Wm. BLIGHT, Agent, Toronto.

CONVERSATION

ON

LIFE ASSURANCE,

BETWEEN

A MASTER AND A JOURNEYMAN.

M.—Well, William, you seem very intent on that little book, may I ask you the nature of its contents?

J.—It is a Prospectus of a Life Assurance Company, but I am at a loss to understand the use of the various Tables, and do not perceive the benefits it gives to those who adopt them.

M.—The benefits are great, as stated, to the poor especially, as assurance enables them to secure their families from destitution,

should they die early in life.

- J.—I have no doubt, Sir, it is as you state, but it does not plear sufficiently clear, and I shall be obliged if you will explain to me the nature and use of the Tables, for I am sure I would do all I could for my wife and children, and I am often anxious when I think what would become of them if I were to die soon.
- M.—I believe you, William, and shall have great pleasure in explaining the Tables of the Society, and affording you every information on the subject: life, you know, is uncertain, and he that NEGLECTS to provide for his own is "worse than an Infidel." Therefore, come to my house, after you have left off work, and I will give you a full insight into the nature and application of Assurance Companies.
- You are late, William, but I suppose the fatal accident to Henry Phillips has detained you; I did not think to have so soon, within our own observation, such a melancholy illustration of the benefit of Assurance.
- J.—Why, Sir, was he insured? It occurred to me when I was carrying him to the Hospital, "I wonder whether he was insured," for you know, Sir, he was a steady, thoughtful man, and one who loved his home.
- M.—Yes, William, he was insured, three years since, for £200, and as he did the matter well, he made his will the same day, and left the amount to his wife

J.—And am I to understand, Sir, that Mary will have £200, now that he has died so soon? I suppose that she will only have a part of the sum.

M.—She will have the full amount of £200, and, what is more, there is a small boxus to the policy on £2 2s. 0d. So that when the time is up for payment, about fifty days, the Office will pay her over £202 2s. 0d. Now, let us see the little book, and I will point out the table which applies to Henry's case. Here it is, Table 1, and it is headed "Annual Premiums for Insuring £100, with participation of profits." Henry, at the time he insured, was nearly 27: now, if you look down the column marked "Ages," until you come at the No. 27, and look to the amount to the right, under the heading "With participation, whole of life," you will find the amount £2 5s. 0d which is the annual sum to be paid to the Office for £100. Your poor shopmate made his calculation, and found that if he put by 1s. 9d. per week he could insure at his death £200. This he determined to do, and the benefit to his family, by his wise determination and conduct, you now witness.

J.—Yes, Sir, indeed it was wise, since he died early in life; but if he had lived to a good old age, he would have been a loser; but I see that it is to provide against the miseries to the family if the father die young, that makes Life Assurance so good a thing.

M.—That is, indeed, a great leading feature, but you are, however, wrong, William, in considering that Henry would have been a great loser had he lived to a good old age. If Henry had saved £4 10s. 0d. every year until he was 71, he would not have had in his box £198.

J.—That is true, but could he not have done better in a Savings' Bank? he would have had interest for his money.

M.—It would, certainly, have been wiser than hoarding it in a strong box, and I am happy to find you understand the value of these Institutions; but what would have been the result to his bereaved wife and family, had he adopted the selfish principle and paid £4 10s. a year into a Savings Bank? Instead of £202 2s., his widow would have to receive about £14, which would, indeed, have paid the expenses of his funeral, but have left her and her little ones to the mercy of the wide world.

J.—I am convinced, Sir, from what you have said, that it is

J.—I am convinced, Sir, from what you have said, that it is my duty and wisdom to insure my life, and I will do so as soon as I can.

M.—"As soon as I can," William, is the language of all convinced people. But do you know that when you think you may, an office may not think so?

J.—How is that, Sir? may I not do it when I feel inclined?

M.—No, William, you must be in good health, or the Company

will refuse you the Assurance. Therefore, as you cannot warrant the continuance of your health any more than you know the day of your death, you should lose no time. To-day you may, to-morrow you may not be able. But let us now proceed to ascertain the use of the other part of the Table. The last column of the Table you will find headed "Whole of life, without participation," and by comparing the premiums with those in the first column, you will discover that they are less. Henry might have insured the sum of £200 by the payment of £4 4s. 8d. yearly, instead of £4 10s., but then he would have had no share of the profits of the Company. He would have paid the Office 16s. 0d. less in the three years, but his wife would not have had the two guineas which she receives besides the £200 insured.

which she receives besides the £200 insured.

J.—Thank you, Sir; I think I perfectly understand what is meant by "profits and no profits," and can see the reason why Offices are so anxious to show us the proportion of the profits that they give to the assured. But, Sir, what is meant by the columns headed one YEAR and SEVEN? Will you have the

kindness to explain these?

M.—These Assurances do not apply in practice to you, but you will readily perceive their usefulness and adaptation to business transactions, from the following illustration. Suppose, for example, you owed me £100, and had not the means of paying me for the space of one year, but at the end of that time you would come into some property, and be enabled to pay me. Now, if you died within the twelve months, I could not have my £100 from you; but to prevent loss, however, from this event, I could insure your life (by column 2) for £1 4s. 10d., and if you died within the term, the Office would pay. The same applies for a term of 7 years, if I had no prospect of receiving my £100 lent you, until the end of that time, but as the Insurance would be for a longer period, I should have to pay the rate in the 3rd column, £16s. 7d., for £100.

J.—It is very plain, Sir, these are short insurances to keep the insurers from loss by a person who cannot pay his debts now, but will be able to do so by and by.

M.—Just so, William. Tables 2, 3, and 4, I think I shall be able to explain to you to-morrow, and will do so, if you will bring me word that you have explained it to your wife, and waited on the agent of the STAR Society, and made a proposal to insure your life.

M.—So you are punctual, this evening, William. Have you heard how the poor widowed woman bears her affliction?

J.—She feels it greatly, poor woman, but she must have some cheering thoughts when she remembers that although her natural

protector is removed, yet he did what he could by his foresight. He was always a steady fellow, and a fond father and husband.

M.—Have you spoken on the subject with your wife, as I

requested?

J.—Yes, Sir, we had a long chat about it, after the children were in bed, and do you know, Sir, that little Jemmy, when I kissed him before his mother put him to sleep, seemed to say, as he looked in my face, "Do you not love me?" I made up my mind before I spoke to Nancy. She began to cry, when I talked of my being taken off like poor Henry, and leaving her and her children to the wide world. She saw, however, the good of Henry's doing what he did, for although I say it myself, she is a quick body in seeing these things, and said she had no doubt she could save the 1s. 9d. a week by a little care, and not feel it very much. I could not sleep for some time, however, for thinking that, after all, the Office might not insure me; but I am glad to tell you, Sir, Dr. Richards says I am a capital life, and that there is no fear. I really wish it was done; I may, you know, Sir. die before it is all completed.

M.—Let us hope not, William, not for many years to come; but this uncertainty about ourselves and our intentions reminds me of a statement I read in a little book, a few days since, in the nursery. It is related in a short sketch of the Life of the late Sir Thomas Lawrence. It struck me very forcibly, so that I remember the words. The biographer states that "about a fortnight before his death he dined with an old friend; among other things he remarked, that from his care of his health, and the regularity of his living, he thought he should live to an advanced age; but yet that it was his intention to insure his life for £5,000. He had fixed to complete the affair on the following Friday. But how vain are all our calculations respecting our present existence! By how uncertain a tenure do we hold everything beneath the skies! He expired the very day before." I will relate to you another instance in which the benefit of insurance, and the danger of delay, are both illustrated. Charles C. was a commercial traveller, and insured his life in the sum of £500. After the expiration of a year, he went to the office to pay the second premium, and stated that he should attend in a few days to insure in another sum of £500. He was then in robust health, but he caught a fever, and died in 14 days from his visit to the office. These examples are occurring every day.

J .- They are striking instances, indeed, Sir; but vet, now I think of it, I know a dozen such in the parishes just around. The vicar of H—, you know, Sir, died five or six months ago: I am told he had as much as £500 a-year, and now his wife and family are obliged to leave the parsonage, and are gone to live among their relations. I suppose he could have insured his life for a great deal, for he had the living when he was 28, and that's ten

years ago.

M.—Yes; for £69 10s. a-year, he might have secured £3,000 for his widow, which would have enabled her to bring up the children, and keep herself independent of her family. Indeed, as you say, William, one cannot walk the streets without meeting sufferers from the want of forethought in parents, nor look into our own circles without finding instances in which the neglect of insurance is but too apparent. I think it clear that every person, who would know if he ought to insure, should ask himself this question, "What would be the state of MY Family were I to Die this Year?" If all were honest in allowing themselves to see the misery that would follow, and would act upon the conviction which would force itself upon them, three-fourths of the parents in our land would insure something, however small. But now to the Tables, William.

J .- Here is the little book, Sir: Table 2 is headed "Half-yearly and Quarterly Premiums for the assurance of £100, with participation of profits." This I understand; it is to pay twice or four times a year, instead of once, as in Table 1; but I find, Sir, the half-yearly premium is more than half the yearly premium. you have the goodness to inform me the reason of this difference in the charges? I suppose it is for the extra trouble given to the

Company.

M.—You are wrong in your reason, William. The extra is to compensate the Company for the probability of the party insured dying before he has paid the second half-yearly premium (if he pays half-yearly); or his 2nd, 3rd, or 4th quarterly premium (if he pays nan-yearly; or his znu, old, or and quarterly plentin in the pays quarterly); and for loss of interest of money. But that you may the more readily understand the propriety and justice of this extra charge, we will suppose that you and I are both 31 years of age next birth-day, and both insure our lives; you on the yearly system, and I on the half-yearly. When we go to take up our Now, if you and I happen to die in any year before my second half-yearly payment, the Office would lose half of my yearly premium, whereas you would have paid your insurance up to the end of the year.

J .- Yes, Sir, I perceive the justice of the arrangement, and, of course, the Office would be sure to lose something by quarterly payments, unless the person died within the last three months of the year. We will, now, if you please, take Table 3, which is headed "Annual premiums payable until the decease of one or other of two lives, for assuring £100, whenever that event happens." This is more difficult to understand, I think, Sir. Will

you have the goodness to illustrate this by some familiar example?
M.—Yes, William, but in this case we must bring in your wife for a part. Suppose Nancy and yourself would each of you be 25 years old next birth-day; then by looking at the first column, under the word "Ages," at 25, to the right in the second column is 25 also, and in the third column (headed Annual Premiums) is the sum of £3 6s. 8d., which is the annual charge for insuring £100 at the death of EITHER Nancy or yourself, whichever should die first.

J.—By this plan, if I am correct, Sir, the Office would have paid Henry, should his wife have died before him; so that the one that outlives the other, whichever it may be, will reap the benefit. Table 4, which is headed "Annual premiums payable until the decease of the survivor of two lives, for assuring £100, whenever that event happens," gives a very low premium, when compared with Table 3. If the two persons were 25 each, it would only be £1 5s. 6d., instead of £3 6s. 8d. Will you explain this great difference in the charge?

M.—You will easily perceive the reason of the difference when I tell you, that the Office, by Table 3, has to pay when the first life dies, and by the second when the last life dies. Suppose your life and my own were insured by Table 3 and Table 4, and that one of us should die at the age of 45, and the other at the age of 75, and that our present ages were 30. On the supposition that one of us die at 45, the Office would have to pay the insurance, by Table 3, in 15 years, whereas on the supposition that the other live to be 75, the Office would not have to pay, by Table 4, until 30 years after, and would be receiving the premiums up to that time.

J.—It is well, Sir, Henry did not adopt Table 4, as Mary would have had to pay all her life-time, instead of receiving the sum, now she is in want of it.

M.—This plan of insurance is not applicable to your case or Henry's. It is adopted by persons who hold leases on life tenure, to secure the purchase-money, when the lives, on which the estates are held, shall die. But now to Table 5. Just read the heading.

J.—"Annual premiums for insuring £100 on the death of a person (A), provided another person (B) be then alive." I am quite at a loss, here. Sir.

M.—An illustration of the use of this Table I can furnish you in the case of the death of a gentleman, a valued friend of mine. By the will of a relative, he was left the sum of £5,000, after the death of his father, should he survive him, but if he died before his father, the £5,000 should go to another branch of the family. When the relative, who left him the sum, died, his father was 55 years of age, and himself 30. He was a prudent young man, and knew that the old must die, and the young may; and as he had a little family, he was determined to secure the £5,000 for them, should he be taken from them before the death of his father.

J.—How could he do that, Sir? I thought you said that if the son died first, at the death of the father the £5,000 would go to another branch of the family.

M.-You are rather quick, William. It is true, the £5,000 would go as willed, but he insured the sum of £5,000 by Table 5. Take the Table. It states that the sum is to be paid if A die before B. Now, in this case, A (the son) was 30, and B (the father) 55 By the table, A 30, and B 55, the annual premium for £100 is £1 9s. 4d. My friend paid the Office, for 9 years, £73 6s. 8d., when he died, and the Company paid his family £5,000. His father is still alive, a hearty old man, and when he dies another branch of the family will have the £5,000, but my friend's wife and family have been paid by the Office.

J .- Yes, Sir, but if your friend's father had died first?

M .-- He would have had the £5,000 willed to him, and the Office would have had acthing to pay.

M.—What says the heading of No. 6? pray read it.

J.—" Ascending Scale. Annual premium for the Assurance of £100 for the whole of life." I think I understand how this table is used, Sir:—is it not to pay the sum in the one column for the first five payments, and if the insured person be alive when the sixth payment is due, to pay the advanced rate in the second column, and so on to the third five years; and if the party be alive at the end of 15 years, he is to pay the sum in the last column yearly as long as he lives?

M .- I see you perfectly understand the way in which the table is used, but do you perceive its value as a plan of Assurance, and

to what class of persons it is applicable?

J .- I must confess I do not, Sir. I must refer to you for that information.

M.—It is applicable, then, to persons with improving incomes. Suppose the following, in the case of a clerk in a Banking House or Government Office, where the salaries attached to their situations are increased at stated periods. A married man, aged 30, may be very anxious to secure £1,000 to his wife and family at his death, but finds that he cannot afford at present a yearly sum (by Table 1) of £24 7s. 6d. out of his income, but that in a few years he should be able to pay that sum or even more, could it be so managed by an Office: here, his wish and difficulty are met by Table 6, by which he insures £1,000 for the first five years for £17 2s. 6d. yearly, the next five years for £20 10s. 10d. yearly, the third five years for £23 18s. 4d. yearly; and during the remainder of life for £27 17s. 6d. yearly; thus his yearly payments increase with his income every five years until he is 45, from which age his payment is rather more than if he had commenced by Table 1.

J .- It is a very good plan for such persons, certainly, because it enables the party when young to secure a large sum with a small Table No. 7, called the "Descending Scale," is somepayment. what like the Ascending Scale.

M .- It resembles Table 7 only in the annual payments being altered every five years, but you will see it is applicable to a very

different class of persons. It is used by those who have LARGE MEANS AT PRESENT, BUT WHO MAY HAVE THOSE MEANS DIMINISHED BY ANY CAUSES IN AFTER-LIFE. Thus a person aged 80 may be enabled to pay for a few years £36 10s. 2d., but might be so situated as not to be able to command that sum to the time of his death.

J.—It is this fear, Sir, that I may not be able to make the payments in the latter part of my life, that makes me afraid of being insured. If any plan could be adopted to stop paying to the Office when I may be past labour, at the age of 65 or before, I should like it much better, although I had to pay a trifle more every year until that time.

M.—Even here, William, you are met by the Insurance Company. You might take out a policy for £100 at the age of 30, and cease to pay after you are 65, should you live to that age, for 9s. 2d. a-year extra. This is the use of Table 8. If you look at the column marked 65, opposite the age 30, you will find the annual payment to be £2 17s. 11d. for £100—to discontinue payment at 68; and, what is better still, William, the Office will pay you the £100 when you arrive at 65, and not wait until you die, so that you may receive the money yourself, and if your family are all provided for, you may enjoy this fruit of your forethought and prudence in your old age.

J.—Really, Sir, this is an excellent plan. It is like an Insurance Office and Savings' Bank joined in one. I am much obliged by your kindness in thus instructing me, and I hope soon to show you that I have followed your kind advice, by bringing you the

Policy on my life.

ADVICE TO PARTIES INSURING.

It is most desirable to point out to those who may be about to effect an insurance, either on their own lives or the lives of others, the great importance of candour and integrity in giving to the Office the information they are required to furnish respecting the state of health and habits of the party whose life is to be insured. This information forms the basis of contract, and is given in the form of written replies to a number of inquiries on a printed paper; which is signed by the assured, and carefully preserved by the Office for future reference, in the event of fraud being detected. Upon the truth or falsehood of these replies the validity of the policy depends.

The intention is to insure only ordinary risks, and of this intention ample notice is given to the party insuring. If the risk be in fact an extraordinary one, the Office should at least have the option of demanding a higher rate of premium in the event of it

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Ag Ders	on (B		l Pres) pro	for insuring rided another	yura	First 5	Second 5	nual Premius ple of Life. Third & Years.	No Profit Remain- der of Lif	
Ag Ag	on (B	HIFS.—Annus he death of per) be then alive. Premium,	Ap	(cs.	Premium	Ages.	First 5 Years. £ s. d. 3 4 8	Second 5 Years.	Third & Years.	Remainder of Lif	
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Ag Ag	9 on the on (B) ses.	HIFS.—Atmoshe death of per) be then alive. Premium. £ s. d. 1 13 4	Ap	B 25 32 35	Premium	Ages. 25 26 27 28	First 5 Years. £ s. d. 3 4 8 3 6 3 2 7 11 2 9 8 3 11 4	Second 5 Years. £ s. d. 2 11 9 9 13 0 2 14 4 2 15 9 2 17 2	Third & Years. E a. d. 1 13 9 1 19 9 2 0 9	Remainder of Life # n. d 1 5 1 2 n. d 1 7 1 1 7 0 1 7 11 1 8 6	
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Ag	90 on the on (B) 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 25 60 25 80	##FFAnnune de death of per	A 40	25 32 35 40 45 50 25 30 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45 45	Premium 2 % d 2 18 5 2 18 5 2 19 10 2 19 10 2 19 10 3 5 1 7 1 3 5 9 3 3 3 2 1 7 1 3 5 9 3 3 1 2 2 17 9 3 1 2 3 1 2 4 2 6	Ages. 25 27 28 23 30 32 32 33 34 35 44 42 41	First 5 Years. £ s. d. 3 4 8 3 6 3 8 7 11 4 8 3 6 13 16 2 9 8 3 12 1 4 4 11 14 4 8 5 5 4 10 9 4 15 5 0 1 5 2 5 0 1	Second 5 Years. £ s. d. 2 11 9 9 13 0 2 13 9 2 14 4 2 15 3 18 2 14 5 3 18 2 14 6 3 3 18 2 14 6 3 18 3 18 3 18 4 7 0 1	aual Premiurale of Life. Third 5 Years. \$\mathscr{E}_A, \ d. \\ 1.19 9 \$2 0 9 \$2 1 19 \$2 2 9 \$2 3 10 \$2 2 5 10 \$2 6 11 \$2 18 0 \$2 14 5 \$2 18 8 \$3 0 0 \$3 1 6	Remainder of Life 1	
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TABLE VIII.

ENDOWMENT ASSURANCES.—Annual Premiums for Assurance of £100 on attaining the age of 50, 55, 60, or 65; or at death, if that event happens before. No profits.

lge.		50		1	55			60			65	- {	Age.		5 0			55			60			65	
_	£	s.	đ.	e	8.	à.	£	8.	d.	£		d.		£	8.	d,	£	8.	d.	£	s.	d.	£		7
15	2	10	8	2	4	3	1	19	9	ı	16	5	27	4	5	4	3	9	6	2	19	1	2	12	
16	2	12	7	2	5	9	2	0	10	1	17	5	28	4	9	11	3	12	8	3	1	6	2	14	
17	2	14	7	2	7	3	2	2	1	1	18	6	29	4	14	11	3	15	11	3	3	11	2	16	
18	2	16	9	2	8	10	2	3	4	1	19	7	30	5	0	5	3	18	6	3	6	4	2	17	
19	2	18	11.	2	10	7	2	4	8	2	0	8	31	5	6	4	4	3	3	3	8	11	2	19	
20	3	1	5	2	12	5	2	6	1	2	1	10	32	5	12	11	4	7	4	3	11	8	3	2	
21	3	4	1	2	14	4	2	7	7	2	3	1	33	6	0	5	4	11	10	3	14	9	3	4	
22	3	6	11	2	16	5	2	9	3	2	4	5	34	6	8	11	4	16	11	3	18	1	3	6	
23	š	10	0	2	18	8	2	10	11	2	5	10	35	6	18	6	5	2	5	4	1	9	3	9	
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26	4	'n	ıĭi	3	6	5	2	16	10	2	10	7	38	8	17	3	6	2	11	4	14	7	3	18	

TABLE IX.

TABLE X.

TABLE IX.

Deferred Annuity of £10, to commence at the age of 50, 55, 60, or 65, and thereafter to continue during the remainder of life. No Profits.

REVERSIONARY ANUITIES.—Annual Premiums payable during the Joint Lives of A and B, for an Annuity of £10, to commence at the death of A, and to be paid during the remainder of the life of B. No Profits.

_			_										_							_	
	_		Up	on	atta	int	ng		age	of		_	Αę	es.	Ann Prem		Ag	es.	Ar	nu:	al
Age.	1	50	- 1		55	- 1		60			65			_	1			_			
_			_		_							-	A	В			A	В	Ĺ		
_	£	s.	d.	£	5.	d.	€	8.	đ.	£	s.	d.	-		£s				£	s.	d.
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26	4	4	8	2	12	5	1	12	11	0	19	4		20	2 18	0		25	4	12	4
27	4	10	3	2	16	8	1	14	7	1	0	3	1	25	2 19		1	30	4	2	8
28	4	16	8	3	0	2	1	16	8	1	1	5	1	30	2 6		[35	3	12	10
29	5	3	5		3	11	1	18	10	1	2	7		35	2	. 8	ŀ	40	3	3	3
30	5	11	2		8	2	2	1	2	1	3 5	9	l l	40	1 16		1	45	2	13	10
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35	8	6	5		16	2	2	15	9	1	11	9	1	25	3 2			35	4	9	0
36	9	2	5		3	8	2	19	9	1	13	9	1	30	2 16	2		40	3	16	10
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STAR

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

CHIEF OFFICE,

48, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

CAPITAL £100,000.

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BECRETARY AND ACTUARY.

W. E. HILLMAN, F.I.A.

BANKERS. Mesers, MASTERMAN, PETERS, MILDRED, and Co., 35, Nicholas Lane;

Day of Attendance-Thursday, at Ten o'Clock:

BONUS DECLARED UP TO DECEMBER, 1848.

An Inspection of the Scale of Bonus added to Policies of five year's duration will at once establish the claim of this Society to public support; and a comparison of the results with those obtained by any similar instituted is invited.

Age at date of Policy.	Sum Assured.	Amount paid to the office.	Bonus added to the Sum assured.	Amount now payable at the death of the Assured.					
	£	£ s. d.	₽ 5. d.	Æ 8. d.					
25	1000	106 9 2	76 8 2	1076 8 2					
35	1000	139 15 10	85 7 1	1085 7 L					
45	1000	188 10 10	98 0 0	1098 0 0					
55	1000	283 19 2	122 18 9	1 1122 18 9					
65	1000	448 2 6	169 1 7	1169 1 7					