

OLD GUBBY.

BY CLEMENT W. SCOTT.

Because his life has not been sorrowful and unfortunate enough, he was now threatened with the loss of his sole means of subsistence.

Christmas Eve, with only sixpence in your pocket! This was Old Gubby's case, and what made it worse was, that he could not remain in his garret, and was forced from sheer hatred of idleness, to wander out into the streets and see what was going on.

The streets were bright with happy, laughing faces; the bells were answering one another's peals of joy; the shops groined with bright Christmas fare; carts full of berries, jolly and merrily rolled along to adorn rich houses and grand churches, which would echo to-morrow with anthems and hallelujahs; friends met friends, and interchanged merry greetings; cabs dashed by, taking some prodigal son to his expected family; little children gazed at grocer's Christmas trees and tempting toy-shops, transfixed with awe and admiration; home went the rounds of beer, and plump turkeys, and boxes of sweetmeats; amidst the glittering scene of happiness and laughter, Old Gubby wandered with exactly sixpence in his pocket.

The sixpence was very soon gone, for he saw a little miniature Polly, so very like the Polly of the old curiosity-shop days, breaking her heart for a picture-book temptingly exposed to view.

"Would you like it, my darling?" he said. "Yes, please, sir; so much!" "And what will you give me for it, my darling?"

There was no answer, but the little fat arms went round the thin little old neck, and Old Gubby was hugged until he nearly lost all his breath.

The book was bought, and Old Gubby thought—and I declare he meant what he thought—that the cry of delight which welcomed that pretty book was worth more than the best Christmas dinner in London.

This little adventure with the miniature Polly brought a sudden hunger to his heart. For twenty-three Christmases past he had taken home some little present for the real Polly, and a sudden longing came over him to see his child again.

He remembered nothing but what was happy in the past; he forgot the letter, forgot the neglect, forgot the pride. Without knowing what he was doing, or where he was going, he wandered on in a kind of dream, from which he was awakened by the trembling knock with which he aroused the obsequious porter at Lancaster Gate.

"I want to see your mistress," he said, when the porter appeared. "Impossible at this time of night," growled the porter; she can see no one now.

"How do you know? I tell you I must and will see her at once!" Old Gubby's voice trembled with rage, and the man thought on the whole that he had best be humoured.

"What is your name and errand?" "My errand has nothing to do with any one but your mistress. My name is Nicodemus Gubb."

Long hours seemed to pass until the man returned. "She must—she will see me," he muttered to himself. "Oh Polly, if I might only see you this night! Please God that I may see my child this night!"

It was strange that the answer to Old Gubby's message should have been delivered before the man arrived at the spot where Old Gubby was standing in the hall. The man knew his business, and it was by no means the act of a well-conducted servant to scream out an answer half-way down the stairs. Anyhow, this was the answer given out in a loud voice from the stairs—

"My mistress does not know such a name!" But this was the real reply on a scrap of paper which was thrust into Old Gubby's heart, together with a five-pound note, as the door was slammed behind him.

"Father, dear father, forgive me. I will try and see you to-morrow. My name is Nicodemus Gubb." But on the next day, when Mrs. Smyth-Johnston, really repentant, and sorry for her timidity and heartlessness of the night before, drove up in her carriage to her father's abode in Lisson Grove, she herself supplied the missing link of evidence in the identification of the body of an old man, who was supposed to have died suddenly in the streets, the night before.

It was over her father's dead body that Polly's first real tears were shed. It was kneeling at his bedside, in the miserable garret in which she found him, that she saw clearly and understood thoroughly the ingratitude and heartlessness of her life.

But Polly's tears and lamentations could not bring Old Gubby back to life. In her case, as it often does, repentance came too late. The door had been shut upon him, and now he was dead. How he had hungered for the penitence and the true tears when he was no more!

In due time Polly's sorrows came, and with each fresh sorrow came a sad and bitter reflection of her life. One day they came and told her that her little fair-haired boy, for whom she would have died, had a darling child of four years old—was so fast asleep that they could not wake him.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

E. O'DONNELL & CO.

We place before an intelligent public this notice, and bespeak for it a kindly reception from young and old, rich and poor.

Our Platform is sufficiently broad and comprehensive, that every one can stand upon it to advantage. We simply seek the general good of the whole community by giving good advice and showing how to SAVE MONEY, which, we take it, is something every intelligent person is desirous of doing.

In the first place we wish to inform the public that we are in The Grocery, Liquor and Crockery Trade at our usual stand, Wyndham-st.

20 lbs New Currants for One Dollar. E. O'DONNELL & CO.

In order to meet the wants of all classes, our Stock has been greatly enlarged and improved. Every line of Goods has been carefully classified and made as complete as possible, and now we flatter ourselves that our Stock is equal in every respect to any in the Dominion.

Everything in stock is fresh, new and sparkling. No old shopkeepers' rust and decay upon our shelves to be palmed off on the unsuspecting. We buy the VERY BEST GOODS which the markets of Europe and the Dominion afford, and sell at the very smallest margin of profits.

12 lbs. New French Prunes for \$1. E. O'DONNELL & CO.

The success which we have already met with since commencing business in Guelph warrants us in the belief that our efforts to conduct a First-class Grocery Establishment is fully appreciated by the public.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS The Christmas Holidays are rapidly approaching, when all make an effort to obtain good cheer wherewith to enjoy festivities of the season. It is of importance that purchasers should get value for their money, and a visit to E. O'Donnell & Co's will convince the most skeptical that it is just the place to obtain the choicest Goods at the very lowest prices.

11 lbs. New Valencia Raisins for \$1. E. O'DONNELL & CO.

During the past two weeks we have been in DAILY RECEIPT of large quantities of Goods, which are now opened and offered for inspection at E. O'DONNELL & CO'S, Wyndham Street, Guelph. Guelph, 23rd December. dw

GREAT POWERS Are always neutral in small squabbles. SO IT IS WITH PREST & HEPBURN In the leather war now going on between their opponents on the south side of Wyndham-st.

We do not believe in bosh and blarney, but deal with facts, and leave the verdict in the hands of the intelligent people of Wellington. We are prepared to prove, and we positively affirm, notwithstanding all the puffing and blowing which has become the order of the day, that PREST & HEPBURN, Wyndham Street, Guelph, manufacture more

BOOTS AND SHOES And employ double the number of Workmen, of any other establishment in the County of Wellington. We invite the public to call and look through our Factory, and they will be convinced that we are telling the truth, and nothing but the truth. A great deal has been said for and against machine-made Boots and Shoes. Now we believe, and we are confident that every well-balanced mind in Wellington will agree with us, that the less machinery used in manufacturing Boots and Shoes the better. All our staple Boots and Shoes are made by hand, which justly be admitted is far superior to any machine-made Goods. We have now on hand the largest and best assortment of Boots and Shoes ever offered to the people of Wellington, which we will sell as cheap as the cheapest. Remember that all our work is warranted, and no second price. Repairs done as usual.

PREST & HEPBURN. Guelph, 2nd November. dw 18 FALL IMPORTATIONS. 68 Wools, FANCY GOODS TOYS, &c.

JUST Arrived, an Immense Stock of Berlin, Zephyr, Saxony, Andalusian, Lady-Betty, and Fancy Wools. English, Scotch and American FINGERING YARNS. A Splendid assortment of Brands, Fillings, Ruffles, and General Fancy Goods. A great variety of Slippers and Slipper Patterns, Ottomans, &c.

JET and RUBBER GOODS. Juvenile Clothing always on hand and made to order. Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery from the Latest Designs. J. HUNTER, Opposite the English Church, Wyndham-St Guelph September 12th. dw

MUSICAL GEM.

Just published a beautiful collection of Vocal and Instrumental Music, entitled

THE OPERA ROUFFE, Comprising the choicest pieces from Offenbach's celebrated Operas of La Grande Duchesse, La Belle Helene, Barbe Bleue (Blue Beard), Orpheus, Genevieve de Brabant. Boards \$2.50, Cloth \$3. Cloth, full gilt, \$4. Sent post-paid on receipt of price. Also in press, a new book, entitled WREATH OF GEMS, comprising nearly 100 of the choicest songs, Ballads and Duets of the day. Price same as the "OPERA ROUFFE." O. DITSON & CO., Publishers, 277 Washington Street, Boston. C. H. DITSON & CO., 711 Broadway, New York.

WELLINGTON LUMBER YARD GUELPH Notice to Farmers and Others. No. 1, Sawn Shingles, @ \$1.85 No. 1, Cut Shingles, @ 1.65 No. 2, Sawn Shingles, @ 1.00 No. 2, Cut Shingles, @ 0.85 GOWDY & STEWART, Guelph, Dec. 21. d6t-w1f

THE WHEEL OF LIFE!

ZOETROPE and PLANCHETTE AT CUTHBERT'S.

CUTHBERT'S ATTRACTIONS For the Present Holiday Season. Excel anything that has ever been in Guelph. CALL AND SEE. Guelph, December 23 dw

OPENING NOTICE. The GUELPH BAKERY Upper Wyndham Street. H. BERRY in taking this opportunity of thanking his numerous customers for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him, begs to intimate that owing to the rapid increase of his Wholesale Confectionery business, he has disposed of his bread business to ARCHIBALD GILCHRIST, whom he has great pleasure in recommending, and who, he is confident, will do his utmost to give satisfaction to all who may patronize him.

A. GILCHRIST Has much pleasure in informing the public that he has opened the Store NEXT DOOR TO M. SODEN'S, Where he hopes by strict personal attention to business, and keeping a first-class article, to merit the share of public patronage so long bestowed on his predecessor. A. GILCHRIST, Fancy Bread, Biscuit & Cake Baker Guelph, Dec. 12.

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE, OLD POST OFFICE BLOCK. A Very Superior Article

COAL OIL! NOW ON HAND, AT PETRIE'S Drug Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph Nov. 19. dw 1f

CUNARD OCEAN STEAMERS. LEAVING New York every Thursday for Queens town or Liverpool. FARE FROM HAMILTON First Cabin, \$87, gold value Steerage " " 29.

Executors' Notice. ALL parties having claims against the estate of the late Dr. Thos. S. Parker, of Guelph, are required to present the same forthwith for adjustment; and all parties indebted to said estate to make payment to the undersigned. GEORGE ELLIOTT, NATHANIEL HIGGINBOTHAM, EDWARD BLAKE, Executors Guelph, Nov. 6 dw 1f

SPEED LODGE, No. 180. An Emergency Meeting of this Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening, Dec. 28th, at half-past 7 o'clock, for installation of officers. JOHN CRIDFORD, Secretary, Guelph, Dec. 23. dtd

G. B. FRASERS' CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S GIFT SALE!

WILL BEGIN on MONDAY, DECEMBER 14.

\$40,000 worth of Dry Goods to be Disposed of. CHOICE OF EVERYTHING IN THE STORE! A GIFT for EVERY PURCHASE of ONE DOLLAR and Upwards, FIVE PER CENT. DISCOUNT WILL BE RETURNED IN CASH ON PURCHASES OF ONE DOLLAR AND UPWARDS.

A PRIZE of a SILK DRESS OR A SUIT OF CLOTHES Will be given to the LARGEST CASH BUYER DURING THE SALE, in addition to the GIFT awarded at the time of purchase. The GIFTS will be given away Pro-Rata, so as not to cause disappointment to either large or small buyers.

The party who receives the PRIZE will confer a favor on the Montreal archon by an acknowledgment through the public press. G. B. FRASER, December 13, 1868. do Montreal Warehouse, Wyndham Street, Guelph

The Sale of Cloths, Clothing, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS, STILL GOING ON AT JAMES CORMACK'S, MERCHANT TAILOR, No. 1, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Cheapest Stock of Goods in the Province, BEAVER OVERCOATS ANOTHER LOT OF THOSE CHEAP SHIRTS AND DRAWERS For which there has been such a run. Keep up the demand, and I will keep up the supply at as low prices as can be bought at cost or under. Guelph, December 19th. dw JAMES CORMACK.

Sale of Cloths and Clothing! A. THOMSON & CO. WOULD intimate that as their Mr. Thomson is retiring from business, the whole of their stock must be sold and the business wound up. To facilitate this, they have determined to Commence a Clearing Sale on Monday 21st Dec., When they will offer their immense stock of Cloths and Clothing, Shirts, Drawers, Hats, Caps, &c.

AT COST AND UNDER. As this is a rare opportunity of securing first-class Goods at auction prices, they would recommend all to take advantage of the great bargains which shall be given. There will positively be no credit given during this sale. All indebted to the firm are respectfully requested to call and settle their accounts at once. Guelph, 17th December 1868. A. THOMSON & CO dw

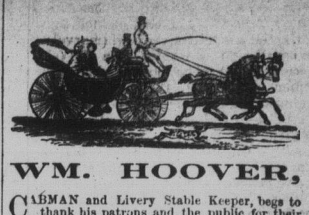
Distinguished Arrivals AT A. O. BUCHAM'S. An Immense Stock of CLOUDS, in every color, from Three York Shillings up Another lot of the celebrated

"GRECIAN BEND." AMERICAN "FELT SKIRTS," Something quite new for Ladies and Misses. DRESS AND JACKET BUTTONS, a splendid lot just in. BREAKFAST SHAWLS for \$1 and \$1.25, worth nearly double the money. DUNDAS COTTONS at 10c. 11c. 12 1/2c. An extra heavy article, 1 yard wide, 11c.

BLANKETS—On hand, 300 pair extra heavy Canada Blankets, from \$2.50 up, well adapted to meet the wants of the people during the cold weather. LADIES OF GUELPH! Visit our establishment during the coming week. We are now opening up and showing an immense stock of New Goods suited for the present season, at remarkable prices. Call and see. Wyndham St., Guelph, December 19. dw

A. O. BUCHAM.

Removal.—Card of Thanks



WM. HOOVER, GROOMER and Livery Stable Keeper, begs to thank his patrons and the public for their support, and to inform them that he has Removed to the New Stone Stable, in rear of Miller's Hotel, WEST MACDONNELL STREET. Orders may be left at his office in the Stable, a his house, near the Alma Block, or at Miller's Hotel, and will be promptly attended to. THE CAB STAND For the winter will be at the corner of Mr. Hogg's Dry Goods Store. Guelph, Dec. 10th, 1868. d3m

SPECIAL NOTICE. The subscriber in returning thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed on him in former years, begs to announce that he has erected a NEW OPERATING ROOM at his residence, side entrance to the west, and is introducing all the improvements of the day, as well as New RUSTIC Accessories. He is prepared to execute Photographs and Portraits of all kinds. From the Locket to Life Size Equal, as regards finish and life-like appearance, to any that can be obtained in the Dominion.—Copying of PORTRAITS in all its branches as usual, done in a satisfactory manner. In Large Photographs with Frames he intends offering Special Inducements during the coming Holidays.

Parties requiring a large sized Photograph with handsome frame, or any other Portrait of themselves or friends, will find it to their advantage to call and examine specimens and prices. Rooms: Directly over John A. Wood's Grocery Store, Wyndham-St. WILLIAM BURGESS, Guelph, December 12. dw

MONTREAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY. GUELPH AGENCY. CANADIAN LINE—Portland to Liverpool every Saturday. GLASGOW LINE—Portland to Glasgow every week.

CABIN—Guelph to Liverpool, \$53.50 and \$92.50 STEERAGE, do do \$12.00 CABIN—Guelph to Glasgow, \$73.50 INTERMEDIATE, do \$47.00 STEERAGE, do do \$31.00 Return Tickets at reduced rates. Prepaid Passage Certificates issued to bring friends out, at the lowest rates. For Tickets, fare-rooms and every information apply to GEO. A. OXNARD, Guelph, April 1, 1868. Agent, G. T. R. Guelph daw

F. M. WILSON, Banking, Exchange & Passage OFFICE, No. 5, JAMES STREET, HAMILTON. American Money and Silver Drafts on New York and Sterling Exchange Bought and Sold. Agent for the INMAN LINE of Steamships to and from Liverpool, London and Cork. Anchor Line of Steamships to Glasgow, Londonderry and all parts of Ireland. Also, to Hamburg, Rotterdam, Copenhagen, Christiania, Havre, &c., via Irish. Upper Canada Agency of the Pacific Mail Line Steamship Company to California. Guelph, Dec. 1. daw 3m

DOMINION HOTEL, GUELPH. JOHN BUNYAN begs to inform his friends and the public that he has leased the above Hotel, in the BRICK HOUSE, MACDONNELL-ST. a few doors above Higginbotham's Drug Store, and immediately opposite Messrs. Sharpe's Seedstore. There is a good stable attached to the hotel, with good and commodious stabling. Every attention will be paid to customers in order to secure their comfort and convenience. The best of liquors and cigars always kept at the bar. Good accommodation for Boarders by the week at reasonable rates. Guelph, July 13th. dw 1v

NOTICE. SILVER CREEK BREWERY. Farmers and others having empty barrels in their possession belonging to the Silver Creek Brewery will please return them at once, as any kept an unnecessary time after being emptied will be charged. GEO. SLEEMAN, Guelph, Nov. 26. daw 1f

Undertakers! MITCHELL & TOVELL Having bought out Mr. Nathan Tovell's Hearse, horses, &c., we hope to attract attention to business to gain a share of public patronage. We will have A FULL ASSORTMENT OF COFFINS always on hand. Funerals furnished if required. Carpenter work done as usual. Promises, a few doors north of Post Office, and next D. Guttridge's Law Office, Douglas Street, Guelph. JOHN MITCHELL, NATHAN TOVELL, Jr. Guelph, December 12. dw 1v

RUTHERFORD HOUSE. JUST ARRIVED Direct from Labrador, 50 Bbls Prime Labrador Herring 50 half do. do do 15 Bbls. Corned Labrador Cod Fish, highly recommended for table use. 50 qtls. Dry Cod Fish. ROBT. RUTHERFORD, Guelph, November 18th. dw 1v

BILLIARD HALL! Adjoining Coulson's Hotel, GUELPH, ONT. Four New Phelps Standard American tables. Guelph Jan. 27. W O'CONNOR, Proprietor. do 1v