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Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE: DONNELL STREET. WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 13, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice

OR THE LADY OF BIRKENHEAD.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

'Mersey' shrieked Allan, sinking on his knees...

'No, no, but look him into one of the rooms, and we will see.'

'Yes, lock me up,' exclaimed Charlie, catching at the suggestion.

'If you love me, Walter, refuse not this, I beseech you.'

'He is it, I grant your prayer, but the time may come when you will regret this wife's clemency.'

'On my honour, Ella, you never will, asseverated Allan, with wildest earnestness.'

'You honour?' said Walter, with contemptuous and indignant disgust.

'I shall. But I shall take full precaution against treachery, and for this purpose you shall be securely bound.'

'If you love me, Walter, refuse not this, I beseech you.'

'Captain' bawled again the voice from below.

'Now, hissed Walter with flaming eyes, utter one word but such as I dictate, and that moment I plunge the rapier in your heart.'

'Then, returned the other, taking away his hand, and holding the rapier ready to strike, call down to the speaker, what you want?'

'I will we go to sleep for the night?'

'Yes, yes,' exclaimed Charlie.

'Must I post a sentinel anywhere?'

'Tell him 'No, there's no need.'

'Any further orders, Captain?'

'Yes, dictated Walter, 'Mrs. Elliot is to leave the mansion in a few minutes. You will wait at the outer door and let her out, and let no one dare to molest her by word or act.'

'Charlie glanced at the rapier point, and jerkily repeated the order.

'Yes, sir,' responded the trooper.

'Only this,' dictated Walter, 'That I am not to be disturbed on any account till ten to-morrow morning.'

This order was also uttered by Charlie as given, and the trooper's retreating footsteps were heard as he returned to the kitchen.

Walter then lifted the Captain's swathed form, and carried him through the ante-room to a small chamber constructed in the tower, and depositing him on the floor with little ceremony left him there in utter darkness.

Looking the strong doors as he withdrew, Marion kept by his side all the time full of trembling apprehension.

'Now, my darling, he whispered, 'There is not a moment to lose. Wrap yourself up as in a journey, while I go to my room and possess myself of the gold I have been accumulating here.'

Passively, and with silent alacrity, she obeyed, and was ready to set out by the time Walter returned.

'Now,' he again whispered, 'go boldly below, and tell them to let you out. I will remain on the stair till I know you are safely gone.'

'But you,' she asked, quickly, 'What of your safety?'

'I can escape by the way I entered. It is not a path for you to go easily, but to me it is nothing. Make your way to the clump of trees at the bottom of the Guelph. You will find Marjory there, and I will join you immediately. Now go, and Heaven speed you.'

He led her out of the room, and half way down the wide staircase, here he stood while she passed forward, and waited listening breathlessly to learn that she got safely out. Thanks to the 'orders' which the trooper had received from his superior, the great door was opened for her, and she passed out unobserved.

Walter only waited till he heard the soldier begin to put in the bolts, when with noiseless footsteps he descended to the foot of the staircase, passed swiftly along the passage, gained the entrance to the subterranean chambers, threaded the passages at a run, descended the well into the cave without mishap, emerged safely in the ravine, and reached the clump of trees, where Marjory had done kissing and hugging Marion, whose coming, a minute before, had filled her with the most extravagant joy.

But as every moment was precious, their flight could not be delayed an instant. Marjory was directed to make her way to Grey-stone, where she had many friends to give her shelter, then to proceed to Andrew at Etterick, as soon as she could, where the faithful pair were to remain till Walter communicated with them.

Then Marjory and Marion were lifted for a moment in a final embrace, and the latter was by her husband's strong arm, locked into the saddle. Before he leaped to his place beside her, he also embraced Marjory with warm affection, put something heavy into her hand, springing into the saddle, caught Marion firmly round the waist, put spurs to the horse, and horse and riders dashed away into the darkness, vanishing almost immediately from Marjory's fearful gaze.

'What's this?' said the latter, as in a kind of stupid wonder she examined the heavy bag which Walter had put into her hand. She shook it, and the click of coins was heard.

'Gold,' she murmured, 'Bless his good generous heart. But no plack or hawbee of this will no, Andrew spend it we can help it. Gold, gold, Master Walter may need it yet.'

Saying this, she climbed the steep bank and gained the road which led to Grey-stone, and here she at once found a comfortable resting place.

Walter and Marion sped eastward at the horse's utmost speed. It was snowing now, but the fall of the flakes was quiet and gentle, and it accomplished the important duty of obliterating the marks they left behind them.

By the first streaks of dawn the fugitives reached Libberton, and found an asylum with the afflicted mother of Hugh McKail.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Last week there appeared in a Cincinnati paper an advertisement from an eminent iron manufacturer, announcing that four workmen were wanted. Before 10 o'clock in the morning between 100 and 500 persons had applied for the positions, and before the day closed the number had increased to over one thousand.

This is an index of the present state of affairs among the workingmen of Chicago, so large a proportion of whom are now out of employ.

ing extract of a letter from a commission house in Chicago to a correspondent in New York:

You ask if we do not "think present prices of grain and flour very high," and if we "believe they can be maintained."

We do not hesitate in saying there appears to be no cause for such exalted prices, outside of the speculative action, now so prominent in the trade.

We had a good wheat harvest all over our extended country, with remarkable fine weather before, during and after the gathering of the crop. The grain is elsewhere of excellent quality. No section of the country is in want, but everywhere abundant supplies are manifest.

Last year (1866), the harvest in many important districts was poor; or, in some States, very nearly an absolute failure. From such points there was a constant demand on the better harvest of the Northwest. This year (1867), those localities appear to be entirely independent, and are not purchasing from our liberal supplies. Our mills are also doing little work, as the stocks of flour everywhere are either ample or excessive, and prices relatively below wheat.

The Northwestern wheat harvest was the best for years, and farmers are now looking more liberally than usual, some of whom have not only their last crop, but also that of the previous year. The present stock of wheat, here and at Milwaukee, is very nearly twice as large as at the same period last year, and receipts are now liberal, with every prospect that we shall have four millions of wheat at the opening of navigation, with not less than eight or ten millions more to follow, from the present large stocks in farmer's hands as there cannot be over sixty per cent of the crop delivered. The contrast between now and one year ago is very marked. Then stocks, everywhere south and west of New York, were most meagre, and farmers were known to hold a small amount of wheat, but everywhere there is now abundance, and such states as Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania, that one year ago were compelled to buy their bread from more favored localities, they now have a surplus, which is apparent even by their quiet liberal shipments to eastern markets. You ask our opinion as to future prices. We can only reply that with not less than six millions of bushels of wheat here, at Milwaukee, Chicago, on the canal, and in New York, to which must be added the enormous amount still in farmer's hands, with large and steadily increasing stocks of flour, and no deficiency anywhere in our own country, but a low state of industry diminishing consumption, we must conclude that export value must be the final measure of price. It must rest on actual value in Europe, which has, so far, not justified our prices. Owing to the enormous supplies of corn and oats everywhere indicated, as well as their present large accumulation at prominent points low freights are not probable. We have, therefore, only left the short crop theory, so faithfully circulated by the speculative holders of breadstuffs as the chief reason for sustaining and advancing prices, but nothing has been hitherto so disastrous to the trade, as you are aware, as action on such a basis; but so far from being correct, we have really passed from deficient to abundant harvests. Notwithstanding the disposition on the part of those so interested to cultivate the idea of scarcity, at a time when there are no indications of such an evil, but everywhere liberal stocks and a certainty of most important additions, we believe we are approaching the period when delusion must yield to facts, as has been the case the past year in cotton; and the sooner those who are the unfortunate holders of large amounts of grain and flour seek a disposition channels for relief the less will be their disappointment and loss.

WE have opened our stock of FURS, from the most manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES.

Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH BOOTS, &c.

F. GARLAND, Market Square, GUELPH.

The Highest Price paid for Raw Furs Guelph, Oct. 31, 1867.

New Saddlery Shop

Do you want a set of Harness, Saddle, or other light or heavy, call on the new shop, opposite College's Hotel.

We now want a good Saddle. We can supply you cheaper than ever, 15 yards from O'Connell's Wellington Hotel.

Traveling bags, in want of a good Trunk, Valise, or Trunk, call on the new shop, two hours from the Post office.

What is more cheering than the news of Slough Bells? We can supply you, call at the new shop, opposite College's Hotel.

We have a few pairs of imported and made in our own country, also a number of Slough Bells. We can supply you, call at the new shop, opposite College's Hotel.

SMITH & METCALF, Late Importers of the Province, 207 St. James Street, Guelph, 20th December, 1867.

MRS. HUNTER'S FANCY STORE

West Market Square.

Just received, a large lot of FANCY GOODS, all kinds, suitable for PRESENTS.

Berlin & Fancy Wools

Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery.

MRS. HUNTER, Guelph, 11th Dec., 1867.

Valuable Property FOR SALE LOW.

TOWN OF GUELPH.

1. Lots 7, 8 and 9, Perth Street, with large frontage on the Eramosa Road. Large buildings, Lots extend to the river, well situated for manufacturing purposes, and in the heart of the town.

2. Lots 19, 20 and 21, Hubbard's survey, fronting on Woodwich and Norwich Streets. Two good houses. Lot 19 good tenants. Plenty of shade trees and good gardens.

3. Lots known as the Poulas, having a good frontage, fronting on Woodwich Street, 1/2, 3/4 and 1/2 Mill Street.

4. One Lot adjoining on Mill Street with good frontage. House being Lot 5, M. Curran's survey.

5. Two Warehouse Lots at the junction of the Great Western and Grand Trunk Railways - Graham's survey.

6. A choice farm of about 140 acres, with a new and improved brick situated on the Town Line, bounded on the west by the farm of T. Sandilands, Esq., on the east by the G. W. R., admirably adapted for a gentleman's residence, with all the comforts of the town without its taxes.

7. A nice farm of over fifty acres, situated on the Town Line of Elora, being the N. W. 1/4 of Lot No. 2, of Low, Nichol.

8. A good mill privilege, 14 feet fall, on the 12 mile Creek, East Flamboro, with good buildings, 7 1/2 acres of land, several houses. Now receiving Flour, Lard and Fat.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. THOMPSON & JACKSON, Agents, Guelph, who will also act as my agents for me.

W. J. BROWN, Guelph, 29th December, 1867.

NEW Oyster Rooms

Valentine Wald

BEGS to announce to the public that he has opened a new Oyster Room, in connection with his Hotel, on MACDONNELL STREET.

The Rooms are in the superintendence of Mr. M. McCord, whose courteous attention, as well as his thoroughly knowledge of the business, will ensure satisfaction in all cases.

The very best of Oysters always on hand, and served up in all styles at short notice.

ROD and SKEBY, and all kinds of Fancy Drinks prepared in the most approved manner.

Guelph, 27th December, 1867.

FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE

Manufactured by the Lamb Knitting Machine Manufacturing Company, CHICOPEE FALLS, N. Y.

It is the best Family Knitting Machine extant. No other invention affords so profitable an employment for women.

It has taken the Highest Premium Gold Medal at the Fair of the American Institute, New York, and the Exhibition in Mexico, Cincinnati Association, Boston, and the Provincial Exhibition at Toronto, and the highest Premium at every State and County Fair wherever it has been exhibited - surpassing all other machines.

It sets up its own work, knits all sizes, 5 shaws and 20 rows, knits the heel, into the stocking, and makes the toe, and the complete Knit, a yard of plain work in five minutes, a pair of socks in thirty minutes. Knits the single, double, ribbed and fancy flat work, producing all varieties of knit goods, from an infant's stocking, to a lady's shawl or hood, which no other machine in the world can do. It is simple, durable, and easily operated.

Call and see the Machine worked, Lot No. 2, 2nd Con. Flamboro, opposite Coler's Carriage Shop. 27 Samples of Knitting sent on receipt of 25 cents in postage stamps.

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HAY IN TRUSSES

Constantly on hand. Also Straw for Beds. TERMS CASH. JOHN WEST, Guelph, July 22.

In the matter of Thomas M. Grier, AN INSOLVENT.

BY virtue of PROVISIONAL ORDER, the authority of the Court is hereby vested in me as Assignee of the Estate of the above-named Insolvent, under the provisions of the above Act, I shall offer for sale at the Town Hall, in the Village of Morriston, in the said County,

Saturday, 11th April, 1868

at two o'clock in the afternoon of that day, all the right, title and interest of the said insolvent, in that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Village of Morriston, Township of Puelich, County of Wellington, Province of Ontario, composed of Village Lot Number Eight, on the East side of Queen Street, in Donald McEldward's Survey, in the Village of Morriston, bounded and bounded as is described in a deed from John M. Schlenker and wife to the said insolvent, made the 2nd February, 1866, with Dwelling House, Barn, Stable and outbuildings thereon, and a good garden, with woods of an acre.

TERMS - - - - CASH.

Further particulars may be had on the premises, or at the office of Messrs. M. LeMay & O'Connor, Barristers, Guelph, or at the office of the undersigned, with whom all hypothecary creditors are required to file their claims, within six days of the day of sale.

THOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee, Guelph, 7th January, 1868.

TROTTER & GRAHAM.



Members of the Dental Association of the Province of Ontario.

DENTISTS!

GUELPH and BRAMPTON,

Successors in Guelph to T. Trotter.

Over Mr. Higginbotham's Drug Store

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in all kinds of Drugs, Chemicals, Perfumery, &c.

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