

private resources of the gentleman I refer to, no greater evidence has ever been given of genuine patriotism, when he felt that the honour and interest of Canada demanded that this contingent should be raised, and that the life of every one of its members should be insured against the casualties of war, and when, out of his own pocket, he paid for an insurance to the extent of a million dollars on the 1,000 men of the contingent. And yet, Sir, that gentleman is to be assailed and traduced by the Minister of Public Works, with the full knowledge of the Prime Minister of what had occurred, and with the official proof in his hands from the company that every one of those thousand men carried that insurance to the aggregate of one million dollars, Sir, the Prime Minister has not a word to say in reference to that gentleman, and why? Because, unfortunately, he is a friend of Sir Charles Tupper, there can be no other reason. What other reason could exist except that? I took care to place in the hands of the right hon. gentleman the following official statement from the company:—

Montreal, October 23, 1899.

To the Officers and Men of the Canadian contingent for the Transvaal:

As a result of negotiations for some time pending with this company, we have this day concluded an arrangement with Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., whereby he effects insurance to a limit of one million dollars upon the men of all ranks in the Canadian contingent going to Africa. To each officer and to each man, or to their heirs, the sum of \$1,000 is to be paid by this company upon receiving satisfactory proof of death while engaged with the enemy in Africa, or death within thirty days of engagement, or for loss of both feet, or both hands, or both eyes. In case of loss of one hand, or one foot, or one eye, \$500 will be paid.

It is desired, as far as practicable, before embarkation, that the names and home addresses of the officers and men be forwarded to the office of this company, 185 St. James Street, Montreal, by letter or wire, that they may be recorded in the company's books.

(Signed),

The Ocean, Accident and Guarantee Company, Limited,

ROLLAND, LYMAN & BURNETT,
General Managers.

An Hon. MEMBER. Oh, oh!

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. That is a subject of amusement, is it, to the hon. gentlemen opposite? There is the evidence for this House of whether the entire population of this country is heartily engaged in sustaining the action of this government; that burst of laughter is the evidence, backed up, as it is, by the insolent assault of the Minister of Public Works upon this transaction, there is the voice of his claqueurs trained to turn their scorn and contempt upon every man that will

Sir CHARLES TUPPER.

come to the aid of Canada and her troops. What is the position of the government upon this question? They entered into negotiations with an insurance company to insure the lives of that contingent to the extent of a million dollars, and I will read what the *Globe* newspaper, of October 28, said upon the subject:

ANOTHER MILLION OF INSURANCE.

Mr. G. H. Allen, of Kingston, inspector of agencies for the Standard Life Assurance Company, of Edinburgh, has been in the city for the past few days, and has completed an arrangement with the Dominion government for placing one million dollars' life insurance on members of the Canadian contingent who are going to the Transvaal. This will give one thousand dollars' insurance to the relatives or heirs of any officer or man who may die during their absence. The insurance will take effect from the time the contingent starts from Quebec, and will be paid on all parties who die from any cause. The government will pay the premiums. The secretary of the Standard Life, Mr. J. Hutton Balfour, arrived to-night to look over the arrangements which Mr. Allen has made and give his sanction to it. The insurance which Sir Charles Tupper negotiated, was merely for accidents, and it is understood will only take effect from casualties after reaching South Africa.

Now, Sir, what occurred? Every man of that thousand of brave and patriotic Canadians went off with the glowing language of the First Minister of the Crown in his ears, went off with his heart lightened and his feelings buoyant. He knew from the official announcement made by the organ of the government that an additional \$1,000 had been placed on his life and that in case he lost it, those who depended upon him would not be left homeless and houseless. Where are these gentlemen who, with a burst of laughter, greeted the provision of \$1,000 to meet the casualties of war, where are they when I point out to them the humiliating position in which this government, that they support, stand in relation to this question. With this announcement made, with every man carrying away with him the happy, delightful thought, that if his life were lost, his family would be provided for, to some extent, what would be their feelings upon reaching South Africa to find that this was a delusion, that this government, when they took up the question of insurance had not the ability to deal with it or to provide for the insurance of each man to the extent of \$1,000, and who, when they found what it would cost them to do it, backed out of it, and when the organ of the government, after it had given this gratifying announcement, at which every man in Canada rejoiced, stated three days afterwards, on November 1, that 'there was no ground for the report recently published that the government are insuring the lives of the members of the contingent.' It is a tragedy, a tragedy of the deepest, blackest dye; it