

# **AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF LIFE ASSURANCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649615278

An Introduction to the History of Life Assurance by A. Fingland Jack

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**A. FINGLAND JACK**

**AN INTRODUCTION  
TO THE HISTORY OF  
LIFE ASSURANCE**



30321

AN INTRODUCTION  
TO THE HISTORY OF  
LIFE ASSURANCE

*Economics*

BY

A. FINGLAND JACK, M.COM.

SOMETIME GARTSIDE RESEARCH SCHOLAR OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



LONDON

P. S. KING & SON

ORCHARD HOUSE, WESTMINSTER

1912



HG  
8761  
J3

To

MY FATHER

APART FROM WHOSE SYMPATHY AND GENEROSITY

THIS WORK COULD NOT HAVE

BEEN BEGUN.





## PREFACE

IN presenting the following study, which was begun in Berlin some four years ago, I wish merely to forestall such criticism as might result from a misconception of its scope and intention. My object (and I have sought to emphasise this in my choice of a title) has not been to write a history of Life Assurance—that remains still to be done ; but I have endeavoured to prepare the way, in some measure, by an examination of certain main factors in the development of the insurance idea. I have thought it necessary to devote a large portion of the book to a consideration of the Gilds, because the relief for which they were responsible was so much a part of their nature that to seek to deal with it without reference to general development and characteristics would lead to wrong impressions.

The list of works given is by no means intended as a comprehensive survey of the literature on the subject : I have simply mentioned those sources to which I have had occasion to refer specifically in the footnotes. The most obvious omissions, however, are probably two valuable English works which have recently appeared, namely, Mr. George Unwin's *Gilds and Companies of London*, and Volume III. of Dr. W. R. Scott's *Constitution and Finance of English, Scottish, and Irish Joint-Stock Companies to 1720* ; neither of these, I regret to say, came into my hands until after my essay was complete.

It only remains for me to offer my very sincere thanks to those who have given me most valuable help. Professor



Chapman has for a number of years afforded me the benefit of his counsel and encouragement, and I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of both; I am also much indebted to Mr. J. H. Clapham for his helpful advice and criticism. Miss A. G. Hunter has assisted me very much in the collection and transcription of my notes. Finally, the book owes a great deal to the many suggestions of Miss A. Shillington, who revised the whole of the manuscript for me, in addition to correcting the proofs. The faults are my own.

A. FINGLAND JACK.

TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,  
*March 25, 1912.*



## CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE . . . . .	vii
CHAPTER	
1. GENERAL REMARKS . . . . .	1
<b>PART I</b>	
<b>THE GILD-SYSTEM</b>	
II. SOME ASPECTS OF THE ROMAN COLLEGIA . . . . .	15
III. GILD BEGINNINGS IN GENERAL . . . . .	30
IV. GILD BEGINNINGS IN ENGLAND . . . . .	43
V. THE FRITH GILD . . . . .	60
VI. THE MERCHANT GILD . . . . .	72
VII. THE CRAFT GILD—BEGINNINGS . . . . .	89
VIII. THE CRAFT GILD—DEVELOPMENT . . . . .	101
IX. THE CRAFT GILD—ACTIVITIES . . . . .	112
X. SOCIAL-RELIGIOUS AND RELIGIOUS GILDS . . . . .	127
XI. GILD RELIEF . . . . .	141
<b>PART II</b>	
<b>OTHER INFLUENCES</b>	
XII. USURY . . . . .	153
XIII. RENTS OR ANNUITIES . . . . .	165
XIV. RENTS OR ANNUITIES: SOME SPECIAL FORMS . . . . .	177