Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

The Maiden's Choice

OR. THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH.

agerly.

Ari aure of this, Cringan?

Certain, And, what is more, he has been here for ten days past, and has held meetings ith the people.

And where the devil have they had him oncealed?

concealed? have not learned, but to-morrow there is to be a great conventicle at Moorside Moss, and he is to preach. "A conventicle? hissed Allan. 'You know the place they are to hold it?" The spy nodded.
'And the hour?'
'Noon."

Noon."

Noon."

Noon."

Noon."

Noon.

ing a secret. If the matter gets wind, and we fail to come upon them, not a farthing will be yours.

'Trust me for that,' said Cringan. 'I will be waiting for you at the end of the wood above Greystone an hour before noon. We will take two hours to reach the place.'

'It shall be so. See that you do not fail us. The fifty merks shall be yours when we come in sight of the canting crew. Begone now, lest any one should see us talking together, and one more—be faithful.'

The spy chuckled audibly, rubbed his hands together, and with a look of intense satisfaction on his cadaverous countenace, glided noiselessly away.

'So,' said-Charlie to himself, as he stood watching his faure receding through the darkness, 'my clutch is on them again, and a rare opportunity it will prove. Who would have thought of old Square-toes heing in the place? A lucky thought to put Cringan on the seent. The fellew, would sell his mother for glid. To morrow, then, my sleepless reveige will have an installented of satisfaction, and thus time, I take it, Turner will not baulk me.

The spy had now disappeared in the direction of the town, and Allan re-entered the

baulk me.'

The spy had now disappeared in the direction of the town, and Allan re-entered the satile by the same postern door through which he had come.

which he had come.

CHAPTER X.—THE CONVENTICLE—WALTER EL
LIOT AND MR. GONDON CARIED OFF BY THE
TROOPERS.

Muirside Moss was situated in the heart of
a dreary widerness, and it was chosen as the
scone of the conventicle because of its solitude, its distance from ripabited places, its
difficulty of access, and the facility it afforded
for flight in case the troopers should come
mon and pursue them.

Imagine a wide plain, miles in extent, surrounded on every side by eminences, many
of them frising to the dignity of hills, covered with heather, except where the bare rock
showed itself in craggy protuberances, like
scars, but scars which would never disappear.
The plain which was so emcircled was an extensive moorland, bare and broken by bogs
and morasses and black waterpools. In
many places it was dangerous to walk. The
unstable ground sunk and rose beneath the
tread, and a false step would land the luckless wanderer in the depths of some tarn or
moss-pool, from which extrication was difficult and sometimes impossible. At one side
of this wide rugged moor, near to the base of
the northern heights, the surface became
less a moor than a moss, for the firm places,
as indicated by tufas of heather, grew fewer
far than the dark gleaming pools, the black,
soaked peaty ground and the circular spaces
of reeds and rushes which experienced travellers knew to conceal almost bottomiess
swamps. Let the reader imagine all this
and he will "have a pretty accurate idea of
the piece which the peopole of direystone and
the surrounding country had selected that
day as their temple, of worship, where their
sacred song of praise should be sung, and
their homage and adoration rendered to their
food, and where the words of eternal life
should fall on their ears from the lins of their
beloved pastor. The worshippers were to
assemble on the long green slope between
the base of one of the highest hills and the
moss, and here by the first streak of dawn, a
rude platform had been erected which was
to serve as a puipit.

rude platform had been erected which was to serve as a pulpit.

It was the last Sabbath of October—a warm, bright, windless day, full of sweetest beauty and calmest peace. The purple bloom was falling from the heather, and the summer beauty, which adors see a the black moorands was brasting it in seeing, set line ering still, as it is beauty to the summer beauty which adors see a the black moorands was for sating it in seeing the fall of the seeing of which is a few and the plain, over which a great hush of Sabbath silence was spread as it has ture was listening with solemn stillness to

tended such were liable to the severest pains and penalties. Since the royal attempt to force on the people a form of religion apposed to their convections was to be resolutely persisted in, nothing but the most outrage ous acts of tyranuy and injustice would give any chance of success to the design. Accordingly, the people were ordered to worship in the Parish Kirks, and on 1y there; for when they refused to hear the unprofitable serminging of the ignorant, and on the whole ir religious crew, who had been thrust in as Curates, and sought the teachings of their own exiled ministers in the glens and on the hill-stdes, that act, so simple and so natural, was designated a crime, and the troopers were ordered to hunt the country in search of these conventicles, disperse them at the point of the sword, and take prisoners as many of the worshippers as they could secure.

We, in these days of pence and accurity, can scarcely realize the intolerable tyramy of that dark, and so far as the Government was concerned, digraceful period of Scottish history; yet so it was that our forefathers had to go out to the solitudes to worship by stealth and in fear and the rulers of the land called their doing so rebellion.

To BE CONTINUED.

A LARGE HEIPER.—Mr R. Manning of the Exeter Cheese Factory owns a heifer, symmetrically built, two years old, and weighing seventees hundred pounds. Her owner has a fair prospect of beef, hatever his chances of cheese may be.

Flour—Receipts, 480 bris; No. 1, 1 EV output of the Exeter Cheese Manning of the Exeter Cheese Factory owns a heifer, symmetrically built, two years old, and the Exeter Cheese Manning of the Exeter Cheese Factory owns a heifer, symmetrically built, two years old, and the Exeter Cheese Manning of the Exeter Cheese Factory owns a heifer, symmetrically built, two years old, and the Exeter Cheese Manning of the Exeter Cheese Factory owns a heifer, symmetrically built, two years old, and the Exeter Cheese Manning of the Exeter Cheese Manning

Union Pacific Railway.

Another section of twenty miles has been finished upon the Union Pacific Railway.

Another section of twenty miles has been finished upon the Union Pacific Railway.

This completes the national theorem fare to the first hundred and fortists with the pacific to the summit of the Black Hills. The cold and the storms of winter, which effectually stop all ordinary railroad construction, are not allowed to block the work of the contractors upon this great enterprise, but all through the winter months the pick and the drill will be busy in the mountain actions, digning and blasting away for the speedy following of the track layers. Mean will a study indux of set liers into the red in opened to occupation and trade by means of this road, is giving assurance of future wealthy and vigorous States. Cheyenne, the frontier city, which, six months ago, was almost unknown, has its churches, schools, hotels, theatres, and daily newspapers, and its shrewd business men are in active correspondence with their neighbours at Denver, 100 miles to the southward, respecting the construction of, the branch railroad to that mining capital. The miners and capitallate of fidic are discussing the project of another branch to the north, and the saints at Salt Lake, already within five days ride of Omaha, are impatient even of that consumption of time, and anxiously await its reduction to forty-eight hours. In all these local enterprises, which add to the importance and traffic of this great railway line, our own city is directly interested. Each new ramification of trade or industry in the Great West is an indication of the increased commercial importance of the national metropolis; and no other one industrial enterprise promises to do so much for the aggrandizement of New York Tribune

Mr. Lowe, of the British House of Commons, is a very rapid and brilliant speak, et, and is the terror of all new comers to the reporter, gallery, and the occupants of which say they "would be glad to attend his funeral." A correspondent of a provincial Journal relates this anocdote; One of the gallery men had taken note of a speech by Mr. Lowe, and O. reaching its office to writes it out, he was told that there was little space left—that he must only give the points of the speech as briefly as possible. But, exclaimed the excited reporter, I can't keep it short. Its Bob Lowe's speech, and its like a perfect hedgehog—It's all points together."

The Billintroduced by Sir Henry

The Bill points together."

The Bill introduced by Sir Henry Smith for the holding of elections simultaneously throughout Ontario, has stricken the ultra tories with terror. What does this man mean? they ask. He dashes headlong at every reform measure, snaps important Bills out of the hands of Ministers, and advocates sweeping liberal measures with a degree of vim which is most unaccountable when his past political life is considered. Sir Henry, it is clear, will be pulled up some of these days with a round turn by his compeers, who begin already to murmur that "as a conservist he is not a success."

The Barks.—The Provincial notes in

THE BANES.—The Provincial notes in circulation on the 1st inst, were as follows: Payable at Montreal, \$3,070,603; Toronto, \$1,194,639; specie at Montreal, \$450,000; at Toronto, \$420,000; debentures held by the hecviver-General, \$8,000,000. The usual monthly statement of the banks, for December, shows that the circulation in Ontario and Quebec was \$8,080,274.

In Minto on the 18th inst, the wife of Mr John Kindness, farmer, of a son. Greson—At Nassagaweya on the 16th inst, the wife of Mr Thos Simpson of a son.

MARRIAGES.

WARKHAUES.

VACKHAMMER—RYDER—On the 7th inst., by the Rev. J. Unsworth, Mr Danford Swackhammer to Miss Mary Jane Ryder, both of Esquesing, LILAMSON—WILLS—By the Rev Thos Jöffers, on the 26th of December, Mr David Williamson to Miss Elizabeth Wilds, light of the Action, 100KS—LEKLIE—At Rothsay, on the 14th inst, 100KS—LEKLIE—At Rothsay, on the 14th inst, 100KS—LEKLIE—At the mansion of the bride's father, in the Village of Hespeler, County of Waterloo, on the 16th instant, by the Rev M Boomer, D. D., Rural Dean, John Walker, Esq., of London, Ontario, to Lawa, third daughter of Jacob Hespeler, Esq., of Hespeler.

third daughter of Jacob Hespeler, Esq., of Hespeler.

Hespeler.

Mr Worester, Mr Levi Hagey, to Miss Isabella, eldest daughter of Mr Joel Glemens, both of Waterloo.

CULLOCH—STEWART—On the 14th instant, by Elder James Black, at Fairview. Eramosa, re-sidence of the bride's father, James McCul-logg, M. H., to Hannah, cliest daughter of Ack,—Fasousov—At the residence of the bride's brother, on the 9th inst, by the Rev James A Thompson, Mr John Black to Miss Margaret Ferguson, all of Erin.

Parcen At E quesing, on the 10th inst, after a lingering illness, which he bore with pa-tience and resignation, John McIntosh, Esq., son of Peter McIntosh, Esquesing, Ont., agod 23 years.

NERVE In Guelph, on Wednesday the 15th unst.,
Mrs. William Neeve, aged 88 years. Deceased was one of the oldest residents in Guelon.

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets. MERCURY OFFICE, GUEI January 28, 1868.

Flour, per 100 lbs, \$3	75	"	4
Fall Wheat per bushel 1	75	"	ī
Spring Wheat	55	"	i i
Spring Wheat, 1 Oats do 0	50	**	ô
Oats Pens 1800 do 0	70	- 11	v.
Barley do 0	100	"	1
Barley do 0	90	11	
Hay, per ton 9	100		ŢĪ.
Straw 4	Oct		9
Shingles per square I	00		1
Wood per cord 3	00		3
Wool 0	27	"	0
Eggs.per dozen 0	14	"	0
Butter (firkin), per ib 0	16	"	ŏ
Geese, each 0		. "	A
Turkers do 0		"	Ö
Chickens per pair 0		"	0
Ducks do 0	90	"	0
Potatoes 0	50	11	0
Apples were bala	-00	**	2
Apples per brls 0	00		2
Lamb per lb 0		"	0
Boof 4	M)		6
Beef, per lb 0	195	3 ,, 3	0
Pork per 100 lbs 4	75	66. 3	-
Sheep Pelts each 0	30 /	11 5	0
Lamb skins 0	40	,,	0
Hides per 1001hs 6	00	**	6

Excellent Farm For Sale in E

One Hundred Acres! with about 70 acres cleared. Land of execuality, and well watered. There is a good

Two Storey Stone House

IT is the best Family Knitting Machine extant No other invention affords so profitable em ployment for women. I No other invention affords so profitable employment for women.

It has taken the Highest premium (a Gold Macha) at the Pair of the American Institute, New York, and the Exhibition of the Mass. Charitable Association, Boston, and the Provincial Exhibition at Toronto also, and the highest Premium at very State and County Fairwherever it has been experienced by the County of the Pairwherever in the State of the County o

New Saddlery Shop

What is more cheering than the merry Sleigh Bells? We can supply you. Call at the new shop, next door to Mr Hoover's Livery Office.

The consequence of the present premises being too small for our large stock, we will for a short time have to sell at a reduced price, to keep our present staff of superior workmen.

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every Saturday, and Liverpool on Wednesday of search week, calling at Queenstown each way.

The size of those Steamshipe admits of very spa-cious, state-rooms, all opening directly into the Saloon. The accommodation and fare are unsur-passed, and the rates lower than by any other line.

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In. It is only recently built, contains 17
nents, and has a very large and well finished
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and driving sheet. The house is well stipeith hard and soft water, with wood shed,
yor, sphenicit-garden, and all other con-

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WHIPS, HORSE COVERS, Sleigh Bells JUST received, a large lot of FANCY GOODS, all kinds, suitable for PRESENTS for

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MRS. HUNTER.
Guelph, 11th Dec., 1867.

TROTTER & GRAHAM.



GUELPH and BRAMPTON,

Over Mr. Higinbotham's Drng Store

REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Drs. Clarke, Pagker and Herod, Guelph; A. F. Scott. Esq., County Judge, George Green, County Atcorney; Dr. Pattallo, M. M. C.; Rev. Mr. Arnold.—Brampton. Dr. Barnhart, Warden of Peel; Dr. Hanpton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital. The new anesthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain.

R. TROTTER. W. K. GRAHAM. Guelph, 2nd August, 1867.

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CONSIGNMENTS soficited. Highest prices realized, and ectures promptly made Every possible information afforded consignors in reference to the Markets, Packing of Pork, Manufactures of the Markets of the Markets of the Markets of Pork, Manufactures of the Markets of the Markets of Pork, Manufactures of the Markets o Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.,

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To M and JEHEY, and all kinds of Fancy Brinks prepared in he most approved manner.

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77 Front Street, Toronto,
But to intende to their Western riends and the public generally, that they have now received a

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Guelph, Oct. 28, 1867. Agent, Guelph w713-d86

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