THE MORTE D'ARTHUR

A STUDY OF SIR THOMAS MALLORY'S FASCINATING WORK.

The Knights of the Round-Table and Their Illustrious Chief—Launcelot and Guinevere, &c.

[For the Dispatch.]

A voluminous and abstruse work entitled "Studies in the Arthurian Legends," by Professor Rhys, of Oxford, has recently appeared. Being less a consideration of the Legends than a very learned and valuable disquisition on Celtic philology and a comparison of remote and puzzling myths, it may possibly be a little difficult for the general reader. It is to be hoped, however, that it will suggest a more universal interest in what *is* such easy and fascinating reading—the "Morte D'Arthur" of Sir Thomas Mallory, now so little known, strangely enough, except to students.

It is from this rich source of romance and chivalry that Tennyson has drawn the stories for his exquisite Idyls of the King; Swinburne his most beautiful, albeit too warmly colored Tristram of Lyonesse, and Matthew Arnold his Tristram and Iseult. In the Arthurian Legends Wagner found the theme for the thrilling, sensuous music of his Tristram and Isould, and also for Parsifal, the noblest and last of his tone-poems. We owe the Morte Darthur to Sir Thomas Mallory and to Caxton, the first English printer. Sir Thomas Mallory found his materials in old romances, Welsh, English, and French, and skilfully combined them to form a continuous and vivid history of King Arthur and his court. From the heroic head to the youngest knight of the round table, each figure is a distinct type intensely real and strongly individual in character.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS NAME OF ARTHUR.

It is not our purpose to follow the history of the various editions of Mallory's book to enter upon a discussion of the geography of King Arthur's realm, or to decide what is real and what is fabulous in the accounts of his wars.

We do not hold with the skeptics, however, but prefer to believe Gibbon, who says:

"Every British name is effaced by the illustrious name of Arthur, the hereditary prince of the Silures, and the elective king or general of the nation. According to the most rational account he defeated in twelve successive battles the Angles of the North and the Saxons of the West, but the declining age of the hero was embittered by popular ingratitude and domestic misfortunes."

During a period of five hundred years the traditions of his exploits were preserved. The pride and curiosity of the Norman conquerors prompted them to enquire into the ancient history of Britain; they listened with fond credulity to the tale of Arthur, and eagerly applauded a prince who had triumphed over the Saxon, their common enemy.

KNIGHTS OF THE TABLE ROUND.

His romance, transcribed into the Latin of Jeffrey of Monmouth and afterwards translated into the fashionable idiom of the times, was enriched with the various though incoherent ornaments which were familiar to the experience, the learning, or the fancy of the twelfth century. * * * Every nation embraced and adorned the popular romance of Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table: their names were celebrated in Greece and Italy, and the voluminous tales of Sir Launcelot and Sir Tristram were devoutly studied by princes and nobles. At length the light of science and of reason was rekindled, and by a natural though unjust reverse of public opinion the severity of the present age is inclined to question the existence of Arthur.

It will not be uninteresting to scan the portraits of some of the brilliant and romantic figures that crowd the pages of the Morte Darthur and to understand the purpose of the Table Round. "The King charged his knights never to do outrage nor murder, and always to flee treason, and also by no means to be cruel, but to give mercy unto him that asketh mercy upon pain of forfeiture of their worship (honour) and lordship forever, and always to do ladies, damsels, and gentlewomen succour upon pain of death. And that no man take no battles in a wrongful quarrel, for no law, nor for world's goods. Unto this were all the knights sworn, both old and young; and every year they were sworn at the high feast of Pentecost. And there were great feasts unto knights and dukes, and revel, game, and play, and all manner of noblemess was used; and he that was courteous, true, and faithful to his friend was that time cherished."

Note the different types among the knights—the rough, good-natured Sir Kay, with his practical jokes; Sir Lamorak, foremost in valor and loyal in friendship; Sir Palimedes the Saracen, fierce fighter, and uncompromising foe.

Sir Dinadan, not overstrong physically, but ever ready in a just quarrel. "And all the court was glad of Sir Dinadan, for he was gentle, wise, and courteous, and a good knight."

Said Sir Tristram (of Dinadan): "He is the best joker and jester, and a noble knight and the best fellow that I know."

But ever he scoffed at love. "I marvel at lovers. What aileth them to be so mad? For the joy of love is too short, and the sorrow thereof, and what cometh thereof dureth too long."

LAUNCELOT AND TRISTRAM.

But towering above all are the splendid, peerless knights—Sir Launcelot du Lake and Sir Tristram of Lyonesse. Sir Launcelot had the greatest name of any knight in the world, and most he was honored of high and low. All that Sir Launcelot did was of his great gentleness and courtesy. Said Sir Tristram "Sir Launcelot is peerless of courtesy and of knighthood." "He is proved the most man of worship in the world," declared Sir Lamarak. "Not any king, Christian nor heathen, may find such a knight, for to speak of his noblemess and courtesy, with his beauty and his gentleness," said Sir Bors, himself one of the loveliest of all the noble brotherhood.

For prowess and beauty and strength, Sir Tristram was unequalled, save only by Sir Launcelot, and he was besides a master singer and an accomplished harpist. "He was the best chaser of the world and the noblest blower of an horn in all measures. Of Sir Tristram we had first all the good terms of hawking and of hunting. All manner of gentlemen have cause to the world's end to praise Sir Tristram and to pray for his soul."

The friendship between the noble knights Sir Launcelot and Sir Tristram was very close and sweet. It was at Sir Launcelot's favorite castle of Joyous Gard that Sir Tristram lived in great gavety and splendor with "La Beale Isoud" during the period of his banishment from Cornwall.

In the story of Sir Pelleas, Tennyson has used an unpleasant episode for his poem, and has not carried his hero on to his marriage and the long and happy life that followed. "Sir Pelleas was a worshipful knight, and one of the four that achieved the Sangreal.

TENNYSON'S HERO.

Tennyson's chosen hero is King Arthur, but he makes him so "high, self-contained, and passionless" that he seems rather colorless, and one does not wonder at the Queen's petulant exclamation: "He is all fault who hath no fault at all." In the old book he is always the "blameless king," the "selfless, stainless gentleman," but he gains color and reality. He is the model for all the knights, and they render him an absolute devotion. Constantly inciting them to deeds of chivalry, giving counsel to the younger ones, occasionally breaking a lance with the older and more experienced warriors, unsuspicious of evil, deaf to the whispers of the false traitor Sir Mordred and the mischief-maker Sir Agravaine, oblivious of the gossip of the court, he moves on to the close,

"Like simple, noble natures, credulous
Of what they long for, good in friend or foe."

HOW THEY WENT A-MAYING.

There is a quaint little chapter entitled "How true love is likened to summer," telling how Queen Guinevere "rode on Maying," with a score of her knights and ladies clad all in green. "It giveth unto all lovers courage, that lusty month of May." Might not this have suggested the well-known line in Locksley Hall—

"In the spring a young man's fancy
"Lightly turns to thoughts of love."

"Therefore," continues Sir Thomas, "like as May month flowereth and flourisheth in gardens, so likewise let every man of worship flourish his heart in this world—first unto God, and next unto the joy of them that he promised his faith unto; for there was never worshipful man nor worshipful woman but they loved one better than another."

TRAGIC LOVE TALES.

Standing out against the bright background of merry-making, jousting, tournaments, and chivalric adventures, are the tragic love stories of Launcelot and Guinevere and Tristram and Isoult. They are strikingly different. The second pair of lovers are recklessly happy and never oppressed by the remorse that weighs upon the other two. It must be understood that there is always with them the sense of fatality, the recollection of the magic love-potion which unknowingly they drank together. Wagner makes this fact dominant in his opera.

"And they thought never drink that ever they drank to other was so sweet nor so good. But by that the drink was in their bodies, they loved either other so well that never their love departed for weal, neither for woe. And thus it happed the love first betwixt Sir Tristram and la Beale Isoud, the which love never departed the days of their life."

Wherever there are captives to be rescued or oppressed ladies to be succoured, appears the noble knight Sir Launcelot. "Damsel," said Sir Launcelot to a lady whose lands he has restored to her, "will ye any more service of me?" "Nay, sir," she said, "not at this time; but almighty Jesu preserve you wheresoever ye ride or go, for the courtiest knight thou art, and meekest unto all ladies and gentlewomen that now liveth."

QUEST OF THE HOLY GRAIL.

Later the brilliant scene changes, and despite the tears and forebodings of the King the knights scatter in search of the Holy Grail. There are mystical dreams and visions and many are lost in the quest. Sir Launcelot, too, joins in a despairing search for the Sangreal, from the sight of which he is debarred by his one dark sin, the single blot upon his splendid, stainless life. Many and earnest are his struggles to free himself from its dominion, but

"Faith unfaithful kept him falsely true."

Hear the sad Queen:

"If ever Launcelot, that most noble knight,
Were for one hour less noble than himself,
Pray for him that he 'scape the doom of fire,
And weep for her who drew him to his doom.'
"Mine was the sin, for I was wife,
And he unwedded!"

Tennyson concludes the story with that most pathetic and beautiful idyl "Guinevere."

Let us go a little further and see the expiation of their fault and the close of Launcelot's career.

THE QUEEN'S EXPIATION.

After the passing of Arthur, Queen Guinevere went to Almesburg, "and there she made herself a nun, and great penance she took as ever did sinful lady in this land, and never creature could make her merry, but lived in fasting, prayer, and alms-deeds, that all manner of people marvelled how virtuously she was changed."

And when Sir Launcelot heard in his own country—he had gone to live on his lands in France—of all that had happened in England "they made them ready in all the haste that might be, with ships and galleys, with Sir Launcelot and his host, to pass into England, and so he passed over the sea till he came to Dover. Then Sir Launcelot inquired of men of Dover where was King Arthur become? Then the people told him that he was slain, and Sir Mordred and an hundred thousand died on a day, and how Sir Mordred gave King Arthur battle, and there was good Sir Gavaine slain." "Alas!" said Sir Launcelot, "This is the heaviest tidings that ever came to me." And certain people of the town brought him into the castle of Dover, and did show him Sir Gavaine's tomb. Then Sir Launcelot kneeled down and wept and prayed heartily for his soul.

Then Sir Launcelot called the kings, dukes, earls, barons, and knights, and said thus: "My fair lords, I thank you all of coming into this country with me; but we come too late, and that shall repent me while I live, but against death may no man rebel. But sithen it is so," said Sir Launcelot, "I will myself ride and seek my lady, Queen Guinevere; for, as I hear say, she is fled into the west country. Abide me here; but if I come not again within fifteen days then take your ships and your fellowship and depart into your country."

MEETING OF LAUNCELOT AND GUINEVERE.

And resisting the entreaties of Sir Bors and the others to be allowed to accompany him, "Sir Launcelot departed and rode westerly, and there he sought a seven or eight days and at the last he came to a nunnery, and there was Queen Guinevere ware of Sir Launcelot as he approached. And when she saw him she swooned thrice. So when she might speak 'You marvel, fair ladies, why I make this fare. Truly it is for the sight of yonder knight that standeth yonder. I pray you call him to me.' * * *

"'Sir Launcelot, wit you well. I am set in such a plight to get my soul's health Therefore, Sir Launcelot, I require thee and beseech thee heartily for all the love that eve. was betwixt us, that thou never see me more in the visage, and I command thee on God's behalf, that thou forsake me, and to thy kingdom thou turn again, and keep well thy realm from war and wreck. Therefore, Sir Launcelot, go to their realm and there take thee a wife, and live with her in joy and bliss, and I pray thee heartily, pray for me to our Lord that I may amend my misliving."

"Now, sweet Madame," said Sir Launcelot, "would ye that I should return again unto my country and there to wed a lady? Nay, Madam, wit you well, that shall I never do. I take record of God, in you I have had my earthly joy. But the same destiny that ye have taken you to, I will take me unto for to please Jesu, and ever for you I cast me specially to pray. I insure you faithfully I will ever take me to penance, and pray while my life lasteth. Wherefore, sweet Madam, kiss me and never no more." "Nay," said the Queen, "that may I never do," and they departed. "But there was never so hard an hearted man but he would have wept to see the dolour that they made. For there was lamentation as they had been stung with spears, and many times they swooned. And the ladies bare the Queen to her chamber.

LAUNCELOT SEEKS A HERMITAGE.

"And Sir Launcelot awoke and went and took his horse and rode all that day and all that night weeping. And at last he was ware of an hermitage and a chapel, and he that sang mass therein was the Archbishop of Canterbury. And Sir Launcelot threw his arms abroad and said: 'Alas! who shall trust this world?' and then he kneeled down on his knees and prayed the Bishop to shrive him and assoil him. And then he besought the Bishop that he might be his brother. Then the Bishop said: 'I will gladly' and then he put an habit upon Sir Launcelot and there he served God day and night with prayers and fastings and within half a year there came eight noble knights of Sir Launcelot's kin who had sought him throughout England. So, all these knights abode there. Thus they endured in great penance six years."

LAUNCELOT'S VISION.

And thus upon a night there came a vision to Sir Launcelot, and charged him in remission of his sins to hasten unto Almesbury, "and by then thou come there thou shalt and Queen Guinevere dead; and therefore take thy fellows with thee, and fetch thou the corpse of her and bury her by her husband, the noble King Arthur. And when Sir Launcelot came to Almesbury, within the nunnery, Queen Guinevere died but half an hour before. And the ladies told Sir Launcelot that Queen Guinevere told them all, as she passed, that Sir Launcelot cometh as fast as he may to fetch my corpse, and bury me beside my Lord Arthur. Therefore, the Queen said, in hearing of them all: 'I beseech Almighty God that I may never have power to see Sir Launcelot with my worldly eyes.' Thus Sir Launcelot and his eight fellows went on foot from Almesbury unto Glastonbury singing and reading many a holy orison about the Queen's bier, and on the morn the hermit, which was archbishop of Canterbury, sang the mass of requiem with great devotion."

And when she was put in the earth Sir Launcelot swooned and lay long still till the hermit came out and waked him and said, "Ye be to blame, for ye displease God with such manner of sorrow making." "Truly," said Sir Launcelot, "I trust I do not displease God, for he knoweth mine intent, but my sorrow may never have end. For when I remember of her beauty and of her noblesse that was both with her king and with her, so when I saw her corpse and his corpse so lie together, truly my heart would not serve to sustain my too careful body."

LAUNCELOT PINES AWAY.

"Then Sir Launcelot never after eat but little meat nor drank till he was dead, for then he sickened more and more, and evermore day and night he prayed, but sometime he slumbered a broken sleep, and ever he was lying on the tomb of King Arthur and Queen Guinevere, and there was no comfort that the Bishop nor Sir Bors nor any of his fellows could make him—it availed not."

"So within six weeks after Sir Launcelot fell sick and lay in his bed, and then he sent for the Bishop and all his true fellows. 'My fair lords, wit you well, my careful body will into the earth. I pray give me now all my rights as a Christian man.' So when he had all that a Christian man ought to have he prayed the Bishop that his fellows might bear his body to Joyous Gard. So after midnight against day, when Sir Bors and his fellows came to his bed they found him stark-dead, and he lay as he had smiled, and the sweetest savour about him that ever they felt. Then was there weeping and wringing of hands, and the greatest dole they made that ever made men. And so the Bishop and they altogether went with the corpse of Sir Launcelot daily till they came to Joyous Gard.

"And there they laid his corpse, with over an hundred torches burning about him, in the body of the quire, and they sang and read many prayers over him and about him, and ever his visage was laid open and naked that all the folk might behold him.

SIR LAUNCELOT'S BROTHER.

"And right thus, as they were at their service, there came Sir Ector de Maris, that had seven years sought all England, Scotland, and Wales, seeking his brother, Sir Launcelot. Then went Sir Bors, his nephew, unto Sir Ector and told him how there lay his brother, Sir Launcelot, dead.

"And then Sir Ector threw his shield, sword, and helmet from him, and when he beheld Sir Launcelot's visage he fell down in a swoon, and when he awaked it was hard for any tongue to tell the doleful complaint that he made for his brother."

"Ah, Launcelot," he said, "thou wert head of all Christian knights, and now I dare say," said Sir Ector, "thou, Sir Launcelot, there thou liest, that thou wert never matched of earthly knight's hand, and thou wert the courtiest knight that ever bare shield; and thou wert the truest friend to thy lover that ever bestrode horse; and thou wert the truest lover that ever loved woman; and thou wert the kindest man that ever stroke with sword; and thou wert the goodliest person that ever came among press of knights; and thou wert the meekest man and the gentlest that ever ate in hall among ladies; and thou wert the sternest knight to thy mortal foe that ever put spear in rest."

Marriage in St. Louis of Miss Marie Nelson.

The following is from the St. Louis *Republic* of March 10th:

Last evening at 6:30 o'clock Miss Marie Nelson, of Richmond, Va., was married to Mr. George B. Teasdale, a well-known tobacconist of this city. The wedding was celebrated very quietly at 3734 Olive street, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Odenheimer, the bride being a sister of Mrs. Odenheimer. The bride's mother, Mrs. Fanny Nelson, of Richmond, could not attend the wedding, but her brother, Mr. William L. Nelson, came from Virginia to be present at the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Dr. Snyder. There were present only about thirty-five guests, relatives and intimate friends of the contracting parties. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Florence Nelson, wearing a gown of pale blue crepe, trimmed with pearls, and carrying in her hand a cluster of white hyacinths tied with white ribbons.

Just before the bridal couple walked little Rita Odenheimer clad in a Greenaway gown of white surah silk, holding in her dimpled hands a basket filled with white hyacinths, and tied about with white ribbons. Hyacinths were the floral decorations of the pretty parlor, and beautiful palms were set about the room. Mrs. Odenheimer received her guests with true southern cordiality, looking very handsome in a robe of black lace and gauze trimmed with elegant jets.

The bride, a brilliant brunette, wore a dress made in the style of the First Empire, with all the latter-day elegance in color combinations. This dress was of pale wave-blue satin, embroidered with clusters of two thin pink rosebuds and their tender green leaves. The skirt fell in a pointed demi-train and was bordered all round with a box-pleated ruffle of the satin, edged with very narrow velvet ribbon of the tender leaf-green hue, another band of the velvet heading the pleating, and this narrow velvet ribbon was very effectively used to shape a Spanish girdle on the short empire bodice, which was finished by a fall of very wide Mechlin lace, figured with love-knot and floral designs. This lace drapery fell in two deep points, reaching almost to the knees in front, and one deep point of the same length at the back, the fulness of the wide lace over the hips being no more than was required for grace. The square neck of the satin corsage was crossed and covered by pale-blue chiffon, carried with fulness over the shoulders and shirred to the form of deep V-back and front with revers of lace *en cascade* filling the space over the bust that the crepe did not cover. The very full sleeves of crepe were shirred to fit the arm just below the elbow, and superb bracelets of pearl matening the necklace, a family heirloom, were the suitable ornaments of this exquisite toilet. The bride wore no veil, but a little toque, whose crown of cloth of gold, embroidered with a gold *fleur de lys*, was circled by folds of blue crepe caught at the left side under a large rosette of lace which held in place tufts of gold-beaded barley heads.

After the ceremony this costume was exchanged for an equally elegant travelling dress, and the bridal pair left on the evening train for the East. They will return to their home in St. Louis in a few weeks.

"A Metamorphosis."

[Savannah Morning News.]

The following charming little poem from the March number of the *Atlantic Monthly* will be read by the author's many friends in Georgia with pleasure. It has much more than ordinary merit, and entitles Mrs. Mason to a high rank among poets. She is now a resident of Richmond, Va., and it has been quite a while since any of her literary productions have been published in this city:

A roaring, blustering beast of March,
Set free from out a cloud-hung arch
In pallid skies, as dim of dye
And cold as frosted violet's eye.

A lion March that shakes his mane
Toright those steeds of golden rein,
Whose charioteer drives on apace
With steady splendor, Godlike grace.

For sand by sand, and hour by hour,
And day by day, Apollo's power
Repels the dark, encroaching night
With long and longer shafts of light.

The lion halts. His rolling eyes
Are fixed as with a spell's surprise
For emerald grasses rock and ri
Beneath his feet like lullabies;
The soothing zephyrs charm his ear.
The Psyche butterflies appear
On restless wings aflame, and fain
To search for missing love again;
The blossom-bells are swaying fine
To rhythms of some thought divine.

The lion in the path of Spring
Has couched, and low is listening
To melodies, like waterfalls,
Of choiring birds, whose crystal calls
Make herald's way before her feet
Who comes like Una, pure and sweet,
In bluish haze—her lucent veil
And trailing garments virginal
Of green and white all blossom-wreathed—
The fairest fancy Heaven hath breathed
Or earth has crowned. The lion dumb,
With desert vision, sees her come.

Beside him sweeps her fragrant gown;
Her hand is laid like thistledown
Upon his head. O, wondrous sight!
His sulphurous mane to fleeces white
As those imparked in yonder blue,
New dipt in Flora's mountain dew,
Has changed; his eyes are mild and calm;
The lion stands confessed—a lamb.

ELIZABETH BACKUS MASON.

Best Cure For

All disorders of the Throat and Lungs is **Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.** It has no equal as a cough-cure.

Bronchitis

"When I was a boy, I had a bronchial trouble of such a persistent and stubborn character, that the doctor pronounced it incurable with ordinary remedies, but recommended me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I did so, and one bottle cured me. For the last fifteen years, I have used this preparation with good effect whenever I take a bad cold, and I know of numbers of people who keep it in the house all the time, not considering it safe to be without it."—J. C. Woodson, P. M., Forest Hill, W. Va.

Cough

"For more than twenty-five years, I was a sufferer from lung trouble, attended with coughing so severe at times as to cause hemorrhage, the paroxysms frequently lasting three or four hours. I was induced to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and after taking four bottles, was thoroughly cured."—Franz Hoffman, Clay Centre, Kans.

La Grippe

"Last spring I was taken down with la grippe. At times I was completely prostrated, and so difficult was my breathing that my breast seemed as if confined in an iron cage. I procured a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and no sooner had I began taking it than relief followed. I could not believe that the effect would be so rapid and the cure so complete."—W. H. Williams, Cook City, S. Dak.

AYER'S Cherry Pectoral

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price $1; six bottles, $5.

Prompt to act, sure to cure

CONSUMPTION.

I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease to any sufferer who will send me their Express and P. O. address. T. A. Slocum, M. C., 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

[PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.]

NEW YORK LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1891, OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE NEW YORK LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, CHAPTER 53, SECTIONS 1280 AND 1283, REGULATING THE REPORTS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Name of the company in full—NEW YORK LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.
Home or principal office of said company—346 AND 348 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY.
Character of the company—whether life, accident, casualty, co-operative association, brotherhood, live-stock, or any other association insuring life—LIFE INSURANCE.
President—JOHN A. MCCALL.
Vice-President—HENRY TUCKLE.
Secretary—CHARLES C. WHITNEY.
Actuary—RUFUS W. WEEKS.
Organized and incorporated—1841
Commenced business—1845.
Name of the general agent for Virginia—J. E. JACOBS.
Residence of the general agent for Virginia—BALTIMORE, MD.
Attorney to accept service—CHARLES E. WORTHAM, RICHMOND, VA.

The number of policies issued during the year		52,746
The amount of insurance effected thereby		$152,664,982 00
The amount of premiums received during the year		26,256,275 40
The amount of premiums received and all other receipts		5,597,919 58
The amount of interest received and all other receipts		7,154,415 81
The amount of losses paid during the year and matured endowments		1,203,167 67
The amount of losses unpaid (in course of adjustment and payment)		12,303,674 09
The amount of expenses and all other disbursements (dividends, annuities, commissions, agency expenses, etc.)		193,452
Whole number of policies in force		$108,439,235 00
The amount of liabilities or risks thereon, and all other liabilities		
The amount of assets and how invested:		
Cash	$ 6,070,942 27	
Bonds, stocks, and securities (market value)	77,647,663 40	
Real estate (book value)	12,428,247 15	
Temporary loans, loans on existing policies, deferred premiums, &c.	8,394,204 43	
Bonds and mortgages	21,406,233 56	
		125,947,290 81

BUSINESS IN VIRGINIA DURING 1891.

	Number.	Amount.
Number and amount of policies on the lives of citizens of Virginia in force December 31st of previous year	1,773	$5,345,568 00
Number and amount of policies on the lives of citizens of Virginia issued during the year	347	789,420 00
Total (estimated)	2,120	$6,134,988 00
Deduct number and amount which have ceased to be in force during the year	248	648,000 00
Total number and amount of policies in force in Virginia December 31, 1891	1,872	$5,486,988 00
Amount of losses and claims on policies in Virginia unpaid December 31st of previous year	....	.....
Amount of losses and claims on policies in Virginia incurred during the year	21	$ 57,956 37
Total	21	$ 57,956 57
Amount of losses and claims on policies in Virginia paid during the year	20	$ 54,956 37

What amount of premiums was collected or secured in Virginia during the year in cash or notes or credits without any deduction for losses, dividends? Answer.....$183,713 30

JOHN A. MCCALL, President.
RUFUS W. WEEKS, Actuary.

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK—SS.:

Be it remembered, that on the 2d day of March, 1892, at the city aforesaid, before me, HENRY P. STANFORD, notary public resident in the said city, duly commissioned and qualified by the executive authority, and under the laws of the State of New York, to take acknowledgment of deeds, &c., to be used or recorded therein, personally appeared JOHN A. MCCALL, president, and RUFUS W. WEEKS, actuary, of the New York Life-Insurance Company of New York, who being duly sworn, depose, and say, and each for himself says, that they are the above-described officers of the said company, and that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the actual condition of said company, according to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief, respectively.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office on the 2d day of March, 1892.

{SEAL.} H. P. STANFORD, Notary Public.

[mh 13-Su6t]

[PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.]

NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1891, OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, CHAPTER 53, SECTIONS 1280 AND 1283, REGULATING THE REPORTS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Name of the company in full—NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.
Home or principal office of said company—MILWAUKEE, WIS.
Character of the company—whether life, accident, casualty, co-operative association, brotherhood, live-stock, or any other association insuring life—LIFE—PURELY MUTUAL.
President—H. L. PALMER.
Vice-President—M. KEENAN.
Secretary—J. W. SKINNER.
Treasurer—C. D. NASH.
Organized and incorporated—MARCH, 1857.
Commenced business—NOVEMBER 25, 1858.
Name of the general agent in Virginia—J. B. CARY & SON.
Residence of the general agent in Virginia—RICHMOND, VA.

INCOME.

Premiums	$10,111,607 [illegible]	
Annuities	6,336 [illegible]	
Interest and rents	2,426,753 51	
Total income		$12,544,697 71

DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims by death	$2,289,686 18	
Matured endowments	497,050 11	
Annuities	96 40	
Surrendered and lapsed policies	345,850 37	
Dividends to policy-holders	1,028,390 34	
Total payments to policy-holders	$4,161,043 40	
Taxes	135,054 67	
Commissions, agents' expenses and salaries	1,539,356 54	
Medical examinations	116,786 30	
Office salaries and expenses of trustees	189,275 75	
Legal, loan, and real estate expenses	118,382 30	
Advertising	5,852 90	
Supplies and expressage	47,924 73	
Exchange and postage	65,033 62	
Fuel, gas, building, furniture, travelling	18,564 69	
Premiums on bonds bought	14,041 17	
Profit and loss	51 49	
Total disbursements		$ 6,409,367 56

ASSETS.

Loans on bond and mortgage	$40,718,057 41	
Premium notes	546,319 88	
Real estate	1,026,880 04	
United States bonds, market value	129,835 00	
State and municipal bonds, market value	2,838,792 11	
Cash on hand and in banks	1,783,308 96	
Accrued interest and rent	679,053 50	
Ledger accounts and bills receivable	17,875 75	
Deferred premiums (20 per cent. deducted)	713,082 40	
Premiums in course of collection (ditto)	372,650 40	
Total assets		$48,826,755 45

LIABILITIES.

Losses and endowments unadjusted	$ 194,036 90	
Unpaid dividends, etc., (estimated)	100,135 00	
Reserve for paid-up insurance claimable, and for annuities	152,412 00	
Reserve required by laws of States (actuaries' 4 per cent.)	40,488,381 00	
Total liabilities		$40,934,964 90
SURPLUS ON 4 PER CENT. BASIS		$ 7,891,790 55

Number of policies issued during the year	25,935
Amount of insurance effected thereby	$64,605,382 00
Whole number of policies in force	113,528
Whole amount of insurance in force	$275,674,753 00

BUSINESS IN VIRGINIA.

	Number.	Amount.
Policies in force December 31, 1890	1,738	$4,974,344 00
Policies issued during 1891	437	1,100,979 00
Total	2,175	$6,075,323 00
Deduct policies ceased to be in force during 1891	206	443,665 00
Policies in force in Virginia December 31, 1891	1,969	$5,631,658 00
Losses and claims unpaid December 31, 1890	1	2,000 00
Losses and claims incurred during 1891	10	31,157 00
Losses and claims on policies paid during 1891	11	33,157 00
Assessments, premiums, dues, and fees collected, received, or secured during 1891, without any deduction for losses, dividends, commissions, or other expenses—cash, $181,585.93; notes or credits, $61.46—total		$ 181,647 39

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE—SS.:

Be it remembered that on the 8th day of February, 1892, at the city aforesaid, before me, FR. BLOODGOOD, a commissioner resident in said city, duly commissioned and qualified by the executive authority, and under the laws of the State of Virginia, to take acknowledgment of deeds, &c., to be used or recorded therein, personally appeared H. L. PALMER, president, and J. W. SKINNER, secretary, of the Northwestern Mutual Life-Insurance Company, of Milwaukee, Wis., who, being duly sworn, depose and say, and each for himself says, that they are the above-described officers of the said company, and that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the actual condition of said organization on the last day of its fiscal year—to wit, the 31st day of December, 1891, according to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief, respectively.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of my office on the 9th day of February, 1892.

{SEAL} FR. BLOODGOOD, Commissioner.

JOHN B. CARY & SON,

GENERAL AGENTS FOR VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,

1201 MAIN STREET,

RICHMOND, VA. fe 28-Su4t

UNION MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1891, OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE UNION MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MAINE, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, CHAPTER 53, SECTIONS 1280 AND 1283, REGULATING THE REPORTS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Name of the company in full—UNION MUTUAL LIFE-INSURANCE COMPANY.
Home or principal office of said company—PORTLAND, ME.
President—JOHN E. DEWITT.
Secretary—ARTHUR L. BATES.
Organized and incorporated—JULY 17, 1848.
Commenced business—OCTOBER 1, 1849.
Name of the general agent in Virginia—N. FOUNTAIN.

The number of policies issued during the year		3,318
The amount of insurance affected thereby		$6,879,721 00
The amount of premiums received during the year		809,375 38
The amount of interest received and all other receipts		309,346 76
The amount of losses and endowments, surrenders, and annuities paid during the year		692,899 64
The amount of losses and endowments unpaid		94,533 29
The amount of expenses		346,175 69
The whole number of policies in force		16,412
The amount of liabilities or risks thereon, and all other liabilities at 4 per cent		$5,842,276 14
The amount of capital stock, if any		None
The amount of assets and how invested:		
Real estate	$ 877,550 33	
Mortgages	1,368,266 29	
Collateral loans	415,192 84	
Premium notes	360,898 83	
Bonds and stocks	2,956,062 07	
Cash in office and banks	97,582 72	
Bills receivable	1,534 89	
Agents' and other ledger balances	1,920 38	
Cash in transit (since received)	409 82	
Accrued and past-due interest	70,945 57	
Accrued rents	585 08	
Market value bonds, &c	7,536 77	
Deferred premiums (net); course of collection premiums (net)	142,130 06	
Forborne premiums	414 53	
		$6,301,010 18
Amount of dividends		22,559 30

BUSINESS IN VIRGINIA.

	Number.	Amount.
Policies and insurance in force December 31, 1890	155	$290,374 33
Policies and insurance issued during 1891	29	57,459 02
Total	184	$347,833 35
Deduct policies and insurance ceased to be in force during 1891	24	33,669 68
Policies in force and insurance in Virginia December 31, 1891	160	$314,163 67
Losses and claims unpaid December 31, 1890	1	3,000 00
Losses and claims incurred during 1891	1	1,000 00
Losses and claims on policies paid during 1891	2	4,000 00
Assessments, premiums, dues, and fees collected, received, or secured during 1891, without any deduction for losses, dividends, commissions, or other expenses—cash, $9,224.50—total		9,224 50

Subscribed and sworn to by JOHN E. DEWITT, president, and ARTHUR L. BATES, secretary, on the 12th day of February, 1892, in Portland, Me., before JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, notary public of said city. fe 22-Su6t

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

[PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.]

LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1891, OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF GREAT BRITAIN, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 1280 AND 1281, CODE 1887, REGULATING THE REPORTS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Name of the company in full—LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.
Home or principal office of said company in United States—69 WALL STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
Character of the company, whether fire, fire and marine, or marine insurance company—FIRE AND MARINE.
Governor—