Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION.

W. T. COX, Editor and Proprietor.] The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number.

$1.50 PER ANN. IN ADVANCE] GODERICH, C. W., THURSDAY, FEB. 9, 1865. [VOL. XVII.—NO 2.

Business Directory.

F. A. McDougall
CAN BE CONSULTED UP TO 10 A.M., at his residence on North Street, next door south of the residence of Rev. Mr. Elwood. 10:1

G. C. Shannon, M.D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., &c., GODERICH, C. W. 13:40-1y

Thos. F. McLean, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., (Late House Surgeon, Kingston Hospital).—OFFICE—At Arthur's Boarding House, Goderich, C. W. [sw50w2]

Dr. Cole,
LATE OF STANLEY—CLINTON, HURON Road. (Mr. Thwaites's former Store July 1, '62.

R. McIntosh, M. D. C. M.,
PHYSICIAN SURGEON, &c., (graduate McGill College, Montreal;) LUCKNOW. v16w21

DR. A. WORTHINGTON,
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., will attend, particularly, to diseases of and surgical operations upon the eye.
MOWICK VILLAGE, Dec. 15, 1862. [w47-1y

Ira Lewis,
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-Law, and Solicitor-in-Chancery, County Crown Attorney, Goderich, Canada West. Office a Court House. v14n40

M. C. Cameron,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, CONVEYANCER, &c., Kingston street, Goderich, C.W.

Shaw & Sinclair.
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, CONVEYANCERS, &c. Offices, over the Store of A. V. Detlor & Son, Goderich, and Queen Street, Kincardine.
J. S. SINCLAIR, Goderich | A. SHAW, Kincardine. 12:23

Henry McDermot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Notaries Public, &c., West Street, Goderich. 10:1

John Davison,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR in Chancery, &c Office, Market Square, Corner of Kingston Street, Goderich. 9:42

Lefroy & Patterson,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Office McCay's corner, West Street, Goderich. 9:42

John B. Gordon,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c., &c., Goderich, Canada West. Office—on the South side of West Street, third door from the Court-House Square.

William T. Hays,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c. Goderich, C.W.—Office, over H. Gardiner & Co's Hardware Store. v15n29

Money to Lend on Real Property.

Shade Goeding,
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, &c., GODERICH, C.W.—OFFICE: Up Stairs Watson's Block, West St.; entrance First Door west of Gaslight Company's Office. v15n29

Toms & Moore,
ATTORNIES, SOLICITORS, &c., Goderich, C. W. Office—CRABB'S NEW BLOCK
ISAAC C. TOMS. LEWIS C. MOORE.
Goderich, August 27th, 1864. sw103w31

B. L. Doyle,
ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR &c. OFFICE, Crabb's New Block, Goderich, C. W. v15nwnly

Cameron & Elwood,
BARRISTERS, ATTORNEYS, CONVEYANCERS, &c. Goderich and Clinton.
M. C. CAMERON, Goderich. J. Y. ELWOOD, Clinton.
Office in Clinton—a few doors north of the Post Office. v12n47

William Fraser,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, SOLICITOR IN Chancery, Conveyancer, &c. Walkerton, C. W. of Bruce. v16n15yly

Frederick Proudfoot,
BARRISTER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, CONVEYANCER, NOTARY PUBLIC, &c. Southampton, C.W. Bruce. [w42-6m

Thomas Weatherald,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND PROVINCIAL Land Surveyor. Office and Residence, Hamilton Street, Goderich. v15n3

A. Bay,
PROVINCIAL LAND SURVEYOR AND Civil Engineer, Clinton. July 1, '61.

L. B. Hamlin,
CIVIL ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR Land Agent and Conveyancer, Kincardine 11,

JAMES SMAILL,
ARCHITECT,
PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS of Buildings, &c., got up in a neat and correct style. Office at the Huron Auction Mart, King Street, Goderich. [sw v1n7lyly

G. M. TRUEMAN
LAND AGENT,
Market Square, Goderich.
Sends CLINTON every Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. n1:16

THOMSON & HAZLEHURST,
(LATE SMAILL & THOMSON,)
Auction & Commission Merchants,
Cameron's Block, Kingston St., Goderich;
And next Door to Strong's Hotel SEAFORTH.
SALES of Household Goods, Horses, Waggons, &c at the mart, every Saturday at noon. Particular attention paid to the Sale of Bankrupt Stock, Farm Stock, &c. Cash advanced on goods left on Commission. Goods appraised, debts collected, landlord's warrants executed, mortgages foreclosed, houses rented, Division Court Business attended to. Sales at the Branch Auction Mart, Seaforth, every Thursday.
County Sales attended to on reasonable terms
Goderich, July 12th, 1864. w22-1yr

D. McDougall,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER, BAYFIELD, County of Huron. Sales in village or country punctually attended to. w9-1yr80

Alex. Findley,
LICENSED AUCTIONEER for HURON and BRUCE. Sales punctually attended to. Address, Bodwin P.O. w50-1yr80

VANEVERY & RUMBALL,
Forwarders, Commission Merchants
GENERAL STEAMBOAT AGENTS,
CUSTOM HOUSE BROKERS
DEALERS IN
Flour, Salt, Pork, Whisky, Coal, Lumber &c
Harbor Quay, Goderich, C. W.
THOS. B. VANEVERY. GEO. RUMBALL.

John Campbell,
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT Commissioner in Queen's Bench, for taking affidavits, Conveyancer, &c., &c. Office on Broad way, Village of Kincardine, C.W. 9:3

A BEAUTIFUL ESTATE FOR SALE.
1000 Acres in One Block,
LARGELY IMPROVED and conveniently situated along the bank of the River Maitland, opposite the Town of Goderich and the Goderich Station of the Buffalo and Lake Huron Railway, C. W.
Apply, if by letter post paid, to J. B. GORDON, ESQ., Solicitor, Goderich, C. W.
w49

Business Directory.

John Kerr,
COMMISSIONER IN THE COURT OF Queen's Bench, Conveyancer, &c. A Registry kept of Farm and Town Lots for Sale; parties having lots for sale, or desiring to purchase will please send full particulars.
Dungannon, Feb. 20, 1857. 9:9

COMMERCIAL HOUSE.
(LATE DARE'S.)
EAST STREET, GODERICH.
THE UNDERSIGNED BEGS sincerely to thank his friends and the travelling public generally for the very liberal patronage he has enjoyed for the past nine years, and would respectfully ask a continuance of their patronage. His new house has been thoroughly repaired, and will be found complete in every particular.
JOHN DONOGH, Proprietor
Goderich, Sept. 26, 1864. sw7

MAITLAND HOTEL, GODERICH
R. WILSON, PROPRIETOR. THE above is most pleasantly situated on an eminence 120 feet high, overlooking the Harbor and Lake Huron;—good Orchards, Gardens and Rural Walks attached. Board $1 per day; single Meals or Beds, 25 cents. v15n10v1y

DAYS' HOTEL,
WROXETER
IS situated on the Gravel Road running from Seaforth to Southampton, one mile north of where it leads off to Wroxeter, and any one travelling to
Belmore, Walkerton, Southampton,
or any place in that direction, will find accommodation such as he only expects to find at first class city hotels, in all respects.
ICE ALWAYS ON HAND FOR HIS
Trout-Fishing Friends!
THE BUILDINGS COVER A LENGTH OF
A HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET!
CHARLES DAYS, Proprietor.
w46-1.

Commercial Hotel, Mitchell C.W
JOHN HICKS, Proprietor. This is the largest and best Country Hotel in Western Canada, and charges as moderate as any House in Mitchell. Stage Proprietor. Good stabling for 100 Horses. Horses and Carriages for Hire, on the Shortest Notice 14-7

GODERICH
MARBLE WORKS,
W. C. TRELEAVEN
Monuments, Headstones
Tombs, Tablets, Table-Tops, &c.
GODERICH, C. W.
Such as Caps, Sills, Bases, &c., Cheap for Cash.
Only Free Stone kept on hand for Building purposes

HENRY GRIST,
DEPARTMENTAL
AND
Parliamentary Agent,
QUEBEC,
TRANSACTS BUSINESS WITH THE Crown Lands and other Government Departments; Takes out Patents for Inventions.—Drafts and takes charge of Private Bills during the Session, &c., &c., &c., for Parties residing in Upper Canada, or elsewhere. sw105

GODERICH FANNING MILL
AND
Pump Factory!
THE SUBSCRIBER BEGS TO INFORM the inhabitants of the Counties of Huron and Bruce that he is still Manufacturing, and has on hand a number of his
SUPERIOR FANNING MILLS & PUMPS.
He would particularly draw attention to his Mills, as he will warrant them to free Wheat from oats, cockle, chess, &c. Pumps made to order and warranted.
Factory on Nelson st., between Victoria street and Cambria Road.
ALSO, agent for the sale of Morgan's premium and patent CULTIVATOR, which has never yet failed to give general satisfaction to farmers who have used them.
HENRY DODD,
Goderich April 22nd, 1864. 39

BLANK BOOKS
AND
BOOK-BINDING.
HAVING made arrangements with Mr. D. McGREGOR, Book-binder and Manufacturing Stationer, (who has lately returned from Philadelphia with a large stock of Binding and other material), I am prepared to Furnish Blank-Books of all kinds, size and styles with and without Printed Headings, at ten per cent cheaper than Toronto prices.
All kinds of Binding not giving satisfaction will be repaired free of charge.
JOHN BUTLER.
sw46w21

NOTICE.
ALL parties indebted to the Estate of the late JOHN ALLEN, either by note or otherwise, are requested to settle the same immediately with the undersigned, or their accounts will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for collection; and all unliquidated claims against the estate of the said John Allen, deceased, up to this date, are to be brought in to the executors at once for examination and adjustment.
ANTHONY ALLEN, GEORGE COX, } Executors
Goderich, July 17th, 1864. w31-tf

NEW MARBLE WORKS
Main Street, Exeter.
D. & A. M'CONNELL.
MONUMENTS, TOMBSTONES, Posts, &c., of every description and style of workmanship, furnished on short notice, and at the lowest prices. Liberal reduction made for cash.
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO
Designs of Monuments &c. may be seen at the shop.
Exeter, October 1st, 1864. w12-1y

Business Directory.

British America Insurance Co.
Chief Office—Toronto.
Capital, $400,000.
MARINE DEPARTMENT.
Insurances Effected at Low Rates.
VANEVERY & RUMBALL, Agents.
Goderich, C. W., July 7, 1862. n24

INSURANCE.
WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY. British America Assurance Company; Head Offices, Toronto. Marine, Fire and Life Insurances effected on favorable terms.
Office in Mr. J. B. Gordon's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr., Agt.
Goderich, Nov. 24, 1566

THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON
FIRE & LIFE INSURANCE CO.
Capital, £2,000,000, Stg.; Accumulated Fund, $5,671,728.
Brittania Life Assurance Co. of London.
THE undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above highly respectable Companies, is prepared to accept both Fire and Life risks, at moderate rates of premium.
A. M. ROSS, Agent.
Goderich July 1st 1859 v12n24

ROYAL
Insurance Comp'ny
FIRE AND LIFE.
CAPITAL—TWO MILLION DOLLARS.
Accumulated Funds on hand, $5,000,000.
Annual Income Exceeds $2,500,000.
FIRE Insurances effected at the LOWEST RATES consistent with safety.
Life Insurance—Ample Security.
LARGE BONUS AND RATES LOWER THAN MOST ENGLISH OFFICES.
Losses Promptly Settled Without Reference to a Board of Directors
CHARLES FLETCHER, Agent.
Goderich, May, 1864. w15

North British and Mercantile
Insurance Co.,
Office in Mr. Gordon's Law Chambers.
JOHN HALDAN, Jr., Agent.
Goderich, October 13, 1863. sw12-1yr

ALL ASSURING
ON THE
WITH PROFIT PLAN
Before the 25th instant with
THE COLONIAL LIF ASSURANCE CO.
Will receive TWO years' Bonus at the Division of Profits NEXT YEAR.
W. M. RAMSAY, Manager for Canada.
RICHARD BULL, Inspector of Agencies.
For Rates and Prospectuses, apply to
J. D. BLACK, Agent.
DR. MACDOUGALL, Medical Referee.
sw75w17 june5

MATT. ROBERTSON,
MANUFACTURER
OF ALL KINDS OF
FURNITURE!
SUCH AS
Bureaus, Sofas, Lounges, Bedsteads in endless variety, Wardrobes, Book Cases, Mattresses, Center Tables, Dining Tables, Breakfast Tables, Toilet Tables, Wash Stands, Chairs, and many other articles too numerous to mention. All kinds of
WOOD TURNING
Promptly attended to. UPHOLSTERY in all its branches.
UNDERTAKING, &c., &c.
Mr. R. respectfully invites an examination of his stock. Warranted to be made of the best material and workmanship, and at greatly reduced prices. Call and compare, and be satisfied before going elsewhere.
Cordwood and all kinds of Farmer's Produce taken in exchange.
Warerooms on Elgin Street.
Goderich, March 24th, 1863. 8W59

NOTICE.
IS HEREBY GIVEN that J. B. QUIPP, of Goderich, confectioner, has this day assigned to me his Estate and effects to the undersigned for the general benefit of creditors, without preference. All creditors of this estate are requested to send their claims to
JAMES SMAILL, Assignee
Goderich, Nov. 17th, 1864. sw22-tf

Money to Lend,
ON very reasonable terms. Apply to
B. L. DOYLE,
Crabb's new Block.
Goderich, 9th Jan. 1865. w50 1yr

CONVEYANCING
THE undersigned would beg leave to inform the inhabitants of the Townships of Hay and Stanley and surrounding country that he has been appointed a Commissioner for taking Affidavits in the Court of Queen's Bench, and that he will be prepared at all times to make out Deeds, Mortgages, Bills, Bonds, &c., with neatness and dispatch, and at reasonable rates. All prepaid communications will be attended to.
HUGH LOVE, Senr., Hills Green p. o., Hay.
October 7th, 1864. w37

Something About Rob Roy.

The following sketch is taken from a volume entitled "The Adventures of Rob Roy," written by James Grant, Esq., and recently published by Crosby & Ainsworth, of Boston:

Rob Roy, the famous Highland freebooter, was born about the year 1660. His clan, the MacGregors, having been outlawed by the Scottish Parliament, were made the prey of all who chose to depredate upon them, and were obliged to depend on their own strong arms and brave hearts alone for the protection of their little property, and even for their lives. Becoming thus, as it were, born warriors, and not being permitted to cultivate the arts of peace, the MacGregors were the terror of their neighbors. Their principal means of support was the black mail, or tax which they levied on the more peacefully inclined, as a consideration for their not molesting them, nor allowing others to. In the condition of society that existed in the Highlands in those days, this black mail could not be regarded in the light of an extortion, but rather as a stipend for police services, which were faithfully rendered where regularly paid for. Rob Roy, or Robert MacGregor surnamed Roy, or red, from the color of his hair, was a sort of chief with his clan. He was largely engaged as a cattle dealer, and made frequent journeys to England with large droves. On one of these ventures he had the Duke of Montrose for a partner. The speculation proved a bad one, the market being overstocked and the cattle selling for less than prime cost. The Duke no sooner heard of the misfortune than, determining not to be a loser, without waiting for Rob's return, he collected a well armed party and with a 'warrant of distress' in his hand went down and took possession of the MacGregor's estate, turning his wife and children out of doors without food, shelter or clothing. In due time Rob returned and discovered the desolation that the Duke had effected. He swore vengeance on the tyrant and then retired with his family and retainers into the mountains, where he established for himself a new home, somewhat less luxuriant than his ancestral halls. Here he collected about him a powerful band of followers, and soon did Montrose heartily repent of his forcible procedures. Almost daily were cattle missing from his estate, and when rent day came around Rob was sure to be on hand to seize the rents as soon as they were fairly paid over.

On one of these occasions, (it was in the summer of 1717,) Rob, with some twenty picked men and his favorite piper, Alphine, with great secrecy and rapidity, made a descent on the inn where Killearn, the Duke's chamberlain, had appointed to meet his Lordship's tenants to receive from them their annual rents. Killearn was in the dining room with the assembled tenantry, and had already given receipts for a large amount of money, when the sound of a bag-pipe was heard approaching. We quote from the work before us:

The air played, 'Up wi' the Campbells and down wi' the Graham,' betokening something hostile, they hurried to the windows, and great was the consternation of Killearn when he beheld Rob Roy, but alone, or preceded only by the piper, Alphine, advancing straight to the door of the inn.

Though in terror that his own life might be the forfeit of the proceedings instituted against Rob nine years before, he sought to preserve his master's property, and gathering up his rent-rolls, receipts, and the bags containing the money, he flung them into a loft above the room.

At that moment the door was thrown open, and with a respect that was in no way assumed, the landlord ushered in Rob Roy, fully armed, with a smile on his lip and irony in his clear gray eye, while Alphine remained as a sentinel at the entrance of the inn.

'God save all here!' said MacGregor, bowing.

'A hundred thousand welcomes,' replied Killearn, whose dapper little figure trembled in his buckled shoes, and he nervously fingered the breeches bible that was always in one of the large flapped pockets of his square-skirted black velvet coat. He trembled so much that the powder of his wig floated like a cloud about his head, as it was shaken from his curles.

On this occasion Rob wore a short, green jacket, profusely laced with silver; a long, red waistcoat, and scarlet woolen shirt, open at the neck; a belted plaid, and pair of deer-skin hose and cuarans, elaborately cut and tied with thongs.

His lawless and predatory life had imparted a wild expression to his eye, and a boldness to his bearing that impressed all present; but one of the Duke's farmers, named MacLaren, gathering courage, pushed a bottle of wine, and another of whiskey, towards him, saying with affected confidence,

'You will drink with us, MacGregor?'

'That I will do blithely,' replied Rob, as he filled up a silver quaich with whiskey, and drank it off, previously giving the old Highland toast—

'The Hills, the Glens, and *the People!*'

He then laid his sword and pistols on the table, and presenting his little crooked snuff mull, to go round the company, in token of amity, he said—

'Keep your seats, gentlemen, pray; do not let me interrupt you,' and proceeded to partake of the cold roasted meat, the bread, cheese and wine, which had been provided as a repast for the tenants, about thirty of whom were in the room.

While Rob was eating, the spirits of the party rose, and the bottle went cheerfully round till he called the piper, who stood outside the inn at the open windows,

'Alphine, strike up *Glenfruin.*'

On hearing this order, which seemed the forerunner of mischief, the chamberlain and tenants exchanged glances of uneasiness, which in no way subsided when Rob stuck his pistols in his belt, and snatched his sword, as his henchman and other followers burst into the room, with claymores drawn, ranged themselves at the doors and windows, precluding all chances of escape.

'Now, Killearn,' said Rob, for the first time addressing his enemy, 'you will, perhaps, have the kindness to inform me how you have got on with your collection of his Grace's rents?'

Hesitation and fear made the factor silent.

'Speak!' exclaimed Rob, impatiently.

'I have got nothing yet,' stammered Killearn.

'How! nothing from all this goodly company?' asked Rob, with a deepening frown.

'I have not yet begun to collect?'

'Come, come, Chamberlain; I know you of old, and so your tricks and falsehoods will not pass with me. I must reckon with you fairly by the book. Produce at once your ledger!'

Killearn, with the perspiration oozing on his temples, still hesitated, and began to protest; but Rob laid his watch on the table, and, cocking one of his steel pistols, said, with assumed calmness,

'Killearn, I give you but three minutes to reflect and to obey me.'

In terror of death the chamberlain grew deadly pale, and looked sick at heart, while a glassy stare dimmed both his eyes, which wandered from the dial watch to the muzzle of the pistol, and then to the blank faces of the shrinking farmers, who were seated at the table as if rooted to their chairs.

"One minute has already passed," said Rob, as he began to hum an air, a sure sign that further mischief was not far off, so Killearn, seeing the utter futility of resistance, produced his rental book and bags of money.

'Now Killearn, this is acting like a sensible man,' said Rob Roy, as he uncocked the pistol, and placed the watch in his pocket; 'so help yourself and take a dram while I examine your accounts.'

Rob Roy turned over leaf after leaf of the ledger, examined the whole of the rental, drew from the farmers those sums which the chamberlain had not yet received, and pocketing a total of £3,227 2s 8d (Scots) with great formality granted receipts in full.

Having completed this business, Rob returned to his mountain home, taking with him the terrified Killearn, whom he threatened to hang should his master fail to ransom him with 3,400 merks (Scots.) This Montrose refused to do, when, notwithstanding that to Killearn's influence and advice he owed his misfortune in the loss of his house, he generously allowed him to depart in safety.

The Highlanders bitterly opposed the union of Scotland with England. While the Stuarts, however, were on the throne they submitted, but upon the death of Anne in 1714, they refused to acknowledge George Elector of Hanover as their King, and about this time in an assembly of chiefs and chieftains, among whom was Rob Roy, a bond was signed pledging their mutual faith to each other, and to their exiled King, the song of James II., afterwards known as the Pretender. In 1715 they broke out in insurrection, and, under the Earl of Mar fought with King George's troops the great battle of Sheriffmuir, where Rob led his clan. The battle was an indecisive one, though the insurgents found it necessary to retire at its close, and shortly after gave up their cause for the time being.

In 1717 Rob Roy was captured. A large reward had been offered for him, dead or alive, and stimulated perhaps by this, the Duke of Athole, who had been a Jacobite, and therefore in sympathy with Rob, determined to entrap him and deliver him over to the government. He accordingly sent our hero an urgent invitation to visit him at his castle, assuring him of his safety, and even procuring for him a 'protection from Government.' Thus deceived, Rob duly appeared at the Castle of Blair, in a chamber of which the Duke had treacherously concealed an officer and sixty soldiers. He was cordially received.

'I know not how to express the joy I feel in having so brave a gentleman in my house,' said the Duke, 'but as a first favor I must beg of you to lay aside your sword and pistols.'

'Wherefore, my lord?' asked Rob, who felt surprised at a request so unusual.

'The duchess is somewhat timid, and the sight of such things always alarms her.'

'By my faith, Althole, had she seen her roof-tree in flames, and so much of her own blood shed as my good wife has seen in her time, the sight of an armed man would not cause uneasiness,' replied Rob, as he laid aside his dirk and pistol, 'but where is your good lady, duke?'

'In the garden, where we shall join her.'

The duchess came hurriedly forward to meet the famous outlaw of whom she had heard so much, and to whom she presented her hand, for as yet she was ignorant of the vile plot her husband had framed.

'MacGregor,' she exclaimed on seeing him without a sword; 'MacGregor here, and unarmed!'

Rob saw at once that he had been victimized, and glanced up to the Duke, who colored deeply and said with some confusion:

'I thought your sword might prove troublesome if anything unpleasant occurred between us.'

'Between friends—between a guest and a host what could occur that would be unpleasant? I understand you not.'

'You will understand this, Mr MacGregor,' said the Duke, throwing off his disguise, 'you have committed such wild work along the Highland border that I must detain you.'

'Detain?' repeated Rob, with surprise.

'And send you to Edinburgh.'

'Where I should swing on a gibbet, a holiday sight for the psalm singing burgesses.—Am I, then, snared—betrayed?' exclaimed Rob, starting back.

'Phrase it as you please, I—'

'Has a man of your rank and name a soul so mean, so vile, that he will forfeit honor and faith to win the paltry reward offered for the head of a loyal and unfortunate gentleman, whom tyranny and oppression have covered with ruin, and driven to despair and shame?'

Clenching his right hand he would have struck the Duke to the earth, but for a piteous shriek which burst from his lady. At this moment an iron gate opened, and the sixty soldiers rushed in, surrounding MacGregor, and beating him down with the butts of their muskets. He was then bound and dragged away to an adjacent village, where he was kept under a strong escort until arrangements could be made for taking him to Edinburgh.

The story of his escape is thus related by Mr. Grant:

Rob Roy, on finding himself in one of the miserable cottages of the village, began to hope that he might perhaps achieve an escape. As a preliminary, he begged the sergeant who commanded the troopers to undo the cords which bound his hands, that he might write a farewell letter to his unhappy wife, who had then found shelter in the little farm house of Portnellan, at the head of Loch Katrine.

The sergeant was a humane man; he said something about his own wife and little ones who were far away in old Ireland, and he did as Rob requested, though in defiance of express orders.

Then, as he had been liberal in supplying the soldiers with whiskey and ale, they became friendly with MeGregor, and so, after a time, the letter was written; but there was a difficulty in procuring a messenger to Loch Katrine, as several MacGregors had located themselves thereabouts, and reprisals were dreaded.

The stormy night wore on, and ere long all the soldiers were sleeping, save one, who stood with his loaded carbine at the door of the cottage.

To MacGregor it seemed as if this man pitied him, as he had been more gentle than his comrades, and had ministered to his comfort, so far as he dared, since the time of his betrayal at Blair.

Being strong, active, and wiry as a mountain stag, to rush on this trooper and wrench away his carbine would have been an easy task to MacGregor, but the key of the cottage door hung at the waist-belt of the sleeping sergeant; thus the preliminary scuffle would only serve to rouse the whole party, and insure his being shot down by some of them.

As these ideas occurred to the captive, he surveyed the sentinel, whose gaze was never turned from him. With a swarthy, a most olive-tinted face, and deep, dark eyes, he was a stout and handsome young man; and his profusely-braided uniform, with its heavy red cuffs, his Horse Grenadier cap, and tasselled boots, became him well. He had his right hand on the lock of his carbine, the barrel of which rested in the hollow of his left arm.

'How goes the night?' asked MacGregor.

'Twelve has just struck on the kirk clock without,' replied the soldier, 'and the night is wild and eerie yet. You can hear the sough of the wind among the trees, and the roar of the Tay, too.'

'You are, I think, a south country man, by your accent,' said MacGregor.

'Yes,' replied the trooper, dryly, as he was loth to become too familiar with a prisoner of a character so formidable, and, moreover, the sergeant might be awake.

'Take another taste of the whiskey, man; there is a drop in the quaich yet. What part of the south are you from?'

The trooper drained the little wooden cup, and replied:

'I come from Moffatdale; my auld mother bides in a bit thatched housie at Cragieburnwood. Weary fall the day I ever left it to become a soldier!'

'Moffatdale,' said Rob Roy, ponderingly, 'many a good drove of short legged Aryleshires I have had driven through it to the southern markets at Carlisle and Penrith. I know well the place, the Hartfell—'

'And Queensbury Hill, Lock Skene, and the Grayman's Tail, and Yarrow wi' a' its dowie dens!' added the soldier, with kindling eyes.

'Once when there I fought some militiamen and gave them good cause to remember Rob Roy; though perhaps the loons knew not my name.'

'When was this?' asked the soldier, earnestly.

'A year or so after the Union. It was in a summer gloaming, when I was riding northward near Moffat village, I heard the cries of a woman in anguish. They came from a deep dark hollow called the Gartpool Linn—'

'Weel ken I the place,' said the soldier.

'A true Highlander has ever his sword at the service of a friend, or the defenceless. I rode into the dark dingle, and found some rascally militiamen, with a Queen's officer, about to hang some unfortunate gypsies; but by faith, I gave them their kail through the reek. I threw one half of them into the water, drove off the rest, and passed two feet of my claymore through the body of the officer, who must have been a tough fellow, for he seemed never a bit the worse when I saw him last at the field of Sheriffmuir. I cut down the poor gypsies, who hung on the lower branch of a tree, but they were dead—'

'All?'

'All, except one—a boy about the age of Coll—my own boy Coll, whom I may never see again in this world at least,' added MacGregor, with a burst of emotion.

The soldier, who had listened to this anecdote with deep interest, said,

'You did more, MacGregor; you gave some money to the poor harmless lassie that lay at the foot of the tree—money to comfort her ere you went away.'

'Yes, perhaps I did; but how know you that?'

'She was my sister, and I am the half-hanged gypsy lad whom you saved, MacGregor.'

'You!' exclaimed the other, with astonishment in his tone.

'Yes,' said the soldier, giving his hand to the outlaw; 'I enlisted in Polworth's Light Horse after that, and have smelt powder at Ramillies, at Oudenarde, and Malplaquet.—Then I became a Horse Grenadier. Oh! MacGregor, what can I do to serve and thank you for the brave deed of that doleful summer evening?'

'Get me a messenger,' said MacGregor, huskily; 'one who will take this letter to my poor forlorn wife.'

'I shall,' replied the soldier in a whisper as he glanced uneasily at his sleeping comrades; 'and I shall do more; the be t horse in the troop shall be at your service before the day dawns, if another cannot be had!'

'Say you so?' exclaimed MacGregor, whose heart leaped with joy.

'Yes, so sure as my name is Willie Gemmil, even if I should be shot for it at the drumhead.'

'I thank you—I thank you! my wife, my bairnes!' said Rob, in a broken voice. 'You know, soldier, what I have been—think of what *I am.* I have much of goodness, of kindness, of charity, of love in my heart; yet men deem me a savage, and seek to make me one. It may be that in my desperation and fury, when fired by the sense of unmerited wrong, I have done severe things; but the memory of the station I have lost, and of the success I once hoped to achieve, add deeper bitterness to my fallen fortunes now. 'Tis well that old Donald of Glengyle is in his grave, and known not the fate of his son!'

When day broke, Gemmill was relieved from his post, and exerted himself to procure a messenger, with a fleet and active horse.

On the man coming to the door of the cottage, having been instructed by the gipsy trooper what to do, he dismounted at the moment that Rob Roy, with the sergeant's permission, came forth to give the letter and some special message to Helen MacGregor.

'Rob's emotion was great on recognizing in the messenger who had volunteered so readily, his foster-brother MacAleister, who had been hovering about Logierait in the hope of achieving something; but beyond a keen, quick glance nothing passed between them; but that glance contained a volume.'

The eyes of the whole troop were upon Rob, yet he sprang past them, leaped into the empty saddle of the messenger's horse, and urged it at full speed towards the banks of the Tay.

'Boot and saddle! To horse and after him!' exclaimed the sergeant, while a shattered volley of carbine bullets whistled after MacGregor; but long before the troop horses were bitted and saddled, he had plunged into the foaming river, crossed it, and disappeared.

The vexation and chagrin of the Duke of Athole were extreme, when about an hour after this occurence he arrived with a band of his own retainers, all well mounted and armed with swords and musketoons, to escort the prisoner to Edinburg, and found no trace of him but the letter he had written to Helen and the cords with which he had been so ignominiously bound.

Again and again was Rob Roy captured, but as often did he effect his escape, sometimes almost as if by a miracle. Often he had in his power his bitterest enemies, and as often because they were in his power did he refuse to take their lives. His generosity was equal to his courage and his courage that of a charmed life. The poor looked up to him for protection and help, while of the rich he was the constant terror.

In 1719 a third rising was attempted in behalf of their king, James VIII, as he was called by the Scottish cavaliers; and on this occasion their efforts were seconded by a Spanish army which was landed in Scotland. But like the former attempts, this proved a failure and the Spaniards having surrendered, the Highlanders were scattered. By stratagem, Rob now secured the treasure chest of the Spanish fleet, thus preventing it from falling into the hands of the English, which it otherwise would have done, and with the proceeds of this adventure he and his fellowers settled down to farming in the braes of Balquhidder. Other attempts were made by Atholo to capture him, but they were fruitless. He brought up his sons to be industrious farmers and cattle dealers, and in a few years, in his prosperity, ceased to molest even his old enemy Montrose. In the reign of George II. Rob visited London, and even attracted the notice of the King. Finally, in 1734, in the 74th year of his age, surrounded by his family, this renowned freebooter peacefully went to his rest.

☞ There were 960 inquests held in Liverpool, England, last year.

To the Eitor of the Signal:

SIR,—I notice that your issue of the 26th inst. contains two articles relating to the "County Board of Education," one a letter from Mr. Sherlock, L.S. of Goderich, in reply to your Clinton cor. The other a reply from your correspondent to Mr. Sherlock; I have not seen your correspondent's first letter and therefore do not know how small a matter all this *furore* has sprung from. Generally there are by far too many abusive letters appearing in our local papers. I can only trace these to a too great readiness to find fault on the one hand, and too little disposition on the other to answer reasonable questions. So far as this personal conflict goes I have nothing to do; but it appears to me that your Clinton correspondent mentions two things which he says were stated at a meeting in Clinton, which the Board is in duty bound to notice. The statements made are as follows: "The County Board "certificates were torn to tatters, in so far "as they claimed to be evidence of scholarship on the part of their possessors; "and more than one instance was mentioned of them having been granted to "persons who had not been before the "Board, and whom therefore the Board "could not (as the certificate stated they "did) have been fully examined." Again—"I have myself had occasion to enquire a little into the working of the County of Huron Board of Public Instruction, and among other things I have learned from undoubted authority that candidates for first-class certificates are never questioned or examined in some of the commonest branches of education taught in our common schools. Had your correspondent entered a little more into detail and informed you how many certificates had been given to persons "who had not been before the Board," and what are those "commonest branches of education," and which "first-class teachers" are not examined, his statement could be more easily answered. The remarks made are so very general that they can scarcely be met by a general denial. This, however, would prove more irritating than satisfactory. Now, sir, I am not the 'Board,' nor do I write by authority of an instruction from the Board; but as I have been a member of said Board for several years, I may in my own quiet way give satisfaction to your Clinton cor. The first quotation contains two distinct statements. The first I would say very complimentary to the Board—being a direct testimony to its faithfulness—I know two persons who might be referred to as examples of the kind, and for aught I know may be those to whom illusion is made by your correspondent. One of these was a teacher in one of our most important school sections. The Trustees informed him that he must bring back a first-class certificate from the Board—this he had conceit enough to think would be easy for him to do; but finding after the examination was over that it was more difficult than he imagined, and seeing that as he failed he would stand in a humiliating position before the Trustees, he gave vent to the pride of his heart by tearing his certificate "to tatters." The other was a teacher from the County of Oxford, who a few weeks before had carried away from the Board of said county a first-class certificate, but could only secure a "third class for six months from the Board of Education in this County. Of course he gives vent to his indignation by tearing his certificate "*to tatters.*" I know of no other cases of this kind, but if your cor. knows any other I hope he will do the Huron Board the honor of publishing them. Respecting the second statement contained in the first quotation, namely, "granting (certificates) to persons who had not been before the Board." I have simply to say that your correspondent has been mis-informed. As the statement is general I give a general reply, that the Huron Board of Education *has not* during the last five years in any way given a certificate to any persons "who *had not* been before the Board." In two cases certificates have been *extended* while the parties were not before the Board. I have always been present when the certificates were decided upon with the exception of once during the last five years, and never heard of a certificate being *granted* to persons who had not been before the Board, though I have heard of certificates being *extended* to parties who were not at that examination before the Board. The highest grade of certificates the Board grants are First and Second during pleasure—the best certificates are marked "during pleasure," that is during the pleasure of the Board, in Dec. 1863. All certificates of this kind were recalled, and the holders thereof required to appear for examination. Two of said class failed to appear, one on account of sickness, the other had occasion to leave the country a few weeks *before*, (and a few days I believe before it was known on what day the Board would meet) and did not return till a few weeks *after* the Board met. Now these certificates were simply *renewed*, not *granted*, till the Board met again, and that on the ground of the exceptionable circumstances in which these teachers were placed. These teachers had been examined before by the Board, their literary qualifications well known, important situations were held by them, and knowing all this, was it wrong simply to *renew* these certificates six months longer? Any L. S. could have done this independent of the Board, and was it wrong for the Board to do what a Local Sup't could do? The absence of these teachers was not intentional but unavoidable. Would it be right to throw them out of their situations—to put the School Trustees to needless expense and trouble—simply on the ground that they *could* not attend the examination? Would the Board be justified in taking such a stand when it was well known the employers of these Teachers would not part with them for any others? I think you will say, and I imagine your cor. will say too, had I been one of the Board I would have done the same.

Respecting the second quotation, "that first-class teachers are not examined in the commonest branches of education taught in our common schools." As your correspondent has not defined what these branches are I can make no satisfactory reply to his statement. The charge is so general it cannot be touched. I am sure the A B C is the commonest branch of education taught in our common schools, and most certainly we do not examine any teacher on the alphabet.—The teachers are examined on every subject mentioned by the Board of Public Instruction in Toronto. I can easily understand, however, how your correspondent might be misled by the information he received. For example, teachers are not questioned on writing, spelling and kindred subjects; but they are told that their papers will be judged and examined with regard to these subjects; and thus Teachers may not be questioned, yet they are examined on these and receive their certificates accordingly.

I am afraid the non-publication of this letter is secured by its length, but let me assure you that indulgence this time will not need to be repeated another time. I have given a candid statement of what the Board does, and has done, and if this does not satisfy, nothing else will. Allow me to say to your correspondent, that though I have referred to him as the "grumbler" I do not blame him. He is a reporter of what he hears and sees, and should not be charged with the creation of fictitious reports; and consequently should not be assailed as if he alone were the complainant. Besides I think it right that some one should make known what is said about the 'Board' in public meetings, at which it is well known that no member of the Board is present. If some of those whose pens are so frequently employed in writing down the characters of those composing the Board would direct some of their spicy articles to the County Council, and obtain more liberal allowances and less complaints about the expense of education they would do far more good for the general education of the young than they can ever accomplish by assailing the character and questioning the purposes and motives of the 'Board.'

A GRAMMAR SCHOOL TRUSTEE.

REMARKS.—We have no desire to