

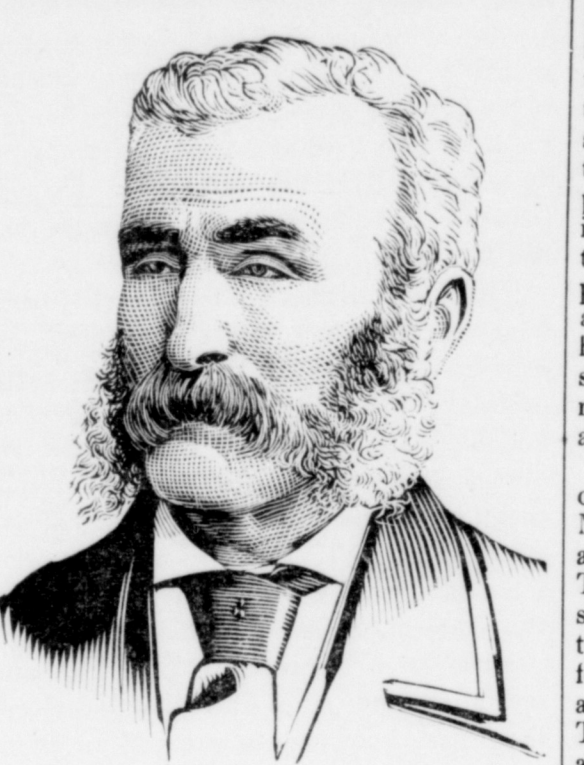
LUCKY NEIL MORRISON.

THE MONEY-LENDER OF KIMBERLEY AND HIS LEGACY.

A St. John Man who Woke One Morning and Found Himself Rich—The Will Seventeen Years Old, However—The Thirty Odd Other Heirs.

The eyes of a number of individuals in different parts of the world are just now turned towards the town of Kimberley in South Africa. There an alleged fortune of fifteen million dollars awaits them and they are of course anxious to obtain possession of the treasure.

The individual who left these vast possessions was William McKay, who was known in his African home on account of his solitary ways as "the miser and money lender." He had a number of brothers and sisters, and as he left no issue, the fortune goes to them. One of his sisters was the mother of Neil Morrison, a stevedore of this city, and Mr. Morrison is now taking steps to secure his share of the fortune.



The whole story of the fortune would furnish material for a romance. The events are interesting and varied and cover in their scope many lands and many decades. In the parish of Durness, Sutherlandshire, in the north of Scotland, the family of McKay was brought up amid the simple surroundings of Scotch highland life.

First one of the daughters sought a new home. This was Mrs. Morrison, mother of Neil Morrison. She and her husband came out to New Brunswick fifty-nine years ago and settled at St. George. There they remained twelve years and then removed to St. Andrews; and while they were living here Mrs. Morrison's brother Daniel also left the place of his nativity. He enlisted in the 93rd Highland Regiment and came out to Canada, being stationed at Kingston, Ont. Shortly after William followed him, coming out as carpenter in a sailing vessel from London. After he embarked no more was heard of him. He became lost to view and it was thought that the vessel he had come out in was wrecked. This was about the year 1853 and from then until a few weeks ago nothing more was heard by Mrs. Morrison of her brother. Then after these forty years there came like a thunder clap the word of his amazing fortune and leaving it to his relatives.

him before Collins' return he wished him to communicate its contents to his relatives. The will was witnessed by Collins and another man, James Duff. The story now leaves McKay, who, it is supposed, died a few years later, perhaps about 1880, and goes on with Collins, who, as the thing now stands, is the key to the situation. He wandered about for some time and at length brought up at Youngstown when he gave the will to Daniel McKay and, by the way, Daniel was named executor and by the provisions of the will received in addition to his million and a half as a brother another million for fulfilling the duties of the executor's office. Daniel does not appear to have communicated anything about the will to his relations and it took many years and a round-about process for the facts to reach Neil Morrison.

A son of the man Andrew McKeown who befriended the brothers McKay in Youngstown appears to have learned about the will from his father who in turn learned it from McKay. According to the will a bequest of a few hundred thousand was left to Andrew McKeown, and after his death his son John A. McKeown, a young man of about twenty, started out to see what could be done toward getting the amount. He wrote about it to Durness, Scotland, to see if the parish had ever received a bequest which was left for the purpose of educating the children of the poor. The people in Scotland wrote in turn to some cousins of Neil Morrison in Shelburne, N. S. and it was from them that he received the first word of his good fortune. But the news had been on the wing seventeen years, and it had gone through six hands before it came.

One day a bundle of letters came into Mr. Morrison's home on Britain Street. It contained the copy of the will and other information. Mrs. Morrison, who opened the documents, was amazed. She showed them to her husband, who at first would not look at them. Later he changed his mind and concluded to see what was in the thing. He consulted the legal firm of McKeown, Barnhill and Chapman, and Mr. Barnhill is now investigating the matter. He has written to parties in Kimberley, to locate the fortune and his lordship Mayor Robertson has also written to the mayor of that town with the same object. The first point is to locate the fortune. After that it will be necessary to find Collins and to go through all the legal requirements to prove heirship. There is much to be done and the heirs should not build too high hopes of future prosperity at this early stage. It is not known where Collins is now but a hunt for him is being prosecuted and it is supposed that he is in Colorado.

There are about thirty families in the collateral branches of the family of Wm. McKay who are legal heirs to the fortune and they are now pretty well scattered. They are, however, united by one circumstance. They are all looking for the fortune. William had three brothers and four sisters. Of these two are living and are eligible each for a million and a half. These are George, who lives at Durness, and Catharine, who lives at Shelburne, N. S. Each has about six children living. Of the other five in the family four left issue. These are Daniel, who left nine children living; Villina, who left three; Dollina, eight; Effie, about three, and Annie about two. Each of these families is entitled to a million and a half, except Daniel's, whose family, as stated before, will receive two and a half millions.

Neil Morrison is one of twelve children of Dollina. Of these eight are living, while three more left issue. Daniel is in Oakland, Cal.; John is at San Francisco, Cal.; James is at Vancouver, B. C.; Jeannette and Georgiana are at Portland, Oregon; Catherine is in Washington Territory; and Barbara is in San Francisco. All have done very well and have made their way in the world. Daniel followed several occupations. He has been vessel owner and captain among others and had the misfortune to see a fine craft go down under his feet. John was in the mines of Idaho for thirty odd years and he sold one of his claims for \$50,000. James is a stevedore and is expected here shortly from Vancouver to consult with his brother about the fortune. Jeannette married a Mr. Shindler who has a furniture factory in Portland, Ore. Catherine married Geo. Smith, Georgiana is single and Barbara is a widow, her husband Mr. Galway having died. Three other sisters who are dead have left children who would also be entitled to a share of the millions.

Mr. Morrison is a thorough Scotchman and comes of good highland stock on both sides of the house. He was seven years old when his father came out here fifty-nine years ago. They first lived in St. George for twelve years and then in St. Andrews the same space of time. Eventually they came here and for many years Mr. Morrison has been following the ins and outs of St. John shipping prosperity as a stevedore. Like most Scotchmen Mr. Morrison is domestically inclined and his chief loves are his home and his church. He is a staunch supporter of the Reformed Presbyterians and has a great admiration for their late clergyman, Rev. Mr. MacFarlane. He is a man who has made many friends and he is respected by all for his sterling qualities.

He seems to be quite sanguine of getting the fortune, though he has not let his hopes run away with his prudence. There is much to be done before the fortune can be obtained, if it is obtained. Mr. Barnhill was asked respecting his belief. He declined to express any opinion as to the surety of getting the money but said that while not attempting to discourage his client he had advised him not to build up too strong hopes until he had learned something more substantial. One of the provisions in the will shows one phase of "the money lender of Kimberley's" business foresight. He leaves the sum of \$50,000 for legal expenses.

"Then I explained my mission, and he said: 'Oh, that's all right. Walk right in and take a cheer. Pap could write me he make a will: the pension war the only thing he had to leave, but it's cum in mighty handy.' He produced the will, and, sure enough, the pension had been devised to him. I didn't have the heart to tell him it was not valid, but he receives no more pension."

A LETTER OF JOHN WESLEY Which is Now in Possession of Mount Allison University.

That well-known Methodist institution, Mount Allison University, is happy. It now has an autograph letter of John Wesley in its possession—something that a college of any denomination would be glad to own. The letter is particularly valuable because it concerns early work in North American mission fields, and hence is of great historical interest. It was written a hundred and ten years since.

A few years after it was written, Mr. George Tupper, of Bridgetown, Nova Scotia, got possession of this letter, which he carefully preserved in his family bible. About a year ago Mr. E. C. Foster, of Berwick, whose wife is one of Mr. Tupper's descendants, was on a visit to relatives in Massachusetts, and was surprised to find there the old Tupper bible, and also the letter of John Wesley. He took the letter back with him to Nova Scotia, and has now presented it to Mount Allison. The letter is as follows:

To all whom these presents shall come, John Wesley, late Fellow of Lincoln College, in Oxford, Presbyter of the Church of England, sendeth greeting.

Whereas many of the people in the Southern provinces of North America, who desire to continue under my care, and still adhere to the doctrines and disciplines of the Church of England are greatly disturbed for want of Ministers to administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, according to the uses of said Church: And whereas there does not appear to be any other way of supplying them with ministers: Know all men, that I John Wesley think myself provisionally called at this time to set apart some persons for the work of the ministry in America. And therefore under the protection of Almighty God and with a single eye to his Glory I have this day set apart as a superintendent by the imposition of my hands and prayer (being assisted by the ordained ministers). Thomas Cook, Director of Civil Law, Presbyter of the Church of England and a man whom I judge to be well qualified for this great work. And I do hereby recommend him to all whom it may concern as a fit person to preside over the flock of Christ. In testimony whereof I have here set my hand and seal this second day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

School Teachers are making money selling Snell's Business Pens and Snell's Ink. Do thou likewise. I will teach you to write 75 words a minute in Simple Shorthand for \$5. Write today. Lessons by mail.

SNELL'S BUS. COLL., - TRURO, N. S.

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS. Announcements under this heading not exceeding five lines (about 35 words) cost 25 cents each insertion. Five cents extra for every additional line.

THE BLUENOSE BUFFALO is the Sleigh Robe for this country. Be sure you see them at 240 Union Street. Leather of all kinds at 240 Union Street. Hides, Skins and Tailor wanted. WM. PETERS, St. John. 10-27-11.

\$3 A DAY SURE send your address and we will show you how to make \$3 a day; absolutely sure; we furnish the work and teach you free; you work in the locality where you live; send us your address and we will explain the business fully; remember we guarantee a clear profit of \$3 for every day's work; absolutely sure; don't wait to try it today. IMPERIAL SILVERWARE CO., Box 18 Windsor, Ont.

NO GOOD HOUSEKEEPER will be without one of our New Patent Raisin Seeders. Seeds a pound of Raisins in less than 10 minutes. Wonderful seller and money maker for Agents from now till after Christmas. Sample sent by mail, 1c; 2 for 2c; 10 for 10c; 25 for 25c. Terms and Circulars free. Albert O Specialty Co., 64 Bleecker St., Toronto, Ont.

"VIRGIN" CELESTIAL SOAP—Lately received four cases of this celebrated soap. Unsurpassed for the nursery, toilet, and bath; excellent for the teeth, 5c. per cake 10c. per dozen. SHORR'S PHARMACY, JERVIS HILL. Telephone 469.

WANTED, GOOD AGENTS to handle the "Ideal Sewing Machine" throughout New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. First-class American Machine. Special prices and circulars on application to M. J. HARNY, 298 St. Lawrence St., Montreal, P. Q.

RUBBER GOODS. Do you want anything in Rubber goods? If so send us 2c. as we supply EVERYTHING known to the trade. Please ask for quotations and you will save money. STANDARD RUBBER CO., ST. JOHN.

INTERESTING AND PROFITABLE employment can be given to a number of ladies and gentlemen selling the celebrated "Scott's" Photographs and Watercolor Art. throughout New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, by applying personally or by letter to A. P. BISHOP, 68 King St., St. John, General Agent for Canada. 5c-11

Youthful European Monarchs. The ascension of the Grand Duke Nicholas to the throne of the Romanoffs will add another youthful monarch to the royal galaxy of Europe. This frail heir of the crown of the autocrat of all the Russias is only twenty-six years old. He will be called to rule 126,000,000 subjects. Thirty-five-year-old Kaiser Wilhelm lords it over 50,000,000 Germans. Over the 5,000,000 people of Portugal reigns King Charles, who is four years younger than William. King Alexander of Servia, with its 2,300,000, was born in 1876. Little Queen Wilhelmina, of the Netherlands, first opened her eyes upon her 4,700,000 subjects only 14 years ago, and the babe of all the old world royalty, King Alfonso, of Spain, was not born until after his father's death in 1886, and presides at the tender age of 8 years over the destinies of 18,000,000. Thus at the close of the nineteenth century 256,000,000 Europeans find themselves under the crowns of six rulers, whose average years are only 22.

Don't Keep Apples in Barrels. A correspondent of the National Stockman who cares for a large quantity of apples yearly says: "I have found a cool, moderately damp cellar the best place to keep them. After rejecting all unsound fruit I store immediately in cellar if it is a cool one; if not in an outbuilding constructed of heavy lumber, the object being to keep them cool. They must be cool if expected to keep. Warmth hastens ripening and eventually decay. When there is danger of freezing, remove to the cellar. I have kept them on shelves, in barrels, in small, medium and large boxes. I have succeeded best in using boxes holding about ten bushels, having kept them until May with a loss of only three bushels in 500. In a continued experiment of sixteen years I saved one-third more using the ten bushel boxes than with barrels. The reason is obvious."

Tattooing Soldiers' Arteries. It is a pretty well-known fact that most of the deaths which occur on the field of battle result from bleeding to death before surgical aid arrives. The French Government have under consideration a scheme for tattooing the soldiers of the French army with a certain mark over each artery, so that a wounded man would be able to staunch the flow of blood himself, and thus increase his chance of living.

The Queen's "Private Cemetery." The Queen keeps a special volume, bound in black leather with silver clasps, in which she carefully enters the name, age, date of death, date and place of burial of everyone in any way known to her who passes over to the "great majority." Her granddaughters irreverently call it "grandmamma's private cemetery."

Sage Advice. It is related that many years ago the first time Prince Bismarck went to consult Dr. Schwenger, he was asked many questions. The Iron Chancellor, who was not accustomed to be cross-questioned, got impatient, and said "he came to be cured and not catechised."

The Boston Transcript quotes one of those inimitable compliments for which the Bostonians are famous. Patrick was in the drawing room on some errand, and caught sight of his mistress' photograph on the mantel. "Yes, Patrick," said the lady, in response to some exclamation of his, "that is my picture; but it flatters me a little."

THE MODEL WIFE and DIAMOND DYES. A Model wife can realize Great benefits from Diamond Dyes; No matter what her family's size; She dollars saves by Diamond Dyes; She happy makes her children's lives; By using often Diamond Dyes; Her home is bright as cloudless skies; Because she uses Diamond Dyes; All other brands she must despise; When she can choose the Diamond Dyes; Her faded dress she deftly tries To renovate with Diamond Dyes; Her husband's coats, vests, pants and ties Are soon renewed with Diamond Dyes; At fair this year she took the prize; For goods dyed with the Diamond Dyes; She causes wonder and surprise; By tinting walls with Diamond Dyes; She with the artist often vies; By coloring maps with Diamond Dyes; She's economical and wise; This comes through using Diamond Dyes; Good-nature sparkles in her eyes; Because she's helped by Diamond Dyes; On these grand colors she relies; She knows the best are Diamond Dyes.

THE DOMINION BREWERY CO., LIMITED, TORONTO.

Advertisement for Dominion Brewery Co. featuring a bottle of White Label Ale and various beer types like India Pale Ale, Amber Ale, and XXX Porter. Text includes "OUR Ales AND Porters ARE KNOWN AND USED FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC, AND ARE IN GENERAL FAVOR."

JOHN O'REGAN, - - St. John, N. B. AGENT FOR THE DOMINION BREWERY CO. And Salvador Export Lager.

WEDDING PRESENTS.

Silver Plated Ware, Fine Cutlery, Solid Silver Goods from the best English, American and Canadian makers, which we shall be pleased to show to everyone.

W. H. THORNE & CO., MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN.

Advertisement for The Coronet, a Franklin stove. Text includes "THE CORONET. A New Franklin Made in Three Sizes. A Handsome and Powerful Heater. Moderate in Price; Beautiful in Design." and an illustration of the stove.

Emerson & Fisher, 75 TO 79 PRINCE WM. ST.

McAVITY SPECIAL RAZOR. Warranted.

Advertisement for McAvity & Sons featuring a razor and text: "\$1.25 Each. Genuine WADE & BUTCHER Extra Hollow Ground Razors, Round Rubber Handle, Black, 3/4 inch. Finely Tempered Steel Blade, Honed, Set, and ready for use. Sent by mail on receipt of price." and "T. M'AVITY & SONS, 13 and 15 KING ST., ST. JOHN."