

a wrong mortality table for selling annuities, but that is a trifle to the amount our Government would itself be short if it adopted Mr. Johnson's erroneous 14 per 1000 calculations.

Yours, &c.,

WILLIAM H. ORR.

MONTREAL, April 1st, 1879.

(ANSWER TO ABOVE.)

## LIFE INSURANCE STATISTICS.

To the Editor of the MONTREAL HERALD.

DEAR SIR,—I have to ask you the favour of inserting this reply to the letter of attack made on me by Mr. William H. Orr, dated Montreal April 1st, which appeared in your issue of the 2d. ....

I trust that your many readers do still remember my answer to Mr. Ramsay, of the 14th March, which answer you was pleased to insert on the 18th of the same month; also the fact that Mr. Ramsay has not yet replied to the few pertinent questions which I put to him. Well, a few days ago, Mr. Orr, Mr. Ramsay and several other Life Insurance delegates, were here lobbying about this business, and Mr. Orr was kind enough to introduce Mr. Ramsay to me; at that interview, I asked Mr. Ramsay why he did not reply to my letter? He very adroitly said that he had no time, and he immediately disappeared in a hurry, probably fearing a debate on such a tender point, particularly with me.

Mr. Orr himself had a long talk with me while here, which I think was on the 1st instant, and by his conversation at the start, he showed his ignorance of the fact that I had studied the ramifications of the Life Insurance business, and did not require any instructions from him on the subject. I told him this very plainly when he advanced the idea of my appealing to *so-and-so* in the United States for information. I also told him that I had nothing to learn from him or others that is worth learning, and that I positively would not study the system of cheating the helpless widows and orphans.

Since Mr. Orr takes up the role of an apologist for Mr. Ramsay, or probably to speak more correctly, for the Insurance Companies, and as he evidently has read my letter to Mr. Ramsay, I will simply ask him to reply to my questions put to Mr. Ramsay *verbatim*. The Blue-Book that he refers to, speaks for itself, and his quotation of my statement is only correct as far as it goes, and probably when he answers my questions as above intimated, the public will find that *nearly two million dollars* a year have been carried out of this country as stated by me. Your readers will bear in mind that the figures given in the Government reports, show the *surplus* as being so much *over all disbursements*, which any "school-boy" will understand, includes the whole list of details that Mr. Orr refers to, and likely some that are not so included, because it is a well known fact that such companies are not slow to exhibit large figures, not only in the item of receipts, but of payments also.

His pretensions about investments are very ingeniously put, but they lack positive detailed evidence as to figures, &c., to prove anything in his favour, especially when we consider the source from whence the mere assertion emanates. It surely is worthy of a partizan to introduce the subject of the \$3,000,000 Quebec bonds into this business, but Mr. Orr gives this wonderful reason for it, stating that it "shows that Americans know how to appreciate a good financial offer, irrespective of boundary lines." To which fact let me here add, that this is the very reason why they have established so many Life Insurance Companies in Canada, knowing that they do make very large profits out of us in this business.

unteers this asser-  
but he is not able  
to say that the  
es were received  
have not noticed  
when reporting?  
T. R. J.

n to do with the  
consideration?  
T. R. J.

he part of Mr.  
no force as evi-  
thority are given,  
their part, if you  
presented to the  
will see it stated  
ally less than the  
T. R. J.

his point.  
T. R. J.