Guelph, April 25, 1867.

Guelph Evening Mercury

TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 23.

NORAH CUSHALEEN

HAUNTED CASTLE.

CHAPTER II.—THE PAST—THE DEED DONE.

Dennis carried the lamp in his hand, but the moment the door was opened it was extinguished, and they stood outside the ruin-amid the darkness and fury of a fearful midnight hurricane.

By Malvin's directions, they waited till he brought the horse from where he had been sheltered. He then vaulted into the saddle, and with the old man's help, Norah and her sleeping child were placed behind him, and they immediately moved away, Dennis following with a heavy heart.

The darkness of the night, the violence of the wind, and the roughness and their progress necessarily very slow, and the old man had no difficulty in keeping close behind them. In silence, therefore, they descended, for the hearts of Malvin and Dennis were filled with the guilty knowledge of the cruel deed that was about to be done, and they cared not to speak to each other, or to their unsuspecting victim.

Norah sat on the horse behind her husbank, happy and contented, thinking that her sorrows and trials were past,

shout to be done, and they cared not to speak to each other, or to their unsuspecting victim.

Norah sat on the horse behind her husbank, happy and contented, thinking that her sorrows and trials were past, and that she was about to become the happy wife of a happy and honourable man, and restored to the love and affection of her father. With this hope dancing in her young heart, she heeded not the violence of the wind, but drew her infant closer to her bosom, and murmured over it a mother's blessing. Then she put her other arm more confidently around Malvrin, bent her face upon his shoulder, and have up her mind to its bright anticipations.

While they made their way down the long mountain path to the beach, we shall present our readers with a brief but necessary history of Norah Cushaleen and her connection with Malvrin Blantire.

A more happy, contented, and pros-

and her connection with Malvin Blantire.

A more happy, contented, and prosperous farmer than Michael Cushaieen could not have been found in all the county of Cork. He occupied, on very advantageous terms, a hundred acres of fertile land, and four or five hundred acres of bog and mountain slope on the estate of Dundarra, which belonged to a once popular family of the name of Ormand. Twenty-five years before the opening of our tale, Colonel Ormond, the then proprietor of Dundarra, lett Ireland with his regiment, and never returned. While quartered at Stirling, he wood a beautiful Scotch girl, and after spending, with his young wife, two years of unwonted happiness, he suddenly died, and a grave was given him on the shores of the wnding Forth. He left but one child—a boy—who was, of course, the heritor of his name and estate; but his mother dying while he was yet young, he was brought up by his Scotch relatives and had never aid a visit to his father's native land, the state being managed by a factor, one Jacob O'Brady, an attorney.

The departure and death of Colonel

The departure and death of Colonel The departure and death of Colonel Ormond were deplorable events for the tenants at Dundarra Jacob O'Brady had been the Colonel's agent for several years previously, and had transacted the business so much to the Colonel's satisfaction that he put the entire management into his hands when he left, and the Colonel's death made the position a permanent one. Up to this sad event, and when it was possible that the Colonel might return at any hour, O'Brady acted with justice and liberality, but no sooner was he possessed of the reins of irresponsible power than he showed himself in his true colours, as an oppressor and as an iniquitous grinder of the poor tenants. We have said the Colonel died suddenly, but not so suddenly as to prevent

We have said the Colonel died suddenly, but not so suddenly as to prevent him from executing a deed by which O'-Brady was to be factor at Dundarra, until his son came of age. This the Colonel did under the impression that he was thereby preserving the place from the rapaeity and cruelty of an unprincipled agent whom others might appoint. Litdid under the impression that he was thereby preserving the place from the rapacity and crucity of an unprincipled agent whom others might appoint. Little did the warm-hearted soldler dream that he was doing the very thing he meant to prevent; that Jacob O'Brady, whom he thought so just and honourable, was as grasping and bad-hearted a man as was to be found in Ireland. He was cunning and plausible when he chose, but when he had no selfish purposes to serve, and no selfish fear to deter him, he took no pains to conceal his true character. The Colonel committed, therefore, a terrible, though unintentional mistake, when he gave up Dundarra and the interests of its people to the tender mercies of the unscrupulous lawyer, and the latter chuckled with infinite glee when made acquainted with the contents of the will.

'Twenty years,' he said to himself.—By jabers but I'll make a neat thing of it, in twenty years, and who knows but it may be longer. "This boy, born and brough up in Scotland, won't take kindly to his father's country, and never a chance is there that he will ever come to live at Dundarra. So if I manage my cards well I may be factor for life. Och, Jacob O'Brady, but it's a fortunate man you are entirely.'

So he at once set about making what he called 'a neat thing of it,' and the principle of his action was to scree very possible farthing out of those who cultivated the lands of Dundarra. Against his exactions the latter had, of course, no protection; they could but submit unresistingly, and curse in their hearts the destroyer of their comfort—the author of their misery.

Michael Cushalegt was among the first of O'Brady's victims, and for this first of O'Brady's victims, and for this first of O'Brady's victims, and for this destroyer of their emforts. The confort—the author of their misery.

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Michael Cushalogi was among the first of O'licady's victims, and for this reason, the Michael is farm was the best on the estate, and the factor wanted it for hims. I. Now, the farm had been in the rands of the Cushaleens for several generations. Michael was a good farmer, and always ready with his rent.—O'Bridy, therefore could not go at once and too him not, but he turned the screw on him more severely than on the others. As regarded the others he meant power ty only that as regarded Michael, he meant ejectment, and be took his measures accordingly. The rent was raised year after year till it was doubled. This O'Bridy facetionsly called the annual turn of the screw, and he waited somewhat impatiently for the desired result.

This result circumstances prevented from coming as soon as the natural ope

have warranted. During his years of prosperity Michael Cushaleen had saved a little money, and if he had been wise he would have quitted his farm when he found be could offly hold it on terms that must reduce him to beggary; but he could not make up his mind to leave the place where he was born, and where his family had lived so long. He therefore struggled on; and he and Terry, his only son, toiled night and day to make up the required sum at rent time. But all their toiling would not do and Michael made up the deficiency out of his former savings.

O'Brady had a pretty shrewd notion

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July 18th, 1867, (3m) JAMES C. CLARK, Hanover P. (

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