AMONG THE HORSES.

A Backward Glance at the Kings of Other Days and Their Owners.

Reminiscent Retrospect and Passing Remarks Along the Track.

An Expert's Views Touching the Possible Speed Limit of Trotters.

Great Fields for the Windy City Events--Phenoms and Pick-Ups.

The "old guard" of Northwestern horsemen, and all who remember the old-time, famous and exciting days with the monarchs of the trotting track, will have many pleasant memories recalled by a perusal of the following backward glance by the Turf, Field and Farm, even though the pleasure be tinged by a shade of regret for the noble men and great animals which have ceased to be a part of life:

The Turf, Field and Farm of May, 1874, is before us, and many of the stallions there advertised have now filled their mission on earth, and live only in their descendants. At Woodburn the great Lexington, son of Boston and Alice Carneal, was announced as a private stallion, and his thoroughbred associates in the stud were Planet, Asteroid and Glen Athol. Not one of these is now alive. In the trotting stud were Belmont and Harold. The sire of Nutwood stood at $100, and the sire of Maud S at $50. Belmont is dead and Harold is enjoying a green old age. Nutwood himself was then in the stud at Enon, Pa., and his fee was $75. Today, under the speed-producing test, he is the greatest of living stallions, and his fee is $1,000. The Stony Ford stallions were Messenger Duroc, $300, "payable in advance;" Abdallah Star, Idol, Bolton and Electioneer, each limited to forty mares, at $100 the season, and Ellwood and Ridgewood at $50 each.

Only three of these, Electioneer, Messenger Duroc and Idol, obtained reputation in the stud. Messenger Duroc is a brood mare sire, as the achievements of Cheyenne and Egbert clearly show, and he still breathes the air of Orange county. Electioneer, who was accorded lower rank than Abdallah Star, Idol and Bolton, was taken to California, where his success in the stud was phenomenal. One hundred trotters are now placed to his credit, including Arion, 2:10¾, at two years old; Sunol, 2:08¼, at five years old, and Palo Alto, whose 2:08¾ places him at the head of performing stallions. If Electioneer had been open to the public before he passed away, he could readily have commanded a fee of $2,500. At Spring Hill stock farm, Dictator, brother of Dexter, and Blackwood, were advertised at $200 each.

Blackwood came from Kentucky and, although a sensational horse, his success in the stud was not pronounced. Dictator, after 1874, went from Long Island to Kentucky, and there he got Jay-Eye-See, 2:10; Phallas, 2:13¾; Dictator, 2:17; sire of Direct, 2:06, and the dams of Nancy Hanks, 2:09, and Lockheart, 2:14¾. Harrison Durkee, the founder of Spring Hill, is dead, and the stock farm at Flushing no longer exists. Blackwood's days are over, and Dictator, at the age of twenty-nine, receives visits at Ashland. At Hambletonian stud farm, Worcester, Mass., the stallions were Pierson, $70; Dauntless, $50, and Glenair, $30. Only one of these is now deemed worthy of remembrance, and that is Dauntless, who is the sire of such trotters as Lone Smith, 2:15¼; Thorniess, 2:16½, and Hendryx, 2:17¼. The breeding establishment at Worcester was broken up long ago.

Col. Richard West, then in command of Edge Hill, at Georgetown, drew public attention to Almont, $100; Westwind, $30, and Tattler Chief, $20. But one of these stallions will live in history, and that is Almont, who founded a family including such trotters as Fanny Witherspoon, 2:15¼; Piedmont, 2:17¼, and Belle Hamlin, 2:12¾. Col. West and Almont are in the shade of the beyond. Gen. W. T. Withers, to whom Almont was sold, is also at rest. Bluff old Capt. Isaiah Rynders, whose farm was at Passaic, N. J., advertised Aberdeen at $150. This celebrated son of Widow Machree was later taken to Fairlawn, and he outlived both Capt. Rynders and Gen. Withers. Such resolute trotters as Hattie Woodward, 2:15¼; Alabaster, 2:15, and Abbie V, 2:18½, came from his loins.

In 1874 Col. R. S. Strader was located in Boone county, Kentucky, and his stallions were C M Clay Jr, Draco, Dr. Herr and Ohio Volunteer. Judith, the dam of Young Rolfe, 2:21¼, sire of Nelson, 2:10, was a daughter of Draco; Joe Davis, 2:17¾, came from the loins of Dr. Herr, and Roving Nelly, the dam of Mambrino Boy, sire of the dams of Allerton, 2:09¼, and Axtell, 2:12, was by Cassius M Clay Jr., and the dam of Margaret S, 2:12½, was got by a son of C M Clay Jr. The snow falls gently on the grave of Col. Strader, of Lexington. At Cedar Park Stud farm Robert Steel advertised only Happy Medium, and his fee was $150. This great stallion, like Almont and C M Clay Jr, died at Fairlawn, Ky., but not before he had founded a distinguished family. The fastest of his get are Nancy Hanks, 2:09, and Maxey Cobb, 2:13¼.

Edwin Thorne announced that Thorndale by Alexander's Abdallah, "sire of Goldsmith Maid, record 2:16¾," would make the season at Thorndale in Dutchess county, at $100, and William B. Smith, of Hartford, drew attention to Thomas Jefferson, fee $150. These two stallions met with but moderate success in the stud. Edwin Thorne, whose name was a tower of strength on the trotting turf, is dead, and Thomas Jefferson is dust. At Preakness, Nelson Dudley, superintendent for M. H. Sanford, advertised Glenelg at $100 and Baywood at $75. A. Welch announced that Leamington would stand for mares at Chestnut Hill at $250 the season; Gen. A. Buford invited attention to Enquirer at Bosque Bonita at $100, and A. Keene Richards informed the public that War Dance stood at Blue Grass Park at $50 the season, $100 to insure. Dudley, Sanford, Buford and Richards are with the silent majority, and the fame of Glenelg, War Dance and Leamington is as enduring as the hills.

Other stallions before the public eighteen years ago were Hyias, $60; Mambrino Pilot, $100; Knickerbocker, $100; Schuyler Colfax, $75; Doctor Parmley, $75; Sweepstakes, $100; Mohawk, Jr., $100; Garibaldi, $75; Middleton, $150, Deucalion, $100; Mambrino Champion, $100; Nicotine, $50; Mamorine Lance, $100; Administrator, $100; Dexter Bradford, $100; Baron Luff, $100; Wilkins Micawber, $100; Hambletonian Prince, $50, and Confederate Chief, $75. The two greatest successes among all the trotting stallions were introduced with extreme modesty. We refer to Electioneer and Nutwood, the mingling of whose blood has given us a young stallion which has sold for more money than was ever before paid for a horse in the history of the world.

THE TROTTING LIMIT.

Possible Conditions That May Affect the Result.

Concerning the limit of trotting speed so much talked of at present, "Truthseeker" concludes a well thought-out article in the New York Sportsman as follows:

It is held that all horses gallop naturally, even the most inveterate trotters. It is perhaps reasonable to believe that the trotter is approaching very nearly by square trotting the running speed of its own class. When he shall be improved to as great a degree as the thoroughbred gallops, why should he not be capable of as nearly approaching in trotting speed the thoroughbred, as he now does the best average running speed of the ordinary horse under like conditions.

When the trotter has become such a perfect trotting machine that he may take two strides a second, as does Nancy Hanks—and each stride be as Gloster's, twenty-three feet—a horse would indeed be very much refined on the present model. His muscular development would then need to be of the best adapted for powerful, rapid and continued propulsion. He would be divested of all superfluous encumbrance in the way of unnecessary flesh, bone and fat. He will need to be bred more "to a feather" than at present. His head will require to be balanced for trotting and nothing else. He must lend all the aid of his own mentality to the mental genius and contrivance of man. These, aided by the sure processes of nature, will in time reward those who are willing to wait as surely in the future as they have in the past.

Mentally picture in one horse the stride of Gloster and the celerity of Nancy Hanks, the perfectly adapted and absolute trotting inclination of the coming trotter and the staying quality of the thoroughbred. If a horse could take Nancy Hanks' two strides of Gloster's twenty-three feet each in a second and keep it up for a mile, his time would 1:54 4-5. If such a horse were capable of trotting a mile to rule in 1:544-5, what might be expected of a horse under similar circumstances divested of the handicap of dragging a heavy weight and vehicle around the turns of a track?

This object may be accomplished when the trotter is sufficiently naturally inclined to maintain one gait to the exclusion of all other means of swift locomotion. When he becomes such, a jockey may be placed on his back, and with the encouragement of voice, whip and spur urge him to his greatest flight, the same as runners are dealt with at the present time. There are innumerable things to be considered, incalculable thoughts to aid and an infinite variety of suggestions and devices to be brought to bear to make the trotting horse the swiftest of his kind and the finest creation next to man.

GREAT FIELDS.

Washington Park Entries Numerous and Good.

Judging from the exceedingly liberal entries which the Washington Park Jockey club, of Chicago, have thus far received to their important stake events, the cry of the croakers who predicted a decided falling off on account of the increased number of Western race tracks and clashing of dates is not verified, says Turf, Field and Farm. On the contrary, present indications are that the entries, when they shall all be in, will be more numerous than last year. The day after the entries closed in 1891, the total number of nominations received for the eight principal events aggregated 362, whereas for 1892 the aggregate number for the same stakes is 669, divided as follows: Wheeler handicap, 92; Great Western handicap, 63; Oakwood handicap, 87; Dearnborn handicap, 61; Lake View handicap, 97; Boulevard stakes, 83; Maiden stakes, 58; Quickstep stakes, 128.

In the list will be found the names of all the Western horses that have performed with distinction. In the Wheeler handicap so far there are nominated Marion C, Riley, Verge d'Or, Santiago, Poet Scout, Kingman, Santa Anna, Galindo, Al Farrow, Joe Blackburn, Chimes, Dungarven, Georgetown, Vallera, Ban Chief, Palestine, St. August, Ed Bell, Balgowan, Duke of Milpitas, Longshot, Robespierre, Tulla Blackburn, Donatello, Ethel, Huron, Phil Dwyer, Vortex, Yo Tambien and Van Buren, besides others of lesser note. By this showing it is more than probable that "all hands" will find plenty to go round.

THE PHENOMENONS.

Arion and Sunol and Their Brothers.

The holder of the two-year-old record, Arion, 2:10¾, has arrived safely in Massachusetts, and will stand at Forbes' farm, near Readville, Mass., for ten outside mares at $2,500 each with return privilege, season to begin Feb. 15 and end July 1. Of these ten, six mares have been booked to Arion already, so that it looks as if his book would soon be full for 1892. As to racing or letting Arion trot exhibition miles, Mr. Forbes will decide the point later on. He states that the price paid for Arion was $125,000, and Senator Stanford confirms this statement.

Frederick P. Olcott, president of the Central Trust company, is the owner of the brother of Arion. He paid $25,000 and this was below the limit of his agent. The colt will not hereafter carry the name of Baby McKee. Mr. Olcott will breed him this season to three or four mares. Two of these will be Serene, by Nutwood, and Nena, by Nutwood. The brother of Arion is larger for his age than the holder of the two-year-old record, 2:10¾, and Charles Marvin thinks that he will make a fast horse.

Speaking of Sunol the past week, Senator Stanford said: "I am afraid to say how fast I think she can trot. She should certainly beat 2:06. She is the despair of all horses." Of the holder of the stallion record he remarked: "I shall have Palo Alto trained again, and shall be disappointed if he does not beat 2:08¾ one or two seconds." Speaking of Baby McKee he said: "I think that he will make a great stock horse. I have a filly one year old, his full sister. I shall breed Palo Alto to Manette, and expect to get a world beater."

Worth, the two-year-old brother of Sunol, passed under the hammer Wednesday, and after spirited competition was knocked down to the bid of A. H. Moore, which was $14,500. His home from this time forward will be at Cloverdell farm, Colmar, Pa. He will be developed in harness and used in the stud. Four of the brothers of Sunol are now owned in the East. Two of them are located in New York, one is in Maine, and one in Pennsylvania. As the sister has shown such astonishing flights of speed, none of the brothers will lack for stud patronage. Worth should take a fast record.

The Gloucester Entries.

GLOUCESTER, N. J., Jan. 31.—Following are tomorrow's entries:

Five furlongs, selling—Harry Russell, 115; Penzance, 115; William Henry, 112; Wanderer Second, 112; Llewellyn, 111; Tom Kerns, 109; Teddington, 109; Euna, 108; Morrisiana, 108; Fast Time, 107; Ursanna, 106; Copeland, 109.

Six and a quarter furlongs, selling—Umalita, 107; Comforter, 110; Pembroke, 110; Jersey, 107; Pretender, 104; Baby, 101.

Mile and an eighth, selling—Crispin, 124; Corticelli, 118; The Forum, 118; Paradise, 118; Joe Lee, 118; Ballston, 118; Charles Reed, 115; Woodburn, 115; Eblis, 115; Birthday, 112; Judge Nelson, 112; Tenbooker, 112.

Six and a half furlongs, selling—Lotion, 110; Blackburn, 107; Can't Tell, 101; Bravo, 101; Floridmore, 101; Gloster, 101; Montpelier, 98.

Five furlongs, selling—Allan Archer, 112; Guard, 107; Red Elm, 109; Jack Murray, 106; Nettie, 106; Goodly, 105; California, 103; Emma J, 100.

Six furlongs, selling—Little Addie, 111; Owen Golden, 110; Flemington, 110; Sam D, 110; Richal, 107; Jack Staff, 107; Carnegie, 107; Blue Grass, 107; Morristown, 107; Ossa, 107; Barthena, 105; Marigold, 105; Silence, 105; Paola, 102.

Entries for Guttenberg.

GUTTENBERG, N. J., Jan. 31.—Following are the entries for tomorrow:

Five-eighths of a mile, selling, beaten horses—Two Lips, 113; Mulhatton, 106; Cora Tanner, 104; Bias, 102; Forest King, 102; Sunday, 102; Algebra gelding, 102; Van Dyke, 102.

Three-quarters of a mile, beaten horses—Jay F Dee, 122; Houston, 120; Cold Stream, 119; Quibbler, 117; Mohican, 117; Lone Ten, 115; Anomaly, 113; Marie Lovell, 114; Sir Launceiot, 111; Bob Arthur, 108; Maxim filly, 102.

Three furlongs, selling—Prince Edward, 122; Duke John, 109; Signature, 102; Prodigal, 98; Durango, 97; Carmelite, 96; Smuggler, 93; Noble Duke, 83.

One mile—Rancocas, 119; Text, 119; Kempland, 114; Mabelle, 111; Shotover, 104; Glenlochy, 99; Narbonne colt, 94.

Five-eighths of a mile, selling—Comet, 113; Once Again, 112; Stratagem, 109; Silver Mint, 109; Graduate, 106; Mart Gibson, 105; Romance, 104; Swifter, 103.

Mile and a sixteenth, selling—La Grippe, 113; Eleve, 113; Early Dawn, 110; Algernon, 108; Conundrum, 108; Blantyre, 107; Gladstone, 104; Happy George, 102; Excellenza filly, 99; Onager, 89.

Tips for Today.

Guttenberg—Two Lips and Cora Tanner, Jay F Dee and Marie Lovell, Smuggler and Duke John, Rancocas and Kempland, Once Again and Comet, Eleve and Excellenza filly.

Gloucester—Euna and Urbanna, Umalita and Comforter, Joe Lee and Birthday, Blackburn and Gloster, Guard and Emma J, Carnegie and Barthena.

EQUINE ETCHINGS.

J. B. Richardson, 2:16¾, by George Wilkes, won eleven races out of fifteen starts in 1891. This is a good record when it is remembered he was fourteen years old, and has come down the Grand Circuit for three or four years. He is without question one of the greatest campaigners that ever wore a bridle.

During the year 1891 forty trotting meetings were held in England, at which £3,820 was given in prizes and 1,203 animals competed. There was also £745 for matches under union rules, the totals for the three years since the formation of the union being: 1889, £2,188; 1890, £3,074; 1891, £4,565. In 1888 £1,348 only was offered.

When Manette, the dam of Arion, 2:10¾, was at the Coutts place, before Senator Stanford bought it with all the stock and improvements, she used to be always able to get out of the way of the men, who, because of this and on account of her miserable appearance, nicknamed her "The Louse."

The old time custom of hanging up the money for each race in a silk purse on the wire drawn across the track is in vogue at New Orleans. The money is paid after each race.

Blundell Maple, of England, the racing man, owner of the sensational horse Common, has presented a hospital and a recreation ground to the people of St. Alban's, Eng., the whole costing $75,000.

The service fee of Guy Wilkes, 2:15¼, for 1892 has been increased from $500 to $1,000. Nutwood, Allerton, Mambrino King and Red Wilkes stand at the same figure. But one thoroughbred sire stands for as much—St. Blaise, whose fee of $2,500 is the highest.

Parisians plunge heavily in betting on horse races by the mutual system. The government receives 2 per cent of the amount wagered, and this percentage during the six months ended on Dec. 31 was $400,000, which shows that $20,000,000 were wagered on that system of betting alone during the racing season of 1891.

When the President and Mrs. Harrison were at Palo Alto last summer each was asked to name a colt. The president was asked to name Arion's full brother and called him Baby McKee.

Miller & Sibley seem to have an abiding faith about the future of the trotting horse business when they are induced to pay $10,000 a year for a trainer.

The yearling colt of Minnehaha, by Stamboul, 2:11, has died at Rosemeade, Cal. He had been sold for $10,000, but had not been delivered before he died.

Senator Leland Stanford is so confident that the thoroughbred can be made to trot fast that he has in training a yearling thoroughbred filly. She is named Experiment.

The principal trainer, driver and colt breaker at the Woronoco Stock Farm of Fairfield, Mass., is Rev. L. W. Smith, who in his career has broken about 325 colts, and has marked a good number in 2:30 or better.

It is reported that Allerton will, in his races next season, pull a thirty-nine-pound sulky. If this sort of business is kept up a little while longer the sulky of the future will be apt to consist of simply two tires with a stripe of sunshine.

At a recent meeting of the Mason City Turf club, Mason City, Io., it was decided to give $12,000 in stakes and $15,000 in purses for its five-day meeting, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3. The club's first meeting is announced for July 1, 2 and 4.

Guy Wilkes has won fifty-seven heats in 2:30 or better. His sire, George Wilkes, trotted fifty-six better than the standard mark.

Successful trainers of horses, professional base ball players and United States senators now get about the same salary.

Dexter trotted eighty-seven heats better than 2:30, which is more than any other son or daughter of Hambletonian 10 has ever done.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

DR. HALE, LITT'S GRAND OPERA House Block, fills teeth without pain.

MARRIED.

Wedding Rings and Wedding Gifts at J. E. Ingham's, 327 Jackson street.

DIED.

QUINN—In San Diego, Cal., Jan. 31, 1892, William B. Quinn, aged seventy-two years.

BROWN—In St. Paul, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. W. G. Gates, Sunday, Jan. 31, Col. Johnson B. Brown, aged eighty-two years. Notice of funeral hereafter.

O'KEEFE—In St. Paul, Sunday, Jan. 31, at 10:30 a. m., Mrs. Nellie O'Keefe, aged thirty-two years, beloved wife of W. M. O'Keefe. Funeral from residence, 201 South Exchange street, Tuesday, Feb. 2, at 8:30 a. m. Services from the cathedral at 9 o'clock.

GALLAGHER—In St. Paul, Saturday, Jan. 30, at 11:20 p. m., William Gallagher, aged twenty-one years. Funeral from residence of parents, 701 Tuscarora avenue, Monday, Feb. 1, at 8:30 a. m. Services from St. James' church at 9 o'clock.

For Funeral Carriages, $2; Hearse, $4. No. 284 East Ninth st. E. W. Shirk's. Telephone 455-2.

DR. PRICE'S DELICIOUS Flavoring Extracts

NATURAL FRUIT FLAVORS.

Vanilla, Lemon, Orange, Almond, Rose etc.—Of perfect purity. Of great strength. Economy in their use. Flavor as delicately and deliciously as the fresh fruit.

ELEVEN YEARS OF SUCCESS

THE MUTUAL RESERVE FUND LIFE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING.

An Increase in Gross Assets During the Year 1891 of Nearly a Quarter of a Million Dollars—The Net Increase in the Reserve Emergency or Surplus Fund for 1891 Is $382,935.14—The Association to Erect a New Building at Broadway and Duane Street—The Total Reserve Fund Is Now $3,155,220.94—Death Claims Paid Last Year Amounted to $2,299,108.80.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association was held in the Association's palatial offices in the Potter Building, this city, Jan. 27th. It was the largest, most enthusiastic and most satisfactory meeting in all respects ever held by this organization. A representative gathering of business men from all parts of America was present.

President E. B. Harper's entrance into the meeting at 1:15 p. m. was the signal for a general cheer. Among the gentlemen present were noticed R. H. Gilman, Milford, Del.; Charles E. Darcy, Boston, Mass.; E. A. Slattery, New York; H. A. Nuhoff, Carlisle, Ill.; Dr. D. M. Caldwell, Brooklyn, N. Y.; W. J. McMurray, William Wilson, Toronto, Ont.; D. E. Cameron, Deputy Treasurer of Ontario; Dr. McPuedsan, W. Greene, Toronto, Ont., H. A. Ward, ex-member of Parliament, Port Hops, Ont.; G. H. Muirhead, barrister, Brantford, Ont.; T. H. McMurer, Bramenville, Ont.; Horace Thorne, of firm of Watson, Thorne, Smoke & Masten, barristers, Toronto, Ont.; H. E. Smallpiece, business manager Toronto World; Ira Parego, Warren Gardner, C. R. Wright, New York; B. W. T. Amsden, Sing Sing, N. Y.; Franklin H. Harper, George W. Harper and Charles Harper, all of Still Pond, Md.; W. C. Page, Baltimore, Md.; E. P. Barry, Fargo, Dak.; C. C. Hendrickson, Peoria, Ill.; J. J. Hamilton, St. Paul, Minn.; F. W. Deacon, Racine, Wis.; Warring Kennedy, Toronto, Canada; John J. Acker, Albany, N. Y.; W. L. Beitler, Sedalia, Mo.; S. W. Wray, Philadelphia, Pa.; George M. Kellogg, Hornellsville, N. Y.; E. D. Ludwig, Erie, Pa.; D. Z. Besette, Montreal, Canada; W. W. Harper, Erie, Pa.; David Murray, U. S. Accident Association; B. H. Robinson, Omaha, Neb.; J. P. Scott, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hon. W. C. Jones, St. Louis, Mo.; T. P. Baldwin, Baltimore; C. K. Leburg, Owensboro, Ky.; Gen. Isaac H. Shields, New York; Edward M. L. Ehlers, New York; H. Ward, Port Hope, Ont.; William Hagar, Montclair, N. J.; J. R. Spaulding, New York; G. W. Skellen, New York; Edwin P. Weed, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. M. Cushman, New York; E. R. Taylor, New York; Charles A. Ford, New York; E. L. Ford, Philadelphia, Pa.; A. Frohman, New York; R. N. Newton, Nicholson, Pa.; John McLay, Toronto, Ont.; Hugh Kofke New York; A. H. Denniston, Woodside, L. I.; John Mulligan, Yonkers, N. Y.; W. A. Hazard, New York; F. W. Day, New York; Hon. T. J. Latham, Memphis, Tenn.; L. Y. Maning, Boston, Mass.; Wm. A. Hunnewell, Boston, Mass.; Col. James Clark, Brooklyn; Hon. James T. Walker, J. W. Roan, W. D. Williams, New York; Dr. C. W. Prince, U. S. A., Fort Wadsworth; Geo. Schmidt, New York; A. J. Cummings wholesale clothing, St. Paul, Minn.; Mr. Jones, U. S. Accident Association; A. C. Wall, Goshen, N. Y.; H. K. Wilson, E. A. Slattery, Homer Pennock and C. H. Beattey, New York; Clinton Chamberlain, Brooklyn, N. Y.; W. D. Horton, Geo. A. Ayres, J. M. Townsend and L. D. Mowry, New York; Bart M. Brown, Staten Island; T. F. Baldwin, New York; C. E. Hitchcock, Brooklyn; E. F. Leeds, New York; J. H. Gallagher, Troy, N. Y.; W. C. Wallace, New York; E. C. Potter, New York; G. L. Miller, Englewood, N. J.; the Rev. James Huggins, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. T. Patterson, Belfast, Ireland; J. P. Scott, Easton, Pa.; C. H. Smith and Louis Smith, both of Brooklyn, and the following named, all of New York: F. W. Baldwin, E. Zabriskie, Thomas Lius, Frank Moore, John Haggerty, J. M. Crapsen, A. G. Perry, W. A. Hagan, Frederick Moeller, G. A. Barnes, Duncan F. Duncan, Fred A. Leavitt, A. Lincoln Colyer, Fred H. Cooper, George P. Clark, W. B. Baldwin, Charles C. Boland, George R. McCheney.

The Eleventh Annual Report of President Edward B. Harper for the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1891.

The first real business of the meeting was the reading by President Harper of his annual address, as follows:

To the Officers, Directors and Members of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association.

GENTLEMEN: The work of another year is complete, and we enter upon the second year of the second decade of our history under even more favorable auspices than have heretofore existed. The ever-constant, never-ceasing march of this association from success to success, from victory to victory, astonishes even its most enthusiastic friends, while its enemies behold its triumphs with amazement and seem paralyzed with its success.

The natural premium system of life insurance as exemplified by this association, of which it is the author, originator and practical exponent, has for the past eleven years been tested as by fire, and it has not been found wanting in any particular.

ASSETS.

We have increased our gross assets during the year 1891 from $3,870,178.99 to $4,349,202.99, being an increase for the year within a fraction of half a million dollars.

RESERVE EMERGENCY OR SURPLUS FUND.

Our Reserve Emergency or Surplus Fund has been increased during the year 1891 from $2,772,285.80 to $3,155,220.94, a net increase for the year of $382,935.14. This amount will be still further increased by the apportionment of the December Bi-monthly Call, which is not included in this report.

INTEREST RECEIPTS.

Our interest receipts for the year have been $123,336.64. As this amount has been realized from investments made upon the over-payments of the members and largely contributed by those who have been members of the Association for many years, it will be observed that to this extent the association has received increased payments from its older members without increasing their rates above the age of entry. This amount added to the increased receipts from the Bi-monthly Mortuary Calls realized from new members, amounting to more than $125,000, has materially assisted in the payment of the extraordinary death claims caused through the excessive mortality experienced by the Association by reason of "La Grippe," which has almost assumed an epidemic form in very many sections of our country, and has thus enabled the Association to maintain its rates, as heretofore, at the age of entry and yet promptly paying its death claims in full usually long before the same were due.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY FUND.

As provided by the resolution of General Isaac H. Shields, of Philadelphia, and unanimously adopted at the annual meeting held Jan. 23, 1889, the Special Emergency Fund has been increased within the year from $250,000 to $400,000, which amount is held in six of the strongest and leading banking corporations of our country. The object of this Special Emergency Fund, as provided by said resolution, is to enable the Association to anticipate the payment of its death claims after an assessment has been made without being compelled to wait for the payment of such Mortuary Calls by the members, and the practical experience of the Association in connection with the Special Emergency Fund has fully demonstrated the wisdom displayed in the adoption of the aforesaid resolution.

INVESTED ASSETS.

As will be shown by a detailed statement, which will be presented to each member of the association, $194,000 have been invested during the past year in bond and mortgage, being a first lien upon improved property in the city of New York, increasing the amount of such loans held by the association to $2,287,000 and producing an interest income to the Association of more than $109,000 a year. An examination of the detailed statement will show the date when each loan was made, the record book in which it is recorded by the city officials, the amount of the principal unpaid, the rate of interest, the value of the land mortgaged, the value of the buildings, the amount of insurance held by the Company on the buildings for the protection of the loan, and the exact location of the property in each instance is given, so that every member of the Association may personally examine, or cause to be examined, every piece of property upon which the money of the Association is loaned, and thereby will be enabled to judge for himself as to the security and care exercised by the officers of the association in making said investments.

It is a fact worthy of note that the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association is the only life insurance company furnishing similar information to its members.

NOT A DOLLAR EVER LOST.

Special attention is called to the fact that covering the entire period of the history of the Association not a dollar has ever been lost of either the principal or interest upon any loan ever made by the Association. Neither have any losses by reason of said loans ever been charged off to profit and loss account. A similar statement I doubt cannot be made by any other life insurance organization in the world.

INCOME.

The cash income during 1891 from all sources was $3,704,126.41, while for the year 1890 it was $3,388,848.86, making a net increase for the year of $315,277.55.

DEATH CLAIMS.

We have disbursed for Death Claims during the past year $2,299,108.80, making our total death claim payments to Dec. 31 last over $12,000,000, or a yearly average of more than $1,000,000 since the date of our organization, and we had in our Reserve Emergency Fund at the close of the year $6,000 for each $1,000 of outstanding death claims in process of approval and adjustment.

NEW BUSINESS.

During the year 1891 we received new applications for membership to the amount of $30,019,615, of which there has been accepted and written $14,318,965. Amount rejected, returned unapproved, or held in suspense, $5,700,650. This vast amount of business has been obtained without any special effort on the part of the management, and we have not the slightest doubt but that the year 1892 will produce equally as satisfactory results.

BUSINESS IN FORCE.

The insurance in force on Dec. 31, 1891, was $215,207,910, while on Dec. 31, 1890, it was $197,036,435, a net gain for the year of $18,204,475. The net gain for 1890 over 1889 was $15,645,235; for 1889 over 1888 the net gain was $12,455,350, which shows a most satisfactory increase in amount of insurance in force from year to year.

PROGRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Year.	Insurance in Force.	Cash and Invested Assets.
1881	$87,633,000	$86,024 83
1882	35,190,750	50,441 53
1883	63,328,500	169,946 24
1884	85,452,000	350,775 05
1885	123,353,500	639,879 41
1886	150,175,250	989,240 16
1887	156,554,100	1,472,200 41
1888	168,902,850	1,953,753 81
1889	181,358,200	2,512,588 96
1890	197,003,435	2,930,178 90
1891	215,207,910	3,384,437 05

Year.	Reserve or Emergency Fund.	Death Claims Paid.
1881	.....	.....
1882	$11,906 05	$34,250 00
1883	115,762 60	335,675 00
1884	271,410 05	815,575 00
1885	499,333 91	1,654,250 00
1886	856,286 46	2,803,390 00
1887	1,305,091 27	4,182,071 23
1888	1,796,678 19	5,764,403 45
1889	2,304,569 35	7,600,434 74
1890	2,772,285 80	9,746,932 79
1891	3,155,220 94	12,037,041 59

COMPARISON.

The comparison of the results of the first eleven years outside and beyond the three great life insurance companies in America—the Equitable, Mutual and New York Life—with that of other life insurance companies is preposterous, and even with these three it is worthy of note that the amount of business in force upon the books of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association at the expiration of the eleventh year exceeds the total business for the same period of time of these three great Life Insurance Companies combined.

As a further evidence of the care displayed in the admission of members, the economy exercised in the administration of its business, and the security offered for the protection of its contracts, the following ratios, compiled from the sworn reports to the Insurance Departments, will prove most convincing arguments upon these important points in the administration of the affairs of this Association, and especially so when the attention is called to the fact that these comparisons are made with the three strongest and largest old-system companies in the world.

RATIOS COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL REPORTS.

	Year.	Mortal-ity to Each Net Assets Force.	Expenses Ratio of to to Each $1,000 in Force.	Ratio of Each $100 Liability
Organizations.				
Mutual Reserve.	1890	10 85	$4 19	$234 45
Equitable	1890	11 41	10 18	122 72
Mutual	1890	13 45	11 30	107 25
New York Life.	1890	11 09	11 74	125 28
Mutual Reserve.	1891	11 14	4 46	237 71

LIABILITIES

The gross liabilities, including dividend, apportionment outstanding, and death claims approved and unapproved, and also including as liability $570,072, being the net present value of all policies in force Dec. 31, 1891, which liability is voluntarily assumed by the Association and not required by the Insurance Department, our total liabilities are about $1,428,700.80.

COMPARISON OF COST OF INSURANCE.

With the payment of the mortuary call issued on Feb. 2 last, a number of our members completed a period of ten years' insurance with us.

The following table will show how small a sum the Mutual Reserve collected during that time for a policy $5,000 at the given ages as compared with the rates charged under the old system.

Our figures include 54 mortuary calls and ten years' annual dues:

Age.	Cost in Mutual Reserve.	Cost under old system.	Percentage of cost under old system compared to same in Mutual Reserve.
25	$466 75	$994 50	213
30	489 83	1,135 00	228
35	540 25	1,319 00	244
40	634 00	1,605 00	253
45	673 75	1,898 50	282
50	891 10	2,359 00	264
55	1,235 54	2,905 50	242
60	1,671 18	3,881 50	232

Making a total saving to our members by reduction of premiums of more than thirty millions of dollars.

LAPSING.

The number and mode of termination of membership in the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association for the past twelve months harmonizes with the experience of the various old system life insurance companies of America, showing that the law of terminations by death is scarcely more rigid or certain than the law of terminations from other causes. There always will be a certain percentage of the insured who will fail to continue their insurance through the first year. There will be another percentage to whom the object of life insurance will no longer exist, and another percentage who become unable to make payment of their premiums if they desired. This is illustrated by the fact that the old system companies issued in 1890 $880,711,283 of insurance, yet their increase in the volume of business in force at the end of the year was but $467,128,000, showing a disappearance from their books of an amount equal to more than half the insurance written for the year, or nearly $500,000,000, while their death claims for the same period were but a fraction greater than 10 per cent of their terminations, and the business of the management of a large life insurance company is largely occupied in supplying freshly examined applicants to take the place of the many older members who shall have terminated their membership for the various other causes than by death, but it should be stated that such terminations are not an unmixed evil, for as these older members pass off the books of the Company the new members, freshly from the hands of the medical examiners, take their places, and thus a constant change is occurring, which no doubt explains the fact that the mortality of a life insurance company forty or fifty years of age is scarcely greater than the mortality of the same company in the tenth or fifteenth year of its existence. For instance, the mortality of the New York Life in the seventh and tenth year of its existence was 50 per cent greater than was the mortality of the same company in the forty-eighth year of its existence.

OFFICIAL EXAMINATIONS.

Outside and beyond the six examinations made by the Auditors of the Association during the past twelve months, the results thereof having been furnished to the members with their bi-monthly Mortuary Calls, I am pleased in being able to report that early in the summer of 1891 Hon. A. L. Carey, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, and Hon. William G. Hayden, Actuary of that department, appeared at the office of the Association and notified the President of their intention to proceed with an official examination of the affairs of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association. Being clothed with the authority of law, the books were at once placed at their disposal and the heads of the various departments were made subject to their orders. After a thorough investigation of all the various departments of the Association, including the Death Claim, Investment and Medical Departments, and upon the completion of their work they handed to the President and officers of the Association a report of the results of their findings.

The Commissioners' report concludes as follows, and in these words are embodied the views of both officers:

As a whole I wish to state that the business of your association has been conducted upon strict business principles, with extreme liberality and promptness in paying every honest death claim, and simply quote from the report of my actuary, which report I most heartily endorse, "that the accounts of the association are so well arranged and its system of checking from one department to another so thorough that any errors can be easily detected."

I am so well satisfied with the honesty and ability of the management and excellent financial condition of the association that I shall be pleased to recommend the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association to the citizens of the State of North Dakota. Respectfully yours, A. L. CAREY,

(Signed) Commissioner of Insurance.

Fraudulent Death Claims.

That there exists an organized band of conspirators whose object it is, through fraudulent combinations, to rob the treasuries of the various life insurance companies by the palming off of sick, diseased and dying men upon such organizations by substitution and other fraudulent means will not admit of a doubt. The management of a life insurance company that fails to pay its honest death claims should be branded before the world as fraudulent, unworthy of respect of honest men, and it is equally true that the management of a life insurance company that will permit a gang of insurance swindlers and conspirators to rob its treasury of the money contributed by its members is equally unworthy of respect or confidence of the public.

It has been our privilege during the past twelve months to expose and bring to light some of these fraudulent attempts to rob the treasury of our association.

[President Harper has mentioned some of the fraudulent claims whose promoters had been frustrated by his association. He also animadverted to a libel suit that had been successfully prosecuted by the association. He referred to the fair treatment accorded the association by the Insurance Commissioners of other States, and he reported satisfactory progress regarding the new building that the association is to erect for its new home office at the corner of Broadway and Duane street. He then took up the controversy that has always existed between what is known, on one side, as a Stock or Semi-Mutual Life Insurance Company and, on the other side, a Purely Mutual Company, such as is the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association. He pointed out the advantages, as the members understood, of the Purely Mutual Company, and suggested that if the Semi-Mutual Companies persisted in their unjust and unpopular crusade it would be but right to fight them with retaliatory legislation, which public sentiment would readily indorse.]

Mr. Har