

PROMPT PAYMENT APPRECIATED.

ST. JOHN, N.B., April 22, 1897.

MR. E. W. HENDERSHOT,

Manager for Maritime Provinces,

Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada,

St. John, N.B.

DEAR SIR,

I desire to express my sincere thanks for the prompt settlement of claim on policy No. 62607, on the life of my late husband and for your personal attention and saving of all expense in connection with payment being made.

Yours truly,

MARY ELLEN NORTH.

WESTMOUNT, June 15, 1897.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE CO., MONTREAL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of cheque from you, in payment of policy of my late husband, Dr. J. Gentles, and to express my appreciation of the Company's promptness in adjusting the claim.

Yours very truly,

HENRIETTA E. GENTLES.

THE COURTSHIPS OF GREAT MEN.

The late Czar Nicholas of Russia met the object of his supreme affection (says *Success*) at a State dinner, and during the progress of the banquet made his ardour known to the lady by passing her a piece of bread in which was hidden a ring of gold.

The late Sir George Airy, the celebrated astronomer, on account of his innate modesty, seemed doomed to bachelorhood for life. But Fortune favoured him, and he was led into matrimony by a curious incident. "Have you ever noticed Miss ———'s eyes? They possess the rare property of double refraction." "Dear me," returned Sir George; "that is very remarkable; I should like to see that. Do you think I might venture to call?" And he did call in due course, and begged permission to examine the young lady's eyes. The novelty of the situation

may have fascinated him. At any rate, he begged the privilege of another look at the eyes in a clear light. The problem grew so interesting he at length resolved to make it a life study. He was accepted, and the unique courtship terminated in a happy union.

The story of Edison's first courtship is intensely interesting in that it was markedly characteristic of the famous inventor. His first wife was, previous to her marriage, a telegraph operator in his employ. Her maiden name was Stillwell. One day, while standing behind her chair, watching her dexterous hands despatch the swift messages, Edison, who had long admired the young lady afar off, was not a little surprised when she suddenly turned round and said: "Mr. Edison, I can always tell when you are behind me or near me." "How do you account for that?" returned Edison. "I don't know, I am sure," responded the young lady, "but I always know when you are near me." It was now Miss Stillwell's turn to be surprised, for with his characteristic bluntness and ardour, Edison confronted the young lady, and, looking her full in the face, said, "I've been thinking considerably about you of late, and if you are willing to marry me, I would like to marry you." The young lady said she would consider the matter, and talk it over with her mother. She did so, the result being that they were married a month later, and the union proved a very happy one.

Bismarck's courtship of his second wife is unique in its way. The Fraulein Johanna was a charmingly sweet and comely country maiden—in spite of her name—when, at the wedding of one of her friends, at which she was bridesmaid, she met young Herr Otto von Bismarck, a stalwart, pompous young dandy of thirty-one. There and then, during the festive occasion, a mutual mental understanding took place between them, and, before leaving, Bismarck surprised the assembled guests and the young lady herself by openly embracing her and kissing her before all present. This abrupt and amusing courtship ended soon afterwards in a very happy marriage.