taking a wider range, carefully prepared papers being read on topics of general interest, have a high educational value, as they encourage study and provide opportunities for those of wide information to impart their knowledge to those who are younger, less experienced, or less well read. On the junior officials of the insurance companies, meetings of this class would have a most wholesome influence, by widening their ideas as to the mental equipments required for advancement, and inciting in them the highly laudable ambition to take in the future a prominent position in the conduct of these gatherings. There is an ample supply of the necessary professional and literary ability amongst those occupied in the insurance field in Canada to make such periodic meetings successful in every respect. We trust the suggestion we have ventured to throw out will be seed dropped on good ground, springing up into results yielding profit and pleasure to the insurance officials of Canada.





FINANCIAL ITEMS.

Seventy American railroads had a decrease in their September earnings from figures of 1895.

Out of \$444,720 of defalcations in the States reported for last June, the insurance companies are down as sufferers for \$9,990; municipalities for \$31,014; governments \$17,730; and express, railway and loan companies combined, \$4,200. The balance of 85 per cent. occurred in general business circles.

The eighty-five street railways and traction companies in the States and Canada earned \$29,500,000 from January 1st to 1st September this year. The Brooklyn system heads the list with receipts this year of \$3,879,548. Twin City is next with \$1,315,338, and Kansas city stands third with \$1,283,380, running neck and neck with Third Avenue, New York.

The Government of France has stopped the influx of foreign bronze coin by seizing it. The Credit Lyonnais is being used to acquire foreign coins for export; English coins are taken at 6 per cent. discount; Italian at 15 per cent.; Spanish 30 per cent. Until an international currency of coins and paper is established it is better for each nation to allow the circulation only of its own issues.

The United States exports to the United Kingdom in 1895-'96 were \$405,623,127, which is 46 per cent. of their total exports, to other British possessions the United States exports were \$106,127,913, so that the British Empire took 58 per cent. of the total exports of the States in 1895-'96. The United States imports from Great Britain and her Colonies were 259,000,000, which is 33 per cent. of the total.

The first Session of the new House of Commons passed a Supply Bill for a larger total than was asked by the late administration. It was no doubt a difficult task to recast the Estimates so as to reduce the expenditure by any considerable sum in the very brief time between the formation of a new Ministry and the meeting of Parliament, but we trust the Finance Minister will not feel it necessary to spend all the money voted, but will address himself diligently to effecting such reductions as will earn the administration the credit of being bent upon "economy and retrenchment."

The aggregate annual income of the artisan classes in Great Britain is given by an English statistician in a recent review as \$3,210,000,000, or about \$240 per head for 13,500,000 of workers, men, women, boys and girls. The rest of the population are calculated to have a gross annual income of \$4,050,000,000. The total income of the people of the old country is put thus by the *Daily Chronicle*.

	Number.	Total Income.	Per Head
The masses.....	30,000,000	\$3,210,000,000	\$107 00
The classes.....	9,000,000	4,050,000,000	439 60

The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. J Carlisle, has written a letter for publication in which he states that the government keeps the silver coinage at par not from compulsion but expediency, and to carry out this policy the issue of silver dollars is limited as being "essential to the maintenance of their parity in effecting exchanges." But, he adds, if under Mr. Bryan's scheme silver dollars are coined freely the Government's ability to preserve the equality in the exchangeable value of the coin would be destroyed, gold would leave the country, and the point would soon be reached when silver dollars would fall to their intrinsic value as fixed by the price of silver, as they could no longer be redeemed in gold, or received as on a parity with gold.

The U.S. Treasury gold reserve after going up to \$125,600,000 has been decreasing for over a week past at rate of \$200,000 per day, owing to withdrawals, it is believed, for hoarding. As the prospects of Mr. Bryan are getting darker these withdrawals will cease.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada during September, as compiled by the New York *Journal of Commerce*, amounted to \$8,200,650, which is about \$6,000,000 less than the figures for the same period of 1895. The following table exhibits the losses by months:

	1894.	1895.	1896.
January .....	\$10,568,400	\$11,895,600	\$11,040,000
February.....	11,297,000	12,360,200	9,730,100
March.....	9,147,100	14,239,300	11,839,600
April .....	11,519,000	11,018,150	12,010,600
May.....	10,777,800	7,761,350	10,618,000
June .....	8,282,300	9,223,000	5,721,250
July.....	19,307,000	9,085,000	9,933,250
August.....	10,432,800	9,920,000	8,895,250
September.....	10,149,900	10,765,300	\$8,200,650
Total .....	\$117,512,900	\$96,277,900	\$90,088,700

Correspondence.

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

TORONTO LETTER.

"Civis" writes to the Toronto *Globe* regarding the C. F. U. A.—A good work done by the Association—That Watrous Engine—Frequent fire alarms in Toronto—New water main to be constructed—The Niagara Falls Meeting—Specific Ratings much wanted for Toronto—Something about fires—Mr. Thomas R. Wood.

DEAR EDITOR,

A communication, over the name "Civis," appears in the *Globe* of 10th inst., in which that honorable body, the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, is aspersed to the effect, in the opinion of the writer, that "there is no more arbitrary, unreasonableness, or dogmatic organization in Canada to-day than the same Association." Think of that for a reputation! The writer is feeling sore over what he calls "friction" between the C. F. U. A. and the town of Welland, which, I suppose, has arisen because the town authorities are not maintaining the standard of efficiency requisite for its qualification as a "D" or "C" town. This qualifying and like matters are after all a question of dollars and cents, and are not the result of arbitrariness, unreasonableness or dogmatism. The Association, after years of experience, and with the assistance of the skill and experience of many valued members, experts, I may say, older than itself, has prepared classified standards of fire appliances, and general requirements for cities, town and villages, and it is left to each individual municipality to elect the class for which it will qualify. From the lowest plane F, where the maximum of rate applies, to the highest A, there is a wide range, and if any town below A desires lower rates of insurance, the rate payers, who are the property owners and insurers, have only to consider whether the saving to be effected by lower rates would justify the expenditure necessary for a superior fire fighting outfit and consequent higher classification. As I have said, it is just a simple business matter of dollars and cents. The writer accuses the C. F. U. A. of "unfairness," because it insists on the maintenance of its standards, and also insists on certain things "of no practical value" but which are costly. As to this, it is likely the Association knows best; likely better than any individual who may be unduly prejudiced. He winds up in the usual way, "municipalities should unite and oppose these measures, and from local insurance companies if necessary," etc., etc., remarks which need no comment from me. It is a fact nevertheless that the C. F. U. A., which has come under the censure of "Civis," has done, and is still

doing, splendid work for the Canadian public generally and the property owners of this country in particular. It has inaugurated a system that takes cognizance of everything that appertains to or affects fire insurance. Fire appliances, fire insurance rates, applicable to ordinary and extraordinary hazards, and the ever changing conditions of manufacturing, mechanical and commercial operations, the introduction and use of electricity, incendiaryism, insurance legislation, and so on, all come under the supervision of their respective committees. It maintains an expensive staff of well qualified inspectors and officials, whose duties, while directly exercised for the Association, are incidentally a great benefit to the public, who through them are taught how to improve their properties to lessen rates and lessen the risk of fire. In the application of its methods it may not be perfection, but it is never "unfair" to the public, and any real grievance or misunderstanding is sure of rectification, if application be made to either of its secretaries. Perhaps these facts are not as generally known as they might be, which is my apology for referring to them here. I am advised that the Waterous Fire Engine is on its way to Toronto, and will, in a day or two be submitted to a final trial before its giving over to the city. We all hope it is here "for keeps" now.

Ten fire alarms in twenty-four hours, with one \$7,000 loss and several small ones, remind us that there are yet great possibilities in the way of another conflagration. It is hinted that incendiaryism is at the bottom of one or two of the Sunday fires. In this connection it is satisfactory to learn that the Board of Works have accepted the recommendation of Engineer Keating to construct a 24 inch water main on Front street from Simcoe to Church. The chief representatives of Fire Insurance Companies are expected to report for duty at the "Clifton House," Niagara Falls, to-morrow. There will be but few matters of grave importance submitted to the meeting, outside of what may be called routine work. Lumber rates are likely to be increased for one thing, and the fire insurance rates on vessel properties will be reconsidered. I hope to be able to report to you further after the meeting.

I have not heard that the City of Toronto has either accepted the Companies' offer for settlement of the fire loss incurred in August last by the burning of the Exhibition stables, nor have I heard that, as threatened, they have entered suit for recovery of the whole loss as claimed.

As time goes on it is becoming more and more apparent to thoughtful underwriters that the day has come when specific ratings similar to those in use in Quebec city should be prepared for Toronto. Convenience, equity, and real economy all call for the early preparation of specific rates.

Matters in the Toronto Board are progressing about as usual. That is to say, as the end of the year approaches, there is the usual accumulation of knotty and naughty affairs that only an annual meeting can wipe off or disentangle. You see there is a clean slate always after the Annual. Good intentions always come in with the New Year. By the way, besides advancing rates, the Toronto Board has this year increased fines for delinquent members, and it has come about that there is now no misdemeanor or infraction of a Board Rule that any self-respecting gentleman would care to commit that would not cost him \$25. It is also noticeable, that fines for some kinds of offences are now cumulative. One afternoon's amusement, toying with a few Mutuals and other non-Boarders, which is strictly prohibited, has already cost one gentleman \$70. You will see therefore that only gentlemen with assured incomes can afford to indulge in such peccancies.

Mr. Thomas Wood will be greatly missed this year at the Annual Meeting of the C. F. V. A. He is at present roaming in Rome, and doing as the Romans do, whatever that may be. He has been to Sicily, and visited the original Atna (smoking allowed with a drop of the crathur), which, he says, like its namesake in Hartford, is still doing a select fire business at the old stand. Both, too, have made their pile. Vale.

ARIEL.

TORONTO, 12th October, 1896.

## Notes and Items.

A store-keeper at Columbus, Ohio, attributes his insolvency to the delay of the Lloyds underwriters to settle with him after a fire.

Interim dividends have been declared by the Atlas Assurance Co. five shillings per share, and the Manchester two shillings per share.

One of the largest mortgages ever executed is one taken recently by the New York Life Insurance Co. for \$1,400,000 on a building corner of Pearl and Broadway, New York, occupied by the Central National Bank.

One more unfortunate is the United Life Insurance Association of New York, which was closed up in August last, aged 10 years. At close of 1895 it had certificates in force for \$11,221,000, with \$2,552 of assets.

B. A. Weatherley, having had his license as agent revoked by Commissioner Fricke of Wisconsin, brought suit to have the law declared invalid. The Court, however, upheld the Commissioner, and dismissed the suit.

Machines used in a saw mill, made after a fixed pattern, and which are fastened to the floor only by bolts and screws and run by belts connected with shafting and can be removed without injury to the building and used as well in another building, are not fixtures. *Mr. J. A. Finch in Rough Notes.*

The Citizens' Fire Insurance Co. of Columbia, S. C., has collapsed. Its motto was, "accept everything and pay nothing." Its policies were offered by Mr. Frank W. Anthony of Brooklyn, whose circulars soliciting business have been sent to agents in Canada. The Secretary will be prosecuted, as not a few others ought to be who have offered wild-cat insurance in Canada.

Is death from blood poisoning caused by a sore toe due to tight tan shoes death by "external, violent and accidental means"? Such is the question raised by the case of S. I. Smith against the Western Commercial Travellers' Association, the suit being for \$5,000. According to usage in the States, it will take probably several years to settle the tight tan shoe question.

A lady mis stated her age when applying to the Norwich Union for a policy, and this was discovered when the policy became a claim. The company could have repudiated the contract, but generally undertook to pay what would have been due had the correct age been stated. The heirs refused this, and sued for the full amount of the policy. They lost the case, and deservedly have to suffer for such grasping folly.

An event which follows another is not necessarily the effect of the preceding one, but at times the succession of events is very suspicious of some connection between. Immediately following Mr. Bryan's meeting at Worcester a building was burnt by incendiaries, loss \$54,000 to insurance companies. Considering Mr. Bryan's incendiary attacks on capitalists and insurance companies, we feel disposed to connect his fiery speeches with this fire.

Damage to tobacco by smoke is made the basis of a claim under a fire policy in New York to the extent of \$15,000. We do not see how this is to be adjusted except by getting connoisseur cigar smokers to go through the boxes alleged to be damaged, and testing them, but what standard to adopt will be a puzzle. Certainly a claim for total loss cannot be maintained, as the cigars will sell freely for a reduced price, and users of the 2 for 5 variety would never detect them being "off flavor."

The Royal, in its sprinkler leakage insurance department, has sustained its first loss. A section of sprinkler piping—about 100 feet of it—in the basement of the department store of Sheppard, Norwell & Co., fell down day before yesterday and flooded the crockery department before the water could be shut off. The piping was not properly installed. It was studded to the lath and plaster only. "This accident," says Mr. Geo. P. Field, "is of a kind which was not anticipated by the companies writing sprinkler insurance, and opens up the question as to how many equipments are similarly installed."—*New York Commercial Bulletin*.

A Paris insurance company after prolonged litigation has been condemned to pay the State tax fixed in 1872 of 3 per cent. on the dividends, interest, and other profits of public companies, and on the annual interest on all loans for municipal, industrial, and commercial undertakings. The company having to borrow money on securities at the Bank of France paid the usual tax, but brought an action against the Treasury to recover it. After appeal to a higher Court the company was defeated. The result is that on one loan in France the tax is paid twice, first by the borrower, then by the lender on the dividend or interest he derives from the operation.

An apology to Mr. W. J. Fair.—In an article in our issue of March 15th last, under the title of "The Standard Life Assurance Company Misrepresented," the following sentence occurs: "We are credibly informed that an application for a policy in the Standard Life Assurance Company has been withdrawn by the applicant because the financial standing of the Company has been misrepresented to him." Although the person charged with having made such misrepresentation is not named in the article above referred to, we find that in a paragraph in our issue of April 1st last, referring to the above mentioned article, the authorship of the alleged misrepresentation is attributed to Mr. W. J. Fair, the Kingston agent of the North American Life Assurance Company. In the last mentioned paragraph the following statements are made: "We must repeat our regret at any agent misrepresenting the position of another company. The game is one that two can play at, and in the matter of the 'Standard' we fancy if that Company entered the lists with Mr. Fair, he would soon wish he had kept on a more legitimate line than misrepresentation." We exceedingly regret the innuendo in the above paragraph, charging that Mr. Fair had been guilty of the misrepresentation in question. We beg to state that the article and paragraph above referred to were written upon information conveyed to us, which perhaps somewhat hastily we assumed to be true without making any enquiry of Mr. Fair or anyone representing him.

We desire now to state that we have no information in our possession that would justify us in charging Mr. Fair with the misrepresentation in question. The paragraph and article were inserted without due and proper consideration, and we have to apologize to Mr. Fair for the innuendo therein contained.

The Life Assurance Companies Bill for Australia recently introduced provides that a policy of life assurance shall not be challengeable as to the age of the assured after one year. This has met with sharp opposition, on the ground that it may enable frauds to be perpetrated in life assurance companies by persons understating their age.

The Supreme Court of Georgia held, in the recent case of *Cuesta v. Royal Insurance Company of Liverpool*, that where there was an action upon an insurance policy insuring the person to whom it was issued against "all direct loss or damage by fire" on certain described goods, and it appeared from plaintiffs' evidence that after the building in which the goods were located had been considerably injured by fire they were permitted to remain therein until the building had been repaired by putting on a new roof, that after this was done the owner of the goods, by his agent, resumed his business, in the course of which some of these goods were sold, and that they were subsequently injured or destroyed by the falling of the walls of the building, this occurring 25 days after the fire; the trial judge did not in this state of facts err in holding that the loss sustained by plaintiff was not the result of the fire, and was right therefore in granting a non-suit.

#### ROBERT McLEAN.

The sad news of the death in Toronto of Robert McLean, Esq., secretary of the Canadian Fire Underwriters Association, came as we were going to press. For the past few days it was evident to his friends that his weakness was such that death could not long be delayed, and the end coming when it did was not therefore unexpected. Mr. McLean had reached the patriarchal age of eighty years, and up to his last hours remained in a bright and happy frame of mind. The recent loss of his wife the faithful partner of his long and useful life, no doubt greatly affected his mind, and the prospect of early rejoining her in the "better land" he looked forward to with unfaltering hope.

The announcement of his decease reached the Canadian Fire Underwriters Association at the morning session held on Wednesday at Niagara Falls, and created much sensation. It was felt that he had had his oft expressed wish, by dying in harness as Secretary of the Association. We hope to refer at greater length to Mr. McLean's career in our next issue.

#### PERSONALS.

MR. FRANK E. DINGLE, of Oshawa favored us with a call this week.

MR. JAMES BROWN, for some time past with the Sun Life Insurance Company of Canada, has accepted an engagement with a firm in Glasgow, Scotland.

MR. ROBERT C. WELCH, for many years with the Royal Insurance Co. at Quebec, and latterly office Manager with Messrs. Wood & Evans in this city, has been appointed Inspector for Eastern Ontario and the Province of Quebec for the Lancashire Insurance Company. We congratulate Manager Thompson and Mr. Welch on the appointment.

MR. RICHARD WALTON, Secretary of the Manchester Fire Office, has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. R. Martin Smith as Secretary of the Company's Liverpool branch. Mr. Walton commenced his insurance career 26 years ago in the North British & Mercantile; he afterwards was in the service of the Scottish Commercial, and the Northern, to which he is returning with a store of very varied and valuable experience.

**THE MOLSONS BANK.**

The forty first annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Molsons Bank was held in the Board Room, on 12th Oct. The President, Mr. J. H. R. Molson, occupied the chair, and among those present were: Messrs. S. H. Ewing, J. P. Cleghorn, A. F. Gault, Daniel Wilson, W. M. Macpherson (Quebec), H. Barbeau, Jas. Wilson, J. Try Davies, Sir Joseph Hickson, H. Archbald, W. M. Ramsay, John W. Molson, R. K. Watson, S. W. Ewing, John Crawford and D. Crawford.

The President requested Mr. James Elliott, the Local Manager, to act as secretary, and named Messrs D. Crawford and J. Try Davies to act as scrutineers.

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS**

The General Manager, Mr. F. Wolferstan Thomas, then read the annual report of the Directors, as follows —

“GENTLEMEN—The Directors of the Molsons Bank beg to submit to the shareholders the forty-first annual report of the Bank, for the year ending 30th September.

“After making ample provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net earnings for the year amount to \$224,084.55, which have been distributed by two semi-annual dividends of .4 per cent., each and a bonus of one per cent, making in all \$180,000.

“From the surplus left amounting to \$44,084.55, and balance of \$43,567.62, carried over from last year, amounting in all to \$87,652.17, the sum of \$25,000 has been transferred to the Rest, making that account \$1,400,000, leaving at credit of Profit and Loss account the sum of \$62,652.17.

“The branches of the bank have all been inspected once or oftener during the past year, and we are able to report that the different members of the staff continue to perform their duties with the utmost loyalty to the Bank and to our entire satisfaction.”

**GENERAL STATEMENT**

Of the affairs of The Molsons Bank on the 30th Sept., 1896.

*Assets.*

Capital paid up .....		\$ 2,000,000 00
Rest in Account .....	\$1,400,000 00	
Rebate in full on Notes Discounted.....	80,000 00	
Profit and Loss Account.....	62,652 17	
		1,542,652 17
Interest, Exchange, etc. reserved.....	118,892 34	
2nd Dividend.....	80,000 00	
Bonus of One p. c to Shareholders.....	20,000 00	
Dividends unclaimed .....	630 00	
Notes in Circulation .....	1,669,995 00	
Balance due to Dominion Govt.....	24,677 03	
Balance due to Provincial Govt.....	7,968 07	
Deposits not bearing interest.....	1,564,423 03	
Deposits bearing interest.....	8,216,418 98	
Due to other Banks in Canada .....	305,477 25	
Other Liabilities.....	8,941 00	
		12,047,132 20
		<b>815,590,084.37</b>

*Liabilities.*

Specie.....	\$316,469 81
Dominion Notes .....	738,872 25
	\$1,055,342 06
Deposit with Dominion Govern- ment to secure Note Circulation .....	90,000 00
Notes and Cheques of other Banks.....	334,917 32
Due from other banks in Canada.....	118,539 19
Due from Foreign Agents.....	225,172 35
Due from Agents in U. K.....	25,880 15
Dominion Government Debentures Canadian, Municipal and other Securities.....	404,570 60
Canadian, British and other Rail- way Securities.....	741,065 87
Call Loans on Bonds and Stocks .....	803,877 76
Bills discounted and current.....	11,202,733 53
Bills past due estimated loss pro- vided for .....	62,882 48
Real Estate other than Bank Pre- mises on Real Estate sold by Bank.....	70,020 13
Bank Premises H. O. Branches.....	100,000 00
	<b>815,590,084.37</b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.**

Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, 30th September, 1895.....	\$ 43,567 62
Net profits for the year, after deducting ex- penses of management, reservation for in- terest accrued on deposits, exchange and provision for bad and doubtful debts.....	224,084 55
	<b>\$267,652 17</b>

Appropriated as follows:—	
1st Dividend at rate of 8 per cent. per annum, 1st April, 1896.....	\$ 80,000 00
2nd Dividend at rate of 8 per cent. per annum 1st October, 1896.....	80,000 00
1 per cent. Bonus, 1st October, 1896..	20,000 00
Rest Account.....	25,000 00
	<b>205,000 00</b>

Leaving at credit of Profit and Loss Account, 30th September, 1896.....	\$ 62,652 17
--	--------------

Having submitted the report, the President intimated that the Directors would give any information shareholders might desire. Mr. Crawford thereupon made some comments on the statement which were replied to by the President, who said the Board wholly disagreed with the proposal to pay a higher dividend and omit the bonus. A dividend should not be based upon the largest earnings of any particular year. A dividend should be regular. If good times come, then a bonus may be given. When a bonus is earned it will be paid. A bonus is always safe; you can give it when earned, and withhold it when not earned. As to parallel columns in the financial statements, their introduction is uncalled for and would be of no benefit. Mr. Crawford characterizes the general statement as a bald one; but I think that it is as full, or probably fuller, than that made by any other bank in the Dominion, and when a shareholder comes here he can get any further information he desires. With regard to directors of banks retiring at the end of three years, I don't see why a director, at the end of that period, should be no longer fit to take part in the management of a banking institution. If such a rule had applied, we should have lost the services of our late President, Mr. Workman, who was our president for ten years, and I don't think that anybody in particular thought that it would have been desirable to replace him from any such cause as Mr. Crawford suggests would make such a change desirable. Our business has been conducted for a great many years, and I am proud to say that it has been successfully carried on. Since the establishment of the Bank, forty-one years ago, as a joint stock bank, we have paid an average dividend of 7 8-10 per cent., which I think is very satisfactory, and speaks well for the general management of the institution. The directors get the best information they can as to what is going on, and use their own judgment as best they can. We endeavor that the Bank shall be better than we represent it, and I may say that such is the case. We want the Bank to be better than we show it, and I think that when I and others are gone, it will be found that this is so. I move the adoption of the report.

The motion was seconded by Mr. S. H. Ewing, and agreed to unanimously.

Mr. A. F. Gault moved:

“That the thanks of the shareholders are due, and are hereby tendered, to the President, Vice-President and Directors of the Bank, for their attention to its interests during the year just closed.”

In making the motion, Mr. Gault said that, having been at one time a director of the Bank, he could speak of the manner in which the directors gave their attention to the affairs of the institution. Every minute was gone into, and the shareholders could feel that any business coming before the Bank was attended to in a thoroughly business-like way. He considered that the financial statement which had been submitted was a satisfactory guarantee that the interests of the Bank had been well looked after. There were very few institutions that could show a better result than had been shown that day.

The motion was heartily seconded by Mr. H. Barbeau.

The President in response took occasion to speak very highly of the industry and ability of Mr. Wolferstan Thomas in the 27 years of his service. References of a complimentary character were made to Mr. Hy Durnford, the inspector, and Mr. Elliott, the local manager, whose connection with the Bank had extended over very lengthened periods.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The scrutineers then reported that the old Board of Directors had been re-elected, viz., Messrs. Henry Archbald, J. P. Cleghorn, S. H. Ewing, S. Finley, J. H. R. Molson, W. M. Macpherson (Quebec), and W. M. Ramsay. At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, Mr. J. H. R. Molson was re-elected President, and Mr. S. H. Ewing, Vice-President.

# LANCASHIRE

**INSURANCE COMPANY OF ENGLAND.**

CAPITAL AND ASSETS EXCEED \$20,000,000

CANADA BRANCH, HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

J. G. THOMPSON, M'GR

**HALF  
A CENTURY . . . . .**

. . . . . of business integrity has placed upon a substantial foundation the

Its Policies contain  
.. LIBERAL PROVISIONS...

or Incontestability:  
Grace in payment of premiums;  
Extended Insurance under terms of the Maine Non-Forfeiture Law.

It issues an admirable  
INSTALMENT POLICY...

PRINCIPAL @ 162 St. James Street, MONTREAL, P.Q.  
CANADIAN @ 17 Toronto Street, TORONTO, Ontario.  
AGENCIES @ 103 1/2 Prince William St., ST. JOHN, N.B.



**UNION  
MUTUAL  
LIFE  
INSURANCE  
COMPANY,**

Portland, Me.

HON. JOHN S. HALL, Q.C., M.P.P.  
ALBERT J. BROWN,

SELKIRK CROSS, Q.C.  
W. PRICOTT SHARP,

**HALL, CROSS, BROWN & SHARP,**

Advocates, Barristers and Solicitors,  
TEMPLE BUILDING,

185 St. James Street, MONTREAL.

**Radford & Walford,**

Accountant, Auditors & Trustees.

No. 59 Imperial Buildings, St. James St, Montreal.

F. W. RADFORD; Chartered Accountant and  
Commissioner for the Provinces.

**MERCANTILE FIRE**

INSURANCE COMPANY

INCORPORATED 1875

Head Office, WATERLOO, ONT.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL . . . . . \$200,000.00  
DEPOSITED WITH DOMINION GOVERNMENT . . . . . 50,079.76

All Policies Guaranteed by  
The LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INS. CO.  
with Assets of \$15,000,000.

WM. A. SIMS, President, JOHN SHUI, Vice-President  
JAMES LOCKIE, Man. Director. T. A. GALE, Inspector.

**MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.**

**GOVERNMENT AND RAILWAY BONDS.**

**INVESTMENT SECURITIES**

BOUGHT AND SOLD

Insurance Companies requiring Securities Suitable for deposit with Dominion Government or other purposes can have their wants supplied by applying to

**R. WILSON SMITH,**  
British Empire Building, MONTREAL.

Debentures and other desirable Securities purchased.

Those of our correspondents who know of such securities in their immediate neighborhood will greatly oblige by communicating as above.

**NOW READY FOR DELIVERY**

NEW AND ENLARGED EDITION

... OF THE ...

**Life Agents Manual**

(BY J. D. HOUSTON)

... CONTAINING ...

**ALL THE PREMIUM RATES**

... AND ...

SYNOPSIS OF CONDITIONS OF THE

**Policies and Applications**

Of all the Life Assurance Companies actively doing business in Canada.

**BROUGHT RIGHT UP TO DATE**

New Rates, New Policies, New Reserves.

Hm. 4 1/2 per cent. Reserve Tables  
Hm. 4 per cent. do do  
Am. 4 per cent. do do  
Am. 3 per cent. do do

**INTEREST TABLES, DISCOUNT TABLES, &c., &c.**  
Indispensable to all interested in Life Assurance

**ORDERS SHOULD BE BOOKED AT ONCE  
POST FREE, - \$1.50**

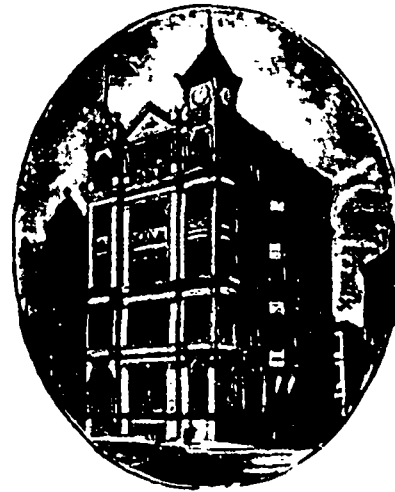
PUBLISHED BY

**The Insurance & Finance Chronicle**  
MONTREAL

**WALTER KAVANACH,**

CHIEF AGENT

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE CO. of Edinburgh,  
 GENERAL AGENT FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC,  
 NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY,  
 117 St. Francois Xavier Street, MONTREAL.



THE  
**Sun Life**

ASSURANCE COMPANY  
 of Canada.

Head Office, - Montreal  
 R. MACAULAY, *President.*  
 Hon. A. W. OGHILVIE, *Vice-President.*  
 I. B. MACAULAY, *Secretary.*  
 G.F.O. WILKINS, M.D., *Medical Referee.*

THE  
**OCEAN ACCIDENT & GUARANTEE CORPORATION**

(LIMITED.)

HEAD OFFICES 40 to 44 Moorgate St., LONDON, Eng.

RICHARD J. PAULL, General Manager.

Authorised Capital.....\$2,000,000  
 Subscribed Capital.....1,318,000  
 Paid-up Capital.....500,000  
 Reserve at December 31st, 1895.....814,864  
 Deposited with Receiver General in Canada.\$75,000

**BUSINESS TRANSACTED.**

Accident and Employers Liability

The Ocean offers the most Liberal Policy.

CANADA HEAD OFFICE: Temple Building, MONTREAL.

ROLLAND, LYMAN & BURNETT, Managers.

Advisory Board, { W. M. RAMSAY,  
 E. B. GREENSHIELDS

Agents Wanted in Unrepresented Districts.

... THIS ...

**Keystone Fire Insurance Co.**

OF SAINT JOHN, N.B.

INCORPORATED A.D. 1889. CAPITAL, \$250,000.

Home Office, - 128 Prince William St., Saint John, N.B.

**DIRECTORS.**

HOWARD D. THOMP, *President*      HON. A. F. RANDOLPH, *Vice-President*  
 THOS A. TEMPLE, *Managing Director.*      E. L. TEMPLE, *Secretary.*  
 JOHN BERRYMAN, M.D.      ALEXANDER MACAULAY,  
 MAJOR A. MARKHAM      H. H. McLEAN,  
 A. P. BARNHILL.

Toronto Office, Canada.      Building, Malcolm Gibbs, Gen. Agent.

**STANDARD WORKS FOR SALE**

... AT THE OFFICE OF ...

The Insurance & Finance Chronicle,  
 MONTREAL.

Griswold's Fire Underwriters Text Book, ..	Price, \$15.00
Griswold's Fire Agents Text Books, ..	" 2.00
Griswold's Handbook of Adjustments, ..	" 1.50
Insurance Blue Book and Guide, ..	" 0.75
Life Agents Manual, (New Edition) ..	" 1.50
Life Chart of Companies doing business in Canada, ..	" 0.25
Relton's Fire Insurance Companies and Homes, ..	" 5.00
Tabor's Three Systems of Life Insurance, (Russia Leather)	\$2.50

Every Agent should have a Copy of the above.

Full list of Insurance Publications free on application

**Benedict's Lightning Day Indicator**  
**And HOLIDAY GUIDE**

For computing number of days from one date to another within the year or the following year.

On card 50c., on sheet for pasting in your Interest Book 40c.

BY MAIL FOR ABOVE PRICE.

**MORTON, PHILLIPS & CO.**

Stationers, Blank Book Makers and Printers.  
 1755 and 1757 Notre Dame St., MONTREAL.

**WE** print **EVERYTHING**, from the largest book to the smallest business card.

We bind Account Books for Merchants, Banks and Railway Companies, and Law Books and Part Books, in the most Expensive and the Cheapest Styles. No order is too large or too small.

**John Lovell & Son**

19 to 25 St. Nicholas Street,

**MONTREAL**

ESTABLISHED 1797.

Reliable Agents wanted at unrepresented points

**The Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society.**

CAPITAL - - - \$5,500,000.00

LOSSES PAID - \$58,000,000.00

Head Office for Canada:—TORONTO.

JOHN B. LAIDLAW, *Manager.*

WALTER KAVANACH, MONTREAL, General Agent for QUEBEC PROVINCE.

W. P. AINS, General Agent,  
 Truro, N.S.

T. E. & M. B. ROBINSO, General Agents,  
 St. John, N.B.

ALEXANDER DIXON, General Agent,  
 Toronto.

KIRBY & COLGATE, General Agents,  
 Winnipeg, Man

**PHENIX INSURANCE COMPANY**

(Of Hartford, Conn.)

ESTABLISHED IN 1851

**CANADIAN BRANCH.**

Full Deposit with the Dominion Government.

HEAD OFFICE: 114 St. James Street, Montreal

G. M. SMITH, **SMITH & TATLEY,** L. W. TATLEY.  
 Applications for Agencies solicited. MANAGERS FOR CANADA.

THE

**GREAT = WEST**  
**Life Assurance Co.**

"The more liberal a policy is made, consistent with safety, the more policies are to be issued. And this the Great West folks seem to believe." *Vide Monetary Times, April 17th, 1896.*

\*

The above undoubtedly refers to the Great West Collateral Security policy which gives to policy holders:

- The **LARGEST** Cash Value.
- The **LARGEST** Guaranteed Loan Value;
- The **LARGEST** Guaranteed Paid Up Insurance;
- Freedom from restriction as to residence or occupation

All these guarantees are backed by a Reserve calculated on the 4 per cent. basis.—The Great West Life being the first and only Canadian Company that has, from its inception, provided this security for its policy holders.

What takes well with the insuring public is a good thing for Agents to have.

For particulars as to territory and terms address

**JAS. LYSTÉR**, Manager for Quebec,  
 Mechanics Institute Building, MONTREAL, QUE.

**JAS. McLENAGHEN**, Resident Director, Ontario, 12 King Street East, TORONTO.  
**J. H. BROCK**, Managing Director, WINNIPEG, MAN.

THE

**CANADA ACCIDENT**  
**ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

Writes all approved forms of Accident business, including  
**PERSONAL ACCIDENT. EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY.**  
**ELEVATOR LIABILITY. PLATE GLASS.**

Largest Assets in Canada of any Company doing business in Canada.

**T. H. HUDSON, Manager.**

HEAD OFFICE:

20 St. Alexis Street, (corner Notre Dame St.)  
**MONTREAL.**

**The Temperance and General**  
**LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

**S**ATISFACTORY GAINS in every respect, and NOT A DOLLAR OF INTEREST IN ARREARS OR A DOLLAR'S WORTH OF REAL ESTATE on our Bank on Dec. 31, in either 1894 or 1895, is the report made by The Temperance and General Life Assurance Company

Report for '95 mailed to Ottawa, Dec. 31, 1895

HEAD OFFICE, Globe Building, TORONTO

**H. SUTHERLAND,**  
 Manager.

**AGENTS WANTED.**

THE

**WESTERN**

Assurance Company.

**FIRE AND MARINE.**

INCORPORATED IN 1851.

Head Office, TORONTO.

Capital Subscribed .....	\$2,000,000
Capital Paid-up .....	1,000,000
Cash Assets, over .....	2,320,000
Annual Income, over .....	2,400,000

LOSSES PAID SINCE ORGANIZATION, \$22,000,000

**DIRECTORS:**

**GEORGE A. COX, President.**

HON. S. C. WOOD	W. R. BROCK
GEO. R. R. COCKBURN, M.P.	J. R. OSBORNE
GEO. McMURRICH	H. N. BAIRD
ROBERT BEATY	

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

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

**The British America**  
 ASSURANCE COMPANY

INCORPORATED 1833.

HEAD OFFICE - - TORONTO.

OLD RELIABLE PROGRESSIVE  
 FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

Cash Capital, - - -	\$750,000.00
Total Assets, - - -	1,450,537.45

Losses paid since organization, \$15,095,188.88

**DIRECTORS:**

**GEO. A. COX, President.** **J. J. KENNY, Vice-President.**

HON. S. C. WOOD	JOHN BOSKIN, Q.C., LL.D.
S. P. MCKINNON	ROBERT JAFFRAY
THOMAS LONG	AUGUSTUS MYERS

H. M. PELLATT.

**P. H. SIMS, Secretary.**

**C. R. C. JOHNSON, Resident Agent,**  
 42 St. John Street, - - - **MONTREAL**

# NEW YORK LIFE

## Insurance Company

JOHN A. McCALL, - President.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

ASSETS .....	\$174,791,990 54
SURPLUS (4 per cent. Standard) .....	24,038,677 89
INCOME, 1895 .....	37,892,265 56
PAID FOR INSURANCE IN FORCE .....	799,027,329 00

### CANADIAN BUSINESS, JANUARY 1, 1896

NEW INSURANCE ISSUED, 1895 .....	\$2,171,000 00
INSURANCE IN FORCE .....	\$20,626,514 00
INCOME—Premiums .....	807,480 27
INCOME—Interest, Rents, etc. ....	201,004 47
<b>TOTAL INCOME IN CANADA IN 1895 .....</b>	<b>1,008,484 74</b>

ASSETS IN CANADA as per sworn statement to Canadian Government, January 1, 1896 .....	\$3,898,953 04
Additional Deposit with Canadian Trustees under the Insurance Act June 16, 1896 .....	412,300 00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS IN CANADA, ..</b>	<b>4,311,253 04</b>

LIABILITIES IN CANADA under policies issued since March 31, 1878, for Reserves (by Canadian Government Standard) and Policy claims, etc., in course of payment .....	\$3,243,456 18
Under policies issued previous to March 31, 1878 .....	540,849 57
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES in Canada, Jan. 1, 1896 .....</b>	<b>3,748,305 75</b>

SURPLUS ASSETS IN CANADA, over and above Reserves (Canadian Government Standard) and other liabilities on Canadian Policies	526,947 29
---	------------

For Agencies apply to

DAVID BURKE, General Manager, MONTREAL