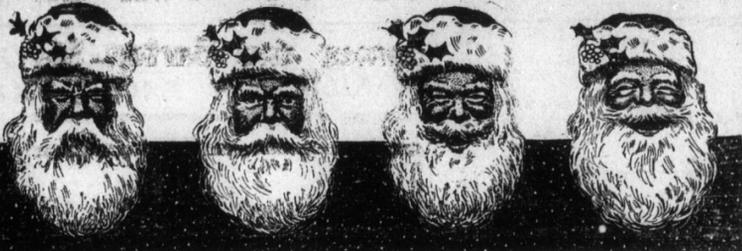


At R. McKay & Co's., Thursday, Dec. 23, '09

STORE OPEN TO-NIGHT TILL 10 O'CLOCK



ONLY TWO DAYS MORE

Shop Where Your Money Goes Farthest

Make this great store your headquarters for your Christmas gift needs. Chosing is always made easy here from the fact that our assortments are always the best. You will have to hurry, time is growing short. We mention only a few of the grand special sale events that await your coming to-morrow, but to share in many of the events you will have to come early. 8.30 opening time, for instance.

Xmas Jewelry Reduced For Thursday

- Gold Plated Necklets, in all colored stones, clasp at back; regular 50c for...
Jewel Cases \$1.50
Gold plated Jewel Case, in pink and blue silk padding, raised chased floral patterns; regular \$2.50, Thursday \$1.50
Silver Maple Leafs 35c
Sterling Silver Maple Leaves, three together; a very pretty pin; some gold plated; regular 50c, for...
Blouse Sets 50c
Ladies' Blouse Sets, four on a card, gold plated, with heart and wishbone, with pearls and colored stones; special for Thursday 50c
Belt Buckles
Gift and Oxidized Belt Buckles, some hammered brass, with colored stones, one of the latest novelties in belt buckles; regular 75c, for... 50c

Our Assortment of Collars and Belts is Complete---Come Quickly

- Our assortment of Fancy Belts and Collars is the best in the city. Beautiful collars in all colors, belts in finest, jet, Dresden elastic, plain elastic, ribbon, etc. All in nice gift boxes at all prices.
Fancy Collars, Regular 50c, for 25c
A splendid assortment of Fancy Collars, trimmed with lace, net, chiffon, jet, ribbon, with nice fringe or cord, in nice gift box; about 6 dozen in the lot; regular 50c, Thursday to clear for 25c each
Belts 25c
Fancy Elastic and Ribbon Belts, all colors. There are about 6 dozen in the lot of samples. You will find a splendid assortment of nice belts in the lot that run in prices from 50c to 75c. Thursday your chance to get them for 25c each
Embroidery Handkerchiefs
Swiss Embroidery Handkerchiefs, beautiful patterns, in nice gift boxes, at prices 2 for 25c, 3 for 50c, 25c each and up.

Xmas China Reductions For Thursday

- Cups and Saucers 50c
Very pretty Cups and Saucers, in different shapes, some with roses and several floral patterns in tea and chocolate sizes; regular up to 75c and \$1.25, Thursday 50c
Hair Receivers 25c
Japanese Hair Receivers, in good size, and nicely decorated; regular 50c, for 25c
Cream Jugs 25c, Regular 50c
Pretty Cream Jugs, in different patterns and sizes; regular 60c, for 25c
Salt and Pepper Shakers 10c Pair
Japanese Salt and Pepper Shakers 10c pair

Xmas Umbrella Specials

We intend to make a special sale of our \$5 Ladies' Umbrellas, and are going to clear them at \$3.50. They are gold handles, finished with pearl, silk and wool cover, with case and tape edge, sell always at \$5; special sale price \$3.50. Ladies' Regular \$4.00, \$4.25 and \$4.50 Special at \$2.99. Silk and Wool cover, tape edge, nice fancy handles, with case, a real bargain, you can't afford to miss this opportunity, on sale to-morrow \$2.99.

Great Bargains Await You at Toilet Goods Department

- Handsome English Plate Glass Shaving Mirror, three-piece, will fold up, and hang on wall like a plaque, regular \$8.75, Thursday for \$7.69
Manicure Pieces
Assorted Manicure pieces, sterling silver or real ebony, worth 50c to 75c, Thursday 35c
Manicure Sets 79c
Manicure Sets, in nice cases, 7-piece, ebony, regular \$1, Thursday 79c
Perfumes 39c
Perfume in book form boxes, also padded boxes, different odors to select from, regular 50c, Thursday 39c

Remarkable Price Reductions in Xmas Hand Bags

- Splendid assortment of Ladies' Hand Bags, in seal and fancy leathers, some with small coin purse, brass or nickel trimmings, neat strap handles, worth \$1.50, Thursday 99c
Hand Bags \$1.50
Ladies' Hand Bags, good, large size, black seal, leather lined, brass trimmings, coin purse, worth regularly \$2.00, sale price \$1.50
Bead Bags
Fine assortment of Bead Hand Bags, assorted colors, also black, with steel or gold, fancy floral designs, chain handles, prices range from \$1.75 to \$6.00

Why Not Dress Goods? Special Thursday

- Decided Bargains in Black Dress Goods
Reg. \$1 Black Venetian Suiting For Thursday 69c Yd.
52 inches wide, on sale in a nice weight for suits or dresses, has a lovely pearl finish, guaranteed pure and will make up stylish, will make a lovely gift. Buy a length from this grand special to-morrow, per yard 60c
Regular \$1.50 Black Voile For Thursday 79c Yard
Lovely Black French Voile, with a silk stripe, on sale to-morrow only, to the lovers of pretty black materials, you should see this line, very special, Thursday, per yard 79c
Regular \$1.50 Black Silk Warp Henrietta For Thursday 98c Yd.
In great demand now, and will be in greater demand for the spring season, lovely rich Silk Warp Henrietta, our best quality black material, on sale at less than manufacturers' prices, Thursday, per yard 98c

Come with the crowd to McKay's to-morrow, the jolliest Christmas store in all Hamilton, the store that sets the pace. Open till 10 o'clock to-night. Those who shop early shop the best.

R. McKay & Co.

Saved From the Sea

"For shame! how cynical you are, Mr. St. Maur! Isn't he, there, madame?" (their pet name for Christine).

"But Falconer's wife shrugged her shoulders, and half laughed—a bitter little laugh.

"My dear, I am afraid he is right. Happiness is much like the will-o'-the-wisp, ever dancing temptingly before us near mountains, and never to be grasped."

"Oh, oh! Mrs. Errington!" exclaimed Northcote and a young man who had been meanwhile flirting with Blanche. "You don't mean to say seriously—"

"My dear Captain Darnley, I don't mean to say anything 'seriously' at all in a ball-room—only ten years hence, if we meet, I will ask you if you have caught the will-o'-the-wisp yet. There is the hand again, and Major Addison for me."

"And the next is mine!" murmured St. Maur, as she rose, and he went to seek Helen Addison.

"Several of the older people are in the card-room," said she, as this, the most favored of her admirers led her away; "Mr. Orde and Doctor Clifford among them. Mrs. Darnley tells me that your uncle has taken quite a fancy to Blanche Leroy," glancing covertly up. "I am to introduce him presently."

Falconer's dark, searching eyes turned full on her. "There is something behind that, fair Helen; there is some hideous conspiracy against my freedom, and you are banding against me—you too, 'mine own familiar friend.'"

"What melting reproach! I was loyal to friendship—only Mrs. Darnley told me in confidence," laughed Helen.

"Which was, of course, meant for telling in Gath, as you intend doing, only woman-like, you love to be coaxed and pressed. Tell me quickly, dearest, Mrs. Addison—Helen—tell me, an thou carest for me!"

He bent down, melodious voice and velvet eyes so all-persuasive that few women could have resisted even had they wished.

"You are a bold scamp," said she. "Care for you, indeed? I don't, not one bit, so don't be vain enough to imagine such a thing."

"I don't imagine—I know it!" returned the delinquent, with unmoved audacity. "I am waiting for your confidence, my sweetest Mrs. Helen."

"By you among others, then," Helen laughed out.

"I tell you what, we are both flirting abominably. I don't know what Frank would say to us."

"We're not afraid of Frank!" said Falconer, laughing. "He is of our flirting, sweetest. I'll warrant he is quite taking out his revenge with that handsome Mrs. Errington. Now tell me the 'confidence,' please, or you will lose this dance."

So at last she told him what his uncle had said to Mrs. Darnley. "It is M. M.," said St. Maur, as a comment. "I don't want that, Mary and set down, indeed—not if I know it, my fair friend, so mind you keep my side of the fence, and stand by me if Uncle Will says anything to you."

"Oh! I'll be true to your colors if you wish it, but—"

"Well?" "None is so pretty, charming, rich," "None of which I want," said St. Maur, coolly. "When is your next party?"

"Next Wednesday. You'll come?" "Certainly. Meanwhile, we'll join in the 'rush of the tripping feet.'"

He whirled her away as he spoke. After this, his darling—at last, at last! CHAPTER XII.

"My waltz now, Mrs. Errington." "That was for the public about them, but for all each had said, what a rapturous happiness it was to be together again—close, though only in the mazes of a dance, and amid a throng of dancers, not one of whom could possibly suspect what lay beneath the surface."

Only she felt the closeness of the clasp around the slender, yielding form, and the hand that held hers—only she heard the deep, passionate murmur in her ear, and felt the warm breath on her cheek. "My darling! my dear! on last! Is not this a time of happiness?"

"Heaven knows—yes!" "And you have kept me another one, at least?" "Ah, yes, one!"

But before the waltz was over, St. Maur drew his wife out of the "maddening crowd," paused by the open window, in which she had sat and left her wrap—a rich Indian scarf shawl.

"Come into the garden," he said, putting it about her. "I must speak to you; there will be other couples out soon. Come; it is quite an agreeable stroll and flirt with the most beautiful woman in the room."

"Especially," said Christine, with a half smile, as they passed out, "for wicked Fate St. Maur."

latch key, and safe to me. Listen, still, I am the only tenant in the house. I have the drawing rooms and floor above; the landlady and her husband keep the rest of the house; the servants are below; and I will answer for your immunity from being even seen, much less recognized, cloaked and veiled. At the worst, it is only my morals that would suffer," added St. Maur, with an odd bitter little laugh; "and I don't think my good folks think me a saint exactly as it is."

"Do you think I care for even your Hindoo to think I am?"—she stopped—"not your wife?"

"No, no, my darling. He shall think nothing of you that is wrong. What I tell Rahmnee he will believe," said Falconer, eagerly.

"Who is Rahmnee—or, rather, why do you trust him so much?" she asked, with an inquiring glance of thought how her husband might construe the first words.

For answer he told her exactly the story he had related to the money-lender. His eyes glowed, filled with tears, for she read all he left untold in the tale.

"It was like my own Falconer," she said. "But, oh, if the horrible beast had killed you!"

She shuddered from head to foot. "Why, dearest," St. Maur whispered, tenderly, "it was nothing. Don't you think about it, my dear. Don't you save that, my darling, that won such strong and faithful affection from even a poor little Hindoo lad, and—these diamond drops!" He stooped to softly kiss away the glittering tears from her eyes as he spoke. "I verily believe that my Snowball's Christmas theology runs: 'There is one God, and the savior is his prophet; and you, because he knows I love you, are as the sun in the heavens, second only to his master.'"

"He does not know, then, that?" Christine began.

"That the Mrs. Errington I sent him to find out was one I had loved years ago—one who belonged to me, and was as good and beautiful as beloved. That is what he knows and believes."

What a sunshine smile gleamed over the exquisite face he gazed on!

Despite all the grievous wrongs of the past, all the wrong he was doing her still, it was so immeasurably sweet to the woman's sore heart to listen to such language from the man she loved! It showed her, too, the absolute hold she had on his heart, on his nobler, better nature—on his stronger hope of winning him from the grip of the master passion that had been his ruin.

"For this one, then," she said, after a long pause, "I will come to your chambers to-morrow evening, if possible; but I must write you of that. It depends on whether I am wanted, or have no note on my hand to know by 2 o'clock."

Did she know how she was heaping coals of fire on his head? For he suddenly bowed it in silence, laying his dark cheek against hers, and his hand, that had held hers lightly, closed on his convulsive force—clinging to it with a grip that showed the saving rope thrown from the shore.

Yes, she knew it by that tightened clasp. She felt the quiver of the man's strong frame, and the burning shame that for a moment made his cheek hot against her own, and knew that the better nature was making a stand against the evil, dark and "ash-sh" of the breeze among the trees and high bushes around; no step or voice near.

Christine turned her face slightly and kissed her husband's lips.

"Wife—wife, that kiss will never leave me!" he whispered, when he could trust himself even to say that.

And it never did. They stood up. The hand had ceased; distant laughter and voices came janglingly to them. Others were in the gardens, perhaps.

"Must we go?" the man said, still holding those dear hands, still gazing down into the dear eyes, out of which surely looked his guardian angel. "Must we go back to the throng, then—no part!"

"Yes, I fear," Helen Addison's voice from the lawn. "We must go back."

"Give me a moss rabbit from your bosom," he said, suddenly.

But he took it himself from its nest, and laid it tenderly between the leaves of a small pocket-book he drew from his breast-pocket.

"Rest there, thou rock of silent love!" he said, softly, "a talker that shall never die for me, though thy petals may wither!"

He drew his wife's hand on to his arm, and turned back toward the lawn; but as they came round the turn of a walk, there before them were Helen and Mr. Orde.

"Well, well!" she cried, merrily. "I saw you in the ball-room, and hope you have enjoyed your stroll as much as I have."

"I can answer for myself," answered St. Maur, gallantly; "for Mrs. Errington's enjoyment I dare not speak. She has generously endured me, at any rate."

"Fate, Fate," laughed his uncle, "you pretend to the role of modesty. Trust him not, my dear Mrs. Errington! He doesn't know how to even spell the word, I believe."

"I quite agree with you, Mr. Orde. I must teach you, I think, Mr. St. Maur." "Ah, et tu Brute!" said he, reproachfully.

TRAVELERS' GUIDE

Table with columns for Grand Trunk Railway and Canadian Pacific Railway, listing routes and schedules.

RAILWAYS

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

Christmas and New Year Excursions

Between all stations in Canada, also to Detroit, Port Huron, Mich., Buffalo, Black Rock, Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge, N. Y.

AT SINGLE FARE
Good going Dec. 24th and 25th, 1910, returning until Dec. 27th, 1910. Also good going Dec. 31st, 1910, and Jan. 1st, 1911, returning until Jan. 3rd, 1911.

AT FARE AND ONE THIRD
Good going Dec. 21st to Dec. 25th, inclusive. Also good going Dec. 28th, 1910, to Jan. 1st, 1911, returning until Jan. 2nd, 1911. Secure tickets and further information from Chas. E. Morgan, city ticket agent; W. G. Webster, depot agent.



CHRISTMAS RATES

SINGLE FARE FARE AND ONE-THIRD
Good for return Dec. 21 to 25, and Dec. 27th, also Dec. 28 to Jan. 1, good for return until Jan. 5, 1911. BETWEEN ALL STATIONS IN CANADA, PORT ARTHUR AND EAST. City Ticket Office, corner King and James Streets. W. J. GRANT, Agent.

T., H. & B. RY.

Christmas and New Year Holidays

One way first class fare going Dec. 24 and 25, returning to and including Dec. 27; also going Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, returning to and including Jan. 3, and at ONE AND ONE-THIRD first class fare going Dec. 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25, also Dec. 28, 29, 30, 31, and Jan. 1, returning to and including Jan. 5, 1911.

STEAMSHIPS

DOMINION LINE

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS. PORTLAND, N.S. to Liverpool. REGULAR SAILINGS. MODERATE RATE SERVICE. ONE CLASS CABIN STEAMERS. (Called Seaside Class.)
Southwest, Jan. 25, 1911. Dominion Jan. 29, 1911. Canada, Jan. 8, 1911.
RATES OF PASSAGE PORTLAND TO LIVERPOOL, \$25.00 and \$40.00; \$20.00 additional to London, according to steamer.

The Gift Problem

We are ready right now to help you solve the gift problem, and we pay particular attention to those who do not know what to select for their Christmas gifts. Our stock is new and complete, including Watches, Rings, Brooches, Scarf Pins, Ebony Goods, Silver, Cut Glass, Knives and Umbrellas. Your selection will be reserved till Christmas, if necessary.

THOMAS LEES

Reliable Jeweler
Diamond Rings Our Specialty. 4 James S. St.

HANNAFORD BROS.

Phone 2733

Contracting Plasterers

PLAIN AND DECORATIVE
All kinds of Capital, Brackets, Ornaments for Interior and Exterior work, made to order. Repairing neatly and promptly executed. 232 Robinson Street

Notice to the Public:

I am prepared to estimate on all kinds of roofing, skylights, gutters and eaves, metal ceilings, smoke stacks, forge and blast plants, and all kinds of heavy and light sheet iron work. Wired glass and metal ceilings kept in stock.

JOHN E. RIDDELL, Phone 687, 227 King Street East.

WE WANT YOU AS A SUBSCRIBER

YOU CAN ORDER

THE TIMES

sent to your address by calling up

TELEPHONE 368

THE TIMES is a bright, clean home paper.

ALL THE NEWS

BLANCHARD & SON

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
57 King Street West. Established 1863. Private Mortuary.