Guelph Evening Mercury

......MACDONNELL STREET.

The Maiden's Choice

OR. THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

As she took it from him, Helen looked wistfully into his cold, grave, reproachful face, and longed to snatch his hand to her lips, but he sternly turned from her, and, taking his lawyer's arm, quitted the vestry without another word.

With a sigh, Helen put the packet in her bosom, and was now led to the carringe by Charlie, who had regarded the latter scene with perfect indifference. As for Jabez Cringan, he was altogether oblivious of the circumstance of the packet, every sense had being absorbed in the operation of counting the gold.

A few hours later, in the solitude of her chamber at Birkencleuch, Helen opened the packet, and its contents filled her with unutterable horror and despair.

CHAPTER MX.—THE PACKET AND ITS CONTENTS

CHAPTER XIX.—THE PACKET AND ITS CONTENTS

—AMAZING REVELATIONS,

chamber at Hirkeneleuch, Helen opened the packet, and its contents filled her with unitterable horror and despair.

—AMARIN RUELARIONS.

From the scene of noisy revelry which field howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired the howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired the howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired the howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired the howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired the howed namediately on the return of the bridal party to Birkeneleuch Helen gladly retired to the bridge of the condition of the responsibility of the condition of the responsibility of the property of

Well, well, while we walk in the dark shadows of earth we must bear their sorrows. When carth is past, and the clear eternal light shines upon us, we shall no longer see as through a glass darkly, but face to face, and know even as we are known. Heaven grant me patiente to wait, and resignation to bear, till then."

She laid her hand on her bosom to press it against her throbbing heart, and it came upon the packet she had received from Sir Gilbert Barton. Till that moment she had quite forgot about this packet—her state of mind being such when it was put into her hand as to make the circumstance, and indeed all that took place in the session-house, like a shadowy dream. But now that she felt it in her bosom, the matter returned to her recoilection, and she became curious to know what the packet might contain.

packet might contain.

She drew it forth, and found it closed with black wax, and sealed with Lady Barton's seal. It was also addressed thus on the back in her Ladyship's handwriting—

For Man Ladyship's handwriting—

The Man Ladys

"FOR HELEN CRINGAN—TO BE GIVEN TO HER

TO BE CONTINUED.

DR. RYERSON'S SPECIAL REPORT ON EDUCATION.—The day before the close of the sersion, the Hon. M. C. Cameron, Provincial Secretary, presented to the Legislative Assembly a special report from the Rever and Dr. Ryerson, "on the system and state of popular education in several countries of Europe and the United States of America, with practical sargestions for the improvement of public instruction in Upper Canada." On the outside of the back of the report is a summary table of contents as follows—Brief account, with comparative views and practical remarks, of the system and state of popular education in France, Holland, Eelgium, Prussias, Switzerland, Baden. Wurtemburg, Bavaria, Austria, Saxony, Denmark Norway, Sweden, Ireland, Secotland, England, Massachuseits, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Practical suggestions for the improvement of public instruction in Upper Canada. At the close of his note to Mr. Cameron, transmitting his special report, Dr. Ryerson intimates his intention to make a separate report on institutions for the deaf and dumb and blind, with suggestions.

It is reported that the Governmenthave in contemplation the raising of a

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