

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1898.

JOHN MACKAY'S CAREER.

HE STARTED IN A BANK IN FREDERICTON CITY.

Was in the Tea Business in St. John and Ran Cheap Shows in Jack's Hall—His Companionship With the Fair Beatrice Hathaway, the Blonde Actress.

When Mr. Mackay was in the tea business some years ago on his own account, he had rather a palatial place on Prince William street in this city in the Walker building, one which extended from the front to the rear of the structure. Mr. Mackay kept a lot of tea and a lot of fancy goods of a curious nature in the shape of Japanese screens, fans, and other Oriental novelties, that seemed to him to be thoroughly in keeping with the trade he was in. The illustration PROGRESS gives of him today, represents him in the midst of these. It was made by Mr. Mackay's own instructions and direction, and he is seen in the foreground sitting on a stool, just in the act of tasting a certain variety of tea from one of the cups of his equipment. Those who have seen Mr. Mackay will not be long in placing him in the group. He is not full faced but the side view of him is nearly perfect. The cups and teas on the table were arranged by himself, and the gentleman in the silk hat who is standing along side of him and is tasting the tea, was an obliging customer brought there for the occasion.

The walls of the office it will be seen were covered with those same Japanese decorations PROGRESS spoke of above, and any one who used to pass along Prince William Street in those days at all frequently will recognize at one the Angora cat, that was considered Mr. Mackay's pet possession. It was a beautiful little animal yet not attractive to anyone save the owner, who, since then, seems to have taken a fancy to pets of another kind that are attractive, but not beautiful.

Like many other men, Mr. Mackay was seeking to make dollars outside of his business. He was acknowledged to be one of the best experts in tea-tasting, not only in the Dominion of Canada but in the United States as well. Where he got the art and taste is not known, but nature certainly gave him the ability not only to distinguish the certain kind of tea he was tasting, but also to discern the quality and to place an accurate price upon the sample. Originally he was a teller in the People's Bank in Fredericton, and the duties of that position certainly did not fit him for the many varied pursuits he has been engaged in since. Some time after he came to this city he got an idea into his head that a good variety company would draw big money every night of the week. His encouragement in this direction was obtained by the attendance at one or two performances in the old Institute and the result of it was that some time afterwards he hired the building known as Jack's Hall, and now occupied by the Salvation Army, and fitted it up for the performances of the aggregations he proposed to bring here. The place was small and the fitting up cost a good deal. Mackay used to stand at the door and take tickets, and most of the time Mrs. Mackay was at the window selling them. There were some hot shows there; performances that would make the hair of the salvationists stand on end, if they were only privileged to see them; actions that even the police could not tolerate, but which attracted a fair sized audience every evening. It was not a success, however, and the little money Mackay had when he went into it vanished with the artists who left for Boston and other parts of the States. The proprietor was not discouraged however, and he thought enough of the show business, and the possibilities in it, even after that to bring a bum actor, called Paddy Murphy to the city, some time afterwards, and to follow him to Bangor and a part of Maine as a sharer in the profits and losses. It was in one of these shows that he became acquainted with the buxom and somewhat luxuriant looking actress who went by the name of Beatrice Hathaway, and who became sufficient-

ly enamoured with Mr. Mackay to remain with him and share his fortunes and misfortunes. They started up house-keeping after a time down on Prince William Street. Mr. Mackay's two daughters lived with him and at one time there was a son, but consumption claimed him, and his father claimed his \$5,000 life insurance. Before this, however, he and his son were in Halifax where for a time they ran a tea store. But

spared no money in their efforts to prevent Mr. Mackay from obtaining possession of the \$15,000. They even telegraphed to Honduras at a very considerable expense; they have engaged counsel both in St. John and in Boston; they have followed Mr. Mackay to that city, and succeeded, with the aid of detectives and others, in tracking him down and arresting him. Whoever succeeds in getting the money

upon the very top of the crag. Because of the difficult climb Steadwell carried only a revolver. He approached within range of the bird and succeeded in breaking one of its wings at the first shot. The bird fell almost at his feet, and when he approached it it attacked him with beak and talons. He despatched it with the butt of his revolver after a brief fight, in which he received several scratches. The bird was a hen hawk of remarkable size. It measured seven feet five inches from tip to tip and its talons were nearly two inches long.—New York Sun.

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Mr. Mackay had a clerk there, who if he was not a partner, should have been, because he seemed to know as much about the books and as John did himself. The end of it was a law suit; accusations of theft, counter accusations of fraud and a good deal of money for the lawyers. His household was at all times a very mixed one. At one time after his wife's death a giddy young friend of his from Carleton shared a portion of his home with his family. They did not seem to object to it any more than they did when the blond Beatrice was installed in her place. This sort of Bohemian life seemed to suit Mr. Mackay, and there did not appear to be anybody who cared enough about whatever relations he might assume to make any protest against them. He always had a job and always had money. He could sell teas for himself or for others. Time and time again he has bought lots of teas and had them sold at auction on the Market Square, and made a good margin upon them. Just before the Spanish American war broke out, his employer, a well known firm on the wharf, shipped about \$35,000 worth of teas to Eastport, and they were entered just 4 or 5 hours before the war tax of 12 cents a pound on tea was proclaimed. Mackay then started out to sell the goods and he made a lot of money for himself and for his firm. He is as sharp as a steel trap, and ready to take chances at any time, not a bad fellow to meet and know, but it seems that on this occasion he has taken one chance too many, and he has been too sharp for his own good.

PROGRESS has told the story of the Honduras lottery ticket, but it did not mention that Mr. Mackay was the man that is alleged to have secured the tickets by a neat manipulation of those he held himself and those which belonged to Mr. Bonnell and his syndicate. When he went to Boston it appears now that he placed the ticket in the hands of the cashier of the Market National bank to collect. Last Saturday he was arrested and placed in jail on the information of Mr. Bonnell, who is in Boston. At this present writing, Wednesday, he is still in confinement. The Market National bank sent the ticket to a New Orleans bank to collect, but proceedings have been taken to prevent that institution from paying the money over to Mackay, even if they are successful in obtaining it. The syndicate here has lost no time and

the face value of the ticket will be considerably decreased by the collection charges and the expense incidental to the present state of affairs. Those who know Mr. Mackay say that he will return to St. John, whether he succeeds in getting the money or not; but it is somewhat significant that the furniture in the residence that he and the fair Beatrice occupied has been packed up and sent away, presumably to the place where she is now staying. She left the city some time before Mr. Mackay obtained the ticket, and is said to be residing in Boston.

FASHIONS FOR LITTLE ONES.

Influence of Fashions for Grown-Ups Felt in the Garments of Children.

The influence of surroundings in forming taste and in generating critical ideas in matters of dress are nowhere more apparent than in the children of the present day, for they are decidedly up to date in opinions as well as fashions. The changes in their styles between this and last season are not very marked yet they follow closely the general outline of the grown-up gowns. The sleeves are smaller, skirts have less fullness, and the circular flounce puts in an appearance almost as frequently as in the other departments of dress.

There is a great difference in the proportionate length of the skirt for girls under 12 and the girls in their teens, the former being worn very short and the latter much longer. The age of twelve seems to be the dividing line of distinction between the two lengths. Skirts are gored, made with plain straight breadths, or cut circular, according to the age and size.

Guimpe dresses are just as popular as ever either with plain or full waists, and the sailor blouse seems to be a staple thing. Guimpe necks are finished as usual with the frill cut plain and circular or straight and gathered like a ruffle and put on either double or single. One plain, rather narrow frill, with a wider knife plaiting of taffeta silk in some contrasting color, set in underneath, makes a very pretty effect. This does not usually extend all the way across the front and back, so it is more of a shoulder trimming. The shaped frill is often made of velvet, edged with a narrow applique lace insertion, and cut wider over the shoulders to give an epaulette effect, it is especially pretty.

Silk gowns have kiltings of silk or chif-

finish the tops of the sleeves, and three rows of the trimming encircle the skirt about half way between the hem and the waist.

A pretty finish for a guimpe neck is a square collar, sailor shape back and front cut wide enough so that where it fits on to the round neck it is laid in groups of tiny tucks which extend down two inches giving a slightly full effect to the edge of the collar. White braid in narrowest width is very much used for trimming wool gowns and wide collars on cloaks and jackets.

The materials most employed for children gowns are cashmere, drap d'ete plaid work of all kinds, especially the bright colors, velveteens and corduroys. Silk of the thinner varieties, in dainty stripes and rosebud patterns, are always in order for party gowns. Novelty goods in silk and wool are also used, but the prettiest wool gowns for the smaller girls are made of cashmere. It comes in pretty colors and is fine and soft in texture. Tucked taffeta silks form some of the yokes, but the sheer white lawns tucked by hand are quite as much worn as they ever were. Some of the waists of the guimpe dresses are made with two box plaits in front two at the back and plain at the sides.

Little tots of four and five years wear the cashmere dresses this season. One pretty model has narrow pointed revers around the shoulders trimmed with white braid. From under these falls a frill of kilting sheer white linen, which gives it a more juvenile appearance than the silk frills. The belt is of white linen, too.

A blue serge gown shown in the illustration has a bright red silk vest strapped across with bands of ribbon velvet and tiny steel buckles. The next gown is a combination of velveteen and cashmere trimmed with narrow lace insertion. Braid trims another dress with sailor blouse, while still another of brown heather shows ribbon trills on brown velvet revers. White moire ribbon threaded through straps of cloth is the trimming of a gown in dull red vicuna. The coat and skirt style of dress is very popular, and some of the little jackets are cut away in front and double-breasted.

Caught a Monster Hen Hawk.

A huge bird, which has been seen for a month or more hovering about the mountains south of Danbury, Conn., attracted the attention of hunting parties. One afternoon Perry F. Steadwell, a local sportsman, climbed Tom Mountain and discovered the birds retreat beneath a huge crag on the mountainside. The bird itself was perched

SAND AND GREASE.

What They are Used for on Railroad Tracks and how They are Employed.

Every locomotive on surface steam railroads carries a sand box containing sand to be run on the track when the rails are slippery and the driving wheels don't hold. The rails may become slippery from a variety of causes. A pouring rain washes them clean and does not make them slippery, but a drizzling rain or a fog does. The rails are slippery when there is dew on them, or frost; drivers may slip on autumn leaves lying on the track, and in some regions there are occasionally encountered on the track insects in such numbers as to make the rails slippery. Drivers may slip in starting a heavy train or on grades.

Thus sand may be needed under various conditions and circumstances, and the need may arise at any moment. It is an essential part of an engineer's duties to see that his sand box is full on starting out no matter what the weather or the prospects may be. All the locomotives on the elevated railroad in this city carry sand boxes also. There are some incidental causes of slippery tracks that are not found here, but the atmospheric and other conditions are substantially the same, and sand is as necessary in operation as on surface roads. One might have travelled for years on the elevated roads and yet never have noticed the sand boxes on the engines. On locomotives on surface roads the sand box is placed on top of the drivers; on the boiler, with the pipe running down in front of the drivers; on the locomotives on the elevated road the sand boxes are attached to the under side of the running board and with the pipe running down to the track between the drivers, for the reason that the engines on the elevated are run alternately forward and backward.

Large, heavy, modern street cars operated by power, as by cable or underground trolley in this city, carry a sand box under the platform, with a pipe leading from it down to the track in front of the wheels. The sand box is opened and sand permitted to run by means of a plunger set in the platform of the car, which is operated by pressure from the foot of the gripman or motorman. The separate sand boxes thus carried are to provide sand for use in emergency, and under slippery weather conditions producing slippery tracks a sand car is run over the lines.

On surface steam railroads oil is used to lubricate switch points so that they will work freely. Oil is used likewise on switch points on the elevated road and on the elevated grease is used on the sharp curves around the corners of city blocks. On the concave side of the inner rail on these curves, at but a little distance from it, and curving parallel with it is laid an additional steel rail called a check rail. This is put down for safety's sake, and it also takes the greater part of the grinding wear of the flanges of the wheels in rounding the curve. It is the check rail that is greased. The greasing reduces the liability of the wheels to mount the rail, causes less wear, and avoids the screeching noise likely to accompany the grinding of the wheels against the rails in rounding curves.

On surface railroads in the city oil is used on switch points, and grease on very short curves. On a curve with the inner rail hollowed for the wheel to run in, the outer rail being flat, the grease would be applied to the hollow rail and to that side of it that was toward the other rail, that being the side against which the wheel would naturally bear. The purpose is to reduce the wear, to facilitate the movement of the car around the curve, and to avoid the creaking that would otherwise be produced.

Settled It.

Dingley was contemplating the purchase of a country place, and had driven his wife out to look at it.

"How do you like it?" he asked.

"Oh! I'm delighted; it's beauty fairly renders me speechless," she replied.

"That settles it," rejoined Dingley, who had often tasted the quantity of his better half's tongue; "I'll buy it this afternoon, and we'll move there to-morrow."

Only a fool admits that he has wisdom.