

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1907.

## THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND; A MILLIONAIRE'S ROMANCE

## How a Wealthy American Becoming Infatuated With Pretty Irene Walker, Spent a Year in Trying to Find Her.

minated. So far, however, these efforts have been entirely fruitless.

The case has been placed in the hands of Mr. John Sweeney, formerly one of the most expert detectives at Scotland-yard.

As Miss Irene Walker was evidently a violin player, inquiries have been made at all the schools of music in London and the suburbs, but no trace has been found of any pupil, either past or present, who answers to her description.

A LONG CHASE.

So far as the millionaire can remember, he and his wife have been about the same age, eighteen or nineteen years old, since they were married. Sweeney has accordingly searched the registers at Somerset House, and obtained birth certificates of all the Irens Walkers who were born between 1870 and the years ago. The tracing of these has led the investigators a romantic chase all over the United Kingdom.

A titled lady with a daughter named Irene was found near London. She answered very closely to the millionaire's description, but her mother, who was greatly amused at the story, declared that she was not travelling on the day in question.

what seemed a likely clue was discovered in Devonshire, where two sisters were found, one of whom was named Iris, who had been traveling on the continent about April of last year. Her parents were diplomatically approached, when the discovery was made that this Iris Walker was

was made that this Miss Walker was just about to be married. She was much interested in the story of the millionaire's fascinations, but stated that she had no recollection of any such incident.

Now that all other efforts have failed,

the millionaire's agents in this country have decided to resort to publicity in the hope that the facts of the case will be read by the girl herself, and that when she knows of the deep admiration she inspired in the heart of the millionaire she may communicate with the "Express."

states in a letter to his brother-in-law, "makes me feel a little foolish, especially when I consider that perhaps after all the girl may not be what I thought she was. Nevertheless I guess it's worth the effort, and the romantic part of it all appeals to me."

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(London Leader.)

There is a "happy ending" to a romantic story which began one day last summer in a boat train to Victoria station.

A young lady, who captured the heart of an American millionaire, has been found after a year's continuous search.

The story, as related by the Central News, is to this effect:

In April last year a wealthy American was returning from Paris via Dieppe, and into his compartment at Newhaven stepped two lovely young English ladies, accompanied by their mother. During the journey to Victoria conversation mutually was opened. The young ladies mentioned that they were just returning from spending a winter at Viterbo, where the splendour, exuberance

The American was greatly attracted by the beauty and grace of the younger of the sisters, but unfortunately for him the acquaintance had not ripened

to the stage at which names are exchanged. At Victoria, however, while claiming his luggage at the baggage care, he again noticed the girl carrying a violin case, on which the name "Irene Walker" was painted.

After returning to New York, the American found that his whole thoughts were centered in the English girl whom

he had met so romantically and accordingly he instructed Mr. John Sweeney, the well-known ex-detective of Scotland-yard, to trace the young lady, and make her acquainted with the state of his feelings towards her.

The millionaire stipulated, however, that his own name should not be made public, and the secret has been well kept. Owing to the publicity given to the romance, Mr. Sweeney has been the recipient of many letters from all over the country claiming the name of Irene Walker, and detailing the circumstances under which they allege

Yesterday, however, a letter was received from the real Miss Walker. This is certain, because the letter recalled accurately the purport of her conversation with the rich American, besides supplying other details.

The young lady does not live in London, but today Mr. Sweeney is to call upon her to place before her a certain proposition, the nature of which can be guessed. The result of the interview will be cabled to a gentleman waiting anxiously in New York.