

Andrew Walter's Christmas Eve.

A STORY IN THREE CHAPTERS.

As column after column was finished and arch after arch showed its rich free outline in bright green; as one after the other the branching canopies grew into graceful bushes of leaf and fruit; the sun sank down and the shadows crept out. Then when all was finished and the old sexton with one solitary candle was sweeping up the scattered fragments from the floor, the vicar's wife and the rest of those who had been at work shook hands and parted.

When all the rest had gone, however, Maggie and her sister stayed behind. And with them stayed their cousin Minnie from the mill, a girl of about Maggie's own age, who mourned for the lost sailor with a bitterness that was intensified by thinking that she had let him go when last they parted with their love still unconfessed.

The girls sat for awhile all silent in the family pew. Maggie held her head on her arms and Edith rested with her head on Minnie's knees. The moon rose and poured its light with a glory of crimson and gold full on them and on the new marble slab, beneath which Maggie sat with her face buried on the young child's shoulder.

It was Minnie who was organist at the church, and being there she must needs play over one of the anthems of the morrow. Edith went with her to blow the bellows. For a while Maggie continued to sit with bowed head, still weeping, but soothed and calmed by the strains.

The hymn was "Hark, the herald angels sing," and as the player forgot her sorrow more and more in the exultation of the music, as the notes swelled more and more jubilant, filling the great old church with melody, the little voice of Lucy rose in Maggie's ear singing the well-known words, and Maggie herself unconsciously joined in them and lifted up her head.

There in front of her, clearly defined by the moon, stood her brother—the dead brother who had been lost at sea. Maggie neither screamed nor fainted. He had been so entirely present in her mind—she had as yet been so wholly unable to think of him as anything but the bright, cheerful brother of all her life—that to see him there seemed at the first only natural. Then in a moment, however, the recollection of all that had fallen in the last mournful month flashed up. No fear came with the recollection; only an intense surprise. Why should she fear, even if this were the spirit of her loved brother? She clasped the little child (whose face was turned away) more closely to her, and leaning forward in the pew, she shaded her eyes from the moon, and looked steadily and earnestly into the face.

The hands and arms of the figure came forward, stretching towards her in the pew. A voice from the figure: "Maggie, it is I." And in an instant another voice—the voice of Lucy—screamed, "Oh, Maggie! that is Jamie! my own brother Jamie!" and the child sprang from Maggie's knee, and was in his arms.

"And why should I have thought anything too hard for God? Why should I not have had faith that he who raised Lazarus would raise my brother too? Neither Martha nor Mary sorrowed more for their brother than I for mine."

The words did not shape themselves; but this, in all its fulness, was the thought that in a moment of time passed through Maggie's mind. Then she also was in her brother's arms. For indeed it was he and none other, alive and well.

Meanwhile the music had ceased, less because the players had been interrupted by any noise, than by reason of that subtle instinct which so often tells us, we know not how, that something wonderful and strange, in which we have an interest and a share, is happening near at hand.

One moment more and Edith and Minnie also were clinging to him, sobbing for joy, and the secret of Minnie's heart was a secret from him no longer at hand.

They all sat down for a while and looked at each other with an exultation strangely mingled with doubt. Joy was so much stronger than curiosity, that none of them thought of asking any questions. It was enough that he was restored to them; it mattered not how.

At last he pointed to the new marble above the pew, and with a shaking voice: "Oh! what grief it has been to you. We must have that down to-night."

"It went up only this morning," said Maggie. "Then you have not got the letter this morning," he asked, "which was sent to tell you of my coming, and all about it? Indeed I am sure you have not."

"No," said Maggie. "It was enclosed from London by Mr. Franklin."

"In a blue envelope with a little red seal," said Lucy; "and I buried it in the garden, because those letters have always been naughty and vexed papa."

In spite of all, what could they do but laugh at the child's explanation? even were it only to make her lift up her head again and be less exalted of her guilt.

"The letter was to tell you how this sad, sad mistake had arisen, and to say that Mr. Franklin and I were coming to spend, as we shall find it, the happiest Christmas we have ever known. You were to send and meet us at the Junction, and we were to have been with you two hours ago, if we had not had to walk."

"And have you seen father?" the girls asked. "No; he was not in the house. So I have left his old friend there, while I sought you and him. The organ was playing as I came to the church-door, and that told me where to find you. But let us make haste home to him."

Andrew Walter was at home when they arrived, and had heard from the old lawyer the story of his son's return; but had as yet not convinced himself that the great joy was real. Not, indeed, until he had the young man in his arms did he fully believe it or dare to say, awe-stricken—

"The sea has indeed given up its dead—given up its dead even to me. We will not dwell upon that meeting of father and son, neither of whom had ever known what it was to doubt or mistrust, or waver in his affection for the other. There are some moments of bliss so unalloyed, so great and so beyond the force of mere language, that only the human heart (which responds alike in high and low, when the great master hand of Nature sweeps the chords) can conceive their perfection."

To be Continued.

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HALL'S VEGETABLE SICILIAN HAIR RE-NOWER.

Is the only infallible Hair Preparation for restoring GREY HAIR to ITS COLOR AND PROMOTING ITS GROWTH.

It is the cheapest preparation ever offered to the public, as one bottle will last longer and accomplish more than two bottles of any other preparation.

Our Renewer is not a Dye—it will not stain the skin as others. It will keep the hair from falling out. It cleanses the scalp, and makes the Hair Soft, Lustrous and Silken.

Our Treatise on the Hair sent free by mail.

R. F. HALL & CO., Nassau, N. H., Proprietors.

For sale by all druggists.

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM!

FOR THE CURE OF CONSUMPTION!

And all diseases that lead to it, such as Coughs, neglected Colds, Pain in the Chest, and all Diseases of the Lungs.

AS AN EXPECTORANT IT HAS NO EQUAL.

It has now been before the Public for a number of years and has gained for itself a

World-Wide Reputation.

Physicians recommend it in their practice and the formula from which it is prepared is highly commended by Medical Journals. Call at the Druggists and get a pamphlet. E. F. Druggist sells the Balm.

FRANK DAVIS & SON, Proprietors.

Box 17, Montreal P. Q.

18 FALL IMPORTATIONS. 68

Wools, FANCY GOODS

TOYS, &c.

JUST Arrived, an Immense Stock of Berlin, Zephyr, Saxony, Andalusian, Lady-Betty, and Fancy Wools. English, Scotch and American.

FINGERING YARNS.

A Splendid assortment of Braids, Frillings, Ruffles, and General Fancy Goods. A great variety of Slippers and Slipper Patterns' Ottomans, &c.

JET and RUBBER GOODS.

Juvenile Clothing always on hand and made to order.

Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery from the Latest Designs.

J. HUNTER, Opposite the English Church, Wyndham-St. Guelph, September 12th.

DOMINION LIVERY STABLE

Macdonnell St., GUELPH, ONT.

H. MARRIOTT

BEGS to inform the citizens of Guelph and the travelling public that he has started a Livery Stable next door to Mr. W. Armstrong's Blacksmith's Shop, Macdonnell Street, where he can supply

Saddle Horses, Horses and Buggies. Commercial Waggoners

At the shortest notice. Also, a large

PLEASURE WAGGON!

FOR PIC-NICS.

Guelph, 10th June 1868

150 Cutters for Sale

I. X. L.

CARRIAGE WORKS.

Awarded at Provincial Fairs

1868, Four First Prizes.

1865, Two First Prizes.

THE Subscriber has now on hand a stock of these ELEGANT and SUBSTANTIAL

CUTTERS

Which have taken prizes wherever exhibited, to be sold at LOW PRICES for cash or short credit.

J. B. ARMSTRONG.

Guelph, Nov. 19.

CUNARD OCEAN STEAMERS.

LEAVING New York every Thursday for Queens town or Liverpool.

FARE FROM HAMILTON First Cabin, \$87, gold value

Second Cabin, \$59.

Berths not secured until paid for. For further particulars apply to

CHARLES T. JONES & CO. Exchange Brokers, Hamilton.

Agents for the Erie and New York Railway, Fare from Hamilton to New York \$7, gold value.

Hamilton, 1st June, 1868.

PETRIE'S DRUG STORE,

OLD POST OFFICE BLOCK.

A Very Superior Article

COAL OIL!

NEW ON HAND.

AT PETRIE'S

Drug Store, Wyndham Street, Guelph

Nov. 19.

Removal.—Card of Thanks.

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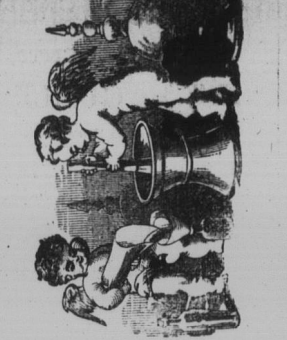
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MEDICAL HALL, GUELPH.



CELEBRATED

CARRATRACA WATER!

From the Mineral Springs, Plantagenet, Ont. A fresh supply

JUST RECEIVED.

This Justly Celebrated Mineral Water, so highly recommended by the Faculty, should be found in every family, and in order to meet the increasing demands, the subscriber has made arrangements to supply his customers

By the Gallon, Quart, for Glass.

As a mild Tonic, gentle Purgative, and Alterative. This Water is especially adapted to those suffering from

INDIGESTION, HEADACHE, and GENERAL DEBILITY.

The analysis by Dr. Girdwood, Military Surgeon, Montreal, shows this water to contain:—Carbonic Acid, Sodium Sulphate, Bromine, and Iodine of Magnesium, Sulphate and Carbonate of Lime, Carbonate of Magnesia, Iron, &c.

E. HARVEY & CO., Sole Agent.

Guelph, December 7.

THE Equitable Life Assurance Society

OF THE UNITED STATES.

Head Office, 92 Broadway, New York.

W. O. BUCHANAN, 81 Great St. James St., Montreal, General Agent for the Dominion of Canada.

COLIN SEWELL, M. D., Examining Physician, Dr. R. L. MACDONNELL, Consulting

GEORGE MACHIE, Solicitor, BANK OF MONTREAL, Bankers.

The rapid advance of the Society to the very front rank among American Life Insurance Companies, the unprecedented amount of its New Business for the year, the large accumulation of its Seven Millions of Dollars, already invested in the most reliable securities, form, collectively, a legitimate subject for unforgotten congratulation by the Managers of the Society to every policy-holder, and an assurance to the public that it has been carefully and successfully managed.

The rank of THE EQUITABLE among all American Companies, stands as follows:—In 1860 it was the ninth; in 1861 the eighth; in 1862 the seventh; in 1863 the sixth; in 1864 the fifth; in 1865 the fourth; in 1866 the third; in 1867 the second.

Insurances effected on the most favorable terms by

GEO. MURTON, Agent for Guelph.

Guelph, December 4th.

GREAT POWERS

Are always neutral in small squabbles.

SO IT IS WITH

PREST & HEPBURN

In the latter war now going on between their opponents on the south side of Wyndham St.

WE do not believe in bosh and bunkum, but in the hands of the intelligent people of Wellington. We are prepared to prove, and we positively affirm, notwithstanding all the puffing and blowing which has become the order of the day, that PREST & HEPBURN, Wyndham Street, Guelph, manufacture more

BOOTS AND SHOES

And employ double the number of Workmen of any other establishment in the County of Wellington. We invite the public to call and look through our Factory, and they will be convinced that we are telling the truth, and nothing but the truth.

A great deal has been said for and against machine made Boots and Shoes. Now we believe, and we are confident that every well-balanced mind will agree with us, that the less machinery used in manufacturing Boots and Shoes the better. All our staple Boots and Shoes are made by hand, which must be admitted to be far superior to any machine made goods. We have now on hand the largest and best assortment of Boots and Shoes ever offered to the people of Wellington, which we will sell as cheap as the cheapest.

Remember that all our work is warranted, and no second price. Repairs done as usual.

PREST & HEPBURN.

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EVENING DRESSES

HEFFERNAN BROS.

ARE now opening out a choice assortment of NEW AND FASHIONABLE Materials for BALL AND EVENING DRESSES.

Irish Poplins Colored Crapes Colored Tulle

Fancy Alpaca

Muslins, Tulle, and ALXANDER AND OTHER WHITE KIDS—Cheap. A beautiful variety of

SILK and VELVET RIBBONS for SASHES

Artificial Wreaths, Head-Dresses, &c.

HONITUN, CLUNY, AND VALENCIENNES LACE SETS, COIFFURES, HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.

OPERA CLOAKS—New, Fashionable and Cheap.

HEFFERNAN BROTHERS.

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BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS FRUIT

At WALKER'S, this year's Crop, 1868.

CROWN LAYER RAISINS, LONDON LAYER RAISINS, WEST END LAYER RAISINS, SULTANA RAISINS, VALENTIA RA