

BRITAIN AND AMERICA....*T. Sparks... Toronto Globe.*

Proud daughter of the sunset west,
Thy mighty mother o'er the sea,
Unmindful of estrangement past,
Stretches a greeting hand to thee.

Deep in the dust, forgotten be
The feuds which stained the hateful past;
And now the gazing nations see
That thou and she are one at last.

That each at length has wiser grown,
As the enlightening years went by;
And discords, which in blood were sown,
Now dead, with those who sowed them,
lie.

Enough! Thou art her kindred yet,
Her Anglo-Saxon blood is thine;
And in thy veins, as here, have met
The virtues which that blood combine.

Enough! Thy cause is Freedom's cause,
Thy sword for Freedom bared, alone,
And English lips, with loud applause,
Hail deeds which well may match their
own.

Let carping fools, who think them wise,
Prate on of fancied "wrong" and "right;"
Others, as well as they, have eyes,
And know as well wherefore ye fight.

See, despots, too, across the sea,
Frown on each sword-encircled throne,
But what their smile or frown to thee
With Britain's arm linked to thine own?

One kindred blood, one mother tongue,
One altar where ye both adore,
One kindred flag above ye flung,
And Freedom's cause—what want ye
more?

But this—to march on, hand in hand,
With steps which dare to court the light;
And man and heaven will bless the lands
Which stand for Liberty and Right.

HUMORS OF ASSURANCE.

A certain life assurance company recently received the following letter:—

DEAR SIR,

It is with deep sorrow that I take the pen to inform you that my dear wife, Anne Marie, nee Lindner, insured with you—you will find the number in your index—for the sum of \$3,000, has died suddenly, leaving me in this world in the bitterest despair. This painful blow befell me this very day at 7 o'clock in the morning. Will you try to get for me the amount assured as

quickly as possible? The policy bears No. 21,762. I can say very seriously and very sincerely that she was a faithful wife and an accomplished mother. So that matters may proceed more rapidly, I send you herewith an official certificate of her death. Her illness has been very short, which rendered my sorrow the more intense. I trust that you will help me in consoling myself by sending me very promptly the aforesaid amount, especially after having received my formal promise—and I make it to you this very moment—that when the time comes, I shall insure my second wife for \$6,000, double the amount of assurance of the defunct. My sorrow is immense; however, the prospect that you will hasten to satisfy me sustains me in this terrible trial. In the hope that I shall soon receive the amount assured, I and my children pray you to accept our sincere gratitude.

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"We are getting a little tired of this life assurance business," remarks a Missouri editor. "When a man dies nowadays the first thing they ask is: 'Was he assured?' The papers also generally wind up the obituary notice with the amount of assurance. Soon the obituary notices will read something like this: 'Peter Jones died and left a wife and two children. Loss fully covered by assurance.' Or if deceased is not assured it will read about as follows: 'John Smith is dead, He leaves a wife. Total loss; no assurance.'"

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A dejected-looking Irishman entered the office of an accident assurance company, not long ago, and handing a soiled and crumpled paper to the clerk in charge, said:

"There's me policy; and it's mesilf wants it paid up this day, sorr."

"On what do you base your ground for total disability?" inquired the clerk, after a comprehensive survey of the sturdy though shiftless-looking man who stood leaning against the desk.

"Sure and it's mesilf that came over to this country to be a butler in the furrst families," returned the Irishman sulkily; "and, havin' no rcommendation, Oi was wicks widout a place; and whin Oi got wan, the very next day me feet, bad 'cess to 'em, tripped under me, and broke foive iligant plates and three cups av coffee. And they discharged me, and niver a stroke av wurk can Oi get since. And if that ain't 'total disability' it's mesilf would like to know fwat is?"