



MACKEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE, CHARLES LAMB'S HOUSE,
AS DESCRIBED IN HIS ESSAYS.

The Protection of Life.

The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the United States recently granted to the Metropolitan Life Assurance Company the right to hold real estate for the purpose of a sanatorium for the care of its employees who are afflicted by tuberculosis, in opposition to the New York Insurance Department's refusal on the ground that it was not within the rights of a life assurance company to enter upon such an enterprise. The argument given by the Court is quite lengthy, but is summed up in a sentence at the close of the report, which says: "The reasonable care of its employees, according to the enlightened sentiments of the age and community, is a duty resting upon it, and the proper discharge of that duty is merely transacting the business of the corporation."

The Insurance Monitor, commenting on the report, says:

"It follows without argument that the principles here laid down are by no means confined to the employees of a life company. It may not engage in missions of pure charity, even though in line with its work, but whatever reasonably promotes the business purposes for which the institution is organized lies within

its legitimate scope. Every policyholder whose premium payments may be prolonged and death claim deferred is, for those reasons, a source of gain to the company. It is financially for the benefit of its members that, in the exercise of its discretion, the sanatorium should be used for them as well as for its employees. In one word, the enlarged mission of life insurance under the enlightened spirit or the age is no longer confined to the protection of its members through pecuniary payments on their death or survival, but includes as well whatever may enhance that protection through the preservation of life.

"The idea itself is by no means

new. It is only an extension to life insurance of principles which have already been recognized in other branches. The fire underwriter, as a part of his work, sustains salvage corps for the preservation of property. The fidelity underwriter finds his most important duty in the prevention of those breaches of trust against which he insures; while the steam boiler insurer reduces his liability for damages to a mere guarantee of the fidelity and efficiency of the inspections which are the chief feature of his business. The preservation of health and prolongation of life may henceforth be regarded as a part of the normal business of life insurance."



MEMORIAL TO COVENANTING MARTYRS, AT
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