

matter of profits, is proving such an excellent business puller, that the Sun Life agent has now a comparatively easy task in writing life assurance.

The public has changed its attitude regarding life assurance during recent years. It is no longer regarded as a luxury for the well-to-do; but men of all classes regard life assurance as an actual necessity. This idea is stimulated by the complexity of modern living. With increasing living expenses and chances against the ordinary man to save any large amount, the necessity of protecting the home is forced upon him as a duty he cannot afford to neglect.

Life assurance is one of the things that is not overdone; the great majority of assured men do not carry enough.

This is an opportune time to make application for an increased amount.

Aberdeen.

Aberdeen is a city of great antiquity. An eminent authority (Mr. Cosmo Innes) has declared that—

Long before Edinburgh had acquired the precedence of a capital, or even a first place among the four burghs of Scotland, while Glasgow was yet an insignificant dependency on its Bishop, Aberdeen had taken its place as a great and independent Royal Burgh and a port of extensive foreign trade.

The municipal history of the burgh dates from 1179, when William the Lion granted a charter conferring on the burgesses the right of trading when and where they pleased. Aberdeen is said to have been the scene of one of the exploits of Wallace. Robert the Bruce lived in it for a considerable time and showered favours on it; and in 1308 the citizens mustered on his behalf, stormed the castle that then surmounted the Castle Hill, and put the English garrison to flight, their watchword on the occasion being "Bon-Accord," which has since remained the motto of the town. Some thirty years later the town was completely burned by the soldiers of Edward III. It was rebuilt, and received special favours from a succession of Scottish sovereigns—David II., the Roberts, and the Jameses, not a few of whom made royal progresses to it and through it. A visit to Aberdeen by Queen Mary in 1562 was marked by a tragic incident, the

Queen being dragged by the Earl of Moray to a window of Earl Marischal's house (adjoining what is now Marischal Street) to witness the execution in the Castlegate of Sir John Gordon, a son of the Earl of Huntley, between whom and the Queen an attachment was alleged to exist. The city, which had pronounced Royalist and Catholic leanings, played a conspicuous part in the Covenanted struggles, and during the Jacobite rebellion of 1745-6 it was for a time occupied by the troops of the Duke of Cumberland.

It is the third city in Scotland having a population of over 174,000; in area it is probably the first, the Municipality having recently extended its boundaries—its total burghal area is now 6,335 acres, and it has a circumference of about 7½ miles.

The industries of the city embrace paper making, the quarrying and polishing of granite, the manufacture of linen, cotton, woollens, tweeds, jute and combs; and there are also iron works and shipbuilding yards. There is a very large fishing industry and considerable shipping—over 200 steam trawlers fishing regularly from the port—the harbor admitting vessels of large tonnage. There are Graving and Pontoon Docks and extensive quays for the fishing trade, and besides a Fish Market there is a large and spacious general market.

Aberdeen is known as "The Granite City," from the beautiful light grey granite of which it is built, most of which was quarried in the immediate neighbourhood—at the Rubislaw Quarries. Union Street, its principal thoroughfare, is a noble street, 70 feet wide, nearly a mile in length from the Castlegate to the Free Church College. It is carried over a ravine by a handsome bridge in granite, designed by Telford—single arch with the magnificent span of 150 feet; the ravine was originally the valley of the Denburn, but is now occupied by the line of the Great North of Scotland Railway.

Albyn Place, a continuation of Union Street, forms a thoroughfare unsurpassed in any other Scotch town; while the mansions that line Queen's Road testify to the substantiality and capability of artistic treatment of the native granite.

Many buildings will arrest attention notably the Art Gallery and Museum and the School of Art, the Public Library, the Royal Infirmary, the National Security Savings Bank, the School Board Offices, and the Parish Council Buildings. Of the numerous churches, the more conspicuous—architecturally—are the Free Scotch

