## Quelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE :..... MACDONNELL STREET

## Norah Cushaleen

OR THE HAUNTED CASTLE

With a will Andrew and Terry did work, and each minute the youth glanced round to notice the result. With satisfaction be saw that the water was not rising, but was decreasing rather, and he knew by this that the leaks were being stopped. Still the boat was drifting towards the beach, and the robbers astern were meditating another attack. Unless therefore, they were water-tight in a minute or so, and able to resume rowing their fate was sealed.

'Can't ye be afther divin', ye stupid spalpeens,' shouted a rough voice from the shore.

The hint was taken at once. and both robbers dissppeared under the water,

The latter was clear enough, however to allow Hargreave to see them, and he noticed that one of them took the one side of the boat, and the other the other, they rose almost at once, but before the head of one could get above water, a blow from the boat-hook rendered him insensible, and Hargreave—wheeling instantly round—found the other in the act of grasping the gunwale with both hands. A vigorous thrust in the breast forced him away, and made the boat spin half round.

'Hoorah!' roared Terry. 'She's gethalf round.
'Hoorah!' roared Terry. 'She's get-

Hoorah! roared Terry. 'She's gettin' empty again.'

'Up with your oars there,' shouted
the youth, and scarcely was the order
given, when both oars were in the water
and the boat again began to move from
land.

land.

'Thank God, we are saved,' said Hargreave, drawing a long breath.

'Oh, do you think so, sir,' said Amelia who had sat silent and terrified in the prow during these critical moments.

'I am sure of it,' he returned. 'See we are quitting the shore, and these fellows have given up the chase.

'Thank God, indeed,' she fervently returned. 'What a narrow escape we had.'

'A fearfu' warsel, sure enough, but

'A fearfu' warsel, sure enough, but we're managed it,' observed Andrew, down whose face the sweat was pouring

down whose face the sweat was pouring in a stream.

'A how! of disappointed rage and baffled fury from the shore, accompanied by a shower of stones which fell short of the boat, was sufficient intimation that the robbers perceived they had escaped, and looking back, the fugitives saw that the swimmer who had been made insensible was being assisted astore by his companion. This was the last they saw of Captain Jack's men, for a large outlaying rock—round which they passed—shut the beach and the glen from their sight

shut the beach and the glen from their sight. Without further adventure or hindrance, the party got ashore in Dundarra bay, and, ascending the heights, came shortly after dusk in front of the ruined castle. All-were now in a state of nervous excitement, for they were about to be made aware of an occurrence that might have taken place regarding Norah or Mary. It was silent and solitary as usual, and what was somewhat assuring, the door in the tower was closed and fastened.

Hargreave gave the old signal, and they waited with beating hearts for the

More than a minute passed, and they thought they heard a rustle in the passage, but no response was made.

Hargreave tapped again, and a voice which they recognised as Norah's, whisnesded:—

which they recognised as Noran's, whispered:—

'Is that you, father?'

'Och by the powers,' exclaimed Terry
'it's her own darlin' voice. Open the
door, Norah, avic.'

There was a joyful exclamation. The
pile of stones was pulled from behind the
door, it flew open and Norah stood before them. Terry clasped her in his
arms, and poured over her the most voluble expressions of endearment.

uble expressions of endearment.

'Come, fair play, Terry,' cried Hargreave; 'there are other friends waiting to be welcomed, and anxious to hear the

news'
'Och, murder,' exclaimed Terry,
'sure the joy has taken all the manners

out uv me.'

At last! murmured Norab, 'you have' returned at last. Oh, the misery and suspense of the last four weeks.'

'Many!—tell me of Mary!' asked Hargreave, in a tone of intense excitement.'

Is she——? Has Blantire——? You know what I mean.'

—you know what I mean.?

She is at the castle, so far as I know,'
answered Norah.

Then they have not forced her to
marry him

'No; and if they had again attempted
it, I would have hindered it at whatever
site.'

Every Twenty Days.

marry him

'No; and if they had again attempted it, I would have hindered it at whatever risk.'

This intelligence was received by every one with heartfelt thankfulness.

'Then it's a' richt yet,' said Andrew, in a highly satisfied tone. Everything will gang smooth and fine noo.'

This conversation had taken place in the passage, so eager were all to learn the truth; but they now closed and secured the door, and adjourned to the large chamber belov. Here Amelia was introduced to Norah, with a few word of explanation, and the latter receivher as a sister. And sisters truly the were in sadness and misfortune,

'And now,' said Norah, 'I have to tell you that I have a prisoner in the chamber above.

'A prisoner!' echoed Terry.

'Who is she T asked the more practical Andrew.

'I is' a lady,' answered Norah, and

tical Andrew.

It is a lady, 'answered Norab, vary

gravely
By the powers! it's Miss Mary herself,' cried Terry
'No,' replied Norah; it is Lady Blar-

tire.

Amazement held them dumb, but Norah soon put them in possession of the thrilling occurrence of the night following the departure of Terry and Andrew, when her ladyship came to the ruin for the purpose of murdering Norah, and was so providentially prevented from accomplishing her deadly purpose.

She was still in the cell which so formusately occurred to the purpose of muranter of the purpose of the pu GREEN BEECH or MAPLE

nquenched.

Scarcely had Norsh finished the recital
and answered some of the questions it
roduced from Hargreave, when the
rell known signal was heard on the oaka door without.

'It is my father!' exclaimed Norsh,
tarling up and disappearing in the pasage.

starting up and disappearing in the pasage.

Bedad, but isn't this a lucky night intirely? exclaimed Terry, with his usual skip upon the floor.

'Oh father, father,' exclaimed Norah the moment she admitted him. 'I have glad news for you to night. They have all come; they are in the kutchen.'

'Och, thin it's the blessed Virgin that's sent them this night,' said Michael, rushing in, wildly excited. 'For the love of all the saints,' he continued, 'go and stop it. Don't be afther waitin' a moment, or sure it will be too late.' TO BE CONTINUED

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