

WHAT IS LIFE INSURANCE?

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1. It is the exercise of Prudence and Benevolence.
 2. It secures independence, domestic happiness to the widow and orphan.
 3. It is more efficacious in its operation, as regards the moral and domestic comfort of the people, and in its tendency to reduce taxation, by its reduction of pauperism, and possibly of crime, than the legislation of our wisest statesmen, and, if universally adopted, would be a national blessing.
 4. It affords to persons of every class, and in every station of life, the means to avoid much future misery to their families, and to render them independent of public or private charity.
 5. It is a scheme by which any sum of money may be secured at death (whenever that event may take place), or be received at any age of the life assured.

It is truly impossible to overestimate the value of life insurance. When we look upon those scenes of misery and suffering, which promise a long continuance, and know that by one simple act of self-denial all these might have been prevented, we cannot fail to recognize the power for good which lies in a life insurance policy. The reasons which were valid when a man first secures this policy are always valid. Why, then, debate about continuing the insurance as long as life lasts? If it be a question of economy, we should begin with sacrificing our luxuries, not our necessities. The life insurance policy is one of the necessary things of life. It may be compared to bread, fuel, clothing; for, hereafter, it becomes all these things. The annual insurance premiums purchase these necessities of life to be used in distant years,—supplying our home then with what our hands are supplying now.

The charity of life insurance is the worthiest of all. It is mainly devoted to widows and orphans, often left, otherwise, entirely destitute and penniless, and it not only provides affluently for them, but, at the same time, preserves inviolate their independence and respectability of character. It relieves and sustains, but never humiliates or degrades.

The wisdom of life insurance is emphatically indorsed by