Guelph Evening Mercury SATURDAY EVNG, NOV. 15. 1873.

The Rival Clansmen :

A Scottish Vendetta. CHAPTER VII.

CHAPTER VII. THE SOLDIERS AND THE CATERANS—A TER-RIELE STRUGGLE. As Captain Winterton had said, he was "well placed"—that, was in a good po-sition to meet the enemy who now came in such numbers acainst him. He was inside the large, square building, protec-ted on three sides by high walls, "which were practically impregnable, while imme-diately in froit was a breast work formed of the ruined gablo—the only weak points of which were the recess of a door and a low window. "Now, men, be ready." he said, in a low whisper, when the Caterans had ad-vanced to within about sixty yards of the ruin. Then he cried out in a ringing voice— "Caterans of Ben-a-Chrui, in the name of King George, I call upon you to halt and surrender." A wild, derisive yell of defiance was the only reply he received, and, tiger-like in their fury, the horde of asrage, desperate mountaineers runhaf forward to the at-tack. But they received a check.

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tack. But they received a check. "Fire," cried Winterton. A momentary pause, Then followed a flash and a report. The soldiers had de-livered their shower of death-hail, and wild yells of mortal agony, mingled with curses and terrible threats, filled the air from fallen and falling men, while the others rushed forward with redoubled fu-ry.

"Now forward and meet them with the

others rushed forward with redonbled fu-ry. " Now forward and meet them with the steel," was the command of Winterton, and the soldiers sprang forward just in time to meet the Caterans, who were al-ready clambering over the wall. With their teeth set and braced for the conflict, the soldiers met them firmly and unwaveringly, and several times was the wild yell of agony repeated as their bay-onets pierced one and another of the at-tacking Highlanders ; but despite their utmost efforts their opponents were able to force an entrance by the doorway and by the window, and now a dozen at least swarmed around them. It was with considerable apprehension that Captain Winterton saw this, and re-alized that he was outnumbered and his position carried. He was at the same moment personal-ly attacked by two the brawniest of the Caterans; but while he dealt them or rash-ing blows, and met with eleverness and skill their combined attack, he did not for a moment forget the safety of the men under his command. For he at once, in avoice which was heard above the sound of conflict—the clashing of weapons, the outs and curses of contending foes, the trampling of feet, and the shrieks and moans of wounded men—shouted out— "We are outnumbered ! Turn back, and fight your way to the boats." An answering cheer from the men fol-lowed his words ; then with a desperate effort each man threw of his immediate optionent, and when again the outlaws closed around, they fourd opposed to the man impenetrable phalanx of glitter-ing steel, with Captain Vinterton safe in its centre. But at this moment a voice, which kan one been before heard, shout-ed on:-

ed ont-"Caterans, cut every man down ; our "Caterans, cut every man down ; our "Caterans, cut every man down ; our safety depends upon it." A wild loud shout of avage ferocity burst from the outlaws' throats as they heard this voice, and with redoubled ef-forts they dashed themselves against the little band of soldiers. It was Donaid Cameron who had spok-en.

little band of soldiers. It was Donaid Cameron who had spok-ta. He and Ian had listened throughout the whole proceedings at the foot of the stair leading from the apeture which the stone covered, and had heard every word of the conversation be-tween the soldiers and their comman-der. The discovery made by Captain Winterion that there was an opening of some sorb beneath the stone did not par-ticularly dismay Cameron, for he knew workable only from the inside. His heart leaped for joy when he heard the shot fired and the sentinel proclaim that the stores had returned. He knew from the sounds he heard that the soldiers would easily be defeaded by the Caterans, if they were present in anything like their full strength. When he stone from the straggle was at the hardest, he told Ian to follow him, and rapidly and noiseless-ly acended the stair and moving the mouth of the entrance, and they passed out, taking care to leave it open, and then they could not break through the com-tand the caterans, inspired as they could not break through the son-they could not break through they cou-pact font presented to them one very side strage the soldiers, who, if they lacked the stare prover by the arrival of Ca-meron and Ian, did their very utmost, they could not break through the cou-spact font presented to them one very side strage try of the Highlanders, possessed uses, the training, and quiet courage.

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savage fury of the Highlanders, possessed equally valuable requisites in their cool-ness, fine training, and quiet courage. Inch by inch they retreated to their boats. They were now out of the square, having by careful manœuvering been able to squeeze themselves in compact form through the large doorway. In vain did the Caterans place them-selves between the soldiers and the boats and attempt to cut off their retreat. They burst through them again and again, and at every step neared their goal. Cameron keyt continuedly shouting to them—at one time praising and at another upbraiding and cursing them— but he could not cause them to fight harder than they were doing. At last a happy thought struck him. Gashering half a dozen of the Caterans sround him, he cried in a muffiel tone— "Off immediately to the ehamber for the firearms and the ammunition ; return within the minute."

the firearms and the ammunition; return within the minute." But low as they were spoken, the words reached the ers of Sergeant Goodley, and that gallant soldier at once shouled out. " Captain, they are off for firearms and ammunition; if they get them to bear upon ns, we are done for." "The half-dozen men who had left to perform this order, and those who had been killed and disabled in the melee, had econsiderably diminished the strength of the Caterana, and those who had that get and those who had been killed and disabled in the melee, had econsiderably diminished the strength of the Caterana, and those who had the strength of the Sergeant shout that firearms were to be brought against him, his decision was at once taken, and he immediately called out-" Now, my lads, a dash for the boats, and we are safe." With a lond hurrah, the so obeyed his command. They were within a decise mode of where two boats lay, when proves schore, and so suddenly was the move-ment made that the soldiers had gained them before the surprised Highlanders had time to pursue.

A Washington Administration news-paper puts the debt of that city at \$14,-000,000. wo savings banks at Pittsburgh and st Liberty suspended on Nov. 11.

