

**ESCOTT'S STORES,  
CHATHAM.**

**OFFER  
FIVE TONS CHOICE CONFECTIONS VERY CHEAP.**

Good Mixed Candy 10 cents per pound.  
Fine Mixed Candy 12½ cents per pound.  
Choice Mixed Candy 15 cents per pound.  
French Cream Mixed 20 cents per pound.  
Chocolate Cream Candy 20 cents per pound.

Until the 4th of January Next.

T. B. ESCOTT

**THE  
MASTER OF THE MINE.**

BY ROBERT BUCHANAN.

CHAPTER XI

THE GREAT STORM.

It was now late in the year, and the winter storms were beginning. There were intervals of calm, cool weather when the wind came from the east or south-east, and still, frosty days, when a breath as cold as steel crept from the red-sunrise of the north; but ever and again the trumpet of the tempest sounded westward and southward, and the ocean rose up before it in mountains of furious storm.

To stand on the seashore, or on the weather-worn cliffs, at such moments was an experience not to be forgotten. With a sound of crashing thunder, with sheet-like flashes of flying foam, the mighty billows came rolling in; while far away, in the eye of the wind the clouds gathered, and baleful rays came and went, as if from the under world. Again and again, during these storms, the men forsook their work in the mine and clustered on the wind-swept crags: for the sound beneath was too terrible, and at each crash of the waters overhead the solid roofs of rock seemed about to topple in.

A new life-boat had come round from Falmouth during the summer; it was manned chiefly by workers in the mine, and I was their captain. We had tried the boat again and again in light weather, and were proud of her as life boatsmen could be; so that when need came, we were ready to do all that human hands could do for the rescue of shipwrecked souls. Fortunately, few vessels came that way, to need our aid in time of peril; for the great ships gave that lonely shore a wide berth, knowing its many perils. Sometimes, however, a coasting-vessel heavily laden, came ashore on the outlying reefs, but, thanks to our sturdy boat, without much loss of life.

On the afternoon of the 22d day of November, 18—, there occurred such a phenomenon as I have seen only once in my life, and scarcely expect to see again. The ocean was dead calm and black as ink; and sooty clouds, with sheets of windless vapor trailing right down to the earth and water, kept stationary in a sort of sinister twilight; and the air was full of an extraordinary stillness, in which the concussion of the slightest sound—a cock crowing, a goat bleating, a human voice crying—was heard for miles away.

I had just been down the mine, where I found the men had ceased working, and had gathered in knots whispering together. For all through the dark galleries and passages there came, from time to time, a curious tremor, like the shock of earthquake—sullen, sinister, terrible, making the heart, for some unknown reason, stand still with fear. Nor was this sound to be accounted for by the dashing of waves above that subaqueous darkness, since there was not a breath of wind, and the sea lay in sullen, motionless folds, scarcely vibrating.

"What is it, my lads?" I had asked accosting the first group of men, who were clustering on the central platform.

As I spoke, the tremor came again, so that the walls seemed tumbling over, the hard ground rocking under me, vibration which seemed to send a nameless terror into my very blood.

My uncle, who was there with the others, shook his head ominously. "We dawn't rightly know," he said; "but we ha' had 'em again and again, sounding like that. Seems threatening like, and I ha' bidden the gang knock off work for to-day."

I knew that it was useless to remonstrate, for the men were evidently full of superstitious dread, which if the truth must be told, I could not

help sharing. They threw down their pick-axes and shovels, and followed me up the shaft.

We found Johnson there, who seemed astonished at our appearance, and, when I told him what had taken place, looked savage.

"You're spoiling the men, Trelawney," he said. "Guess such nervous fancies are only fit for an old woman. Why, the sea's like a mill-pond, and there ain't a breath of wind."

"If you think it's only fancy," I replied, "come down with me and try. I'll give you a five pound note if you stop down there half an hour."

He shrunk back and shook his head angrily, while the men clustered round us, greeted my speech with a laugh.

"I shall report this," he cried, viciously. "A pack of cowards!" And he walked off, amid an angry murmur from the men, who detested him cordially.

As the afternoon passed, and the dull laden twilight increased, we saw looking seaward, the phenomenon to which I have alluded; two suns, one round and purple the other pink and ghostly, floating in the vapors to the west. Both were quite rayless, and they hung as if they were some fifty yards from each other. Both seemed so near to us that one would have thought it possible to reach them with a bullet from a gun.

I cannot express in words the strangely depressing and vaguely alarming effect of this phenomenon on myself and all who witnessed it. Nor was the effect lessened when the dimmer of the two suns suddenly disappeared, and the other changed in a moment from purple to jet black. A jet black ball in the midst of a waste of a leaden gray.

"Lawd save us!" cried Martin Treruddock, an old fisherman, and one of our life-boat's crew. "Lawd save us! It looks like judgement, mates—like the Last Day!"

This, indeed, was the thought which was passing through all our minds. We stood looking in suspense till the black sun disappeared, and total darkness came; and then with no little foreboding, we scattered to our homes.

But in the night, as we lay sleeping in our beds, we learned that what we had witnessed betokened, not any supernatural disturbance, but the gathering of such a tempest as has seldom been seen, before or since, on those shores. It came with fearful lightning and close-following thunder, followed by drops of black and hideous hail; and then, with a crash and a scream and cry, the wind rushed from the sea. I lay in my bed in the cottage, thinking every moment that the house would come down, shaking as it did to its foundations, or the roof be blown away; and every minute the blast grew more terrific, not coming in broken gusts as during ordinary storms, but in concussions of solid air, which struck the walls with blows as of a battering ram, and made every stone in the structure clatter like a loose tooth.

Presently, I saw my uncle, partially dressed and holding a light, enter my chamber.

"Hugh, my lad, be you asleep?" "As if any one could sleep on such a night! I thought yesterday's portent meant something. The storm has come!"

"Mother be frightened badly," he returned. "She be praying, lad, dawn't the kitchen. Lawd save us; hark to that!" he added, as a flash of fiery lightning filled the room, and wind and thunder mingled together in awful reverberation.

There was no resting in bed, so I slipped on my cloths and went down with my uncle to the kitchen, where I found my aunt full of superstitious terror. She had got the old Bible, and having opened at random, was reading in a low voice from one of the Psalms. I did my best to allay her fears, but succeeded very badly.

(Continued on 2nd page.)

**Whyte, Somerville & McDonald,**

Bankers and Brokers,  
RIDGETOW ONTARIO.

Will transact a general banking business. Drafts on Great Britain and the United States bought and sold at close rates. Drafts on all principal points in Canada issued at par. Notes and mortgages discounted. Money loaned on real estate on very favorable terms.

A limited amount of money taken on deposit and a fair rate of interest allowed.

**MONEY TO LOAN on Real Estate.** \$150,000.00 to loan in sums to suit borrowers on easy terms, at very low rates. Money can be had on short notice. Apply to **WHYTE SOMERVILLE & McDONALD.** Bankers, Ridgetown.

Jno. D. GILLIS. JOHN REYCRRAFT

**Gillis & Reycraft.**

**BANKERS AND BROKERS**

HIGHGATE, ONTARIO.

Are now prepared to loan money on good notes and mortgages. Money loaned on Real Estate on terms to suit borrowers, and at low rates of interest.

Agents for the London & Lancashire Fire Insurance Co.

46-47

**GENTLEMEN.**

Having made the necessary arrangements I am prepared to

*Repair and Renovate all Kinds of Clothing*

In a manner bound to give satisfaction. Don't throw away garments because they are dirty and slightly worn, but bring them to me and have them renewed.

**YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY DOING SO**

F. X. SCHINDLER, Erie Street, two doors south of the "Standard" office.

N. B.—I am still prepared to cut and make clothes according to the latest fashion. Fits guaranteed. 19-11

**THE  
Traders Bank  
OF CANADA.**

**AUTHORIZED CAPITAL \$1,000,000  
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$500,000  
HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.**

The Ridgetown Branch is now open and prepared to conduct a general Banking business.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.

Deposits received and interest allowed. Compounded half-yearly.

38-11 J. A. MACKELLAR, Manager

**FOUNDRY AND PLANT  
FOR SALE.**

FOUNDRY and Plant for sale in the

Thriving Town of Ridgetown,

Kent County, Ont. in the centre of a splendid Agricultural District. One of the best chances to work up an extensive business to be had in Canada. Buildings of brick and machinery comparatively new, description of Buildings inventory of effects and particulars can be had on application to the undersigned. Immediate possession given. Sealed tenders for the above property, and effects will be received up to February 1st, 1888. Tenders to state terms and conditions of payments.

D. COCHRANE, Clerk.

**REFORMERS  
ATTENTION.**

**ANNUAL MEETING.**

THE Dominion Reform Association of West Elgin, will hold its annual meeting at

**TRIGGER HALL,  
BISMARCK.**

—ON—

**Wednesday, January 19th, 1888**

at 10 o'clock, a. m. Important business will be brought forward, and a large attendance is urged. Addresses by prominent men of the party and Members of Parliament will be delivered, commencing at 12 o'clock noon. Mr Casey will speak on the Franchise Act and the North-west troubles.

JOHN F. McKINLAY,

Pres. Dom. Reform Association of W. Elgin,  
CHAS. MACDONALD, Sec'y.

Ridgetown, Dec. 23th, 1885. 10-21

**ATTENTION!**

FOR THE BEST

**BOOTS and SHOES**

In all lines, for men, women and children,

Go to the West End Boot and Shoe Store.

If you want a first-class kid renovating polish, or a box of No. 1 Paste Blacking, you can get it at the West End boot and Shoe Store, Should you want a good pair of Boots or Shoes made to order, or some repairing done, it will pay you to find the West End Boot and Shoe Store. If you want to

**SAVE MONEY,**

Patronize the West End Boot and Shoe store  
MAIN STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, RIDGETOWN.

**J. KAUFMANN.**

36-11

**The People's Boot and Shoe Store**

**JOS. REYCRRAFT,**

Main Street, Ridgetown, next door to Hoffman's Hotel,

Keeps on hand a well assorted stock of ready-made

**BOOTS & SHOES**

Both Men's, Women's and Children's wear, of First-class quality at

**REASONABLE PRICES.**

Everything usually kept in a first-class boot and shoe store will be found in stock as well as a good assortment of

**TRUNKS AND VALISES**

Ordered work made up in fashionable styles by good workmen at short notice.

Repairing Neatly and Promptly Executed.

Butter and Eggs taken in exchange for Goods.

**NEW CABINET WAREROOMS.**

Wholesale and Retail.

DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, RIDGETOWN.

**New Furniture, New Styles, New Prices.**

See our splendid stock of

Artistic Bedroom Suites, 8 Eight Different Designs.

Latest in style, Finest in quality, Lowest in price, Best in finish. Parlor suites Lounges, Mattresses, and all other upholstered goods in endless variety. Please give us a call before purchasing elsewhere, and have prices quoted. No trouble to show goods. We are satisfied with small profits and quick returns. Walnut and Baswood Lumber taken in exchange.

Special attention paid to upholstering Parlor Suites, Lounges, Ladies' and Gents' Easy Chairs, Mattresses, &c.

**SHEPHERD BROS., Prop'rs. G. A. COULSON, Manager.**

**ARTHUR & PHILBRIC,**

Instantaneous Photographs, and Life Size Portraits.

204 and 206 Woodward Ave., DETROIT.

**ORGAN FACTORY**

**IN RIDGETOWN,**

Next building west of the Post Office.

**DAVIDSON & BERDAN**

Have completed and have now ready for sale a number of fine instruments, to be known as

**THE "EMPRESS ORGAN."**

The cases are of new and elaborate design. The material entering into the composition of the action and bellows has been selected with great care and caution, with a view to producing an article

Equal to anything of the kind in the Market.

This part of the work is under the supervision of Mr. Davidson, who has had a large and extensive experience in some of the best shops in the Dominion. The tone will be found equal in quantity and quality to that of any instrument ever offered to the public. They in fact, CHALLENGE INSPECTION AND DEFY COMPETITION on the points specified above. They also contemplate presently opening a large ware-room, where they will offer to the public a large and carefully selected stock of

**Canadian and American Pianos**

of the highest grades. Parties contemplating the purchase of a piano will do well to await the opening of their ware-room. They have secured the services of Mr. C. W. Seammon, of Boston to attend to the tuning of their instruments. He will receive and promptly attend to all orders for piano tuning and repairing.

25-11