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Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.
TUESDAY EV'NG. FEB. 11, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LARD OF BIRKENLEACH.
A Tale of the Covenanters.

He stood for some moments looking along towards the open kitchen where, unsuspecting of any such nocturnal visitor, the troopers were engaged in the pleasant work of enjoying themselves. They had been making very free with the contents of Marjory's larder and hen-roost, and with Andrew's stores of liquor. Slices of ham were frying in the pan, two fowls, not very well plucked, were roasting on the turnspit, and numerous bottles and drinking cups stood on the table, round which the men were seated in boisterous glee.

Charlie Allan was not beside them, and the fact of his absence the careless and hardy men without a moment's hesitation. Avoiding the principal stair, he turned to the left, and by devious winding ways which no stranger could have taken, reached a narrow turret which met his eye as he turned the angle of the hall to surge with uncontrollable reluctance, yet with amazing self-control he refrained from bursting in till he understood something of the state of affairs.

Leaning against the back of a chair, with a face of ashy paleness, blanched and woestricken, was Marjory, and against her stood Allan, flaming with triumph and unrepentant exultation.

"You don't speak," he observed. "Have you heard my words, that Birkenleach is now mine, and that—"
"Oh! I have heard only the heavy tidings you bring," moaned Marjory, "and these have turned my heart into stone. Would, oh! would that it ceased to beat, and that death would come and end my life!"

"No, indeed, I mean to do something very different, was the heartless and brutal rejoinder. "Though Elliot is dead you are not destitute. If you have lost one husband you have found another, and one who loves you as well as he was fit to do."

"No, no," she shrieked, suddenly roused from her stony grief into an alarming realization of the meaning of his words. "You are not inhuman enough for your words to have serious meaning."
"You think so, do you? Then I cannot be too soon in showing you that I am serious, and mean all that I say. You married Elliot at midnight, and can't object to have me in the same hour. There's my happy to be a person in the house, but it doesn't matter. The former ceremony will stand good for us, and in my arms you will forget—"

"Oh, Walter, for my sake—for the sake of Christian mercy—do not send him unprepared before the judgment seat!"
These words of appeal, uttered in the accents of her so dearly loved, forced their way through the rage and wrath of his soul, and he released his hold.

"Five minutes I give you, if he can use the time for the preparation you speak of," he sternly said, as he rose up from Allan's panting form.

"No, no," she pleaded, "you will spare him—you will not do an act of murder."
"It is no murder," he rejoined, "it is an act of justice and necessity. His crimes and black atrocities make him unfit to live; his vindictive malice towards us backed by a power with which we cannot cope, and which he is determined to employ, has brought the doom upon him, and die he must."

"Don't—don't kill me, Elliot," gasped Marjory in abject terror. "Only spare my life and I will—will—renounce Birkenleach—and get your pardon from the Government."
"Your lying words are useless to save you," said Walter, in accents of sternest doom. "If you have any wish to make your peace with Heaven, don't waste more of the five minutes I have given you."

"Mercy, Elliot, mercy, spare my life—Marjory don't let him kill me," exclaimed the craven, with bloodless face and trembling frame.

"And you have the audacity to ask her to plead for you?" said Walter, in a tone hoarse with passion. "Where was your mercy to her a few minutes ago when—but I won't think of it! I shall be tempted to show this rapier in your heart before the minutes expire. Three of them are already gone; you have but two more to live—make the most of 'em seeking mercy from heaven, for you ask it in vain from me!"

"Walter, Walter," pleaded Marjory, as she would her arms round him in terror. "If you would not destroy my peace for ever do not kill Charles."
"Hush, Marjory. You know not what you ask," he answered. "This is not retribution only, it is necessary. If I spare him I lose my own life, and you are destroyed. His troopers are below. Were they within call he would not cringe thus, but would take me prisoner again, and carry me where my life would be taken. I am an outlaw—a price is set upon my head. The scaffold awaits me if I fall into the hands of the Government."

"Ask me now, therefore, to spare the wretch for pleading for his life you are only dooming me to death, and yourself to worse than death."
"No, Elliot, no," gasped Allan, frantically. "I swear not to touch you. Let me go and I and my men will quit the house instantly, and I promise to obtain your pardon."
"You are lying, and you know it," hissed Walter. "Frumious and oaths are with you as you only empty breath, and now the last moment of grace is past, and you must die."
TO BE CONTINUED.

American Enterprise in Nova Scotia.

Most of the gold works are shut down or doing very little just now, although no one doubts the abundance of the precious metal in this Province. The Adams Company at Tanager are doing very well, and a specimen lately obtained, value \$200, gives very strong expectations that they will do even better in the future. How is it that the working of our mines is not prosecuted by our people? It certainly cannot alone be that there is not sufficient capital to be obtained, for the merchants of Halifax can expend large sums in the erection of fine stores and palatial residences. Is it that the people lack spirit and enterprise? Yet those of our people who go to other countries get along with such strides as to keep up with and often outstrip the natives. Yet, from whatever cause, it seems though very little of a character to develop the natural resources of the Province can be accomplished without the aid of American funds.

Our large gold, coal, iron, antimony, oil, and other concerns, are almost entirely in the hands of children of the United States. It is almost time for the people to come to themselves and know that, if they only will they may possess the bountiful provision nature has stored up for those who will earnestly labour to secure it. "Ah!" said an American gentleman to me in the cars, "you Provincialists will find out when it is too late, that you have a country rich in everything that is adapted to make you prosperous; but you will not stretch a nerve to do that which other people labour and strive and spend to accomplish, and having accomplished will have the advantage, whilst you stand looking on." How is it that the cars on Nova Scotia railways are not of Provincial make? I am told the engines too, are all imported. It is true Mr. Bell, of Worcester, Mass., has been long in the car business and knows how to get them up in good style; but, why, in the name of wonder, don't somebody go to work and show that things can be done just as well in Nova Scotia as anywhere else or by anybody else! If it were in this article alone, there would be little cause for complaint, but when, up to a short time back, everything has been imported, and even now scarcely anything is made at home, it is time for mechanics and men of means to unite their interests and go to work earnestly and trustfully, to give their Province a place among the manufacturing countries of the earth. May we not now hope and expect that the new spirit of self-reliance and determination, begot by "Repeal" agitation, may settle down into their proper channels and be shown in the building up of the manufacturing interest, and in efforts to bring forth the rich treasures of nature for their material success and prosperity?—N. S. Correspondent, John News.

Once upon a time, a rather verdant sprig of the law, in a New England manufacturing city, had a writ to make out against one of the female operatives in the mills. Being a little at a loss who to designate the person, he went to a brother member of the Bar and told him the particulars. He said that he had thought of lady, but that didn't quite suit him. "Is she unmarried?" said the brother lawyer. "Yes," "Well, then say spinster." "Ah, yes!" says the inequent attorney, hesitatingly, "but the trouble of it is, she don't work in the spinning-room, she weaves."

A small log house, near the American Hotel, at Petrolia, was burned on Friday afternoon, and the occupant, a teamster named Alonzo Wade, apprehensive that his wife had not escaped, rushed into the burning building and was fatally burned.

COMMERCIAL.

The Guelph Markets.
MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH, FEBRUARY 11, 1868.
Flour, per 100 lbs. \$3 75 4 00
Fall Wheat per bushel. 1 75 1 75
Spring Wheat. 50 50
Oats do. 0 50 0 55
Peas do. 0 75 0 80
Barley do. 1 00 1 10
Hay per ton. 10 00 13 00
Straw do. 4 00 5 00
Shingles per square. 1 00 1 50
Wood per cord. 2 00 3 50
Wool do. 0 27 0 20
Eggs per dozen. 0 14 0 18
Butter (cream) per lb. 0 13 0 15
Geeze, each. 0 25 0 30
Turkeys do. 0 80 0 90
Chickens per pair. 0 20 0 25
Ducks do. 0 20 0 25
Potatoes. 0 60 0 75
Apples per bushel. 2 00 2 50
Lamb per lb. 0 06 0 07
Beef do. 4 50 6 00
Pork per 100 lbs. 4 75 6 25
Sheep Pelts each. 0 50 0 75
Lamb skins do. 0 40 0 45
Hides per 100 lbs. 6 00 6 60

Money Market.

JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE,
Guelph, February 11, 1868.
Gold, 124.
Greenbacks 60¢ to 65¢; Sold at 70 to 71.
Silver bought at 45 to 44 1/2; sold at 44 to 45.
Upper Canada Bank Bills bought at 90 to 95.
Commercial Bank Bills bought at 95 to 98. Full rate in silver.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.'s report by Special Telegram to "Evening Mercury."
MONTREAL, February 11, 1868.
Floor—Fancy, \$7 75 to \$7 75; Superfine No. 1, \$7 00 to \$7 65; William General, \$7 65. Bag flour, \$3 00 to \$3 75. Oats 46¢ to 47¢. Barley 90¢ to \$1. Butter—dairy 14¢ to 15¢; store packed 14¢ to 15¢. Ashes—Foss 45¢ to 50¢; retail 50¢ to 55¢.

RECEIPTS AND PRICES.

Flour—Receipts moderate; demand and prices unchanged. Great no sales, rates unchanged. Provisions—Pork quiet and unchanged rates, prices moderately steady; Butter, good in demand. Ashes neglected.

TORONTO, February 10, 1868.

Floor—Receipts, 520 bbls; No. 1, at \$7 10 to \$8. Fall Wheat—\$1 75, Spring Wheat—\$1 62 to \$1 55. Oats—50¢. Barley—\$1 24 to \$1 25. Peas—none.

HAMILTON, February 10, 1868.

Fall wheat—\$1 70 to \$1 75. Spring do—\$1 55 to \$1 60 per bushel. Barley—\$1 05 to \$1 10. Oats—65¢ to 68¢. Peas—80¢ to 85¢. Pork—\$5 50 to \$6 25.

GUELPH LUMBER MARKET.

(Corrected by Messrs. Gowdy & Stewart, of Wellington, lumber yard.)
Clear 1 1/2 and 2 inch Plank from \$20 00 to \$25 00
1 inch Boards. 12 00 16 00
1 1/2 Flooring. 15 00 18 00
Common 1 1/2 and 2 inch Flooring. 14 00 18 00
1 1/2 in. boards and 2 in. plank. 9 00 10 00
Scantling all sizes up to 16 feet. 10 00 10 00
and Josting from. 22 to 30. 15 00 16 00
Shingles No 1 Seven. 1 95 2 00
" " " " " 1 75 1 75
" 2 Cut and Sawed. 1 15 1 25
" Split. 1 50 1 75
Lath 6 feet. 0 40 0 45
Water Lime per barrel. 1 87 1/2 0 00
Plaster (Cedone). 4 50 5 50
Guelph, Jan. 30, 1868.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED.

By two men willing to act in any capacity as laborers or general servants. Character excellent. Apply at this office, or to N. Higginbotham, Druggist.
Guelph, Jan. 24th, 1868.

Wanted Immediately.

Active, Energetic Men and Women, to solicit orders for New and Improved Sewing Machines, to D. D. EGERTON,
Hamilton, Ont., Feb. 8th, 1868.

THE SOLVENT ACT OF 1862.

In the matter of Thomas M. Grier, AN INVOLVENT.
COUNTY OF WELLINGTON, BY virtue of the "PROVISIONS OF THE ACT IN RESPECT TO THE ASSETS OF AN INVOLVENT," I, the undersigned, do hereby vest in me as Assignee of the Estate of the above-named Involver, 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 Involver, in that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Village of Morriston, Township of Puslinch, County of Wellington, Province of Ontario, composed of Village Lot numbered Eight, on the East side of Queen Street, in Donald McEdward's Survey, in the Village of Morriston, bounded and bounded as is described in a deed from John M. Schlemmer and wife to the said Involver, made the 23rd February, 1860, with Dwelling House, Barn, Stable and outbuildings thereon, and a good garden, with 1000 ft of an acre.

TERMS—CASH.

Particulars may be had on the premises; or at the office of Messrs. McClelland, O'Connor, Barristers, Guelph, or at the office of the Assignee, with whom all hypothecary receipts are required to be paid, on the day of sale.

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

THE HIGHEST PRICE PAID FOR RAW FURS.

Guelph, Oct. 31, 1867. We will sell at F. GARLAND, 407 Market Street, Guelph, Ont.

New Saddlery Shop.

Do you want a set of harness, saddle or single, light or heavy, call at the new shop, next door to Collett's Hotel. We can supply you cheaper than ever, 15 yards from O'Connor's Wellington Hotel.

WHIPS, Horse Covers, Sleigh Bells.

A very large and well-assorted stock of Whips will be sold at 25¢ on the dollar of our former low prices, 50 yards north of St. George's Church.

What is more desiring than the merry Sleigh Bells? We can supply you. Call at the new shop, next door to Mr. Hunter's Livery Office.

SMITH & METCALF,
Late occupiers of the premises destroyed by fire, adjoining the Alma Hotel,
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 for

Christmas & New Year's.

She has the LARGEST and BEST ASSORTMENT in town of
Berlin & Fancy Wools
Stamping for Binding 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 extending on the river, well situated for manufacturing purposes, and in the heart of the town.
2.—Lots 19, 20 and 21, Robinson's Survey, fronting on Woodville and Norwich Streets. Two good houses. Let to good tenants. Plenty of shade trees and good gardens.

CHEAP Photographs.

W. BURGESS
Parties wishing to make presents of Photographs to their friends should call at once.

PICTURES

of all kinds furnished in the first style of the art.
W. BURGESS,
Guelph, 18th December, 1867.

Gold & Silver Plating.

A. HOWIE & CO.
Royal Hotel Buildings, James-st.
HAMILTON.

WATCHES, CHAINS, RINGS, PENCIL CASES, and all kinds of Jewelry Plated in Gold.

Also, Door Plates & Carriage Trimmings
of every description done to order with neatness and dispatch.
Orders from a distance punctually attended to.
Hamilton, November 23rd 1867.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

CANADIAN
National Series of Reading Books,
Authorized by the Council of Public Instruction for Ontario,
NOW READY FOR DELIVERY.

First Book, with 31 illustrations, strongly bound in limp cloth—five cents.
First Book, 2nd Part, 54 illustrations, strongly bound in limp cloth—five cents.
Sixteen Book, 56 illustrations, strongly bound in cloth boards—twenty cents.

Second Book, 41 illustrations, strongly bound in cloth boards—thirty cents.
Fourth Book, 45 illustrations, strongly bound in cloth boards—forty cents.
Fifth Book, 59 illustrations, strongly bound in cloth boards—fifty cents.
Stocks kept on hand at the lowest Toronto wholesale prices for cash only.

T. J. DAY,
Opposite the Market, Guelph,
Guelph, 6th January, 1868.

HAY IN TRUSSES.

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

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN MAGAZINES.

English and American Magazines.
All the Year Round. 50 00
Army List. 2 25
Art Journal. 9 00
Astronomical Register. 3 50
Aunt Judy's Magazine. 1 75
Argoey. 1 75

Bow Bells. 1 75
Boys of England. 1 75
Broadway Magazine. 1 75
Bailey's Magazine of Sports. 5 25
Baptist Magazine. 1 75
Bean Monde. 3 50
Magravina. 8 50
Bentley's Miscellany. 9 00
Bookworm. 3 50
Boys Journal. 1 75
Own Magazine. 1 75
British Controversialist. 0 50
Friend. 1 75
Journal of Dental Science. 3 50

Caseell's Magazine. 1 75
Chambers Journal. 1 80
Chess Player Magazine. 3 50
World Magazine. 3 50
Christian Advocate and Review. 2 63
Observer. 5 25
Society. 3 50
Spectator. 1 75
Treasury. 1 75
World Magazine. 1 75
Work. 1 75
Churchman's Magazine. 3 00
Civil Engineer and Architect's Journal. 7 00
Colburn's United Service Magazine. 12 25
Colonial Church Chronicle. 1 75
Contemporary Review. 8 75
Cornhill Magazine. 3 00
Cuttlers Monthly. 3 00

Day of Rest Magazine. 1 75
Dublin University Magazine. 8 75
Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal. 7 00
Englishwoman's Magazine. 3 00
Family Friend. 1 75
Treasury. 1 75
Herald. 1 75
Follet. 5 25
Fortnightly Review. 7 00
Fraser's Magazine. 8 75
Gentleman's Magazine of Fashion. 3 50
Gentleman's Magazine. 8 75

The Illustrated London News. 58 00
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The Field. 10 00
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Sporting Life (S.W.). 5 00
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All the American Daily and Weekly Papers kept constantly for sale.

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All the American Daily and Weekly Papers kept constantly for sale.

Orders for any of the above Magazines received, and will be supplied regular.

AT DAY'S BOOKSTORE,

Opposite the Market, Guelph.
Guelph, 18th January, 1868.

GREAT CLEARING SALE

The Great Clearing Sale of
DRY GOODS!

IS STILL GOING ON AT
W.M. STEWART'S,

Guelph, 11th December, 1867.

THE GROCERY & WINE TRADE.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.
FRANK SMITH & CO.
77 Front Street, Toronto,

to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now received a large portion of their Fall supply of
Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c.,
Ex. "Planet," "Chandler," "City of Hamilton," "Glenborie," from London.
"Aron," "Onida," "Hibernia," "Peruvia," "Slammer," and "Pericles," from Liverpool.
"Abeona" and "Gleniffer," from Glasgow.
Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired.
And are daily expecting the arrival of
resh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo
Ex. "Deodara," "Canny Scott" and "Mary Ann," from Malaga, Marseilles and Denia

JUST RECEIVING IN STORE.

308 Hbls and Tierces of Bariladock, Porto Rico and Cuba Sugars.
522 Bbls Currant crop 1866, VERY CHEAP.
3175 Half Chests and Caddies Souchong, Congou, Japan, Gunpowder, Young and Old Hyson Teas.
With a full assortment of Tobaccos, Refined Sugars, Wines and Liquors and Dry Groceries. All which will be submitted to the trade, equal to and below Montreal prices.
Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired.
Toronto, 6th November, 1867.