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Cash Capital	$1,250,000.00
Reserve for Reinsured (legal standard)	6,798,504.68
Reserve for all Unsettled claims.	1,209,716.33
NET SURPLUS over Capital and all Liabilities	3,000,855.44
Total Cash Assets	$12,259,076.45

Losses Paid Since Organization:

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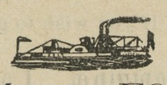
Change of Schedule,

Beginning Monday, Nov. 17, 1902



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VINELAND GIRLS BECOME NURSES.

New Jersey Town Loses Nine of its Pretty Maids and Bachelors are Blamed.

Vineland, N. J. Jan. 31.—Several of the prettiest girls of this place have put aside the frills and furbelows of the fashionable young woman to don the white cap and apron of the trained nurse. Among those who have decided to spend their lives ministering to the sick are Rosalie Brewer, daughter of Dr. Charles Brewer, resident physician of the New Jersey State Prison, who is at the Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia; the Misses Edna and Lucy Slade, daughters of Dr. S. C. Slade, the former at the University of Pennsylvania and the latter at Cooper's Hospital, Camden; Miss Emma Veal, daughter of the superintendent of the New Jersey Training School for Feeble-Minded Girls and Boys, who is at Cooper's Hospital; Miss Lulu Baker, at the Hahnemann; the Misses Harriet and Mary Hill and Sarah Glackin, at the Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia, and Miss Kate Koch, at the Methodist Episcopal Hospital, Philadelphia.

This desertion of local society on the part of so many girls has awakened Vineland to a strange condition of affairs. There has not been a big church wedding in the town for years, and in fact, any sort of a wedding is looked upon as an event in the place.

Blame is generally placed upon the bachelors. There are many business and professional men in Vineland who are apparently eligible, but they seem to be afflicted with a strange timidity. The girls are admitted to be winsome enough to please even the most exacting bachelor, but still the town is full of young women who are begining to approach spinsterhood, and no one pops the question.

The dancing seasons come and go, new debutantes appear and old ones fade, but still no weddings. The girls in despair recently gave a brilliant ball and invited many out of-town young men, hoping that the stupid bachelors of Vineland would take a hint; but they didn't. Still no marriages.

Some of the young men say that too much is expected of men of moderate means. Teas, receptions, entertainments, card parties and dances cost a good deal, and young husbands can't afford them.

The Rev. Dr. D. H. King, the "marrying preacher" of Vineland, says: It has been a long time since I have officiated at a wedding in my church, the First Presbyterian, and almost all those I have lately been marrying are working people. I have never known a town like it"

HE EATS AND DRINKS ANYTHING.

Max, the 10-year-old son of Frank Rickard, living at Kemp's near Williamsport, has a generous appetite and unquenchable thirst that has often led into eating and drinking stuff that are not intended for the inner man thereby bringing him close to the brink on several occasions not to say anything about the painful discomfiture he experienced.

The other day the lad found a bottle of liniment which his father had purchased of an itinerant medicine man and he emptied the contents down his throat. In a few minutes he was on fire inside and his parents thinking he had gotten a fatal dose hastily summoned Dr. Richardson, who soon relieved the suffering boy. He was in agony for some time. He swallowed about two ounces of the liniment.

Not long ago he drank a quantity of indigo and was nearly put out of the game of life. He was made very ill by the poisonous ingredients but recovered without the aid of a physician. On another occasion he drank some liquid which threw him into stupor from which he did not recover for several hours. His parents never found out what the stuff was. He has to be watched to prevent him from drinking and eating things that are injurious.

LITERARY NOTES.

"The way to git cheerful is to smile when you feel bad, to think about somebody else's headache when yer own is 'most bustin', 'to keep on believin' the sun is a-shinin' when the clouds is thick enough to cut."—From "Lovey Mary," *The Century*, January, 1903.

"Don't you go an' git sorry for yerself. That's one thing I can't stand in nobody. There's always lots of other folks you kin be sorry fer 'stid of yerself. Ain't you proud you ain't got a hairlip? Why, that one thought is enough to keep me from ever gittin' sorry fer myself."-From "Lovey Mary," *The Century*, December, 1902.

THAT "O-U-G-H."

A rough-coated, dough-faced ploughman strode coughing and hiccoughing through the streets of Scarborough.—*Punch.*

The properties of sunflower seed are peculiar, and a small quantity fed at the proper time will essentially aid in imparting to the plumage of adult fowls a gloss that no other grain will produce.

Fowls inclined to fatten too easily are not good layers. The flesh they carry makes them lazy, and this never promotes laying.

LETTER FROM FLORIDA.

From Philadelphia to New Orleans. Interesting Account of a Trip by Train.

With the mercury capering around sixteen (of which it should be very much ashamed) one week, and the river frozen over the next, you must be chilly, old friend, so what do you say to a trip to New Orleans. Agreed? Get on your seven league boots in the form of a Pullman sleeper, and off we go. Perhaps Philadelphia would be the best starting point, and the early train, although not a through one, will be very good, as you do not mind a change at Washington, for there we get the sleeper; a chair car, until reaching that point will make us very comfortable. How smoothly the car runs, scarcely a jolt, only a gentle gliding motion even at forty miles an hour. But get up and walk the length of the aisle and you will wish for the sea legs of "Uncle Sam's marine." After this experiment you will be content to sit and watch things fly by. Wilmington comes before we are fairly settled, and can this be Baltimore already? Only a few minutes stop here to take on new passengers, then off we fly, and the next thing here we are at the National Capital. Twenty minutes wait for the making up of the through train of sleepers for the next time we start, no more stops until breakfast. Perhaps we had better get lunch, for supper from the Buffet will be sufficient for one day, and no dining car until dinner to-morrow. Be sure to show the waiter a silver quarter, or our lunch will remain on the table while we are going away from it at top speed. About half through lunch comes the announcement, "Through train to New Orleans." Too bad we have to leave so much we really wished for, but trains, like "Time and tide wait for no man," nor woman, either, so we bow to the inevitable and rush away. Of course, you were wise enough to secure a middle section of the Pullman, or we might not be so comfortable, the wheels annoy one very much at night in the end sections. How delightful this is, watching the ever changing scenes. By dark we shall be getting down to North Carolina, and you will find it growing warmer. On, on we go, the idea of stopping never enters one's mind. Night closes down, lamps are lit, and perhaps we had better have supper. That over, our fellow-passengers begin to amuse themselves with cards, mothers hush little ones to sleep, tucking them carefully in their berths, (and we pray fervently they may sleep well, not waiting for a midnight serenade lasting until dawn.) Being rather fatigued with early rising and traveling, we fall asleep, everything is oblivion until "Next station, breakfast," and we scamper off to the dressing-room to prepare. Look out for trouble ahead, steady yourself, a glance in the glass, whack! that is your right elbow; before you can give that a rub, slap! your left arm; you try to nurse that when, bang! your back gets a crack. By this time you have learned to brace yourself and proceed with your toilet, only bobbing a little now and then. The train begins to slacken speed, and if you are wise you will hurry away; keep your eye on the conductor of your own car when you enter the restaurant, and sit near him, for therein lies safety, in two respects; you will get your breakfast in full, and not be left by the train, for he knows when 'tis time to move. Pretty good breakfast, is it not? An unusual delay gives us time for its enjoyment. But all things come to an end, even a good breakfast, and we make a dive for the sleeper, and are off again in a twinkling! All day we travel as of yesterday, attaching the dining car in time for dinner, so we will not stop for breakfast. We get a most delicious one, in this first-class restaurant on wheels, at a most appalling price. Again night closes in, we retire early, too sleepy to hear the babies if they do cry. When morning comes again we are well down in Dixie, running through Mississippi, and here we see such pretty little homes lying on the gulf coast. "Beauvair," the home of our Jefferson Davis, most lovely, indeed; Pass Christian, the gem of the coast. Bay St. Louis, Waveland and Biloxi. 'Tis dark now, and in a few hours we will be at our journey's end. But what is this? We are riding over a tressle? 'Tis twenty-three miles in length over the "Rigolets," the pass connecting lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain. The latter name is three French words strung together. Pout, bridge; char, car; train, train, literally translated car, train, bridge.

We must be getting in, here comes the porter, with his clothes whisk, doing his utmost to brush from us the dust of two days traveling, as well as a quarter from our pockets. Do you smell that delicious odor? That is from the cane sugar; we are running along the sugar sheds where it is stored, thousands of barrels. The train goes slower and slower, then stops. New Orleans! shouts the brakeman, and here we are. There is more to interest us in the old French city, so we will go to the Hotel Royal. Too late for sight-seeing to-night, but to morrow we will wander around and find most interesting things to both yourself and FLORIDA.

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New Year's Greeting.

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Many Thanks

and the very best wishes for a Happy and Successful New Year.

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MARION T. MILLER,
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