

STRATHCONA,

The Man --- Being the Story of a Great Nation Builder.

(By G. A. MacBain.)

SOMETHING ABOUT THE ROMANTIC CAREER OF A STRIKING PERSONALITY--A WORLD FAMOUS FIGURE--A STORY OF PLUCK AND HARD WORK THAT FICTION CANNOT DUPLICATE.

A hunt from Forbes, Scotland, where Shakespeare fixed the greater part of his action of "Macbeth," to London, is but a matter of hours; with a side trip to Canada it might occupy a fortnight; but from a stool in the office of the town clerk at Forbes to a seat in the British House of Lords at London, via several Hudson Bay posts in the Canadian wilds, would seem an impossible journey. But it was made--once. It took Donald Smith sixty years to do it. Only the combination of ability, courage and determination such as is possessed by Canada's High Commissioner in London and the opportunities of a new country made it possible. His name is indissolubly linked with the development of the great West; and as one of those who played a leading role in the opening of the prairie land to settlement he will be remembered, when it shall have been forgotten that he was a member of three legislative bodies, the holder of the most important post within the gift of Canada abroad, and honored in the most signal manner by his Sovereign. The Smiths were Highlanders long settled in the parish of Knockando, whence have come soldiers, sailors, bankers, doctors and parsons who have made names for themselves all over the world--strong masterful men of which Donald Smith was a type. Donald's mother had ambitious plans for her sons; she did not want them to tread the uphill path their father had trodden as a merchant, and it was her great desire to have her boys face the world fortified with a good education.

As the family was comparatively poor, the question of obtaining what was sought was not an easy one. A former wealthy townsman, however, had endowed a school at Forbes, and Donald became one of the first pupils. It is told of young Donald, that when he was nine years old, the Findhorn and Spey over-ran their banks and flooded the country, and the peasants came to Forbes for relief, among them the parents of one of Donald's playmates, who was drowned. After school Donald called on the bereaved parents, and "with a gravity far beyond his years begged that they would accept a slight token in memory of his friend. He then handed over all his pocket money, amounting to one shilling and some odd coppers." Thus was the child father to the man.

Mrs. Smith had a brother, John Stewart, a fur trader in the wilds of what is now Canada. Letters came from this uncle occasionally which fired the boy's blood as he learned of the adventurous life in the Western world. Those were the days of intense rivalry between the Hudson Bay Company and the intruding North-Westers, with which latter company John Stewart had taken service; and the Stewarts, the Grants and other of young Smith's relatives were in the thick of the action. Many years afterwards addressing on a memorable occasion, an excited body of half-breed insurgents in the North West, he said: "Though personally unknown to you, I am as much interested in the welfare of this country as others you know here. On both sides I have a number of relatives in this land, not merely Scotch cousins, but blood relations. Hence, though I am myself a Scotchman, you will not be surprised that I should feel a deep and personal interest in this country and its inhabitants."

In course of time Donald entered the office of Mr. Robert Watson, town clerk of Forbes, but in his eighteenth year a visit from his uncle caused him to decide to take the step that led to fame, wealth and honor. He accepted a junior clerkship in the service of the Hudson Bay Company and landed at Montreal in 1837, just after the rebellion had been quelled. It took him nearly fifty days to cross the ocean, and he found Montreal a city of 35,000 people. He was first sent to Labrador, and finally stationed at Hamilton Inlet. There, and at

Northwest River, at Rigoulette and on the shores of Hudson Bay, he spent thirteen years trading with the Indians and Eskimos, and into this region where it was believed nothing would grow, he introduced farming, and regularly supplied the table of the company's post with vegetables. In those thirteen years, the Governor of the company had discovered the young Scott's qualities--that invaluable knack of turning everything to account. He was given a chief tradership, and after ten years more on the shores of Hudson Bay, became Chief Factor of the company. Further changes came about, and in 1868 Donald Smith, then in his forty-eighth year, became Governor of the Hudson Bay Company with headquarters at Montreal.

Soon afterwards serious trouble began to loom up. For a number of years there had been an agitation in the company's western domains for the divorce of the settlement at Red River from the company's rule and possession. In 1868 an arrangement was effected, whereby, in consideration of a payment of \$1,500,000 the company agreed to surrender all its interests in the North-West to the crown, with certain reservations in the fertile belt and adjacent to the trading posts.

The opening of the new country and the influx of settlers brought about a fierce clash of interests and here emerged the figure of Louis Riel. Smith was at this time in Montreal. He saw the danger, and knew the remedy. Sir John A. Macdonald sent him to the West as Special Commissioner to inquire into and report on the cause, and extent of the trouble. Regardless of risk, he demanded an interview of Riel, and found himself a prisoner for several weeks. During those weeks he had several stormy interviews with Riel, and succeeded in having the life of Major Boulton spared when Thomas Scott was cruelly put to death. On a future occasion when Riel saw Mr. Smith enter Fort Garry with Colonel (now Lord) Wolseley at the head of the 60th Regiment he shook his fist and shouted: "There goes the man who upset my plans."

As Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, Mr. Smith put down the liquor traffic with the Indians, and when Governor Archibald appointed him in 1870 to the Northwest Council, his first act was to have the prohibition law carried out in the name of Canada. Mr. Smith was elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1871 as representative for Winnipeg, and St. Johns, and in the same year was elected to the House of Commons as member for Selkirk. In conjunction with Mr. J. J. Hill, he started a steamer service on the Red River, and shortly afterwards became interested in the possibilities of the railroad, and in the early seventies was one of the few who had faith in a Canadian road that would span the continent. Sir Charles Tupper has placed on record his opinion that "the Canadian Pacific Railway would have had no existence to-day had it not been for the indomitable pluck, energy and determination of Sir Donald Smith."

In his railway enterprises Mr. Smith was associated, not only with J. J. Hill, but with Mr. George Stephen, a Montreal merchant, now Lord Mount Stephen. Lord Mount Stephen's name has for several years been closely identified with that of Lord Strathcona in countless financial dealings and charitable donations. In 1886 Donald Smith was created K.C.M.G., and at this time he was rated a millionaire. As his great wealth grew his gifts to charitable objects began to assume gigantic proportions, one of his most notable endowments being that of the hospital in Montreal to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee.

In 1895 Sir Donald returned to politics, being elected as Independent member for St. Antoine division, Montreal. Since 1874 he had ceased to have any direct connection with the management of the Hudson Bay Company except as one of the largest shareholders. In 1896 he again went to the West as mediator in the vexed Manitoba school question and he speedily made himself master of the situation. "Let us," he declared, "have every discussion in reason; but don't--don't let us have a religious cry in this new country."

By the re-entry shortly afterwards of Sir Charles Tupper into Canadian politics, and his subsequent brief premiership, the post of High Commissioner for Canada at London became vacant, and Sir Donald was finally urged to become Canada's representative at the seat of the Empire. "This was an office," he explained afterwards, "which I think those who know me will believe I did not covet." To speak of his eminent services in this office, of the vital and splendid force he has been for Canada in England and in Europe, is to speak of that which is happily visible daily to all. He was created G.C.M.G. in 1896 and in 1897 was raised to the peerage, being gazetted as Baron Strathcona and Mount Royal, of Glenoe Argyllshire and Montreal, Canada. The magnificence of his offer to raise equip and transport to South Africa for service against the Boers, at his own expense, a force of Western Canadians who could ride and shoot, almost startled the Empire, but his offer was accepted, and how well the Strathcona Horse acquitted themselves is a matter of history.

At ninety-three, Lord Strathcona was hale and hearty, as clear in intellect and as capable of hard work as most men half his years. "Providence," he said on one occasion, "has favored me with a good constitution. I have had plenty of work to do all my life, and there is no doubt that this is the best thing for keeping a man well and strong."

Someone once asked Lord Strathcona for a few words of advice for young men, and the reply he gave revealed his own life's guiding principles: "Be content," said he, "with your lot; but be always striving yourself for something better and something higher."

SLIGHT FIRES. Two slight fires, which were of little consequence and did no damage, occurred at the R. C. Palace, yesterday. Both were extinguished promptly without the aid of the fire brigade, though they were acquainted of the affair by telephone. The cause was due to some slight defect in the kitchen chimney, which was satisfactorily remedied.

THE JANUARY

WHITE SALE

Is Still Going Strong.

Great Enthusiasm. Wonderful Value Giving. Additional Bargains in every Department.

All the goods offered are of dependable quality. The space at our disposal here will not permit anything but a bare mention of some of the goods involved in this great sale.

Ladies' Underwear,
Ladies' Knickers,
Ladies' Chemises,
Ladies' Corset Covers,
Ladies' Nightdresses,
Ladies' Corsets,
Ladies' Blouses,
Ladies' Costumes,
Ladies' Aprons,
Ladies' and Children's Coats,
Lawn & Cambric Embroideries,
Lawn & Cambric Insertions,
Lawn & Cambric Beadings,
Sideboard Cloths,
Tea Cloths,
Table Center Cloths,
Men's Shirts and Collars,
Net Laces.

English Shirting,
Horrocks's Shirting,
Flannelettes,
Cotton Blankets,
Pillow Cases,
Bolsters,
Table Linens,
Apron Hollands,
Fronting Linens,
Linen Table Cloths,
Linen Napkins,
Pillow Shams,
Bureau Cloths,
Piano Cloths,
Sheetings,
Victoria Lawns,
Lace Curtains,
Turkish Towels.

The Royal Stores, Ltd.

Cable News.

Special to Evening Telegram.

LONDON, Jan. 21. Close friends of Hon. Adam Beck stated there was a possibility of the Minister succeeding Lord Strathcona as Canadian High Commissioner in London.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.

Julius Steinhilber, interpreter, his wife and their two daughters, 12 and 9 years, were found dead this afternoon at their home at Bronx. The man, carrying out a suicide pact with his wife, had committed the triple murder and then shot himself. He left a note to this effect.

CHATHAM, Mass., Jan. 21.

men were rescued by Ras Breeches buoy when their vessel, the two-masted schooner Gen. Adelbert Ames, was wrecked off Monaway Point today. The Ames was bound from St. John for Philadelphia with fathoms. The schooner struck before daybreak on the Bears Shoals. Later she slid off the Rip North Shore Lightship life savers in their surf boat were driven away by high waves. The Breeches was brought out and after four shots succeeded in getting a line across the Ames and the crew was rescued. The Ames was built at Camden, M.E., in 1881, and was 452 tons net.

\$22 for a first-class Overcoat. made from the famous warmth-without-weight material in our beautiful double-breasted effect. Order one at the winter months. SPURRY BROS., 365 Water Street, door to Parker & Monroe. Phone 574--nov22,ead,t

Here and There.

Stafford's Liniment cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia and all Aches and Pains. For sale everywhere.--jan22,t

GOOD RECORD.—Considering that it was a general holiday, yesterday was very quiet in police circles and only three arrests were made. This is a good record.

Enjoy your meals by taking a teaspoonful of Stafford's Prescription "A" before eating. It cures Indigestion and Dyspepsia, etc.--jan22,t

Try a bottle of Stafford's Phoratorine Cough Cure if you are suffering from a cough or cold. Price 25c.; postage 5c. extra.--jan22,t

S. A. LECTURE.—To-night Brigadier Morehen, who has been an officer in the Salvation Army for more than thirty years, will lecture in the S. A. Citadel, New Gower Street, taking as his subject "The first page of my life."

DR. J. W. SILLIKER has had his offices thoroughly renovated and is now in a position to attend to his patients. American Dentistry at popular prices. jan22,t

WILL BRING TWO WRECKED CREWS.—The shipwrecked crew of the wrecked vessel Mayflower who were picked up by the liner Lusitania will join the Furness line steamer Almerians at Liverpool for here. The Almerians also brings to this port the crew of the ill-fated Banshee, as stated in yesterday's Telegram.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DISTEMPER.

Keeping On Kicking.

Two frogs one day--so runs the tale--Went out to reconnoitre: Wanting something to commandeer To make their belts feel tighter. They fell--but how I cannot tell (I did not see them do it)-- Into a pail of buttermilk. And soon began to rue it.

They kick'd, and kick'd, and kick'd again. But all their strength seemed wasted. They thought of home, out in the fields. And all the joys they'd tasted. They slipped and climbed, they climbed and slipped. They spluttered execration: Till one cried out, "I'll jack it up!" 'Twas his last exclamation.

He lost all hope, gave up the fight. And sank 'neath milky waters: His mate kick'd on, resolved to see Again his wife and daughters. He pump'd and kick'd till he could feel. The milk around him churning; And in his breast, though cold his blood. The hope of freedom burning.

The milk grew hard, the butter set; He felt his feet he rested. Climb'd to the top. Success at last! Through pluck, he'd not been bested.

MORAL. When things look black, don't give up hope. Nor let your courage falter. You soon will knock the mole hills down. Dark days to bright will alter. Another line I'd like to add: My words with care I'm picking-- The only one that seems to rhyme: Is--kick, and KEEP ON kicking!

HAVING ENGINE INSTALLED.—The schr. Metamora is now being put in readiness for the installation of an auxiliary motor engine to be used in next season's operations. The work will likely take about two weeks, when Capt. Lewis will have her put in order for the bank fishery.

A Light Wanted.

A light is badly needed in the old train yard, especially when the Curtin and Prince's Rinks are crowded with people as was the case last night when several persons received bad falls on the ice going to and fro. One man in particular while coming through the dark space between both rinks fell heavily, he twisted his ankle and had a narrow escape from breaking his neck. The Council should see that the place referred to is provided with a light.

Schr. Wrecked

CREW SAFE.

Colonial Secretary Bennett received a message last night from Branch, reading as follows:—

"Schooner Katherine, Pollett master, crew, Wm. Kerrivan, Patrick Walsh and Leo Walsh, all Placentia men are ashore. She had 100 qts. of codfish on board. The captain and crew left this morning for Placentia."

C.C. Corps' Promotions.

The Management Committee of the C.C.C., have recently given commissions as Lieutenants to Messrs. J. Walsh, G. Knight, J. Campbell and J. Mahoney. All are old members of the Corps, and it will be remembered Messrs. Campbell and Knight have established records for the Brigade in the relay team.

K. of C. Lectures.

The Knights of Columbus have arranged a series of lectures for the next few weeks. To-night Rt. Rev. Mons. Roche, V. G., will lecture on "Cardinal Newman," and on Tuesday next Mr. Robinson will deliver a discourse on "Epigrams."

During next month Mr. J. M. Kent will lecture on "Daniel O'Connell," and arrangements for an illustrated lecture on the Balkan situation by Mr. H. C. Thompson, are being made.

Last Night's Storm.

Just before last midnight a N. E. gale and thick snow storm was severely felt in the city. The streets were filled with piles of snow. The storm abated at 4 this a.m.

Some Stage Meals.

One is often tempted to be jealous of actors and actresses who have to eat on the stage. Their meals are apt to be of a hurried, perfunctory nature. Still, one sometimes sees appetizing dishes, or what appear--from a distance--to be appetizing dishes. If you were to "go behind" and watch them being prepared, or if you had to eat them, you would probably think otherwise.

Sawdust, for example, commonly serves as soup. The genuine article, besides being difficult to handle, has a knack of appearing, in the strong light on the stage, quite unlike itself. Delectable pieces of ham are often made of linoleum; bananas takes the place of fish.

Chickens usually consist of loaves of bread, well browned, with painted wooden legs stuck in. The same "bird," on a larger scale, serves as the Christmas turkey. A sponge-cake soaked in gravy makes an admirable joint of beef, very tender, and easy to carve; whilst pieces of toast, decked in paper frills, look for all the world like cutlets.

STOP COUGHING.

It's quite as foolish as it is annoying to keep on coughing since

PHORATORINE COUGH MIXTURE is sold all over Newfoundland and is guaranteed to soothe and heal the irritated parts at once, and to rapidly destroy the very cause of this aggravating nuisance. Hundreds of persons are complaining every day about the cough or cold they have had for long time, and are not able to get rid of it. Don't let a cough or cold hang on you day after day and run the risk of catching and developing the "cough" that is not easily to throw off. You will avoid all this worry (about the cough or cold you have) by obtaining

PHORATORINE COUGH MIXTURE at once. Price 25 cents a bottle, postage cents extra.

Prepared only by

DR. F. STAFFORD & SO

St. John's, Nfld.

(Manufacturers also of Stafford's Liniment and Prescription "A.")

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MEETING.—Owing to the fire at Cochrane Street, the united monthly prayer meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society will be held in Gower Street to-morrow (Friday) afternoon at 4 o'clock.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DISTEMPER.

Fresh Supply Pure Table Butter!

Just received ex s.s. Mongolian, viz:

IRISH, in 28 lb. boxes and 1 lb. blocks.
NEW ZEALAND in 28 lb. boxes and 1 lb. blocks.

FRESH CODFISH.
KIPPERED HERRING.
No. 1 SALT HERRING.
DIGBY HERRING.
BONELESS CODFISH.
SHREDDED CODFISH.

SYMINGTON'S PEA FLOUR for making a dish of rich nourishing Soup in one minute; 1 lb. tins, 20c.
SYMINGTON'S SOUP SQUARES, 10c. each.
SYMINGTON'S SOUP SAUSAGES, 7c. each.

C. P. EAGAN,

Duckworth St. and Queen's Road.