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R. WILSON SMITH.

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The work of the Park and Ferries Committee in connection with The Mountain will meet with the warm approval of our citizens. It is deserving of all the improvements which may be contemplated by its guardians. It is the favorite drive of the wealthy, and the play-ground of the poor. On its summit, after a sweltering day in the city below, "ankle deep in moss and flowery thyme," one can enjoy the gloom and coolness of declining day, and, far away from the dust, heat, filth, and noisomeness, revel in the fresh air, and rest the tired brain and body. It is the sanitarium of our city, and must be carefully kept and guarded.

Lest We Forget: The Times says: "There will be no commiseration for the Transvaal, but there will be some sentimental regret over the obliteration of the Orange Free State."

Now that we are almost in sight of Pretoria and Peace, it may be well to recall the position of affairs in South Africa at the time of Mr. Kruger's insolent declaration of war. Many months have come and gone since Great Britain was called upon to consider the grimly ludicrous demands contained in Mr. Reitz's despatch—that at the bidding of a petty State, which owed its very existence to much misplaced magnanimity in the past, British troops were to be withdrawn from British territory, and a promise given not to land any more. Much has been made clear to us since then, and nothing more so than that the Transvaal Government never intended from the outset to grant any real reforms, fully believed in the ability of the Boers to drive the British into the sea, and purposed setting up a Dutch Federation in South Africa. The Lord Mayor of London was not alone in regarding the Boer ultimatum as "confounded cheek." The majority of us deplored the suicidal

madness of Messrs. Kruger and Steyn in attempting to throw off British supremacy. Yet, the maintenance of that supremacy, although it has welded the Empire together, has cost enough in blood a nd money to justify punishment of the Free State leader and the Africander traitors in the Cape Colony.

Let it be remembered that Mr. Schreiner, the Prime Minister of the Cape, as the brother-in-law of Mr. Reitz, permitted arms and ammunition to be imported into the Transvaal, never protested against the theft of gold that was in the custody of the Cape Railway. or the seizure of coal belonging to that railway by the Orange Free State. More, though Prime Minister of one of Her Majesty's possessions, he made the amazing announcement that civil servants of the Cape must not bear arms because the Colony would be neutral. As if, when the British Empire was in danger, every one of its sons is not free to rally round the flag. We wonder what Mr. Schreiner now thinks of the conduct of the Canadians, Australians, and New Zealanders. In any case, Mr. Schreiner must be removed from office, and replaced by someone of whose loyalty to the Queen and Empire there is no doubt. Messrs. Kruger and Steyn will probably be punished by the surviving relatives of the poor, misguided burghers whom they have lured to death and disaster.

Then having convinced the Africander population that she has not only the intention, but the means, to maintain her supremacy in South Africa, and having punished traitors and frustrated their knavish tricks, the Queen can be relied upon to give to all her subjects in South Africa peace and happiness. But Messrs. Kruger, Steyn, Reitz and Company's dream of conquest and power has vanished with Lord Salisbury's latest declaration: "Not a shred of independence shall remain."

Equally In discussing the continued heaviness of Applicable the fire loss, to which underwriters are in Canada: becoming accustomed, but not reconciled, the New York "Commercial Bulletin" gives the following excellent advice to its readers:

"The officers of the various insurance institutions cannot prevent fires, but a more enlightened state of public opinion would have a good effect on this serious drain. To begin at home, each citizen should see that ashes are kept in metal cans, that chimneys and flues are safe, that curtains are so adjusted that they will not blow against gas jets, that only safety matches are used, and generally that the number of preventable fires shall be greatly diminished. Tenant and owner should co-operate with their fellows to secure rigid building laws, ample water supplies and a proper fire department."

Perhaps the best way of arousing the insured to a sense of his obligation in the matter of trying to prevent fires will be the advance in rates. Companies cannot be expected to do business at less than cost, and fire insurance interests are too important to the country to be jeopardized by foolish competition, neglected building laws, insufficient water supplies, or weak and inefficient fire departments.

The Growth of The vigilant observer of the life assur-Endowment ance field, cannot fail to notice how, gradually, but surely, the scope of the business is extending and the field broadening. The primary idea of life assurance is indemnity, so far as money can indemnify, to those dependent upon a living provider, in case that provider be taken away by death, just as fire insurance is, primarily, indemnity for actual property loss sustained by fire. It is to this protective feature of life assurance that a majority of those entering its ranks turn at the present time, while in its early days life assurance, pure and simple, on the continued payment plan only, was sought for almost universally. All this has greatly changed, however, until endowments and annuities have come to play a most conspicuous and important part in the conduct of the business, and industrial or prudential insurance covers a pretty large field.

The steady growth of these forms of assurance proves that they are adapted to meet a legitimate demand, and that different classes have varying insurance wants. While it will continue to be true that the great majority of the people who insure will seek after protection for those dependent upon them at the lowest cost safely obtainable, yet, the class is large and will increase who desire to add to the protective idea that of investment-a safe accumulation available at a future definite time for the benefit of the assured. The average man who is in possession of a fairly profitable business, or the man who occupies a permanent salaried position, has no difficulty in seeing that it is not only a fair investment, but a prudent thing to do, to take out an endowment policy, which may easily be paid for with current savings from busi-

ness or salary for a few years. The sum of \$5,000 or \$10,000 ready cash awaiting him at the end of a ten, fifteen, or twenty year period, furnishes an attractive prospect, and supplies oftentimes a needed stimulus to prudent saying.

Endowment assurance is a practical and available way to "lay up something for a rainy day" by a large class of men who otherwise will have spent the money saved to meet premium payments without knowing where it has gone.

The To those who have noticed the activity

Metamorphosis and progress which has characterized

of an Inn: the management of the Bank of British North America in Canada within the last few
years, it will not be a surprise to know that the Courts
of Directors have for some some time had under consideration the removal of the London, (Eng.) office
from its present location in Clements Lane, to more
commodious premises.

The new branches which have been opened within the last few years, and the general expansion of the bank's business, have combined to render the present office quite inadequate to the needs of the Bank and its customers, and it has been decided to remove to a new site on Gracechurch Street, a site occupied for the last hundred years by the Woolpack Inn. As might be inferred from the name, the Woolpack was originally started when the wool business of London was centred in the warehouses in the vicinity of Gracechurch Street. The wool business has long since moved elsewhere, but the old Inn has remained until the present, and now gives way to a banking institution established in the reign of King William IV. In its new premises, the bank will have probably four times the room it has in its present building, and a considerable portion of this extra space will be devoted to a reading room for the accommmodation of the numerous Canadian visitors who have occasion to call upon the bank while in England. This reading room will not only be spacious, but it will be suitably furnished and will be at the entire disposal of customers of the bank. There will also be a Board Room large enough to accommodate the shareholders in general meeting assembled, and a spacious banking office giving ample room for the transaction of the bank's growing business, and more in keeping with the standing of the institution than the cramped quarters in which the business is now carried on. The very extensive alterations necessary to transfer this ancient hostelry into a modern bank building will be commenced immediately, and it is hoped that before the close of the year, the new premises will be ready for occupation.

Altogether, it seems likely that Canadian visitors to London will find at "The British Bank" a resting place equal in comfort to that enjoyed by those who found their warmest welcome at the Woolpack Inn. Debat Decis

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Every life insurance company will watch Debatable for the decision of the appeal judges in a Decision. case which has attracted a lot of attention in England, on account of the very extraordinary judgment already rendered. The plaintiff insured his life for \$25,000. After payment of one premium thereon, he permitted the policy to lapse, and eighteen months later he made a demand for the return of his money, asserting that he was induced to insure his life by misrepresentations made to him by the company's solicitor. We are not told the nature of said misrepresentations. Possibly the agent did not pervert the truth to any greater extent than is common with the man who is anxious to sell something or somebody. However, the special jury and the judge seem to have thought that such misrepresentation being made, justified a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount of the solitary premium and costs. Why the fact that the plaintiff had received one year's insurance for his money should count for nothing with the judge and jury in this case, we are at a loss to understand.

However, the court of appeal may regard a year's insurance as having some value, even if the purchaser thereof finds he was influenced by fairy tales told by the seller.

A Few The address of Mr. Thomas B. Macaulay, of the President of the Actuarial Society, at the Fallacies: annual meeting, on the 17th ultimo., dealing with a few of the fallacies in connection with actuarial matters, is now printed in pamphlet form, and is very interesting reading. Men are apt to suffer their minds to be misled by fallacies, and to be deceived by apparent argument which professes to be decisive of the matter at issue, while in reality it is not; and it seems, from Mr. Macaulay's paper, that actuaries have to combat all sorts of error and popular delusion and false reasoning on the part of those who undertake to deal with statistics they do not understand. Those who are classed as "temperate drinkers," and even those in whose brain a too free indulgence in wine or whiskey sometimes paints a landscape, cannot fail to be amused at the use to which Mr. Macaulay puts the wholesale liquor merchant's advertising card "Alcohol and Old Age-Truth versus Fiction." After exposing the absurdity of the contention that teetotalism is destructive to life, he tells the total abstainer that to avoid the bottle's mouth is more hazardous than to face the cannon's

Several other fallacies are laid bare, among them that regarding the supposed high death rate among French Canadians, "the most prolific race upon the face of the earth."

The paper shows signs of much thought and careful preparation, and is calculated to instruct and entertain others than the gentlemen of the Actuarial Society.

Some Great To satisfy an applicant for information Joint-Stock about the paid-up capital and reserve Banks. funds of some of the large joint-stock banks having offices in the English metropolis, we have compiled the following figures from Whittaker. The stability and size of at least one of these institutions is owing to amalgamation with others, the fusion of interests being attended by greater economy in management, and making the transaction of a large business safer and more profitable:

NAME OF BANK	PAID UP CAPITAL	FUND.
National Provincial Bank of England	15,000,000	10'750,000
London City and Midland	12,000,000	12,000,000
Hong-Kong and Shanghai	10,000,000	11,000,000
Bank of Montreal	12s000,000	7,000'000
London and Westminster	14,000,000	9,000,000
Barclay & Company	11,000,000	5,000,000
Loyds Bank	11,000,000	6,500,000
London and County	10,000,000	6,500,000

Still larger institutions, with offices in London are

Credit Lyonais	\$40,000,000	\$12,000,000
Deutsche Bank	37,500,000	11,500,000
Dresdner Bank	32,500,000	
Imperial Ottomau	25,000,000	3,000,000

The condition of the Bank of England towards the close of last year is thus given: Capital, \$72,765,000; Reserve Fund, \$15,683,880; Notes in Circulation, \$144,208,575; Notes unemployed, \$94,589,825; Gold and Silver Coin and Bullion, held at Head office and all Branches amounted to* \$163,464,680.

Note.—The conversion of sterling figures in above tables has been made at \$5 to the £

With nearly all of the leading bankers in the Dominion discussing with the Government the proposed amendments in the Bank Act, we may well rest assured that Canada will continue to merit the high praise bestowed upon her financial institutions, and the banking system of the country.

In the September number of the American Bankers' Magazine the bank flurry in Montreal was made the subject of an article pointing to the impossibility of organizing any system of banking or any protective laws which will absolutely assure the public against the dangers of bank suspension and failure. The article was thoroughly in accord with views already expressed in THE CHRONICLE. Upon the everincreasing competition between our financial institutions the following observations were made: "Where branch banking is a feature, as it is in the Dominion, the fewer and stronger the banks are, the greater the safety with which business can be carried on. The main cause of the bank troubles in Montreal appears to have been that some of the weaker banks in the system found the competition too severe for them * * * * The principle of branch banking, however, involves a competition in which sooner or later all the weaker institutions are compelled to succumb, and there will remain only such a number of strong banks as with their branches can find a reasonable profit within the field to be occupied." After a reference to the practice of some Canadian banks of seeking investments in the United States as an indication that the Dominion is "in some degree overbanked," the writer of the article under review remarked: "the banks that carry on this business need to be very strong in resources and the capabilities of their managers."

At the close of an article which afforded Canadians a very good opportunity to ascertain what others think of the financial mechanism of the Act, the following tribute was paid thereto: "The defects of the Canadian banking system are so few, and its excellencies so great, that it will be comparatively easy for Parliament to bring it as near perfection, by some slight amendments, as any human institution can be made." Even the most vain of the framers of the Acts under which our banks are chartered to do business can hardly wish for higher praise than this, and we hope that the making of any changes in the Canadian Bank Act will be largely left in the hands of the Finance Minister and the bankers.

A Silver Cloud with a shows the proverbial silver lining, there is no good reason why we should not turn the saying inside outside, like Hiawatha's fur mittens, and represent Colonel Bryan as sitting on a silver cloud with a decidedly dark lining. We had hoped that, whatever may be the platform of the Democratic party at the next Presidential election, the silver plank would be omitted.

However, the commercial prosperity of the United States is hardly likely to be jeopardized by any further serious advocacy of the silver heresy, if the business men of the country have any belief in the sagacity of their bankers.

Under the circumstances, perhaps Colonel Bryan, now looming up on the political horizon, sitting on the silver cloud of 1896, will rely for more solid support upon bold denunciations of the greed of the British Empire, and hysterical appeals to his countrymen to interfere in South African affairs. Knowing these Boer champions to be insincere, we must keep cool.

Transvaal Gold:

Lloyds and the Law:

Probably rendered uneasy by the rumoured removal of Mr. Kruger and his ill-gotten gains from Pretoria to some unknown address,

the owners of gold seized by him are beginning to ask for payment of the insurance thereon. The Dreifontein Mining Company has commenced suit against underwriters at Lloyds to recover \$1,500,000 worth of gold which the now tottering Transvaal Government commandeered just before the war. Lloyds insured the safe transit of the treasure to London, but the policy excepted

war risks. A week before the actual outbreak of hostilities, the gold was captured, Payment of the claim has been refused by the underwriters, they contending that the turmoil in the Transvaal at the time of seizure was really equivalent to war. This is said to be one of the largest insurance cases ever heard in the English courts.

As Lloyds and the Dreifontein Mining Company are equally interested in the recovery of the gold, it seems a pity they do not equip a secret expedition to attempt the capture of Oom Paul and hold him as a hostage until he disgorges part of the enormous fortune he is credited with.

However, perhaps Lord Roberts may have already made arrangements with Carrington, or French, Burnham, or the irrepressible Baden-Powell, to produce Mr. Kruger on the anniversary of the Queen's coronation, and he may then be induced to divulge what he has done with the Dreifontein Mining Company's treasure.

A DELIGHTFUL DINNER.

" 'Tis ever common
That men are merriest when they are from home "

"Good wine is a good familiar creature if it be well used."

Shakspeare

Mr. W. Molson Macpherson, president of Molsons Bank, entertained his colleagues of that institution, and a few other friends, at one of the most delightful dinners of the season on Tuesday evening last, at the Mount Royal Club. The guests were Messrs. S. H. Ewing; Colonel Henshaw; E. Stuar; Donald Macmaster, Q.C.; A. D. Durnford; R. Wilson-Smith; W. M. Ramsay; W. Markland Molson; H. Markland Molson; S. Finley; T. Draper; J. Gordon (New York); Thomas Davidson, E. C. Pratt; H. Dobell; J. Try-Davies; H. Archibald; G. F. C. Smith. Regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of Mr. James Elliot, the newly-appointed general manager of the bank, who was attending the bankers' meeting at Ottowa.

After dining wisely and well, several speeches were made to which no one could sit a dull, inactive listen-No citizen of Montreal could, we presume-at least as loyal citizens we hope he could not-eat his dinner and drink his wine in these stirring times without recalling to his mind the existence of the Queen, and the other loyal toasts. At the dinner in question, the guests showed themselves keenly sensible to the virtues of the good things set before them, and, round a table loaded with good cheer, the spirits and gayety of the company found vent in speeches breathing such loyalty to the Empire, that every utterance of the orators of the evening was received with "general ap-plause and cheerful shouts." Several of those present made interesting references to the close connection of the Molson family with the financial history of Montreal, and many were the good wishes expressed for the continued progress and prosperity of the Molsons Bank. Reminiscences of the past, speech, song. and story combined to give pleasure to all present. It was indeed a delightful dinner.

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CANAL STATISTICS.

The greater ease with which heavy goods can be ransported by water than they can on land, was no doubt discovered at an age before we have any history relating to such matters. From observing this, the system of constructing artificial waterways arose. Over 3,600 years ago, a canal of large dimensions existed at Babylon. Large portions of a canal in China extending 1,000 miles is believed to have been built 1,200 years ago. In the 12th century, these waterways were first constructed in Europe, Holland having the distinction of introducing them, as it still has the front rank as the utilizer of canals as a net work of roads. Amsterdam owes its importance to a ship canal 51 miles long, by which ships reach it from the sea. A canal 150 miles long connects the Atlantic with the Mediterranean via Toulouse. Whether locks are a Dutch or Italian invention is disputed. England had no canal until 1755, when one was built from Manchester southward, before the railway era, these canals in England having an aggregate length of 2,200 miles, some of which have been dried up and used as the road-bed of a railway. In 1792 the first canal was constructed on this coninent in the State of Massachusetts. There are now 3.710 miles of canal in operation in the UnitedStates, the second in length being the Erie, completed in 1325, enlarged in 1862, and now proposed to be improved at a cost of sixty millions of dollars, in order to make it a competitor with the St. Lawrence and its connections. The project is one of extreme interest to Canada, to this city in particular, for, if the Erie is enlarged as proposed, it will divert a considerable freight traffic from the waterway of Canada, and from this port, which freight will pass on to New York. The first canal in Canada, the Lachine, was completed in 1826, its original depth being only 4 1-2 feet, and its cost, \$488,400. In 1823, a company was formed to build the Welland Canal. After various changes this great work was finished in 1853, and became a Government work. From official sources we glean the following data as to the cost of the 23 canals now owned and operated by the Dominion of Canada, which we have placed so as to show the outlay last year and the total expenditure on these works up to 1899.

Canals	Outlay 1899 Capital Account	Cost of Staff 1899.	Tolls Revenue 1899.	Total Cost up to 1899.
	\$		\$	
Welland		86,110	158 644	23,771,635
Lachine	162,352	55,990	3,451	10,787,094
Beauharnois		20,613	29,883	1,636,690
St Lawrence	. 513,776	2,819		1,884,794
Lake St Louis	57,607			250,066
', St. Francis	. 57,110			26,530
Cornwall	. 37.649	16,000		6,563,008
Williamsburg	1,392,012	9,960		7,170,592
St. Anne's		1,920		1,170,215
Carillon	. 37,998	11,919		4,154,360
Culbute				379 494
Rideau		30,751	8,425	4,095,044
St. Ours		2,244		121,538
Chambly		18,336		637,057

St. Peter's		*****	*****	648,548 1,247,470
Murray	*********	5,074	1,102	3 019.370
Trent & Tay	166,611 63,935	5,049 13,843	30	3.742.514
Sault Ste. Marie Soulanges	1,442,826	10,040		5,098,260
Not specified		•••••	129,043	
Totals	3,899,877	280,628	371,386	75,404,279

The total quantity of freight passed through the several divisions of the canals in 1898, the last season reported, is as follows:

	Farm products Tons	Marchand Tons	ise Wood Tons	Total
Welland	732,479	267.567	140,031	1,140,077
St. Lawrence		424,376	61,502	1,439,134
Chambly		105,691	155,939	271,830
Ottouwa		3,849	538,250	549,986
Rideau		21,384	30,238	54,946
St Peter's		52,115	€.878	64,490
Murray		8.302	4.037	15,543
Trent Valley		399	26,606	27,676

Up to 1899, since Confederation, the amount of the expenditure on the canals of Canada which was charged to Capital was \$55,875,854, leaving \$20,-528,425, as the outlay prior to Confederation, making the total cost of the canal system, as in above table, \$76,404,279. If we take the amount charged to Capital since 1868 as bearing interest at 3 per cent., we have \$1,676,275 as the annual cost of the canals for interest on their cost since that date. The annual revenue does not cover current expenses. The contrast between the traffic through the Welland Canal and the Erie and other New York canals is very noticeable. From 1869 to 1894, the average annual tonnage of vegetable food passed through the New York canals was 1,500,000 tons; then came a serious decline, so that, in recent years, the average was only 735,000 tons. On the Welland, the average tonnage 1869 to 1894, was 456,480 tons for that class of freight, and since 1894, the average has been 703,200 tons. The secret of the falling off in Erie Canal traffic is the fact that the New York Central has been increasing its freight traffic at the expense of its canal competitor. The New York Central freight of above class. cereal foods, has more than doubled its tonnage since 1888, while the canal in same period had its freight reduced one-half. These facts point to a strong opposition being made by the New York Central to the movement for enlarging the Erie Canal so as to bring back its lost trade. Our enlarged canal route can compete with the railway, but would have a dangerous rival in a deep canal from Erie to New York, so that every possible effort should be made to so develop and equip the St. Lawrence route as to give our canals and the river the supreme control over the traffic from the interior of this continent to the ocean.

Manager William Lewis of the Manchester Assurance Company of Manchester, England, arrived in New York a few days ago.

THE COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY have decided to take over the Accident Branch of the Palatine in addition to its other business.

BRITISH BANK REPORTS FOR LAST YEAR:

The statements for the whole of the banks in the United Kingdom for last year have been published. The returns include those of the Joint-Stock banks of England, Ireland, and Scotland, the Colonial banks that have London offices, the Foreign banks with branches in London, and the private banks in England, but for none of the latter existing in Scotland or Ireland, of which there are very few and none of any importance.

The past year saw a continuance of the movement towards banking consolidation. Four joint-stock banks were merged in larger institutions, one each being taken over by Lloyds; the National Provincial; and Barclay & Co., which have risen to their present eminence by amalgamations.

The example of the Old Country might be followed in Canada, and, probably will be if the amended Bank Act provides wisely designed machinery for effecting bank amalgamations. In Canada there are 38 joint-stock banks, with an aggregate paid-up capital of \$64,245,000; averaging \$1,690,000 each; in Ireland there are 9 joint-stock banks with a total paid-up capital of \$35,600,000, averaging \$3,-845,000 each; and Scotland has 11 joint-stock banks, with paid-up capital of \$46,450,000, averaging \$4,-223,000 each. The average paid-up capital of the English banks is \$3,600,000. With a total population in the United Kingdom of almost exactly eight times that of Canada, there are only twice as many jointstock banks, apart from Colonial and Foreign ones. The question then is worth considering, whether it would not be advisable to follow the British precedents set in the last few years, by arranging for several of our smaller banks being absorbed by stronger institutions. The same movement is afoot in New York and we have heard of its probable extension to other cities in the States, where so many independent banks are a serious evil.

In the United States there were 9.732 independent joint-stock banks in 1899, whose average capital was only \$100.350. The field for bank amalgamation seems therefore very extensive in the States.

Only one British bank failed in 1899, Dumbell's, the capital of which was only \$245,000. The extent of the capital of the British banks at present, and movement since 1899, are shown below; the sterling being converted into currency at par:

Paid up	Paid up	In-
May 1900.	May 1899.	crease
		\$
294,342,000	293,593,000	749,000
45,353,000	45,353,000	J
34,776,000	34,776,000	
511,300	ALC 511,300	•
374,982,300	374.233.300	749,000
	May 1900. \$294,342,000 45,353,000 34,776,000	May 1900. May 1899. 294.342.000 293.593.000 45.353.000 45.353.000 34.776.000 34.776.000 511.300 URL 511.300

The decrease in market value of stocks has extended to the banks of the three Kingdoms. In May, 1890, the average market value of the banking capital of Great Britain was 244 per cent. premium; at a recent as it will be probably this month.

date the average was 236 per cent, premium. It is notable that the Scotch banks fell in that year from 236 to 226 per cent, premium, while those of Ireland declined only one point. The reduced market price of bank stocks recently in England is merely part of the general decline that has taken place in the Old Country in nearly all good securities.

The following table gives the total amount of the paid-up Capital, Deposits, of both classes, and Circulation of the different classes of banks doing business in the United Kingdom, the details of whose returns are periodically published in the "London Economist":

No. Class of Banks	Capital Paid up		
	\$		*
84 England & . Wales.	302,150,000	3,057,600,000	145,750,000
11 Scotland	45,353,000	523,680,000	39,380,000
9 Ireland	34,776,000	240,700,000	32,690,000
4 Isle of Man, &c	511,300	7,320,000	325,000
29 Colonial Banks, in		.,,	,000
London 24 Foreign Banks, in	178,810,000	806,760,000	44,950,000
London	148,450,000	577,165,000	17,885,000
22 Private Banks	35,870,000	209,760,000	919,000

The assets of the same banks, as classified above, at close of 1899, were as follows:

	No. Class Banks	or at Call.	Securities	Discounts nd Advances.
		*		
84	England & Wales	823,800,000	734,560,000	208,495,000
11	Scotland	123,566,000	152,345,000	302,195,000
9	Ireland	51,188,000	90,100,000	184,766,000
4	Isle of Man, &c	944,500	3,700,000	4,125,000
29	Colonial Banks	291,060,000	91.486,000	802 440,000
24	Foreign Banks	172,690,000	84,255,000	781,600,000
22	Private Banks	53,100,000	60,860,000	110,784,000

The English banks have 3,837 branches; the Scotch, 1,071 branches; and the Irish, 589; making the total number of offices open in the United Kingdom of the joint-stock banks 5,497. The deposits at the latest date in the banks of the United Kingdom, separate from the Bank of England, and including that bank, as compared with their several amounts in May, 1899 and 1898 were as follows:

U.K. Banks	1898.	1889.	1898.	In. last
Eng. & Wales Bk. of Eng.	2,828,800,000	2,741,250,000	2,631,100,000	87,550,000
land Scotland Ireland	243,100,000 513 610,000 240,695.000	493,100,000	4 4,455,000	20,510,000

The deposits in the British banks were advancing rapidly until late in 1899, when a considerable decline occurred. Probably this was owing to some marked extent to the general anxiety which prevailed as to the course of the war, as the banks were restricting loans, and deposits were, therefore, withdrawn for use in business. Still, despite the influences which tend to diminish deposits, we find there was a considerable addition made to these funds in the British banks between May, 1899 and May, 1900, and a considerable enlargement also of discounts and advances which indicated active business conditions. The War Loan must be taken into account as a cause of reduced deposits. The monetary situation in the old land, as shown by the bank statements for 1899, and partial returns up to this month, is decidedly gratifying, and everything points to the old land becoming exceedingly prosperous when the war cloud is dispersedAn Supre Phoer a test volve within policy was t value Cannot control to the control of the contr

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MEANING OF WORD "FIRE:"

An interesting opinion has been rendered by the Supreme Court of Georgia in the case of Cannon vs. Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford. This was a test case in which a number of companies were involved. The claim was for a loss which did not come within the meaning of the word "fire," as used in the policy, and the complete manner in which the subject was treated by the court renders the decision one of value to all companies. It was as follows:

Cannon vs. Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn. -- Before Judge Fite.-Whitfield Superior Court

Lewis, J.-I. An insurance company which, by its policy contracts to insure "against all direct loss or damage by fire," etc., is not liable for damages arising from smoke and soot escaping from a defective or disarranged stovepipe, and emanating from a fire intentionally built in a stove and kept confined therein; nor for damages caused by water used in cooling a portion of the ceiling heated by such pipe, but not actualy ignited thereby, it not appearing that the use of water was necessary to prevent ignition.

2. There was, on the trial of an action against an in surance company, no error in refusing to allow the plaintiff to introduce in evidence a proof of loss which showed on its face that the company was not liable, nor in refusing to allow the plaintiff to prove by parol testimony facts. a recital of which in the proof of loss at the time of its presentation to the company would have made the proof legally

fufficient to support a claim of loss.

Judgment affirmed. All concurring. R. J. & J. McCamy for plaintiff in error. Smith, Hammond & -Smith, King '& Spalding and Shumate & Maddox, contra.

Lewis, J .- This was a suit brought in Whitfield Superior Court by A. E. Cannon against the Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn., on an insurance policy issued by the company on plaintiff's stock of merchandise alleged to have been injured and damaged by fire, the loss amounting to \$3,000, and the defendant's liability therefor prorated with other concurrent insurance, being \$300. On the trial of the case plaintiff introduced the policy of insurance, one material part of which is as follows. "In consideration of the stipulations herein named, and of \$37.50 premium, the said company does insuze A. E. Cannon for the term of one year from the 15th of February, 1807, at noon, to the 15th of February, 1898, at noon, against all direct loss or damage by fire, except as hereinafter provided, to amount not exceeding \$2,500, upon the following described property, to wit, or her stock of merchandise, consisting chiefly of dry goods, notions, hats, clothing, caps, boots and shoes, etc.

Plaintiff then offered and read in evidence the proof of loss made and given by plaintiff to defendant,, the material part of which is as follows. "To the Phoenix Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn.: By your policy of insurance, No. 1115, issued by your agent at Dalton, Ga., on the 15th day of February, 1897, for the term of twelve months, you insured the undersigned, A. E. Cannon, against loss by fire to the amount of \$2,500 on her stock of goods, consisting of clothing dry goods, notions, boots, shoes, hats and caps, contained in the two-story brick metal roof building, situated at Nos. 553 and 554, on the east side of aHmilton street, Dalton, Ga., block No. 4 On the third day of November, 1897, the same was damaged by fire in the following manner: in arranging the stove on the ground floor of the building the day before, the pipe thereof which extended through the ceiling and through the second story of the building, became disengaged at the ceiling of the second floor; and when a fire was built in the stove on the morning of the 3rd November the smoke and soot escaped into the second story room where the damaged goods

were situated. When the trouble was discovered, the room was full of smoke and soot, and the ceiling where the pipe went through was very hot, and by reason of the smoke and soot and of the water used in cooling the ceiling the goods were damaged as here set out."

Then followed, in said proof of loss, a statement of the other insurance on the same goods, together with a complete inventory of the goods damaged, with the amount of damages claimed thereon. To the introduction in evidence of this proof of loss the defendant objected, on the ground that in said proof of loss it is stated that the goods were injured simply by reason of the smoke and soot, and that there is no allegation in said proof of loss that there was any actual burning of anything except the material put in the stove purposely to burn, and that said proof of loss did not show or claim to show that there was any loss or damage by fire under the terms of the policy. The court thereupon susunder the terms of the policy. tained the objection. Plaintiff's counsel then stated to the courf that when said proof of loss was furnished, and for some months afterwards, it was not known to the plaintiff that there had been any actual burning, and they were prepared to show that in about three months after the injury to the goods the plastering of the ceiling of the second story room fell down, and disclosed the fact that some of the laths and joists to which they were nailed had in fact taken fire and were charred. Counsel for defendant objected to the admission of this testimony, upon the ground that it was irrelevant and incompetent; that the furnishing of a proof of loss showing a loss under the policy was a condition precedent to any liability under the policy; and that it was not competent for the plaintiff, after having furnished a proof of loss satisfactory to the defendant, which showed no loss by fire under the terms of the policy, to now undertake to prove a loss by fire by parol evidence offered for the first time on the trial of the case. The court sustained the objection and ruled the testimony inadmissible.

Counsel for the plaintiff then admitted that without a proof of loss he was unable to make out his case, and that a non-suit was inevitable; the defendant's counsel thereupon presented to the court and took an order granting a non-suit.

The contract between the parties stipulated that if fire occurred the insured shall give immediate notice of any loss thereby in writing to the company, and in sixty days after the fire shall render a statement to the company, signed and sworn to by the insured, stating the knowledge and belief of the insured as to the time and origin of the fire, etc. It was further stipulated that no suit or action shall be sustainable in any court of law or equity until full compliance by the insured with this requirement.

To these several rulings of the court the plaintiff assigns

error in the bill of exceptions. 1. Under the stipulations in the policy there can be no question that, as a condition precedent to the admission of the loss, the proofs of loss should be submitted to the company within the time prescribed. Southern Home Association vs. Home Insurance Company, 94 Ga., 167-9. The sufficiency of such proofs on the trial of the case is a question for the court, and to be sufficient they should show a loss within the terms of the policy. Trav. Ins. Co. vs. Sheppard, 85 Ga., 751-61-4. The question then is whether the proofs of loss submitted in this case were within the meaning of the policy It seems that in arranging the stove on the ground floor of the building the day before the damage, the pipe, which extended through the ceiling of the second floor, became disengaged at that ceiling, and that when the fire was built in the stove on the next morning, smoke and soot escaped from the pipe into the second story room where the damaged goods were situated. The damage claimed, therefore, in the notice of loss, was by reason of the smoke and soot and of the water used in cooling the ceiling. It does not appear from the proofs of loss that there was any fire

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in or about the building, except in the stove where it was intended to be built. This fire did not spread from where it was built and intended to remain. It was therefore all the time during the alleged injury and damage to the goods what is termed in the books a "friendly" and not a hostile fire. It is tru e there is sound authority for the proposition that an assured can recover loss occasioned by smoke, soot, etc., thrown out by a fire; but we think in these cases it will be foun that such matter causing injury was the product of If a fire should break out from where it was intended to be, and became a hostile element by igniting property, although it might not actually burn the property insured, yet if it caused injury thereto by smoke and heat, or other direct means, damages would be recoverable. this is not the case. In Wood on Fire Insurance, Vol. 1, Section 103, the following proposition is announced, directly applicable to the facts in this case: "Where fire is employed as an agent, either for the ordinary purposes of heating the building, for the purpose of manufacture or as an instrument or art, the insurer is not liable for the consequences thereof, so long as the fre itself is confined within the limits of the agencies employed, as, from the effects of smoke or heat evolved thereby, or escaping therefrom, from any cause whether intentional or accidental. In order to bring such consequences within the risk, there must be actual ignition outside of the agencies employed, not properly caused by assured, and these, as a consequence of such ignition, dehors the agencies." This seems to have been an early This seems to have been an early proposition decided in England, and the author refers to that decision in a note to the text ust quoted. See Austin vs. Drew, 6 Taunt. 435. In the case of Gibbons vs. German Ins. Institution, 30 Appellate Reporter (Ill.) 263, it was decided that an ordinary fire insurance policy does not cover al loss caused by escaping steam from a break in a steam heating apparatus. Gary J., says in his opinion that in principle that case was the same as Austin vs. Drew, where by means of opening a register in an upper of a seven or eight-story building, smoke and heat came into the lower stories and caused damage. He quotes the following language from Gibbs, C. J., in that case; There was no fire except in the stove and flue,-as there ought to have been,-and the loss was occasioned by the Had the fire been brought out of confinement of the heat. the flue, and anything had been burnt, the company would have been liable. But can this be said where the fire never was at all excessive, and was always confined within its proper limits? This is not a fire within the meaning of the policy, nor a loss which the company undertakes to insure against. They may as well be sued for the damage done to drawing room furniture by a smoky chimney." In the language of Gary, J., in his opinion: "If the fire were a moral agent, no blame could be imputed to it. It was doing its duty and no more. The damage was caused by another agent, who, undertaking to transmit the beneficial influence of the fire, broke down in the task." See case of American Towing Co. vs. Germania Fire Ins. Co., 74 Md., 25, and the able opinion of Alvey, C. J., page 34 et seq.

Nor is the plaintiff entitled to recover any damages caused by the water used in cooling a portion of the ceiling heated by the pipe In the proofs of loss it is not claimed that anything was actually ignited by this heat, and it does not appear that the use of the water was necessary to prevent the ignition.

2. It is not contended that the court erred in refusing to allow plaintif's counsel to show that after making out their proofs of loss, they discovered that some of the laths and joists had actually become ignited, and were charred. Even if this were true, and damages were caused to the property of plaintiff by this ignition, it would not have been admissible in the trial of the present case, for the reason that no proof thereof had been made and presented to the company prior to the institution of this suit; and it does not appear from

the record that this fact was not discovered by plaintiff before suit was brought. Besides, there was nothing in the testimony offered which in the least tends to indicate that any injury or damage was done the goods of the plaintiff by virtue of the igniting or charring of the laths or joists of the building. It is not pretended even that the smoke and soot which injured the property proceeded from that fire. Our conclusion, therefore, is that the court did not err in rejecting the testimony offered, and in granting a non-suit.

Indement affirmed. All the justices concurring.

AN INTERESTING APPEAL TO CONGRESS!

The Mutual Life is asking the United States Congress for an early investigation into all the facts relating to the expulsion of the company from Prussia, and, incidentally, for redress of its grievances. They want a committee of experts sent across the seas to make a rigid enquiry into the treatment accorded the Mutual Life by the Prussian government. The company presents its case in very vigorous fashion, and seems to be fully impressed with the righteousness of their cause, and to be smarting under the sense of intolerable injustice.

The Boston "Standard" of the 29th ult. says, that the story of the treatment accorded to the Mutual Life cannot but appeal to the "inherent American sense of justice, and adds:—

This is the culmination of the protracted negotiations, recently broken off, for the company's readmission to Prussia. The Mutual offered to deposit 100 per cent. of its reserve fund on Prussian policies in Prussian consols, and in January it was announced that if this were done the government would waive the requirement calling for the disposal of the company's stock investments, amounting to \$30,000,000. The New York Life, it will be remembered, by agreeing to dispose of all its stocks, was required to deposit only half the reserve on Prussian policies. Late in February came a cable saying that the Prussian minister of the interior hesitated to admit the company on the conditions named. Mutual Life officials laughed at this, but evidently the cable was right. for later the Prussian government insisted that the company, in addition to the proposed deposit, should agree not to invest in stocks beyond a certain percentage of its assets. The Mutual declined to do this. and the negotiations came to an end.

The petition, which is signed by President Mc-Curdy and Secretary Easton, recites how, at heavy expense and without hope of immediate returns, the company entered Prussia in 1886, buying land, erectinv a building in Berlin, and establishing agencies, all with the full and free consent of the government, which, after a satisfactory examination of its affairs, formally licensed it to do business. But all this has been changed. The petition tells how:

That, unmindful of those principles of equity, fair dealing, and reciprocal toleration which the humblest citizen of the United States had a right to expect from the Prussian government, and which are applied by the government of the United States, and of the several states, in their treatment of Prussian citizens and corporations, the government of Prussia has subjected your citizens since the granting of its original concession to a long series of impositions and exactions, apparently intended to drive your petitioner from the kingdom of Prussia, culminating on the 14th day of August, 1824, with its actual expulsion from the kingdom of Prussia without a hearing, although such hearing had been promised in writing to your petitioner for the 18th day of August; and although your petitioner's methods of doing

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ig, and rewhich are the several ations, the e granting its actual ds of doing business had not been changed, and its financial standing had at least not been impaired since the time when its methods and standing had been originally investigated by the government of Prussia and then found satisfactory, as evidenced by the original granting of the license or concession to it

By way of specifications as to Prussia's unreasonableness the petition sets up the following:

ableness the petition sets up the following:

And your petitioner respectfully begs to present, as a single example out of many of the disingenousness and injustice of the treatment of your petitioner by the Prussian authorities, that the final pretext seized upon by the government of Prussia as a ground for expelling your petitioner was to declare that it was engaged in the business of what is known as tontine insurance, although the Prussian authorities knew, or ought to have known, and were given eyery opportunity by the officials of your petitioner for so ascertaining before the decree of expulsion was promulgated, that the charge and objection were utterly without foundation; and although also, after its c necession had been caacelled upon this pretext, it was demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Prussian authorities through their emissaries and representatives sent to the United States that the contention of the Prussian authorities in this regard was without foundation, yet, nevertheless, the Prussian government not only refused, and still refuses, to revoke the cancellation of your petitioner's license wrongfully decreed on this false is ue, but also, abandoning this contention, thereupon proceeded to impose upon your petitioner conditions new and impossible of compliance as the price of its reinstatement which had never been suggested previously, and which the Prussian authorities knew could not be obeyed under your petitioner's charter, or with a proper regard to the interest of its policyholders.

In conclusion the petition says:

In conclusion the petition says:

And although your petitioner is compelled to admit the physical power of the Prussian government to impose upon corporations or citizens of foreign states which it has invited into its boundaries such conditions and exactions as shall compel them to leave; and although conditions and exactions as shall compel them to leave; and although it admits the technical authority of the Prussian government to expel your petitioner from the kingdom of Prussia upon a false pretext and then to impose upon it impossible new conditions as the price of righting the wrong done by its expulsion, it respectfully submits to the Congress of the United States that such treatment by a supposedly fiiendly state of a corporation of the United States, or of the citizens which compose it in its corporate capacity, is indefensible in the forum of international comity, not justified by the friendly relations existing between the United States and the kingdom of Prussia, unworthy of any enlightened and civilized state, and calls for inquiry and investigation by Congress.

any enightened and civilized state, and calls for an inquiry into gation by Congress.

Wherefore your petitioner respectfully prays for an inquiry into your petitioner's grievances by Congress, to the end that such steps may be taken as equity and international comity may require for the redress of such grievances.

The petition was presented by Representative James S. Sherman, of New York, and was referred to a committee on interstate and foreign commerce.

Resident managers of the Prussian fire companies are giving themselves no uneasiness over the petition. They take the position that the whole matter was fought out on its merits last year and settled to the entire satisfaction of both the New York state official and the Prussian authorities. Viewing the matter thus, they cannot conceive that Congress will attempt to open a question which for months has been considered closed by the officials of the Empire state.

MORAL VALUE OF BEING WATCHED.

Few men in positions of trust are consciously grateful for supervisio. They may submit gracefully to the inevitable and recognize that so long as some men are dishonest, even such men as they are must put up with precautions against dishonesty. But they rarely feel that their honesty is due in any sense to the fact that they are watched; an intimation of that sort they would resent as if it were a charge of dishonesty; and of all the many thousands of men who have opportunities to steal, but are constantly watched, it is not likely that half a dozen ever gave thanks in their hearts for being watched.

But the Cuban postal scandal teaches a solemn

lesson of the moral value of being watched. The accused men have been honest hitherto. They have been tried in places where there was money to steal, and they never stole a cent. It is perfectly safe to say that not one of them ever was conscious of being tempted to steal a cent. But every one of them was watched. He never connected this fact with the other fact that he felt no disposition to steal. He attributed this latter to his integrity. In a sense he was right. But he was wrong when he failed to see that there was a discoverable connection between his integrity and the fact that he was watched.

These men had occupied responsible positions; they had proved themselves honest and of much more than the usual capacity, and they were honored with the appointment to places in the Cuban service where our Government was anxious to put its best foot forward and show how much better American administration was than Spanish. In Cuba they felt that they were not watched. They were taken out of the system in which they had served and with all the precautions of which they were familiar, they were outside of their own country, they were administering affairs for a different people, who had no share in the Government over them, and a fatal sense of immunity from detection came over these men

Presently they were conscious of what we presume they had never experienced before, the desire for money that did not belong to them. It is not likely that they took some at once. But a man who believes he has immunity from detection is almost certain to harbor a dishonest thought, and he will not harbor a dishonest thought long before he puts it into action. If these men had remained in the postal service at home they would never have stolen, and they never would have been conscious of a temptation to steal. But the danger of detection was removed as they supposed; presently the temptation was felt, and before long they had yielded to it. Every man in a position of trust may learn a lesson from this incident and be thankful that he is watched.

Some years ago the weigher in the Philadelphia Mint was detected in stealing gold bars. He had been in the Mint since he was a boy, and he was then becoming an old man. His reputation for honesty was so well established that he was no longer watched. He knew it, and presently he felt a sensation which he had probably not felt in the forty or fifty years he had been in the Mint; it was the temptation to steal; after a little while he stole. The Secret Service officers, who studied him long before they felt justified in arresting him, said that he could have been trusted with notes and bonds with perfect safety; there was only one thing that he would steal, and that was gold in bars; that was the only thing he had become accustomed to handling without being watched. The temptation to steal gold bars crept upon him, though the temptation to steal anything else he was no more conscious of than other men.

It is no reflection upon a man's integrity to say that it is mightily supported by the danger of detection; it is only a recognition of the fact that he is human, and that constant exposure to the opportunity to do wrong without detection saps the moral vigor just as constant exposure to an unwholesome atmosphere saps the physical vigor.—N. Y. Commercial Bulletin.

HULL-OTTAWA FIRE:

The loss on the Export Lumber Co.'s Rochesterville and Upper Yards has been adjusted, the total amount allowed being \$800,000, payable pro rata by the following companies, viz.:

Anglo-American			\$17,500
	٠.		25,000
Alliance			40,000
			10,000
Atlas	٠.		7,500
			35,000
Caledonian			40,000
Commercial Union	٠.		20,000
			10,000
Equity			2,500
			20,000
Hartford			18,000
Imperial			49,000
Lancashire			34,000
Law, Union & Crown			33,000
Liverpool and London and Globe	٠.		7,500
London and Lancashire	٠.		25,500
London Assurance			12,500
London Mutual		٠.	5,000
Manchester	٠.		17,500
Mercantile			10,000
North British and Mercantile			17,500
Northern			35,000
Norwich Union	٠.		30,000
North America	٠.		15,000
National of Ireland			11,500
Perth Mutual		٠.	5,000
Phenix of Brooklyn			19,500
Phoenix of Hartford		٠.	10,000
		٠.	52,500
Ottawa		٠.	7,500
Quebec		٠.	10,000
Queen	٠		30,000
Royal	٠.	٠.	53,500
Scottish Union and National			15,000
Sun			20,000
Union	٠.	٠.	35,000
Western	٠.	٠.	5,000

\$811,500

TORONTO INSURANCE INSTITUTE.

The First Annual Meeting of the Insurance Institute of Toronto was held in the "Confederation Life Building," on Tuesday, May 20th, 1900, when the Annual Report was received and adopted, and the following officers and council elected for the ensuing term:—President, Hy. Sutherland; Vice-President, J. B. Laidlaw; Secretary, William E. Fudger; Treasurer, E. W. Cox; Curator, William Bobins. Council:—Thomas Bradshaw, F.I.A., E. W. Cox, Wm. E. Fud-

ger. L. Goldman, A.I.A., J. F. Junkin, J. J. Kenny, J. B. Laidlaw, W. C. Macdonald, John Maughan, Wm. Robins, Hy. Sutherland, J. G. Thompson.

The Annual Report contained a recommendation of the Council for affiliation with the Federation of Institutes of Great Britain and Ireland, and also a recommendation to secure Institute reading-room and library in the new "Lancashire Building." In adopting the Report, these recommendations were accepted, and the Institute will, ere long, be comfortably located in permanent headquarters. The affiliation will bring with it the advantages of Federation examinations to which many of the members are looking forward with considerable interest.

Although the work of the past few months has necessarily been largely of a preliminary character, yet the report indicates most remarkable progress, and the outlook for the future is evidently very promising. Notwithstanding that the dues for last term were reduced one half, the Treasurer's Statement shows over one hundred dollars of a surplus over all liabilities.

During the term, interesting papers on insurance subjects were read at various meetings, and technical classes held. The papers are to be published in pamphlet form.. Donations of books and magazines have already been made, and the nucleus of the library thus formed. The Institute promises to be an important factor in the profession, not only in raising the standard of proficiency, but what is of more consequence, by providing the means enabling those in the business, both young and old, to acquire technical knowledge at the minimum of cost. It should be a comparatively easy matter for the average industrious insurance clerk to become, in course of time, thoroughly efficient in his particular branch of the profession.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the National Fire Protection Association will be held in the assembly rooms of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, 32 Nassau Street, New York city, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, June 26th, 27th and 28th, 1900.

Numerous committee reports will be made and a number of interesting subjects presented for discussion, among them, the responsibilities and duties recently placed upon the Association by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. While this is primarily a gathering of Stock Fire Insurance Organizations and representatives of such organizations having charge of the improvement and inspection of risks, the attendance of any members of our fraternity who may be interested in these subjects are very cordially invited.

PALATINE CONTINUES SEPARATELY.—Cable advices announce that the Palatine Insurance Company, Limited, of Manchester, will be continued in business as a separate institution. The directors of the Commercial Union, which recently bought the Palatine, arrived at this decision last week.

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CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE:

Realizing that fidelity to duty and attachment to the service of a corporation or firm cannot be too highly valued, the Canadian Bank of Commerce has presented to every member of its staff, in addition to his stated compensation for the year, a bonus.

The official circular announced bonuses of from 10 to 20 per cent. on salaries, the percentage being graded. Last year the Bank of Commerce bonuses were 5, 7 and 10 per cent. This year the official announcement doubles the percentages.

It is a commendable practice, and more likely to be appreciated by those who benefit therefrom than an extra dividend would be by the shareholders of a bank.

gotes and grems.

At Home and Abroad.

THE PROVIDENT SAVINGS LIFE have closed a contract with ex-Governor Taylor, of Kentucky, to represent the company at Indianapolis, Ind.

THE NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE, according to our American exchanges, has recently reinsured the Traders' of New York.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPAHY.—On the 8th inst., a Bill promoted by this Company was passed, without opposition by a committee of the House of Lords. The object of the Bill is to remove doubts that existed as to the investment of moneys belonging to the life fund of the Company "in the names of life trustees," and power is given to the company to hereafter invest the property belonging to the life funds "in the name of the Company instead of in the name of trustees."

BIRDS CAUSE A FIRE.—English Sparrows were the cause of a small blaze in a dwelling in Oakland. The birds had found a hole in the weatherboarding, through which they passed. They built a nest in the attic. Smoke attracted attention and an alarm was turned in. The firemen found that smoke came from bird-nests. Half-burned matches were among the twigs and sticks composing the nests. It is believed that the origin of two or three mysterious garret fires is now explained. But where did these bird nuisances find the matches?—"Coast Review."

Lower Birth-Rates.—International vital statistics show that in all the foreign countries from which returns for the year 1898 have been received, except Switzerland, the birth-rates during that year were lower than the respective averages for the 27 years 1871-97; but the rates in Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, the German Empire, and Prussia showed an increase on the figures for the year 1897. The death-rates of all the countries were considerably below the averages for the preceding 27 years, but those of Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Italy were above the corresponding figures for the year 1897.

Boston Fire Rates.—The Boston "Herald" contains a lengthy editorial from the pen of Mr. Osborne Howes, Secretary of the Boston Board, setting forth with much positiveness arguments against raising rates in Boston. From the standpoint of the assured the article is an excellent one, but the fact remains that the large area department stores in Boston, and perhaps a number of other risks there, do not pay what underwriters consider a satisfactory figure. It is likely that, as in the case of Chicago and Philadelphia, those controlling the local board may ignore the wishes of managers at home offices for a while, but in due time the pressure on Boston to readjust the department store rates will be similarly successful.—(N. Y. Comm. Bulletin.)

The Renaissance Club held their annual dinner on Monday evening last. Very few of the citizens of Montreal are aware of the existence of this excellent organization or club. Yet, it is likely to prove one of the most admirable of institutions for the encouragement of those who profess and practice the arts and are skilled therein. Architects, sculptors, artists, and those having literary or musical ability alone are eligible as members and associates in the Renaissance. But honored and blessed, indeed, is the guest who is permitted to enjoy their hospitality on one of the few occasions when these happy dwellers in Bohemia abandon themselves to enjoyment and the pleasures of the table, when their architectonic wisdom and artistic skill is only displayed in removing the "skeleton from a feast, and "painting a landscape in the brain of man."

Foreign Companies' Deposits.—At the request of the New York Superintendent of Insurance, Francis Hendricks, the Attorney General has rendered an opinion relative to the application of the North American Life Insurance Company of Toronto, Canada, to transact business in the State of New York, in which he holds that the fact of the capital of a foreign life insurance corporation not having been fully paid in, or that at least the sum of one hundred thousand dollars of its capital has not been paid in, is not of itself sufficient grounds to refuse such corporation admission into this State to conduct the business of life insurance. The Toronto company is authorized to do business in Canada by special act of Parliament.

Superintendent Hendricks being in doubt as to whether or not he could, under the insurance laws, admit a foreign company that has not a paid-up capital of \$100,000, wrote and asked the State Law Department to advise him. The Attorney-General says: "I would not refuse to attach my certificate to the charter of any such corporation on the grounds of such failure of capital. It seems to me that it is quite immaterial what amount of capital has been paid at the home of the corporation as long as the requisite amount is deposited here as a guarantee and protection to its policyholders, which, in effect, becomes the American capital property applicable to the satisfaction of policy claims."

Suicide and Life Insurance.—For many years the payment of death claims resulting from suicide has been prohibited in life insurance contracts, but of recent years there has been a growing disposition to eliminate the so-called "suicide clause" and to pay claims, resulting from self-destruction. Two causes

have operated to bring about this change—competition, and the growing belief that suicide is one of the many forms of disease. But since this liberalizing of policies there appears to have arisen a new condition, or possibly only an accentuation of a condition, which already existed—namely, self-destruction for the purpose of defrauding life insurance companies. Instances are becoming more numerous in which business men working under high pressure and becoming financially embarrassed have committed suicide and left either to their heirs or their creditors a large life insurance.—"Chicago Evening Post."

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. W. Mooney has been elected president of the General Agents' Association of the Ontario Mutual Life Assurance Company.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We hereby acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of bound copy of the "Post Magazine and Insurance Monitor" (London, Eng.), also the New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner's Report for 1800.

Correspondence.

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

NEW YORK LETTER:

The Commercial Union-Palatine Deal.—Scarcity of Underwriting Ability.—The Classification Question.—The Mutual Life's Appeal.—Other Notes of Interest.

In fire insurance circles in this city and the vicinity, of course the chief topic of interest is the great transaction through which the Commercial Union, of London, has absorbed the Palatine, of Manchester. When first announced, this deal created considerable excitement, because it was supposed that it meant the immediate retirement of the Palatine, not only from its fields abroad, but from its territory in this country. Later developments, however, indicate that at present the transaction merely means the passing of the control of the Palatine to the hands of the Commercial Union people, and the continuance of the former company in this country, at least, as a separate underwriting institution. It is more than likely that the large organization of the Palatine in this country with its managers and important agencies in many parts of America will not be disturbed for some time to come. The Palatine's record here has been most honourable, although its experience has, at times, been unfavourable. Probably, under the protecting and guiding influence of the great Commercial Union, it will now be made a profitable arm of that important underwriting machine.

A condition which is soon likely to confront property owners in this city and other large cities near by, is the scarcity of the means of fire insurance. By this, we mean that in order to procure as much insurance as they need, many property owners will be obliged to resort to the expedient of availing them selves of surplus line privileges. The reason for this is that several of the smaller companies have retired, and, owing to the very unprofitable experience of

many of the important companies, much smaller lines are now being carried than formerly. For once in their lives, the companies have been forced to employ a greater caution and conservatism in the acceptance of risks, particularly in congested districts. list of firms asking for surplus lines is very large. and appears to be growing rapidly. This same condition was observed seven or eight years ago, after the heavy drain upon the strength of the companies. caused by the excessive losses of 1893-4. course of time, this naturally will tend to stimulate the organization of other insurance companies to compete for business, so true is it that fire insurance, as well as other commodities, which are sold in the open market, is influenced by the law of supply and demand

A question which is causing considerable discussion in this country is that of the classification of fire insurance hazards. This question was prominently referred to by President E. C. Irvin, in his recent address before the National Board of Fire Underwriters. There is some diversity of opinion even among the ablest underwriters as to the value of classifications. One or two have publicly held that classification, in any form in which it was practicable, could not be made a sound basis for the obtaining of proper rates. No less distinguished a fire underwriter than Mr. E. G. Richards, manager of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company maintained this opinion in an article published some weeks ago. President Irvin, on the contrary, believes that classification is a true guide to proper rating and earnestly advocates it in his reference to the subject, while Mr. Richards makes out a plausible cause from his point of view, we are inclined to think that the majority of underwriters are theoretically in favour of classification of some kind. But the practical use of such an arrangement seems to be as far away as ever owing to the inability of the companies to harmonize even on much less important questions.

Having been continuously excluded from the kingdom of Prussia, the Mutual Life Insurance Company considers itself sufficiently aggrieved to warrant it in placing the matter before the Congress of the United States. It has, therefore, prepared a petition including an elaborate statement of the cause, requesting an investigation by Congress into the circumstances of this exclusion, in order that some pressure may be brought to bear upon the Prussian government to withdraw the onerous conditions. At the present time the New York Life Insurance Company is the only one of the New York companies which has seen fit to comply in every respect with the rules of the Prussian Government.

TORONTO LETTER.

The Chief of the Toronto Fire Brigade retains his Position.—Thoughts on the Fire Insurance Position to Date.—A Word of Sympathy for Managers.—Appreciation.

Dear Editor:—After weeks of wrangling, and a wordy war on the part of the Board of Control and the friends and enemies of our Fire Chief Thompson, the City Council has voted, by a large majority, to retain the Chief in his position. You will remember he was charged with partizanship, and working for

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and influencing votes, contrary to civic law, on behalf of his mayoralty candidate. This, not since his election to the position of Chief, but whilst in a subordinate position on the fire brigade. Mayor Macdonald has steadily opposed his retention as an officer of the brigade for these reasons, and, as incidental to the late investigation, exercised what he believed to be his right and duty, of suspending the Chief. Later, it was found, the Mayor had no legal power to so sus-pend, under the circumstances, and Mr. Macdonald had to retire from his advanced position. There has been much acrimonious language indulged in; many things said by both parties that were neither good to hear nor elevating to read of, and it is a relief to know the long drawn out debate is now over. The interests of fire insurance in this city are perhaps best served by the continuance in office of Mr. Thompson, because, whatever his views may be in regard to municipal politics, he is likely to prove himself a good officer of the fire brigade. As a great deal of time and consideration was so recently given in the selection of the present incumbent, to reopen the matter and seek a new man, because of a raised point of political morals, would not, I think be for the interest

In reflecting generally upon the results of fire insurance business in Canada up to date for this year, and the specially heavy loss entailed by the Hull-Ottawa conflagration, followed by an increase of ordinary losses over the average expectancy, one cannot fail to be impressed by the pluck and persistence of the companies in continuing in the fight. It must be intensely discouraging to Canadian managers to realize that their conscientious, painstaking efforts to build up for their companies a profitable business for the year, has, from no fault of theirs, been nullified for at least another twelvemonths, or perhaps for longer. What is called Premium Income is made up of comparatively smalls sums, gathered, as the wild bee gathers honey, over a wide area, and with the self-same industry and discretion; then comes a conflagration, and the fruits of all this industry, the supervision, the inspection, the judgments of the expert, and the routine work of subordinate employees all faithfully done, becomes as nought, swept away in a moment, in an avalanche of fire. Then, in sums, greater or lesser, as may be, but all relatively and in comparison with the respective premiums, great, the opened treasuries of the companies give forth their gold. We are accustomed to find warm expressions of sympathy, and fitly so, with the families who have suffered the loss of their homes, some with little, some with no insurance; also, the companies losing heavily receive some expression of consideration and regret, but who ever thinks of sympathizing with the individual manager? The man who built up the business by perhaps extreme personal devotion to it? know it is the custom to consider that managers' salaries go on the same for the most part, losses or no losses, and likely they do, but there are men in the fire insurance business, hard-working, capable fellows (you may know of such), to whom a year of unsatisfactory result is almost a sorrow, and a year of special disaster and adverse balances, such as 1900 is likely, nay sure, to prove, is truly a bitter thing. Professional pride, as well as other personal feelings, make it doubly hard for any decent fellow who has charge of a company, to admit defeat, and the more, when he is conscious that his efforts and endeavor deserved otherwise. The extension of a little sym-

pathy to such men is surely not out of place.

The patriotic tone and style of your first page in the last issue of The Chronicle has been well received and much approved of in Toronto. We are, through our own "soldier-boys" more closely than ever identified with the spirit of your words, and the

loyalty expressed by them.

Your article, selling "Insurance on Credit" is also well-timed and much to the point in these days. Credit in fire insurance, is an unmitigated evil, unmitigated, because quite unnecessary, and serving no really good end where extended. If, in any one year of its hitherto worthy and honoured existence, the C. N. U. A. could bring about a universal consent on the part of all fire insurance companies to realize and observe the neglected Rule that Insurance is Cash, such year would deserve to be forever known in its annals as "the golden year."

Yours.

ARIEL.

Toronto, 28th May, 1900.

LONDON LETTER:

FINANCIAL.

May 17, 1900.

The disastrous collapse of two well-known values in the miscellaneous and industrial markets of the Stock Exchange has seriously disturbed the outside public. The depreciated descriptions are Allsopp's brewery and the Welsbach incandescent gas shares. In Allsopp's, the shrinkage in market value is on a gigantic scale, amounting to sixty per cent. of the deferred ordinary stock alone; the total money loss on the preferred or deferred ordinary issues being upwards of \$3,500,000.

In Welsbach, a similar terrific downfall has been experienced, and it is such experiences as these which are liable to produce an impression amongst the public that industrial values are unstable and unsatisfactory and liable to the same sensational debâcles which the more speculative markets are. This is, of course, not a just view, the reasons for the shrinks being clearly those arising in the first place from capitalizing that most illusory class of assets—patents—at an enormous figure; and in the second, the introduction of a semi-speculative element into the business.

The proposition of the coal owners to still further advance the price of their invaluable mineral is playing the very deuce with the Home Railway market. Another 50 per cent. is suggested as the probable increase, and the railway companies are helpless. Foreign coal has been tried, but with very indifferent success, and oil fuel is out of the question, the necessary alteration of engines being too expensive. So far as the new increase has materialized it has taken the shape of an addition of \$1.25 per ton. The 5 per cent. increase in excursion rates goes but a very little way towards meeting the heightened expenditure. An attempt at raised freight rates failed through a want solidarity.

Many Lancashire and other coal-owners are now clearing \$25,000 per week clear profit, and assert that only now are they getting back losses incurred in the earlier part of the decade when the mines were working at a loss. Usually in colliery workers' wages, a sliding scale is operative, and their weekly earnings

follow the prices of coal. In the present case, the scale is imperative, the miners being debarred, under the terms of an agreement with the Conciliation Board, from obtaining higher wages until next year. So that from all sides it is now distinctly the innings of the merry coal owner.

Last Saturday a circular was issued in connection with the amalgamation of two big chemical houses in Cheshire. Should the shareholders of the company proposed to be purchased agree, Brunner, Mond & Co., whose own capital is \$15,000,000, will practically control a more important section of the chemical manufacturing trade. Another combine is maturing at and around Leicester. The hosiery manufacturers of this city as well as of Nottingham have been in a very unenviable position for a good many years past, and would welcome any change which would give them a less dependent position.

British stove makers are watching with interest, and, perhaps, in some case with less open feelings, the news with regard to the alleged movement amongst Canadian stove-manufacturers towards a combination, said to be promoted in part by Yankee operators. The industry in this country is not overwheimingly prosperous, and trustification might set in sooner or later, and, probably sooner than later.

. . .

W. S. Miller's "Franklin Syndicate" will be remembered as one of the worst scandals of the decade perpetrated upon the American public who were victimized to the tune of several hundreds of thousands of dollars. The gentleman who carried on this sell is now doing ten years' hard labour. Over here, just such another outrageous syndicate robbers of the public of Lancashire, by Cuthbert Heys. After plundering a matter of \$85,000, he has just absconded and left no trace behind.

By a case heard this week, it has been definitely settled, one hopes, that speculative transactions carried on through a broker are not gambling, and that the Gaming Act cannot be pleaded in refusing to pay "differences."

INSURANCE.

Amalgamation rumors are current again, and for a couple of them there is likely to be some justification. Negotiations are proceeding for the transfer of the business of the Lancashire Insurance Company to the Liverpool and London and Globe. The former company transacts life, fire, and employers' liability; and the latter fire, life, and annuities. Both are proprietary offices and were established in 1852 and 1836, respectively.

When the extension of the benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act is made as is proposed in the Imperial Parliament, to agricultural workers, there is likely to be as great a rush for the new territory as occured when the Act first found its way into the Statute books. Rates are already being quoted, although these must be generally calculated largely in the dark. The general quotation seems to be about three-twentieths of one per cent, per annum, of the wages paid. In the case of the Railway Passenger Insurance Company, which transacts indemnity business of this

kind, an extra rate of half the above amount secures cover also for that "first fortnight" over which so much controversy has raged.

The Ottawa Fire Relief Fund opened at the Man sion House has received \$525 from the Phoenix, \$1,050 from the Imperial, and \$1,250 from the London Assurance Corporation. Funds are also opened in other cities, notably at Liverpool, where amongst many other contributions is to be noticed one of \$1,250 from the London and Lancashire. Many offices are, of course, contributing direct to the afflicted city.

Another Bermondsey fire adds a loss of \$42,500 to this year's fire loss total. A granary went down before the flames last week. This locality is a most dangerous centre, and the wonder is that, seeing how closely packed the neighbourhoods are, there has not yet been a wholesale devastation running into millions of dollars.

* * *

RECENT LEGAL DECISIONS.

MONEYS RECEIVED ON THE SURRENDER OF A LIFE POLICY BY A MORTGAGEE.—By a mortgage made in England in 1871, one Leopold pledged certain property, together with a policy of assurance on his own life in the Sun Life office, for the sum of £2,500. The mortgage contained the usual personal covenant for payment, and it was specially provided that the policy might be surrendered to the insurance office by the mortgagee without any further consent from the mortgagor. The mortgagor never paid any sum for principal, interest or the premiums on the policy, but the policy was kept up by the mortgagee. After 22 years, in 1893, the mortgagee realized the policy by surrendering it to the insurance office for £1,463, but no notice was given to the mortgagor of this. Both parties being dead, the representatives of the mortgagee instituted proceedings, in which they sought to have it declared that the estate of the deceased mortgagor Leopold, was now liable to pay the balance of the debt, with interest and charges. They claimed that the payment of the surrender value of the policy, was a payment or acknowledgment within the Statute of Limitations, made in pursuance of the obligation created by the mortgage contract. That for such purpose, the insurance company was constituted the agent of the mortgagor; that the payment made by the company was not a gift made by a stranger, that the company was bound to pay the money to the mortgagee, and that the latter was bound to apply it in accordance with the provisions in the mortgage deed. The case was heard by Mr. Justice Byrne, who decided, that the balance of the mortgage debt was outlawed, and the payment by the insurance company could not operate as a payment or acknowledgment so as to take the case out of the Statute of Limitations. In re. Lord Clifden, Annaly v. Agar-Ellis, 48 Weekly Reports 428.

FIRE INSURANCE.—LIMITATION OF ACTION TO ENFORCE A SETTLEMENT.—It has been held in Kentucky, that the stipulation in a policy of fire insurance, that no action can be maintained, unless it be brought within twelve months after the fire, does not apply to an action to enforce a compromise agreement made between the parties after the property has been destroyed. Hanover Fire Insurance Company v. Hatton, 55 S. W. Rep. 681,

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ky, that ght to ade delatNegligence by Bank in Making Collections.— In the absence of the instructions to do so, it has been held by the Courts of Michigan, that it is negligence for a bank, to which a certificate has been entrusted for collection to send it directly to the drawer. Such a sending makes the bank liable for any resulting loss. First National Bank of Chicago v. Citizens Savings Bank of Detroit, 82 N. W. Rep. 66.

THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE AUTOMOBILE.—The horseless carriage and the horse carriage have had their first encounter, and their difficulty has been set-tled before a judge. The Central Law Journal notes, what is said to be the first decision, as follows: decision involving the legal status of the automobile has recently been rendered by a nisi prius court in New York State. The opinion is by Judge Sutherland of the Monroe County Court, and is to the effect that automobiles and similar vehicles have a right to travel on the public highways, and cannot be held responsible for damages due to the running away of horses frightened by such vehicles, except in cases where negligence can be shown. "The horse," said Judge Sutherland, "has no paramount or exclusive right to the road, and the mere fact that a horse takes fright at some vehicle run by new and improved methods, and smashes things, does not give the in-jured party a cause of action." The Judge also said, that horses may take fright at conveyances that have become obsolete, as well as those which are novel, instancing the possible effect of the appearance of a four ox team drawing a prairie schooner on the streets Of course, no one would think of any of our cities. of calling the driver of such a conveyance to account, in case some horse took it into his head to get frightened, at the canvas-covered relic of bygone days. 50 C. L. J. 361.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday p.m., May 30th, 1900.

After a week of limited trading and practically stagnant prices, the market this morning had a fairly sharp advance, in which Royal Electric scored the largest gain. The good news of the occupation of Johannesburg was so pleasing that the brokers took a half holiday, and there was no afternoon session of the Board. The advance, however, is likely to be held, as it is probable that somewhat easier conditions will prevail in the local money market after to-morrow. This being Decoration Day, the New York Exchange New York values were somewhat disturbed this week by the failures of Price, McCormick & Co., and Seymour, Johnson & Co., the latter failure, however, having seemingly been discounted before the event, had a smaller effect on prices. Despite these adverse factors, the market shows some gains for the week, but the closing was decidedly weak.

Money in New York is easy, and large blocks were offered by the money brokers on six months time at 3 1-2 per cent, with but little demand.

There is a jubilant tone to the London market, but the range of speculation is extremely small. Call money in London is easy at 1 1-2 per cent., while in

New York the rates rule from 1 3-4 to 2 per cent. Locally, however, the 6 per cent. rate is unchanged.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

	Market.	Bank.
Paris	2 7-8	3
Berlin		5 1-2
Hamburg	4 1-2	5 1-2
Frankfort		5 1-2
Amsterdam		3 1-2
Brussels	3 7-8	4
Vienna	4 3-8	4 1-2
St. Petersburg		5 1-2

Canadian Pacific closed at 94 1-4, being an advance of 1 point for the week. All the sales to-day were made at 94 1-2. In London the quotation was 97 1-8. The number of shares which changed hands during the week amounted to 2,510. The earnings for the third week of May show an increase of \$65,000.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the third week of May show an increase of \$27,401.

The stock quotations, as compared with a week ago, are as follows:—

	A week ago.	10-day.
Guaranteed 4 per cent		
First Preference	88 1-2	89 3-4
Second Preference	62	63 3-4
Third Preference	23 5-8	24 3-8

Montreal Street closed at 255 1-2, an advance of 2 1-2 points for the week. The number of shares which changed hands was 705. The increase in earnings for the week ending 26th inst. was \$1,861,19, as follows:—

			Increase.
	Sunday	 	\$4,689.29 \$110.76
	Monday	 	5,034.88 131.40
	Tuesday	 	4,990.48 *334.31
	Wednesday	 	5,380.56 *1,437.74
	Thursday	 	6,901.10 1,952.18
	Friday	 	5,131.76 595.92
١	Saturday	 	5,528.97 842.98
	*Decrease.		

Toronto Railway shows a gain of half a point for the week, closing at 99. The number of shares traded in amounted to 878. The increase in earnings for the week ending 26th inst. was \$3,357.65, as fol-

	Increase.
Sunday	\$2,449.84 \$495.43
Monday	3.553.54 *312.57
Tuesday	3,683.56 *299.49
Wednesday	4,391.25 *2,517.46
Thursday	7,851.84 3,992.09
Friday	4.530.87 688.88
Saturday	
*Decrease	

Royal Electric, which has been steadily advancing all the week, each day showing a fractional gain, had a decided lift at this morning's Board, selling as high as 207, and closing at 206 1-2, being a net gain of 5 1-2 points for the week.

Montreal Gas closed at 182 3-4, an advance of 1 point for the week, while Richelieu & Ontario shows a loss of 1 point, and closed at 106 1-2.

. . .

Dominion Cotton at 94, is 1 point under last week's close, and Twin City shows a gain of 1 3-8 per cent., closing at 63 3-8. The earnings for the third week of May show an increase of \$6,368.00.

The price at which People's Heat and Light bonds are now being offered is not warranted by the circumstances. This company has a monopoly for the gas supply of the City of Halifax, added to which large revenues can be derived from bye-products, therefore the whole question is a matter of management. The old Gas Company showed average annual net earnings of \$40,000 for 21 years.

We are informed that negotiations are in progress which, if consummated, will place the company in a satisfactory position.

The stockholders of the Dominion Coal Company, Limited, will hold their annual meeting in Boston, on July 2.

Call money in Montreal		per cent.
Call money in London		I I-2
Call money in New York	. Ι	3-4 to 2
Bank of England rate	٠.	3
Consols	٠.	102 5-16
Demand Sterling	٠.	9 7-8
60 days' sight sterling	٠.	9 1-8

MINING MATTERS.

The closing prices of the listed stocks and sales for the week were as follows:—

	A	week ago. T	o-day.	Sales.
War Eagle		148 1-2 1	48	3,850
Payne		112 1	05	500
Montreal-London		24	24	250
Republic		99	95	8,500
Virtue	•	101	99	5,800
North Star	٠	112 1	10	

War Eagle shows a loss of half a point for the week, but there were no transactions to-day, and the last sale was made at 150. Development work is now

going forward on the 625 and 750 foot levels, and will be begun on the 875 foot level about the middle of next month.

Payne shows a loss of 7 points, but there were only 500 shares of the stock dealt in during the week.

Montreal-London had one transaction of 250 shares at 25, and closed at the same figure as a week ago.

Republic shows a loss of 4 points on small transactions.

The trading in Virtue shows a heavy falling off, and a decline of 2 points is registered in the price.

Duncan McIntosh, the discoverer of the Winnipeg mine, in the Boundary country, has sold his 200,000 shares of stock in the company to David H Beecher, of Grand Forks, and has resigned his office as president, being succeeded by Mr. Beecher.

A force of men has been put to work on the mine, which has been shut down for several months. The machinery is being repaired, in order to pump out the shaft, and men were put to work on the open cut where the railroad exposed a vein of ore. Arrangements are reported to have been made for a short extension of the railroad spur from the Brandon and Golden Crown, with a view to shipping.

There has been a good advance in Crow's Nest Coal stock on reports of the prosperous condition of the company's business. There is a big demand for the coal in the west, and the outlook for a still further increase in the output is said to be very bright.

Golden Star has had an advance, selling as high as 20. The rise is said to be due to the receipt by the directors of a third report from Manager Flaherty, containing encouraging news regarding the mine.

The London and British Columbia Goldfields have declared a second dividend of 15 per cent. During the past ten months the company have made profits of £27,256, of which over £20,000 was earned in the Ymir, and it estimated that there is now ore in sight worth \$445,000 in that mine.

The reports from the Dufferin continue favorable, and some new developments are looked for in the near future. There was a slight fire which consumed the old mill and a few sheds, which, however, are fully covered by insurance. The insurance loss will be less than \$3,000. This will not in any way interfere with the working of the mine.

There are also very favorable reports from the Slocan Sovereign, in which the Montreal-London is largely interested.

MONTREAL STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

WEDNESDAY,	MAY	31st,	1900.	

MORNING	ROAR	D.	

No. of Shares,	Price.	125 Toronto Street	99%
75 C.P.R	95 95%	175 Twin City 250 Koyal Electric	64 205
125 "	9538	100 " "	205 14
20 4	951/2	175 " "	
5 "	96 95%		206 183
50 Mont, Street	255 1/2	25 Dom. Cotton	96
50 "	250	\$500 " Cotton bds.	85 99 ½
75 " (new)		100 Republic	98 97

AFTERNOON BOARD.

17; C.P.R 951/2	\$6100 City Corp. 4% due,
107 Montreal Street 258	1925-7 1051/2
5 l'oronto " 9914	500 Payne 108
50 Twin City 64	200 " 100
50 Koyai Electric 205	10,000 Virtue 97 1/2
10 Dom. Cotton 981/2	500 " 981/2
50 " 99	500 " 98
\$2000 Col. Cot. Bonds. 991/2	

The gross traffic earnings of the Grand Trunk, Canadian Pacific, Duluth South Shore & Atlantic railways, and the Montreal, Toronto, Halifax and Twin City street railways up to the most recent date obtainable, compared with the corresponding period for 1897 and 1898, were as follows:-

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Week ending.	1898.	1899.	1900	Increase,
Jan. 7	\$410,885	*\$348,708	*\$375.452	*\$26,744
14	463,393	*348,720	*434,624	*85,904
21	445,851	*382,668	*442,406	*59,738
31	5 36,203	*525,969	*567,506	*41,537
Feb. 7	395,785	*374,225	*381,942	*7,717
14	415,437	*323,811	*369,744	*45,933
21	411,644	*371,599	*425,617	*54.018
28	527,686	*435,914	*410,6201	Dec *25,294
March 7	445,048	*390,565	*299,372	" *91,193
14	476,407	*419,318	*428,093	* 8,775
21	445,340	*393,813	*426,848	*33,035
31	674,045	*595,272	*676,521	*81,749
April 7	470,995	*395,118	*426,975	*31,857
14	469,655	*401,318	*463,335	*62,017
21	433,595	*382,148	*424,859	*42,711
30	544,232	*459,283	*498,545	*39,262
May 7	429,774	*362,297	*391,383	*29,086
14	475,591	*392,718	*416,573	*23,8:5
21	449,483	*401,904	*429,305	*27,401

· Chicago and Grand Trunk earnings omitted.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

GROSS TRAFFIC EARNINGS.

Week ending.	1898.	1899.	1900.	Increase
Jan. 7	\$401,000	\$442,000	\$496,000	\$54,000
14	404,000	416,000	497,000	81,000
21	396,000	448,000	504,000	56,000
31	472,000	558,000	654,000	96,000
Feb. 7	385,000	428,000	486,000	58,000
14	375,000	446,000	501,000	55,000
21,	351,000	429,000	476,000	47,000
28	377,000	449,000	490,000	40,000
March 7	454,000	482,000	412,000	Dec.70,000
14	492,000	494,000	525,000	31,000
21	463,000	449,000	529,000	41,000
31	641,000	673,000	814,000	141,000
April 7	448,000	521,000	608,000	87,000
14	451,000	525,000	606,000	81,000
21	453,000	502,000	575,000	73,000
30	573,000	620,000	672,000	52,000

NCE C	HRONI	CLE.			689
		507,000	538,000	605,000	47,000
		501,000	537,000	584,000	47,000
21	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	511,000	529,000	594,000	65,000
	N	ET TRAFF	IC EARNING	s.	
Month.		1898.	1899.	1900.	Inc.
January	• • • • • • •	515,627	\$617,534	\$691,570	\$ 74,036
February .		423,667	599,701	622,732	23,031
Marcn		753,233	828,869	799,101 D	ec. 20.704
April	• • • • • •	717,090	920,303	****	
May		926,662	1,032,759		
June		817,395	1,023,060		
July		730,688	972.561		
August		883,026	1,018,831		
September.	1	1.092,513	1,146,886		
October		1,255,845	1,411, 16		
November	1	,080,508	1,182,236		
December		1,279,111	1,375,98		
Total .			12,230,164 SHORE & A	100	\$97,067
Week endir		1898.	_		
		\$24,235	1899.	1900.	Increase
			\$26,984	\$33.401	\$ 6,41
		25,797	39.944		Dec. 4,13
	•••••	27,604	36,146	38,936	2,79
		36,192 24,889	48,982	58,998	10,016
		25,644	31,690	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
	• • • • • • • •	24,630	31,879		
			34,802		
20.		30,290	3-713-	•••••	
		TREAL S	TREET RAIL	WAY.	
Week endi			1900.	Inc.	
	\$30,12		\$32,427	\$2,40	0
14.			30,711	3,22	
21			30,792	2,31	
31	29,29	6	42.404	2.10	

Week ending.		1899 .	1900.	Inc.
Jan.	7	\$30,127	\$31,427	\$2,400
	14	27.486	30,711	3,225
	21	28,482	30,792	2,310
	31	19,296	42.404	3,108
Feb.	7	28,095	30, 390	2,295
	14	28,142	31,420	3,278
	21	28,733	31,364	2,631
	28	27,648	28,946	1,298
March	7	27,331	22,879	Dec. 4,452

			3.14.00	3,070
	21	28,733	31, 364	2,631
	28	27,648	28,946	1,298
Marc	h 7	27,331	22,879	Dec. 4,452
	14	32,037	34,742	2,705
	21	26,716	30,111	3,395
	31	39,222	42,931	3,712
April	7	30,122	30.428	306
	14	29,408	29,588	180
	21	30,044	32,408	2,364
	30	36, 169	36, 142	73

TORONTO STREET RAILWAY.

Week ending.	1899.	1900.	Inc.
Jan. 7	\$22,154	\$25,843	\$3,836
14	21,515	25,220	3,705
21	22,666	25,808	3,748
31	31,859	36,432	4,573
Feb. 7	22,520	25.420	2,900
14	22,810	25,-85	2,975
21	23,162	25,663	2,501
28	23.651	27.185	3,534
March 7	22,934	26,352	3,418
14	21,769	26,520	4,751
21	22,943	26,329	3,386
31	36,325	38,030	1,705
April 7	24,188	25,518	1,330
14	22,467	25,187	2,7.0
21	20,963	26,819	5,856
30	27,595	29,675	2,080
May 7	21,121	23,017	1,896
14	21,970	24,001	2,031
21	22,597	24,446	1,849

TWIN CITY RAPID TRANSIT COMPANY.

Week ending.	1899.	1900.	Increase
Jan. 7	\$43,394 40	\$49,572 05	\$6,177 65
14	42,196 70	48,449 15	6,252 45
21	43,143 15	50,135 20	6,992 05
31	58,602 25	69,096 05	10,493 80
Feb. 7	42,491 30	49,845 10	7.353 8o
14	41,921 90	47,763 85	5,841 95
21	44,038 25	49,338 65	5,300 40
28	42,662 30	50,418 15	7.555 85
Mar. 7	42,768 90	48,906 80	6,137 90
14	36,855 15	49,718 20	12,863 05
21	43.978 65	50,492 90	6,514 25
31	65,207 85	73.224 35	7 036 50

1899.	1900.	Inc.	Week ending.	1900.	1899.	Inc
46,874 90	49,662 85	2,787 95	Feb. 25	2,220 78	1,882 06	318 72
43,844 25	49,069 20		28			338 72 163 26
42,064 35						167 00
54.267 70						222 15
42,841 45						615 27
42,556 55					2.828 81	184 58
			A	0, 0,0,		154 77
						316 87
	,					280 56
Pailway F	eccipts.					145 66
1000	1800	Incr. ase.	M			67 55
			14			175 25
\$2,113 81	\$2,073 45	\$60 36	21	2,000 32		225 50
2,177 08	1,951 69	325 39				, ,.
3,033 52	1,978 27	1,055 25				Increase.
2,918 94	1,892 42	1,026 52	January			\$1,673 44
\$2,377 47	\$1,870 38	\$507 09				1,417 47
2,247 54	1,919 44		March			743 54
2,324 60	1,815 95					862 So
	46,874 90 43,844 25 42,064 35 54,267 70 42,841 45 42,556 55 41,487 40 ELECTRIC TRAN Pailway F 1900 \$2,113 81 2,177 08 3,033 52 2,918 94 \$2,377 47 2,247 54	46.874 90 49.662 85 43.844 25 49.069 20 42.064 35 51.780 15 54.267 70 62.811 55 42.841 45 48.490 70 42.556 55 49.302 65 41.487 40 49.855 75 ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. Pailway Receipts. 1900 1899 \$2,113 81 \$2,073 45 2,177 08 1,951 69 3,033 52 1,978 27 2,918 94 1,892 42 \$2,377 47 \$1,870 38 2,247 54 1,919 44	46.874 90 49,662 85 2,787 95 43,844 25 49,069 20 5,224 95 42,064 35 51,780 15 9,715 80 54,267 70 62,811 55 8,543 85 42,841 45 48,490 70 5,653 25 42,845 55 49,302 65 6,746 10 41,487 40 49,855 75 6,308 35 ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. Pailway Receipts. 1900 1899 Incr. ase. \$2,113 81 \$2,073 45 \$60 36 2,177 08 1,951 69 325 39 3,033 52 1,978 27 1,055 25 2,918 94 1,892 42 1,026 52 \$2,377 47 \$1,870 38 \$507 09 2,247 54 1,919 44 338 10	46.874 90 49.662 85 2,787 95 43.844 25 49.069 20 5,224 95 24.064 35 51.780 15 9,715 80 54.267 70 62.811 55 8,543 85 14.254 95 54 9,920 65 6,746 10 41.487 40 49.855 75 6,368 35 21 Pailway Receipts. 1900 1899 Incr. ase. \$2,113 81 \$2,073 45 \$60 36 21 \$2,177 08 1,951 69 325 39 3,033 52 1,978 27 1,055 25 2,218 94 1,802 42 1,026 52 2,218 94 1,802 42 1,026 52 2,247 54 1,919 44 328 10 March	46.874 90 49.662 85 2,787 95 43.844 25 49.669 20 5,224 95 42.664 35 51.786 15 9,715 80 54,267 70 62,811 55 8,543 85 14 2,341 45 48.490 70 5,653 25 42.655 55 49.302 65 6,746 10 41,487 40 49.855 75 0,368 35 LECTRIC TRAMWAY CO., LTD. Pailway Receipts. 1900 1899 Incr. ase. \$2,113 81 \$2,073 45 \$60 36 2,177 08 1,951 69 325 39 3,033 52 1,978 27 1,055 25 2,918 94 1,892 42 1,026 52 \$2,188 94 1,892 42 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,892 44 1,026 52 \$2,248 94 1,919 44 328 10 March 7,337 46	46.874 90 49.662 85 2,787 95 43.844 25 49.669 20 5,224 95 28 918 87 755 61 42.064 35 51,780 15 9,715 80 54,267 70 62,811 55 8,543 85 14 2,174 63 1,990 93 42,565 55 49.302 65 6,746 10 41.487 40 49.855 75 6,368 35 6,746 10 49.855 75 6,368 35 6.267 12 2,268 24 2,260 78 1,886 51 2,174 63 1,952 48 1,487 40 49.855 75 6,368 35 6.267 12 2,288 24 2,007 68 1,942 69 21 2,288 24 2,007 68 2,177 08 1,951 69 325 39 3,033 52 1,978 27 1,055 25 2,918 94 1,892 42 1,026 52 2,247 54 1,919 44 328 10 March 7,337 46 6,593 92

MINING STOCK LIST

Reported for The Chronicle by R. Wilson-Smith, Meldrum & Co., 151 St. James St., Montreal.

Corrected to May 30th, 1900, P.M.

NAME.	LOCATION	Nature of Proposition,	Capital	Par value of one	Market value of one Share		Divi-	Dividend when	Revenue at present	REMARKS.
				share	Ask'd	Bid.		payable.	prices	
lice A	Seine River Nelson, B.C	Gold	\$1,000,000 1,000,000	\$ c. 1 00 1 00	\$ c 5	\$ c.			p. e.	
altimore ig Three randon and Golden Crown	Iran Creek, B.S	Gold Gold, Copper	1,500,000 3,500,000	1 00 1 00	4	3				
ullion	Boundary, B.C. Lake of Woods, Ont Trail Creek, B.C. Rossland, B.C.	Gold	1,500,000 300,000 2,500,000	1 00	38 10	12 15 8	1e.	Quarterly		
riboo Hydraulie	Camp McKinney	Gold	1,000,000 5,000,000 800,000	1 00	1 10 98	95 92	le.	Monthly	12.24	
ontre Star commander cow's Nest Pass Coal	Crow's Nest Pass	Gold	3,500,000 50,000 2,000,000	1 00 1 00 25 00	1 50 8 40 00	1 47				
eca er Park	Slocan, B.C Seine River, Ont Trail Creek, B.C	Gold	1,500,000 975,000 1,250,000		5 6 2	3 5				
ser Trail Con	Cedar Canyon, Wash Ymir, B.C. Jackfish, Ont	Gold SilverGold	3,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	7 15		i p.c.	Monthly.	42.85	
ening Star drview Corporation.	Rossland, B.C	Gold	1,500,000	1 00	10 73	63				
old Hills	Lower Seine, Ont Trail Creek, B.C.	Gold	200,000 1,250,000 1,000,000	1 00 1 00	85 41	2	:::::::			*
ammond Reef	Seine River, Ont	Gold	1,000,000	1 00	17 10;					
on Celt	do do	Gold	1,000,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	124					
on Mask ambo nob Hill	do Trail Creek, B.C Boundary, B C	Gold	500,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	38 23					
nnehaha	Rossland, & C	Gold	£1,000,000	£ 5 00	£ 5	£ 4;				
ontreal Gold Fields	Rossland, B.C.	Gold. Gold Gold, Silver, Lead, etc. Gold	2,500,000	1 00 .25 .24	5 30	34		Quarterly	14.40	
oble Five	Slocan, B.C	Silver and Lead Silver, Lead	1 000 000		24 8 1 25	2 1 10		Quarterly	9.69	
d Ironsides	Boundary B.C	Gold	1,000,000 1,000,000 1,000,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	3 ₁ 75	70 144				
ayne	Sandon, B.C	Silver, Lead	1,000,000 2,500,000	1 00	1 08	1 05				
athmullen	Camp McKinner B C	Gold	1,000,000 500,000 2,500,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	164				::::::::	
epublic	Eureka District, Wash. Coper Scine, Ont		1,000,000 3,500,000 125,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	100	20 95		Monthly	12.0)	1
ocan Sovereign	Siocan, B.C. Fairview Camp, B.C.	Gold	1,500,000 1,000,000 1,000 : 00	1 00	15 25	20				
an Anda	Texada Island, B.C.	Gold Gold Copper and Gold	1,000,000	1 00	20 31	3				
rtue	Baker City, Ore	Gold and Copper Gold	1,000,0:0 500,000 2,000,00	1 00 1 00 1 00	5 100	2 99				
inchester		Gold and Copper	1,000,000 1,750,000 250,000	1 00 1 00 25	1 50 15	1 48				
hite Bear Innipeg	Boundary Creek	Gold Copper and Gold,	500,000 1,000,000	1 00	21	2				

STOCK LIST

Reported for THE CHRONICLE by R. Wilson-Smith. Meldrum & Co., 151 St. Jame Street, Montreal. Corrected to May 30th, 1900, P.M.

BANKS.	Capital subscribed	Capital paid up.	Rest or Reserve Fund.	Per centa of Rest to paid u capital	p one	Market value of one share.	for last	Revenue per cent. on investment at present prices.	Closin price (per ce on par	nt.	When Dividend payable.
The second second					- 3		Per cent.	Per cent,	Asked. l	Bid.	January July
Celumbia	2,920,00	2,920,000	486,666	16.66	97,34 243		24				April Oct.
ritish Columbia ritish North America anadian Bank of Commerce, X.D.	4,866,66	4,866,606	1,460,000	30.03	50	75 to	3	4 63			June Dec. Mar 1 Aug. 24
anadian Bank of Commerce, X.D., ommercial Bank, Windsor, N.S.,	6,000,00		90,000	28.56	50		3				feb, May Aug. Nov
	1,500,00	1,500,000	1,500,000 850,000	100-00 56-67	50		34	::::	****		February Aug.
astern Townships xchange Bank of Yarmouth	1,500,00 280,00	258,377	30,000	11.24	70		24			::::	February Aug.
	500,00	500,000	1,000,000	80.00 63.91	100		2 1	::::	****		June Dec. June Dec.
amiltouochelags, XD	1,500,00	0 1.250,000	565,000	45.20	100	140 00	31.	5 00			June Dec.
ochelaga, XD	2,590,00	0 2,311,034	1,502,172 291,000	65·00 53·00	100 25		4 & 11		****		June Dec.
Banque Jacques-Cartier	1,200,00	0 1,200,000	150,000	12.50	30	27 00		2 47	::::	90	January July
a Banque Nationale	200,02	0 200,020	2,600,000	32·47 43·34	32.44 100		34	****			June Dec.
ochelags, AD. nperial Banque Jacques-Cartier a Banque Nationale erchant Bank of P.E.I erchants Bank of Canada XD. Bank of Halifar	6,000,00 1,985,07	0 1.700.000	1,394,495	87.64	100		. 3	4 73	190	175	February Aug. April Oct.
		0 2,3 5,280	7,000,000	69·00 58·33	200	95 00					June Dec. January July
olsons, XD	12,000 00	0 12,000,000 500,000	600,000	120.00	100		. 6	4 09	220		February Aug
ew Brunswickova Scotia	1.832.80	0 1,832,800	2,238,°50 110,000	122,73	100	220 00					June Dec.
ntario. X D	1,000,00		1,403,310	70.35			4 & 1†				June Dec March Sept
eople's Bank of Halifax	700,00	700,000	230,000	32.86	20 150	******					January July
aonia's Hank of N B	180,00 2,500,00		140,000 700,000	28.00	100		. 3				June Dec April Oct
uebec, X D	1,000,00	1,000,000	600,000	0 60.00				****			April Oct
uebec, X Dtandard	200,00	200,000 314,160	45,000 75,000								February Aug
t. Hyacinthe t. John ummerside P.E.I	504,60	261,499	10,000	3.83			. 5		::::		
ammerside P.E.I	48,60	66 48,666	18,000	90.00	100		. 5				June Dec
		700,000	70,000	10.00	100		3	****			Feb. 28 Aug. 3
nion Bank of Halifax nion Bank of Canada XD	650,00	650,000	350,000 450,000	0 22.50	100	120 00	3	5 00	120	1064	February Aug June Dec
vion Bank of Canada XD	2,000,00	387,739	118,00	0 30-43	100				1 ::::	::::	Feb. 1 Aug.
armouth	300,00		30,00	0 10.00	, , ,,,						
MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.						180 00		4 41	1803	1764	Jan.Apl.Jul. Oc
	3,960,0		910,00		100	85 0		4 70	85	80	ATTM:W.
ell Telephone, anada Colored Cotton Mills Co	65,000,0	00 2,700,00 65,000,00	0		100	94 6	24 3	5 28 4 73	168	165	Jan.Apl.JulyOct
anadian Pacific	10,000.0	10,000,00	0 3.037,10			168 0					Jan. Jui
ommercial Cable	15,000,0				100	50 0	0	6 81	50 95	94	Mar Jun Sep De
do Comition V D	3 033 6	3,033,60	0			95 0 6 0	0 14.	6 01	6	4	
ouluth S.S. & Atlantic	12,000.0		0		. 100	16 0			16	14	
ominion Cotton Mills, A.D. uluth S.S. & Atlantic do Pref juarante Co., of N.A.	10,000,0	00 304,60	0	****	. 50		0 3	5 26	95	91	Jan. Apl.JulyOc
Halifax Tramway Co	800,0			0 2.50	100	37 0	0		80	37	Jan.
ntercolonial Coal Co	250.0	00 250,00	0		100			5 71	140	50	Feb. Au
derchants Cotton Co	. 600,0	00 600,00 00 1,400,00			100	156 0	0 2	5 33	150	142	Mar.Jun.Sep.De
Montreal Cotton Co	2.00	04 2,997,70	304,42	9 10.1	5 40		0 5	5 46 14 40	183	182	
Montreal London,	432,0	00 432,00		7.9	4 50			3 90	256 169		Jan, Apl. Jul, Oct
Montreal London, Moutreal Street Railway Montreal Telegraph	2,000,0	2,000,00	00					4 76	105	165	
North-West Land, Comdo Pref	1,467,6	381 1,467,68 5,642,93			100	52 (52	50	
do Pref	2,500.0	2,500,00				1 10	8	::::	108	105	
Payne Mining People's Heat & Light of Halifax Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co	700,0	700,0	223,9	20 16,5		111 0	3	5 60	107	106	
Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co	1,350,0	1,500,0	245,9	20 16.4	100	0 208	00 11	3 84 12 00	100	206 95	Monthly. Mar.Jun.SepDe
Royal Electric Republic Consolit'd Gold Mining .	3,500,0	3,500,0			10			3 42	175	122	Mar.Jun.SepDe
				16 11.5		0 99		4 68	64		Jan.Apr.JulyO
Foronto Street Railway Fwin City Rapid Transit Co	15,010,0	15,010,0	00		10		00 1				
do do Preferre	1 2,700,0		00	***	. 1.0	0 1	50	6 00	150 100	148	December.
Windsor Hotel	600,	600,0	00	10			00 6	6.00	10)	99	
Virtue MiningCo	2,000,	2,000,0				1					
	(Pata of	1		-				Date of	La	test	
BONDS	Rate of interest	Amount	When Int	erest	Where In	terest pe	yable.	Redempt	lon 1	ota- on.	REMARKS
BUNDS	annum.	outstanding.	uue								
	-										
Commercial C bleCoupon.	. 4	\$16,000,000	11 Jan.	Apl. N	ew York o	r London	or London.	1 Jan., 23		00	
Commercial C bleCoupon Registered Canadian Pacific Land Grant	!	3.423.000	1 Apl.	1 Oct. Mo	ntreal, Ne	w York	or London.	Oct., 193	31 1	10 00	Redeemable at 1
Canadian Pacific Land Grant Can, Colored Cotton Co		2,000,000	2 Apl.	Nov. Me	rehants Ba	nk of Ca	n., Montrea	1 1 May, 19	017		
Canada Paper Co	. 9	200,000 940,000		t Oot Rat	nk of Mont	treal. Mc	ntreal	. 1 Apl., 15	925 1	144	Redeemable at 1
Bell Telephone Co	. 6	2,935,000	1 Mch.	1 Sep. Me	rchants Bk	of Car	., Montreal	1 Jan., 15	016	96	Redeemable at 1
Domir'on Cotton Co		£ 308,200			••••••••						After 1st Jan., 19 Redeemable at 1
Halitax Tramway Co		\$ 600,000			of N. Scot	ia., Hal.	or Mentrea	1 Jan., 19	918	10 98	nedeematore at 1
Intercolonial Coal Co	. 5	350,000 900,000	1 Apl. 1 Jan.	1 Oct.	npany's O	fice, Mo	ntreal	. Jouly, I	721	02	
Montreal Gas Co		€ 60,000	1 Mch.	1 Sep. 1 p			ondon, Eng		108	15	
Montreal Street Ry. Co	. 4	£ 140,000	1 Feb.								Hadaanabla at t
Peoples Heat & Light Co	. 6	\$ 700,000	1 Apl.	1 Oct. M	lerchants	Bank	of Halifax	1 Ap 1	217	47)	Redeemable at 1
	. 5	100,000		1 S Mo	ntreal and	ondon	eal			00	Redeemable at 1
Second Mortgage		523,167		10 Rk	of Mostre	al Mont	'l or London	n 1 Oct., 1	914 1	05	Redeemable at 5 p.c. redeema
Peoples Heat & Light Co.— First Mortgage Second Mortgage Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co.		£ 130,900	I Apr.								
Royal Electric Co		£ 130,900 \$ 475,000	1 May	Nov. Bar	nk of Mon	real, St.	John, N.B.	1 July, it	914		yearly after I
Second Mortgage Second Mortgage Richelieu & Ont. Nav. Co. Royal Electric Co. St. John Railway Toronto Railway	5 6	£ 130,900	1 May 1 Jan.	July Ba	ank of Sec	otland, L	ondon	31 Aug19	914 21 1	08	yearly after 19

^{*} Quarterly | Bonus of | per cent | Monthly. | Price per Share.

FINANCIAL PRE-EMINENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The recent address of Treasurer Roberts in Richmond, would have been interesting anywhere, but its educational value is particularly great in a State where the sentiment in favour of what was supposed to be cheap money has been dominant ever since the decline of silver dangled before the eyes of men, a few of whom were none too honest and many of whom were victims of words and bad reasoning, the possibilities of a depreciated currency. The sophistry of the silverites is easy to follow, and it is equally easy to see through, so it has never ceased to be one of the greatest of wonders that so many people, the bulk of the population of many of our States, failed to see through Money, says the silverite, is what all of us are trying to get, and what we try to get we desire to have as cheap as possible, therefore, it cannot be other than a great blessing to have dollars worth fifty cents instead of dollars worth a hundred. But it ought to be equally clear that all the dollars we get we exchange for objects of consumption or investment, and the fifty-cent dollars will bring us only half the amount of things we desire that the hundred-cent dollar will, therefore, we make nothing by the cheaper coin.

There is one kind of cheapness of money that is of value to every producer, to everyone except the person who lives on its investments, and that is money that can be hired for a low rental or interest charge. Mr. Roberts showed, that the interest on Government bonds had been reduced here lower than anywhere else, and that the average rate for money here was lower than in the monetary centres of Europe, except Paris, and was often lower here than in Paris. Real and useful cheap money, to come with the single gold standard. therefore, has The amount of money offered to be loaned is affected in great measure by the sense of security; the assurance that a loan will not be repaid in depreciated money, therefore, increases the amount of money seeking investment, and reduces by natural competition the rate of interest. There was never a greater delusion than that demonetizing silver, to use the common but inaccurate expression, "struck down half the money of the world." The certainty that monetary units would The certainty that monetary units would not be allowed to decrease in value has increased the amount of capital seeking investment and reduced the charge which the producer must pay to the capitalist, which the present generation must pay the past

For the rest of his address, Mr. Roberts gave the reasons for believing that the increase of National bank currency under the law of March 14, would not be excessive, and argued that the bank currency was not without elasticity. On the last point he was not very successful, for the facts are against him. By taking a period of seventeen years, he was able to

show changes in the volume of the bank currency; this hardly amounts to elasticity even though some of the changes are up and some down. The notable fact is that the large changes were contractions at a time when population and business were increasing, and the bank currency ought certainly to have been increasing. Elasticity of bank currency means the capacity of the currency to respond to greater or less demands from business. The chief and almost the only influence that has affected the bank currency has been the decreasing profit from bond investments, causing a heavy, though irregular, shrinkage in the volume of the currency.—N.Y. Bulletin.

SOME GOOD REASONS For insuring in the

Great West Life Insurance in force

\$10,763,259 00 surplus to Policyholders :

\$181,095.50

RESULTS never equalled by any other Company at the Fame Age

- 1st Because it invests the premiums to better advantage than any other Company can;
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AND

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Capital \$1,000,000

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Montreal Office: Canada Life Building.

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OF CANADA

INCORPORATED by ROYAL CHARTER, A.D. 1845

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With power to increase to •
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Cash Reserve Fund - • \$7,500,000 15,000,000 1,581,666 Cash Reserve Fund -906.470

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SOCIETY

24,107,541.4

OF THE UNITED STATES.

Outstanding Assurance, Dec. 31, 1899. \$1,054,416,422.00 Assurance applied for in 1899 . . 237,356,610.00 Examined and Declined . . . 34,054,778.00 New Assurance Issued, . . . 203,301,832.00 . 53,878,200.85 280,191,286.80 Assurance Fund (\$216,384,975.00) and all other Liabilities (\$2,688,834.03) 219,073,809.03 Surplus 61,117,477.77

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JAMES H. HYDE, V.-P.

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TORONTO OFFICE: King & Yonge Streets GEORGE BROUGHALL, Cashier



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HAT holds reserves on a higher basis than required by
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HAT imposes no restriction on travel, residence or
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HAT has a successful and honorable record of 30 year

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Capital Paid-up 1,000,000

Cash Assets, over 2,840,000

Annual Income, over.... 2,500,000

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OF CANADA

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Increase in Cash Premiums paid . 148 per cent.
 Increase in New Business issued . 43 per cent.
 Increase in business in force . . 85 per cent.
 Note <u>Decrease</u> in amount of Death Claims 200 per cent.

ALL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES

In Canada Combined

Made the following increases in business in 1899 over 1898.

Increase in Cash Premiums Paid
 Increase in New Business issued
 23.08 per cent.
 Increase in business in force
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 Note Increase inamount of Death Claims 14.98 per cent.

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The Year 1899 was the best the Dominion ever had. It Gained in the year

Its interest receipts have more than paid all death losses from the

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NORWICH, England

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ESTABLISHED 1809.

Total Funds Exceed \$72,560,330.00

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Capital and Assets \$1,669,660 80
Surplus to Policyholders 723.257 77
Paid Policyholders in 1899 125,454.89

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Head Office, Toronto

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Total Funds in Mand over \$20,040,000

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J. W. TATLEY,

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MARINE FIRE.

Assurance Company Ltd. of London, Eng.

Capital and Assets, - - - 232,500,000
Life Fund (in special trust for Life Policy Holders) 9,548,535
Total Annual Income, - 8,170,190
Deposited with Dominion Government, - 536,000
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Applications for Agencies solicited in unrepresented districts,

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First Passenger Steamer to the St. Lawrence

The Dominion Line S.S. "Vancouver" will be the first pas-

The Dominion Line S.S. "Vancouver" will be the first passenger steamer to the St. Lawrence the coming season.

The "Vancouver" will leave Liverpool on the 14th of April and is intended to sail from Montreal April 28th. She will doubtless have a large number of passengers, for as the Paris Exposition will be in full swing by May 1st, there are many who will sail early in order to avoid the inevitable rush which will take place later.

later.

On the "Vancouver's" last trip from Halifax, hertotal number of passengers were 1050, including the Leinster Regiment, the British Government having selected the "Vancouver" to convey this regiment to Liverpool.

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ST. JOHN, N.B., and LiverPool
Calling at Halifax and Quents STOHN
STEAMER, From ST. JOHN.
Lake Ontario March 7th.
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Steamers sail from Halifax on arrival on I.C.Ry, train.

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**RATES OF PAN-AGE:*

FIRST CABIN—\$40.00 to 50.00 single, \$80.00 to \$90.00 return.

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For further particulars us to freight or passage, apply to any agent of the

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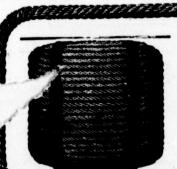
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Capital Paid Up. 81,986,070. Reserve Fund, \$1,700,000
Directors: THOMAS E. KENNY, Fsq., President. THOMAS RITCHLE
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ESQ., Vice-President. MICHAEL DWVER, Fsq., WILEY SMITH
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DAVID JACKEEN.
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Secretary and Superintendent of Branches: W. B. TORKANCE, Hallfax,
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The DOMINION BANK

CAPITAL,

- - \$1,500,000. - - \$1,500,000.

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HON. SIR FRANK SMITH, President.
E. B. OSLER, Vice-President.
T. Eaton, William Ince, Wilmot D. Matthews,
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Orafts on all parts of the United States, Great Britian and the Content of Europe bought and Sold.
Letters of Credit issued available in all parts of Europe, China and Dah.

T. C. BROUGH, Coneral Manager

THEBANK OF OTTAWA

Head Office OTTAWA, CANADA,

Capital Authorized - \$2,000,000 Capital (fully paid up) - \$1,994,900

51,403,310

CHARLES MAGEE, PRESIDENT. GEO. HAY, VICE-PRESIDENT HON. GEO. BRYSON, JR. ALEX. FRASER. JOHN MATHER, DAYLO MACLAREN. D. MURPHY.

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THE ONTARIO BANK.

Notice is hereby given that a divi-dend of two and one-half per cent. for the current half year has been de-clared upon the Capital Stock of this institution, and that the same will be aid at the bank an its branches on and after

FRIDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF JUNE NEXT. The Transfer Books will be closed

from the 17th to the 31st of May, both days inclusive.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Banking House, in this city, on Tuesday, the 19th day of June next. The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock noon.

By order of the Board.

C. McGILL, Gen. Mgr.

Toronto, 23rd April, 1900.

THE BANK OF TORONTO.

DIVIDEND NO. 88

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a DIVI-DEND OF FIVE PER CENT for the current half-year, being at the rate of TEN PER CENT PER ANNUM upon the Faid-up Cavitat of the Bank, has this day been declared, and that the ches on and after Friday, the FIRST DAY OF JUNE NEXT.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS will be closed from the Seventeenth to the Thirty-first day of May, both days included.

Doorn days included.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Banking House of the Institution on Wednesday, the Twentieth day of June next. The chair to be taken at Noon,

By order of the Board,

D. COULSON.

The Bank of Toronto, Toronto, 25th April, 1900.

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

Imperial Bank of Canada.

DIVIDEND No. 50

Notice is hereby given that a dividend at the rate of four and one-half per cent, and a Bonus at the rate of one half of one per cent, upon the paid-up Capitai Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current half year, and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Branches on and after Friday, the

First day of June next.

The transfer books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st May, both days inclusive.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders will be held at the Bank on Wednesday, the 20th day of June next. The chair to be taken at noon.

By order of the Board.

D. R. WILKIE,

General Manager. Toronto, April 26th, 1900.

Established 1835 THE HALIFAX BANKING CO'Y.

Capital Paid Up, \$500,000. Reserve Fund, \$400,000 Head Office, Halifax, N. S.

ROBIE UNIACKE, ESO., President; C. WILLOUGHRY ANDERSON, ESQ., V.P.
JOHN MACNAR, ESQ., President; C. WILLOUGHRY ANDERSON, ESQ., W. P.
H. N. WALLACK, Cashie Branches.
A. ALLAN, Impector.
Amherst, N.S. Canning, N.S. NowGlasgow, N.S. Shelburne, N. S.
Antigonish, "Lockeport, "Parrebro," Springhill, "Barrington, "Lunenburg, Sant John, "Windsor, "Correspondents.
London, Parre Bank, Limited; New York, Fourth National Bank; Bostor, Suffolk National Bank; Dom. of Canads, The Molsons Bank and Branches.

BANK OF MONTBEAL

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend of

FIVE PER CENT.

for the current half-year (making it a total distribution for the year of ten per cent.)

upon the paid-up capital stock of this Institution has been declared for the current half-year, and that the same will be payable at its Banking House, in this City, and at its Branches, on and after

Friday, the 1st day of June next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from 17th to the 31st May next, both

from 17th to the 31st May next, both days inclusive.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Bankink House of the Institution on Monday, the Fourth Day of June next. The chair to be taken at one o'clock. By order of the Board.

E. S. CLOUTSON, General Manager. Montreal, 20th April, 1900.

THE Canadian Bank of Commerce

DIVIDEND NO. 66.

Notice is hereby given that a DIVIDEND OF THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. upon the Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current half year, and that the same will be payable at the Bank and its Bran-ches on and after

Friday, the 1st day of June next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 17th of May to the 31st of May, both days inclusive.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the Bank will be held at the Banking House, in Toronto, on

Tuesday, the 19th day of June next,

The chair will be taken at twelve o'clock.

By order of the Board,

J. H. PLUMMER, Assistant General Manager.

Toronto, April 24th, 1900.

THE

Bank of British North America

Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840.

Capital Paid-Up £1,000,000 Stg. - - Re LONDON OFFICE, 3 CLEMENTS LANE, LOMBARD ST., E.C.

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COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Henry R. Farrer
Richard H. Glyn
E. A. Hoare

Becretary, A. G. Walli

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PROVINCE OF ONTA NO

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

London Brantford Hamilton Foronto Midland

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PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK. St. John Predericton

YUKON DISTRICT. n City Daw

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and Jamited, and branches; Ireland — Provincial Bank of
land, Limited, and branches; National Bank, Limited, and branches
trails—Union Bank of Australia. New Zealand—Union Bank of Av
isa, insila, Olina and Japan—Mercantile Bank of India, Limited. Los
an Ohina—Agra Bank, Limited. West Indies—Colonial Bank. Par
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THE MOLSONS BANK

HEAD OFFICE MONTREAL

\$2,355,280 \$1,625,000

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H. MARKLAND MOLSON, JANES ELLIOTT, Gen. Angest.
A. D. DURNFORD, Chief Inspector and Superintendent of Branches.
W. H. DHAPER,
H. LOCKWOOD, W. W. L. CHIPHAN,
ASK. Inspector.

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AGENTS IN CANADA:

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Agents Hank of P.E.I., Summerside Bank, Quebec—Eastern Townships ank, Agents in Europe:

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