

comes of the earth, earthy—a very poor, selfish, unreasoning and unreasonable creature indeed, when he becomes the slave of this principle. Yet it is a most important principle, notwithstanding, and to be cherished, if not over-cherished. I think it is one great benefit of the Life Assurance system, that it does away the domination, in a great measure, for so over-cherishing it, and giving it such a habitual hold and mastery, as is really degrading to the character, and injurious to the usefulness of the individual who is so enslaved. The two, however, are both necessary and useful. I mean the Life Assurance system and the Savings Bank system; and they do mutually assist each other, and correct each other, and make up for what is deficient in each other. The Savings Bank provides for contingencies, for which the Life Assurance does not provide, and it provides the security for continuing, even in unfavorable seasons, the payment of the rates of the Life Assurance. And the Life Assurance provides, and provides at once, for what the Savings Bank could only do, in a long period of time—a period of time, on which it is unsafe to calculate, while it also relieves and disengages the mind, and sets it free from the danger of acquiring such a habit of sordid parsimony, as cannot be resisted effectually, or rooted out.

If I were to treat fully of the benefits of Life Assurance, it might be proper to state the advantage to be derived in business transactions, from the possession of a Policy of Assurance,—the facility which it affords for raising money, and the security which it gives for the ultimate payment of debts that have been incurred. It might be proper also, to dwell on the various branches of Life Assurance business—in particular the granting of annuities. This is done on the same principles as to the average probability of life. And it is desirable in the