

Advertisers will reach a large class of readers by inserting their business announcements in this paper. Our daily and weekly editions are double those of our contemporaries.

Guelph Evening Mercury
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.
MONDAY EV'G. APRIL 27, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice
OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENLEUCH
A Tale of the Covenanters.

'Mighty me' ejaculated the Baronet. 'A shrewd guess,' cried Helen, 'but not difficult to make, seeing that Glenorchy is in this neighbourhood. You will have to tell us something more wonderful before I can admit your claims.'

'Shall I speak to you, then, of what is past?' he said, in the same hoarse voice. 'Will you believe me when I unveil your secret soul, and read there of perfidy and cruel deceit, of falsehood, treachery, and mercenary faithlessness?'

'Puddin's and panches!' but yet wrang there, at one rate, exclaimed Sir Gilbert, who could not listen to such false charges. 'This lassie is as guile and as true a lassie as lives in Scotland. Ye may ken hantle, canny mae, but 'odd sake ye are gwan ayon 'er commission eno.'

'Let her say if I am,' rejoined the Hermit, with passionate vehemence. 'Look at her sir, the signs of guilt are in her fair but false countenance.'

Helen was indeed wildly agitated and trembling violently, but not from the cause assigned. She had never ceased to search keenly the Hermit's face, to understand the extraordinary movements which the first sight of it had produced in her mind, and still as she gazed the dawning of a recognition struggled to present itself, but ineffectually, till her astonished ears listened to his last passionate words, when, in his excitement, the speaker forgot his counterfeited tone, and spoke in one which sent a flash of remembrance into Helen's soul, and recognition flashed in with it. With a loud joyous exclamation she sprang forward and grasped the Hermit's arm.

'Richard, Richard!' she shrieked. 'Oh, Sir Gilbert, it is Richard!'

CHAPTER XXVIII.—A HARD STRUGGLE—A SWEET AND JOYOUS REUNION—LOVE IN A CAVE—BURIED IN THE SNOW.

The scene that followed was indescribably exciting.

With a fierce gesture, and a passionate exclamation, the seeming Hermit shook Helen from his arm, and, tearing from his head the streaming white hair and long snowy beard, stood revealed before them as Richard Wayland.

'Yes,' he thundered, 'I am the man you name, the man you have wronged, whose heart you have stabbed, whose life you have blighted. Guilty, perjured, abandoned woman, can you, dare you stand in my presence unappalled?'

'Puddin's and panches!' exclaimed Sir Gilbert, breaking the spell of amazement which had for some moments transfixed him, and bounding forward he caught the youth in his arms, and hugged him with frantic excitement.

'Oh, ye rascal, he burst out hysterically. 'Ye rinawa' rogue, hae ye gotten ye at last, after seekin' sae lang for ye. Oh, Richie man, Richie, if ye only kenna—'

'Release me, Sir Gilbert,' shouted the youth, 'I am in no mood for this behaviour. A hell of rage and hate has been kindled in my heart, which scorches, consumes, and maddens me.'

'Then let the devil that kinned it pit it out again. Helen, ye gipsy, come and help me to smother the flames.'

'Release me, I say, and let me go, or I shall not answer for the consequences,' roared Richard, struggling desperately in Sir Gilbert's equally desperate and determined grasp. 'Do you hear me? If you would save me from madness, and yourself escape a madman's fury, quit your hold and let me free.'

'That's just exactly what I mean to hinder!' was the parting reply. 'No, that I've caught ye I'll keep ye.'

'Hear ye, Richard! O, hear us,' cried Helen, imploringly.

'No, he yelled, 'speak but a word and I'll stifle your voice with curses.'

'Then hear me, Richie, hear me. Puddin's and panches. Wall ye no listen tae yer ain father?'

'My father! Ha! Then you are my father,' cried the youth, his frenzy increasing still more.

'Yes, Richie, I am your father, and ye are my son, my son.'

'Then from the depths of this outraged nature your son curses you, yes, ten thousand curses light on you, the sinful author of my being, the author of my wretched life!'

'God help us, Richie, yer ravin', ye dinna ken what yer sayin'.'

'Not yet, I am not mad yet, but I soon will be, and for what may happen then yours be the responsibility.'

'Ye are mad now, Richie. Hear me, only hear me, and yer madness will leave ye.'

'I will not hear you; let me go.'

'No I wunna.'

'By heaven, you shall not keep me.'

'By heaven, I shall keep ye.'

And Sir Gilbert twisted his strong arms around him with most resolute and determined energy. Richard was not a feeble youth, and the passion which surged through his heart animated him with a desperate power. But the Baronet was the stronger and heavier man of the two, and he likewise was possessed by feelings of the most powerful kind. He was therefore able to keep his hold, and resist Richard's struggles to free himself, though these became so furious that he could no longer wrestle and speak at the same time.

All this while Helen looked on in a state of great distress and agitation, striving to utter words which would make Richard understand matters sufficiently to cause him to give them a quiet hearing. But so terribly did the gusts of passion sweep his soul that no entrance could be found for that still small voice, whose utterance, if heard, had power to allay the tumult, and say 'Peace be still.'

When at length the strength of the two had been for some time reduced to silent but vehement struggling, Richard cried out.

'What boots this useless holding of me? You cannot keep your grasp for ever, and the moment you quit me I am gone.'

'I—ken that—bravely,' gurgled Sir Gilbert, his ruddy face grown purple with exertion.

'Then how long do you mean to hold me?'

'Just until ye hear us, and when ye see hear us, ye'll no seek tae gang awa.'

TO BE CONTINUED.

EMIGRATION EXTRAORDINARY.—A correspondent in Cork writes:—The extraordinary number of emigrants passing through this city on their way to the New World via Queenstown is almost unexampled. To-day nothing could exceed the busy animation on the various wharves where the emigrants are embarked at Queenstown and where upwards of 1,800 people will leave this day and to-morrow. The railroad running from this city to Queenstown suddenly found their resources exhausted, and were obliged to use first-class carriages for the use of the emigrants.

'SLIPPERY JACK' IN INGERSOLL.—It is generally believed by many of the citizens of Ingersoll that the veritable and irrepressible 'Slippery Jack' has transferred his residence from London to Ingersoll. Early on the morning of Wednesday, the residences of P. J. Brown and Mrs. Cavanagh, and the Royal Exchange and Trick's Hotels, were entered, but no articles were stolen. Who the mysterious individual is, nobody, of course, seems to know. The citizens are now on the look out, and hope, by 'keeping their powder dry,' to give 'Jack' a warm reception, should he repeat his nocturnal visits.

WM. STEWART.
Is now showing for the Spring Trade

NEW DAMASKS,
NEW REPS,
NEW CHINTZES,
NEW LENO CURTAINS,
NEW MUSLIN CURTAINS,
NEW LACE CURTAINS.

Guelph, April 27, 1868. dw

OPENING OF
THE SPRING TRADE

STEWART
SPRING DRESSES,
NEWEST STYLES.
SPRING DRESSES,
BEST MATERIALS.
SPRING DRESSES,
MOST MODERATE PRICES.

STEWART
HAS JUST RECEIVED the largest and most choice stock of New Spring Goods he has ever shown, and respectfully requests attention to the great difference in price from last year, being at least **One-third Lower.**

STEWART
HAS opened a case of White Drab and Grey Stays, that fit the body and not the body stays. Highly recommended by the Faculty.

STEWART'S
CARPET STOCK is the largest west of Toronto, and being all this season's importations the designs and colors are new.

STEWART'S
STOCK OF TAPESTRY is large and choice. Styles are new, and will be offered very low, commencing at 75 cents.

STEWART'S
NEW SILKS.
BLACK AND COLORED.

STEWART'S
DRESS GOODS.
CHENES, CAMLETS, REPS,
POPLINS, SERGES, MOHAIRS.

STEWART'S
MANTLES.
SILK, CLOTH AND VELVET.

STEWART'S
JACKETS,
SILK, CLOTH AND VELVET.

STEWART'S
LACES.
COLLARETS, TIES, FALLS,
MUSLIN AND LINEN SETS.

STEWART'S
PARASOLS.
RIBBONS, FLOWERS, &c.

STEWART'S
HOSIERY,
SILK, SPUN AND COTTON.

STEWART'S
GLOVES,
KIDS, SILK AND LISLE.

STEWART'S
SMALL WARES,
BELTS, BUGLE TRIMMINGS,
BUTTONS IN VARIETY.

SHOE TOOLS & Findings
A COMPLETE assortment of the latest patterns of Shoe Tools, Shoe and Machine Thread, Machine Silk, Shoe Pegs, Shoe Nails, Shoe Tacks, Heel and Toe Plates, &c., wholesale and retail.

RYAN & OLIVER,
114 Yonge Street, Toronto.
Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

TO TAILORS.
AMERICAN Shears, Trimmers, and Points of all sizes, Squares, Carved Rules, Straight-edges, Improved Irons, English and American Crayons, Bartlett's Needles, Tapes, &c. All the best quality, and at lowest prices.

RYAN & OLIVER,
Importers of Hardware—114 Yonge-st. Toronto.
Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

TO MACHINISTS.
STEEL Squares, Steel Rules, Centre Gauges, Vernier Calipers, Steel Caliper Rules, Caliper Squares, Ames' Universal Squares, Self-regulating Calipers and Dividers, Stubs Piles and Tools, Patent Ollers, Sheet Steel, &c. For sale by

RYAN & OLIVER,
General Hardware Merchants—114 Yonge-st. Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

Cabinetmakers & Upholsterers.
HAIR Seating, Curled Hair, Tow, Sofa Springs, Twine, Chair Web, Buttons, Screws, Hinges, Locks, Tacks, Flat Paper, Glue, Piano Stool screws, Coffin Trimmings, Upholsterers' Needles and Regulators, Adl's Carvers' Tools, Extension Lip Auger Bits, Meiselen Hardware, &c. For sale at lowest prices.

RYAN & OLIVER,
General Hardware Merchants—114 Yonge Street, Toronto.
Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

MONTREAL
Boot and Shoe Store
WHOLESALE & RETAIL

STILL THEY COME!
50 Cases Just Opened
OF THE BEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE
BOOTS & SHOES

The Dominion can Produce. TERMS, CASH. N. B.—Country Merchants are invited to call and examine our Stock.

JOHN McNEIL,
Montreal Boot and Shoe Store, Wyndham-st. Guelph, 8th April, 1868. dw

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON
MARKET SQUARE,
GUELPH, ONT.

THE Subscriber begs to inform the public that he has leased of the above premises for a term of years, and has refitted it in a very superior and substantial manner, and hopes to share a portion of the patronage of the public.

THE BAR
will be supplied with the best
Wines, Liquors & Cigars

And the table with all the delicacies of the season. In fact no expense will be spared to make it a first-class establishment.

LUNCHEON!
Every day from 1 to 3 o'clock.

OYSTERS AND GAME,
Etc. Dinner and Supper parties provided short notice, at reasonable charges.

JOHN MILLER,
Proprietor,
Late of the Commercial Hotel, Whittly.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.
Guelph, Jan. 29, 1868. do tf

Toronto Advertisement
W. & D. DINEEN
BEG to inform the people of GUELPH and surrounding country that they have the Largest, Cheapest and Best Stock of

HATS, CAPS AND FURS
Ever brought into Ontario, at No. 80 Yonge Street, three doors north of King-st.,
Wholesale and Retail. **TORONTO.**
Toronto, 26th March, 1868. dwet

NOT RUN AWAY YET.
THE Subscriber begs to inform his old friends and the Public, that though several noted characters have lately been considered to leave Guelph for the sake of their health, he is still hale and hearty, and hangs out his shingle at the old spot.

CORK STREET,
OPPOSITE
DEADY'S HOTEL,
Where he is prepared as formerly to make up CLOTHING of every description at short notice and in a superior style.

To Farmers!
Having had 30 years experience, and devoting all his time to the business, he can make up

Home-made CLOTH!
And trim it CHEAPER than can be done at any other Establishment in Town.

All Work carefully finished, and at Moderate Rates.
WM. MITCHELL,
Guelph, Feb. 21, 1868. wmm-dtw

Dairy Farm & Mill Site
FOR SALE IN PUSLINCH.

FOR SALE by private contract, the rear halves of Lots 3 and 4, in the 10th concession, and broken lots 3 and 4 in the 11th concession, of the Township of Puslinch, containing 259 acres more or less.

This desirable property will be sold in one or more lots, to suit purchasers.

The soil is a good loam, and the land is magnificently watered both by the river Speed and by a creek, on which there is a GOOD MILL SITE.—For a DAIRY FARM this property offers unequalled advantages. 150 acres are cleared and under cultivation, the greater part free from stumps.—There are two Log Houses on the property, with Log Barns, Stable, Cattle Sheds, Garden, &c., attached to each house. The property is about five miles from Guelph, and a good road leads to it. Terms of Sale, Liberal. Apply to

PALMER & LILLIE,
Solicitors, &c., Day's Block, Guelph.
Guelph, Jan. 2nd 1868. 741-10

WHOLESALE and RETAIL
ESTABLISHMENT.
GUELPH, ONT.

1868.  1868.

JOHN HOGG
AT IT AGAIN.

From unforeseen circumstances, I am obliged to once more plunge into the torments of active business life. It affords me no small degree of pleasure and satisfaction to know that I am still to continue to serve and be a means of profit to the great mass of the inhabitants of the County of Wellington and its vicinity. I shall in the time to come, as in the past, make it a study and one of the leading features in my business affairs at all times to be in a position to secure Goods in the very best markets, and to the best possible advantage. My purchases will all be made for Ready Money—and money will command Bargains such as credit cannot. This advantage will be given to my customers. It is needless to remind my numerous friends and supporters that the immense variety of every description of Goods presented to select from is a very great advantage, together with the undeniable fact that my Goods are all imported from the manufacturers direct, ensures to my patrons a saving of a fair profit over that of any other establishment in the trade. I possess great advantages this season for offering extra inducements to my customers.

COTTON GOODS have all advanced very rapidly within the last month. During the period of panic prices I bought heavily, indeed sufficient to do my business requirements during the summer. Since an advance of fully forty per cent. has taken place.

My stock now in every branch is full, and an early call from my old friends will be well repaid both as regards variety to select from and the great saving to be effected in price.

Thanking you for past favors,
I remain yours,
JOHN HOGG.
Guelph, 3rd April, 1868. dw

GREAT ATTRACTION.
THE GREATEST ATTRACTION OF THE SEASON IS THE DISPLAY OF

NEW HATS & CAPS
AT
THE GUELPH CLOTH HALL

A. THOMSON & CO.
Guelph, 4th April, 1868. dawp

THE CO-OPERATIVE STORE.
FIRST IMPORTATIONS
OF
NEW SPRING GOODS!

WILL BE OPENED
ON WEDNESDAY, THE 8TH INST.

The Subscribers are now paying the Third-half yearly dividend.

W. MACKLIN & CO.
Guelph, April 7, 1868. daw

SOMETHING NEW!
LIFE SIZE PORTRAITS OF
CHARLES DICKENS
AND CHROMO LITHOGRAPHS

That cannot be distinguished from Oil Paintings, at
Cuthbert's Bookstore!
Guelph, 3rd April, 1868. dw

HORSE BILLS
Division Court Sittings
COUNTY OF WELLINGTON.

THE Division Courts for the County of Wellington, will be held as follows:—

Orangeville	Feb. 4, April 14, June 20, 1868
Erin	5 15 July 1 "
Guelph	7 17 "
Elora	18 28 "
Arthur	19 29 "
Mount Forest	29 30 "
Fergus	21 May 1 24 "
Rockwood	25 12 Aug 4 "
Puslinch	26 13 "
Drayton	March 3 20 18 "
Harrison	4 27 19 "
Glennau	5 28 20 "

By order,
Guelph, Dec. 1867. ALFRED BAKER, Clerk No.

Boarding and Day School
for Young Ladies.
CHURCH-ST. - - - GUELPH

MISS WIGHTMAN begs to announce that her school will re-open on D. V. on the 26th of

They can get better, cheaper and handsomer Horse Bills than at any other office in the County, and printed while they wait.

Orders by post will be promptly attended to, and forwarded by the earliest conveyances.—Give us a call.

MCLACAN & INNES.

R. GALBRAITH
TAILOR,
ST. GEORGE'S SQUARE, GUELPH,
In rear of the English Church.

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Guelph and vicinity that he has rented the premises lately occupied by Mr. Jeannere, Watchmaker, where

Parties Furnishing their Own Goods

Will always find him on hand ready to attend to their orders. All work carefully executed and on reasonable terms.

Garments Altered, Repaired and Cut with neatness and Dispatch.
Guelph, April 8, 1868. dw wlm

Medical Dispensary
HARVEY'S
PATENT

BENZOLINE
For instantly removing
Grease, Oil, Wax, Paint, Tar and other Spots from Silk, Felt, Cloth and Kid Gloves, Carpets,
And all kinds of fabrics, without injuring the most delicate colors. Price 25c per box.

Sole Proprietor,
E. HARVEY,
Chemist and Druggist, Wyndham-St., Guelph.
April 16. daw tf

1868. **NEW GOODS.** 1868
Mrs HUNTER
HAS pleasure in calling the attention of the ladies of Guelph and vicinity to her extensive and well selected stock of

BERLIN AND FANCY WOOLS
Slippers and Slipper Patterns, Crochet, Knitting and Mending Cottons, Corsets, Brasils, Frillings, Edgings, Sewing, Purse, and Embroidering Silk, Flows, Flosses, Belt and Bonnet Ribbons, Dress Buttons, Toilet Sets, and

GENERAL FANCY GOODS
Juvenile Clothing, Infants' Robes, &c.
STRAW MILLINERY!
Bonnets and Hats cleaned, dyed and re-made in the newest styles. Hair Hats and Bonnets re-noved.

FRUITS
FRESH ARRIVALS AT
No. 2,
Day's Block, . . Guelph.

Canned Peaches
" Pears
" Plums
" Cherries
" Apples, &c.
BOTTLED JAMS
Strawberry
Gooseberry
Danson
Currants, &c.
A choice lot of Stilton and Pine Apple Cheese.

E. CARROLL & CO.,
No. 2, Wyndham Street.
Guelph, April 20, 1868. daw

OPPOSITION LINE
TO CALIFORNIA
via Panama, carrying United States mails, and also via Nicaragua.

North American Steamship Comp'y
will despatch one of their Fast and Elegant Steamships from NEW YORK
Every Ten Days.
Rates for First, Second and Third Cabin VERY LOW.
For Special Berths, Tickets, &c. apply to
J. W. MURTON,
General Passage Agent.

WALL PAPER!
WALL PAPER.
FOR Extra BARGAINS
In WALL PAPER try
SHEWAN'S BOOKSTORE!
Next door to H. Walker's Grocery.
Guelph, 27th March, 1868. dw

Insolvent Act of 1864.
THE Creditors of the undersigned are notified to meet at the Law Office of Messieurs PALMER AND LILLIE, in the Town of Guelph, in the County of Wellington, on TUESDAY, the TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF APRIL, instant, at Twelve o'clock in the forenoon, to receive assignments of his affairs, and to name an Assignee under the above Act.

GEORGE WILKINSON,
by Palmer and Lillie.