

we are able to recall the thoughts which we have accumulated in years of reading and study. In other words it is the harvest time of life, and as harvest time is the most cheerful of the year, so old age, if life has been rightly spent, will be the most cheerful part of our sojourn on earth. There will be, to quote Shakespeare once more, "Honor, love, obedience, troops of friends."

There is one thing, however, that we shrink from in old age with a justifiable aversion, and that is the spending of that portion of our life in poverty. It very often happens that life has been so lived that one's resources are expended before the period of old age comes on, and therefore it is absolutely necessary in order to experience the maximum of comfort in old age to have provided for it by some means, either by successful business ventures, careful saving or some other method.

Among all these we do not think there is one which guarantees comfort in old age to be compared with the assurance of one's life on the Endowment plan. There are many men who find it almost impossible to save money unless they have the inducement of an assurance policy. This contract compels them to set aside so much every year or else they will forfeit the benefits; and it is morally certain that thousands of people have provided for their old age in this way who otherwise would have passed that period of their life on a poor-farm or in an almshouse.

Thoreau says, "The sun shines as warmly and brightly on the doorsteps of the poorhouse as upon those of a palace," but although this may be true in a material sense, we do not think the spirit of the pauper would respond to the charm of the sunshine as would the soul of the inhabitant of the palace. It is said "There never was a philosopher who could endure

the toothache patiently," and there are very few philosophers who could approach the steps of an almshouse with any feeling except that of profound humiliation. It is doubtful whether Thoreau himself would have done so. Therefore let us use our earnest efforts to make provision for old age, and, as we have said above, we think that the most efficient means is the taking out of an assurance policy on the Endowment plan in early youth, or middle age, when the premiums are low and the money-earning power is at its best.

As examples of what a very small saving will accomplish when invested in an Endowment policy we might quote the following: At age 25 a premium of \$23.45 per annum will provide \$1,000 with profits at age 70. This premium is equivalent to less than 8 cents per working day. Similarly a saving of less than 9 cents per day will give \$1,000 at age 65; less than 10 cents per day, \$1,000 at age 60, and less than 11 cents per day will give \$1,000 at age 55. This may seem incredible but it is none the less true. Provided with one of those policies for a substantial sum we will the more readily quote the optimistic poet,—

"Grow old along with me,

The best is yet to be,

The last of life for which the first was made,"

The advice to "never surrender your policy" is what, in sporting phraseology, would be called the "straight tip." In many instances, of course, policyholders are brought by sheer necessity to ask for the surrender value. On the other hand, it is about the first thing many of the less thrifty resort to. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that surrenders are to be deplored, not only from the Company's point of view, but more especially that of the policyholder. The soundest thing is to hold the policy, and only yield it up as the last resort.—
The Review, London, Eng.

The Grim Reaper seems to have a special liking for the unprotected home.