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Guelph Evening Mercury
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

FRIDAY EV'NG. JAN. 24, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

The company who assembled that day at Muirside Moss, had certainly little the appearance of rebels. They were there with blue bonnets on their heads, and plaid shawls over their shoulders, their only weapons being the stout sticks which had helped them to cross the moor. These ruddy-faced stalwart men were the only ones who could offer physical resistance either then or at any other time, and their appearance gave little indication of insurrectionists—discontented strife-loving men whose element was in warfare, and who were ready and eager to incite the population to rise in arms against a paternal and protecting Government. It was the fashion of the time to represent the Covenanters as persons of this character, who had no proper grievance to complain of, but who most unaccountably cherished a wicked hatred of the Stuarts, and were working with the sole object of thrusting them from the throne. And in our own days these are not wanting who repent this calamity—Tories of the stamp of the author of the "Life and Times of Claverhouse," who scruple not to call such men as Knox, Cargill, Peden, Cameron, and Renwick scoundrels, truculent traitors, bloodthirsty fanatics, promoters of sedition, and all manner of detestable names; while they laud with fulsome adulation the cruel persecutors who sought to quench a people's faith and override their consciences.

To represent the Covenanters as rebels against the Temporal Authority and Government of Charles II., is an aspersion as false as it is absurd. The only quarrel with the Government was of a religious character; their highest and dearest interests had been assailed, and they could not do other than they did without abandoning their allegiance to a King mightier than he who sat on the throne of Britain—to the King of Heaven and Earth, the King of the Universe, the Lord. The time indeed came when they were subjected to persecution to which they were subjected on them the conviction that Charles had forfeited all claim to call them subjects, and then they boldly pronounced their rejection of him, and declared that henceforth they abjured his temporal authority as they had before denied his spiritual jurisdiction. But at the very fall of 1666, the Covenanters were staunchly and truly loyal, and thought of nothing but to assert their religious independence and preserve their spiritual liberties.

These broad-minded hill-men who found their way to the conventicle at Muirside Moss were grave and serious enough, but the expression of their open, intelligent countenances was neither stern nor severe. One would have looked in vain for an aspect of bigotry, narrow-mindedness, or so fanaticalism among their upturned faces as those were directed towards the platform to be occupied by the minister. There was much firmness and resolute determination to be seen there—a look expressive of calm, deliberate steadfastness to conviction, illumined at the moment by the glad expectation they had of enjoying once more a pure Sabbath service.

But old men and old women were there likewise, who sorely missed the gospel feast which they had so long enjoyed, and had made the toilsome and difficult journey into the wilderness to hear once again the proclamation of the pure and simple truth. Young men and maidens were there also, ardent and enthusiastic in their love to the Covenant for which their fathers had suffered and for which they also were ready to suffer rather than renounce it.

It was a goodly company that had assembled on the grassy slope by the hour of noon and a quiet decorum was manifested by all as they waited the arrival of Mr. Gordon. The minister and Walter Elliot had left Birkenleuch early in the evening, and had spent the night at a farm-house within easy distance of the place of meeting. It was known that they had come to take up their abode there, and the farmers and small proprietors of the district who adhered to the suffering cause proceeded thither in the morning to accompany the minister as the guard of defence.

At length they were descried winding round the Moss, and murmured blessings broke from many lips as the people caught sight of the venerable form of their dearly-beloved pastor, whom many of them had not seen since the day he was driven from their midst by the edict of ejection. His hair was grey almost to whiteness, but he seemed hale and strong as ever. His tall form was bent with the years that had passed over him, his eye was clear and tender as ever, and his placid features beamed with the same kindness and benevolence.

Young and old crowded round to grasp his hand and bless him in his Master's name, and then it was that the tears flowed and sobbed shook strong bosoms as the memory of the happy past was recalled by the good man's presence, and contrasted with the sad circumstances in which they now met him. Mr. Gordon's self-possession was disturbed by the outburst of emotion and the sight of so many families of the hill behind them, but he held his own, and the tears rolled into his eyes; but exerting his firmness, he waved the weeping crowd aside, and ascended the elevation that had been prepared for him. He had previously selected his text and arranged the subject of the sermon he intended to deliver, but this scene caused him suddenly to change it to the words of the Psalmist, which suddenly rushed with consoling power over his mind—

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."
Walter Elliot was the only one there present who suggested the propriety of placing accents or sentences on the heights above, but this was by the others considered unnecessary, as, from the nature of the ground the approach of the troops could be observed from a distance, and besides, there was not the slightest reason to suppose that intelligence of their meeting had been received by the garrison at Sanquhar. There was but one point from which they could be surprised or taken unawares, and that was from the shoulder of the hill behind them; but as the foe could approach from that direction only by taking a very circuitous route, and by paths known only to those familiar with the district, it was deemed impossible that danger could come to them from that quarter. The laird's suggestion was therefore not carried out, and the entire assembly closed round the rude pulpit and sunk into perfect silence, when Mr. Gordon rose with bare head to read out the psalm.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Miss Mary Walker, the redoubtable Englishwoman, has scaled the accessible and inaccessible peaks of the Burness Overland, to whom Mount Blane is a pleasant day's journey, whose name is echoed from month to month in wonder or dismay, according to the calibre of the speaker, or the spoken-to. Not Dr. Mary Walker, who visits medical hospitals in London and Paris, but an "English girl, rather delicate looking than otherwise, and as light of foot as a bird on wing," to quote from a description given by one of her own enthusiastic countrymen. Carl Brandt, the artist, met her at Kandersteg, and by common with many others, watched her through his glass till she reached the very summit of the Blunna Alps, where for the last four hours or more, every step that is made must be in the ice. She is the admiration of nearly every guide in Switzerland. Anderker, one of the most noted, told Mr. Brandt that when he was with her ascending the Mouch, they were all amazed at her audacity. They had reached the summit, having gone quite so far as they thought it safe to go, and were resting themselves. She, however, was not content, for there remained, jutting out from the very tip, like a bird's beak, a narrow projection, incrustured with ice and snow. It was hardly wide enough for her two feet, and not so safe as the ridge pole of the steepest roof; but out she went, fleetly, fearlessly, to the extreme point, where she was suspended, as it were, in mid air, thousand and thousands of feet above the valley. The guides fairly shivered with fright as they beheld her and shouted for her to come back.

DEER IN A BARNYARD.—A farmer residing in the township of Bristol, county of Pontiac, was surprised a few mornings ago to find a couple of moose deer feeding in his barnyard. The farmer took his gun and shot one of them, the other making its escape with all due haste.

The bachelors of Quebec are to give two Assemblies during the present season. This is creating no little excitement in social circles, and well it may; for the bachelors can be counted by hundreds, while their fair acquaintances can only count but not catch them.

THE WONDERS OF FALKIRK.—In the course of a speech at the reunion of natives of Falkirk, held at Glasgow, Mr. Thomas Kier of Linns, said Falkirk used to boast of four "wonders" amongst its inhabitants. The first of these was a gravedigger, who had a gold watch; second, a town drummer, said to be worth \$30,000; third, a barber who kept a pack of hounds; and fourth, an honest lawyer.

PUBLIC DEBTS OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.—There are some interesting and important statistics of the comparative indebtedness of nations, in the report of Special Commissioner Welles. The public debt of the United States is \$2,508,125,160 of England, with a smaller population, \$4,003,794,235; of France, \$2,340,029,890, which has increased in 13 years 130 per cent, and increases annually, while the population remains about the same; of Austria, \$1,316,103,201; of Italy, \$1,071,818,940, an increase in six years of 128 per cent, of Prussia, \$245,706,903; of Spain, with less than half the American population, \$819,887,360. It must not be overlooked in estimating the American debt, that the return of \$2,508,125,160 does not include the debts due by the various States. If these are added to the above-named sum, the total will swell to quite that of Great Britain. The municipal debts of the States, those of cities, towns, counties and townships are also very heavy, and of course are not included in the above estimates.

Henry Ward Beecher is engaged in writing a Life of Christ, which is intended as an antidote to the Santa Beuve the Ecce Homo and the Alcyone theories. Though several books are written and more are soon to be produced, this one, coming from such a source, will have many readers. Mr. Beecher himself says of it:—At a time when a chill mist of doubt is rising over all the sacred records from an excessive addition to material science it would seem that good service might be rendered to religion by re-asserting in language and by methods congenial to the wants of modern thought, the divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It gives Satisfaction, does that excellent Tea sold for 62½¢ per lb. by JAS. MURPHY, No. 1, Upper Wyndham-st. Guelph. dwf

MARRIAGES.

CARTER—McARTHUR—At Erie, on the 22nd inst., by the Rev. Mr. Bowie, Mr. George H. Carter to Annie, youngest daughter of Mr. Peter McArthur, farmer, Erie.

DIED.

GREIVE—At Guelph, on the 23rd inst., John Greive, aged 65 years. The funeral will take place from his late residence at Morrison-st. on Saturday at 1 o'clock, p. m. Friends and acquaintances are invited to attend.

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets.
MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH,
January 24, 1868.

Wheat, per 100 lbs.	1 40	4 00
Pat Wheat per bushel.	1 75	1 80
Oats do	0 50	0 55
Spring Wheat do	0 50	0 55
Peas do	0 70	0 75
Barley do	0 80	0 85
Lard per ton	4 00	5 00
Straw do	1 00	1 50
Wool per cord	3 00	3 50
Wool do	0 25	0 20
Eggs per dozen	0 14	0 15
Butter (Irish), per lb.	0 16	0 18
Cheese do	0 25	0 30
Turkeys do	0 50	0 60
Chickens per pair	0 20	0 25
Pigs do	0 30	0 35
Potatoes	0 50	0 60
Apples per bushel	0 00	2 00
Lamb per lb.	0 06	0 07
Beef do	0 08	0 09
Sheep Pelts each	0 30	0 25
Lamb skins	0 40	0 45
Hides per 100 lbs.	6 00	6 10

Money Market.

JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE,
Guelph, January 24, 1868.

Gold, 140.
Greenbacks at 70 to 71; sold at 71 to 72.
Silver bought at 44 to 45; sold at 44 to 45.
Buyer Canada Bank Bills bought at 50 to 51.
Commercial Bank Bills bought at 50 to 51.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Kirkwood, Livingston & Co.'s report by Special Telegram to "Evening Mercury."

MONTREAL, January 24, 1868.
Flour—Fancy, \$7 85 to \$7 85; Superior No. 1, \$7 40 to \$7 55; Welland Canal, \$7 50; Bag flour, \$8 00 to \$8 70; Oats 45¢ to 46¢; Barley 90¢ to 95¢; Butter—dairy 15¢ to 17¢; store packed 13¢ to 15¢; Ashes—Fost 25¢ to 28¢; Peas \$5 80 to \$6 90.

Money Market.

HAMILTON, JANUARY 23, 1868.
Full wheat, —\$1 55 @ \$1 65, spring do —\$1 50 @ \$1 55 per bushel; Barley —95 @ \$1 00. Oats —53 to 55¢; Peas —75¢ @ 80¢.

A Brave English Girl.

Miss Mary Walker, the redoubtable Englishwoman, has scaled the accessible and inaccessible peaks of the Burness Overland, to whom Mount Blane is a pleasant day's journey, whose name is echoed from month to month in wonder or dismay, according to the calibre of the speaker, or the spoken-to. Not Dr. Mary Walker, who visits medical hospitals in London and Paris, but an "English girl, rather delicate looking than otherwise, and as light of foot as a bird on wing," to quote from a description given by one of her own enthusiastic countrymen. Carl Brandt, the artist, met her at Kandersteg, and by common with many others, watched her through his glass till she reached the very summit of the Blunna Alps, where for the last four hours or more, every step that is made must be in the ice. She is the admiration of nearly every guide in Switzerland. Anderker, one of the most noted, told Mr. Brandt that when he was with her ascending the Mouch, they were all amazed at her audacity. They had reached the summit, having gone quite so far as they thought it safe to go, and were resting themselves. She, however, was not content, for there remained, jutting out from the very tip, like a bird's beak, a narrow projection, incrustured with ice and snow. It was hardly wide enough for her two feet, and not so safe as the ridge pole of the steepest roof; but out she went, fleetly, fearlessly, to the extreme point, where she was suspended, as it were, in mid air, thousand and thousands of feet above the valley. The guides fairly shivered with fright as they beheld her and shouted for her to come back.

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Excellent Farm FURS.

For Sale in Eramosa. For sale that valuable farm, composed of the West-half of Lot No. 25, 2d Concession, Eramosa. One Hundred Acres! with about 70 acres cleared. Land of excellent quality, and well watered. There is a good Two Storey Stone House containing nine rooms, pantry, and cellar the whole size of house. The building is nearly new. There is also a large FARMER'S SHED nearly new, and a thriving young orchard of the best grafted fruit. This property is sold cheap. For terms and particulars apply to HENRY HATCH, Guelph, Guelph, 10th December, 1867. w3m

FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE

Manufactured by the Lamb Knitting Machine Manufacturing Company, CHICHESTER FALLS, N. Y. It is the best Family Knitting Machine extant. No other invention affords so profitable employment for women. It has taken the highest premium (a Gold Medal) at the Fair 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 every State and County Fair wherever it has been exhibited—eclipsing all other machines. It sets up its own work, knits all sizes, widens and narrows the knit into the stocking, and narrows off the toe complete; it knits a yard of plain work in five minutes, a pair of Socks in thirty minutes. Knits the single, double, ribbed and fancy flat welt, producing all varieties of knit goods, from an infant's stocking, mitten or glove, to a lady's shawl or hood, without any other machine in the world can do. It is simple, durable, and easily operated. It is sold by call and send the circular enclosed. Lot No. 229, Call and send the circular enclosed. Lot No. 229, Call and send the circular enclosed. Lot No. 229, Call and send the circular enclosed. Lot No. 229, Call and send the circular enclosed. Lot No. 229, Call and send the circular enclosed. Agents in Guelph, JACOB N. COHER, Sole Agent for Wellington and Waterloo Counties. Also, Agent for the BARCLAY SEWING MACHINE, manufactured in Paris, Ontario. Address Respective P. O. 239-3m

New Saddlery Shop

Do you want a set of Harness, double or single, light or heavy, call at the new shop, next door to Coffee's Hotel. Do you want a good Saddle? We can supply you cheaper than ever, 15 yards from O'Connell's Wellington Hotel. Everybody in want of a good Truck, Valise, or Travelling Bag, can be supplied at the new shop, two doors from the Post Office.

WHIPS, Horse Covers, Sleigh Bells

A very large and well-assorted stock of Whips will be sold at 25¢, on the dollar, or our former low prices, 50 yards north of St. George's Church. We have a few pairs of imported made up Horse Covers, made to order, also a nice lot of Common Blankets. Who 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. We have on hand all kinds of articles, and will make up on the shortest notice anything you want in the Saddlery line, a few doors South of the Registry Office. Brushes, Combs, Spurs, Bits, in endless variety. REPAIRING done as usual.

SMITH & METCALF,

Late occupants of the premises, destroyed by fire, adjoining the Alma Block. Guelph, 20th December 1867. dwf

PRIZE DENTISTRY.

DR. R. CAMPBELL

Over Mr. Higginbotham's Drug Store

REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Drs. Clarke, Farquhar and Herold, Guelph; A. F. Scott, Esq., County Judge; George Green, County Attorney; Dr. Pattullo, M. C. C. Rev. Mr. Arnold—Brampton. Dr. Barnhart, Ward of Peel; Dr. Hamilton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital. The new anæsthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain. R. TROTTER & GRAHAM, Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. W. K. GRAHAM (d-w-1)

FLOUR, GRAIN, PROVISIONS,

ASHES, LEATHER, &c. CONSIGNMENTS solicited. Highest prices realized, and returns promptly made. Every possible information afforded consignors in reference to the Markets, Packing of Pork, Manufacture, &c., as required. Kirkwood, Livingston & Co., MONTREAL, Kirkwood, Livingston & More, HALIFAX.

ADVANCES.

DRAFTS for Cash and Consignments to Montreal and Halifax may be made at the option of Consignors, on other Cities. Cash advances made on shipments to our Correspondents in Foreign Markets. Kirkwood, Livingston & Co., MONTREAL, Kirkwood, Livingston & More, HALIFAX.

FISH, OILS, &c.

ORDERERS for fish, Oils, and West India Produce carefully and promptly executed. Kirkwood, Livingston & Co., HALIFAX, N. S. w3w

Funerals, Funerals!

NATHAN TOVELL has to intimate that he is prepared to attend funerals as usual. His Steam Planting Mill is in constant operation. All kinds of lumber, gates, doors, sheds, moldings, &c. He holds a share of public patronage. NATHAN TOVELL, Nelson Crescent, Guelph, 27th Aug. 1867.

Valuable Building Lots for Sale

THE subscriber offers for sale, cheap for cash, two valuable building lots in the Village of Eramosa, being Nos. 132 and No. 143, as laid out on the map filed by Wm. Hanks, Esq., P. L. S. There are two-thirds of an acre of land in the two lots, and being close to the Erie's Meeting House, and in a central part of the Village, form excellent sites for building on. For terms apply at the Secretary's Office, (by letter post-paid) to WILLIAM STOVEL, Rockwood, 20th October, 1867.

Valuable Tavern Stands

THE subscriber offers for sale the following Valuable Tavern Stands in the village of Rockwood: The Commercial Hotel, close to the Railway Station. It is only recently built, contains 17 apartments, has a very large and well finished Hall Room or Bar; also large and commodious tables and driving shed. The house is well supplied with hard and soft water, with wood shed, pig sty, splendid garden, and all other conveniences. For its nearness to the station, and the excellent accommodation it supplies, it does the largest and most profitable business in Rockwood. The WELLINGTON HOTEL—This house is situated in the heart of the village, and close to the mills and stores. It was rebuilt this summer after being burnt down, and is rented for \$225 a year. It contains 11 apartments, with stone wood shed, driving shed, pig sty, and large front yard. There is a good garden attached to the house. For particulars apply to the undersigned (by letter post-paid) at the Commercial Hotel, near the G. T. R. Station, Rockwood.

Strayed Steer.

CAME on the premises of the subscriber about the 1st of October last, a steers rising two years. The owner on proving property and paying expenses may take him away. JOHN BECHER, Lot 29, 4th Concession, Eramosa, Guelph, 21st January, 1868. w3

FURS, FURS.

WE have opened our stock of FURS, our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz: Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, and a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' SUIT-FURS, and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c. F. GARLAND, Market Square, GUELPH.

Gold & Silver Plating

A. HOWIE & CO. Royal Hotel Buildings, James-st., HAMILTON. Watches, Chains, Rings, Penicil Cases, and all kinds of Jewelry Plated in Gold. Tea Sets, Cake Baskets, Knives, Forks, Spoons, &c., Plated at reasonable rates. Also, Door Plates & Carriage Trimmings of every description done to order with neatness and dispatch. Orders from a distance punctually attended to. Hamilton, November 23 1867. dw3m

MRS. HUNTER'S FANCY STORE,

West Market Square. JUST received, a large lot of FANCY GOODS, all kinds, suitable for CHRISTMAS for Christmas & New Year's. She has the LARGEST and BEST ASSORTMENT in town of Berlin & Fancy Wools. Stamping for Braiding and Embroidery.

TROTTER & GRAHAM,

Members of the Dental Association of the Province of Ontario. (Successors in Guelph to T. Trotter.) OFFICE: Over Mr. Higginbotham's Drug Store REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Drs. Clarke, Farquhar and Herold, Guelph; A. F. Scott, Esq., County Judge; George Green, County Attorney; Dr. Pattullo, M. C. C. Rev. Mr. Arnold—Brampton. Dr. Barnhart, Ward of Peel; Dr. Hamilton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital. The new anæsthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain. R. TROTTER & GRAHAM, Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. W. K. GRAHAM (d-w-1)

THE GROCCERY & WINE TRADE.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT. FRANK SMITH & CO. 77 Front Street, Toronto, BEG to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now received a large portion of their Fall supply of Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c., Ex. 'Planet,' 'Chaudiere,' 'City of Hamilton,' 'Glenborie,' from London. 'Avon,' 'Onida,' 'Hibernia,' 'Peruvian,' 'Summer,' and 'Pericles,' from Liverpool. 'Abeona' and 'Glenfleur,' from Glasgow. 'Agnes' from Charente. &c. and are daily expecting the arrival of Fresh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo Ex. 'Deodara,' 'Canny Scott' and 'Mary Ann,' from Malaga, Marseilles and Denia. JUST RECEIVING IN STORE. 303 Hills and Tierces of Barbadoes, Porto Rico and Cuba Sugars. 522 Bbls Currants crop 1866, VERY CHEAP. 5175 Half Chests and Cakes Souchong, Congou, Japan, Gunpowder, Young and Old Hyson Teas, with a full assortment of Tobaccos, Refined Sugars, Wines and Liquors and Dry Groceries. All of which will be submitted to the trade, equal to and below Montreal prices. Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired. Toronto, 8th November, 1867. dwf

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE of the AMERICAN WATCH. CHEAPEST WATCHES IN THE WORLD. The American Watch Company of Waltham, Mass., being determined to place their several grades of Watches at prices within the reach of all parties, and to effectually shut out all Swiss counterfeit Watches, have decided from this date to supply their Watches in the Dominion of Canada at the net gold value of American Currency. The Company by thus paying all duties, costs and charges on their Watches into Canada, will supply to the people of the Dominion the Cheapest Watches of all grades, from the finest Gold Watch made, adapted to any climate from the Tropics to the Poles, at a price to suit the wealthy connoisseur or for presentation, to the Cheap Silver Lever, strong and serviceable, regulated to minutes, suitable to the Mechanic and Farmer, and quite as low in price as any moderate quality Swiss Watch. Our grades of EXTRA HEAVY CASED WATCHES for Railway Engineers and Lumbermen deserve particular attention in Canada, as nothing can equal them for the purpose. On leading Watches in IS CARET GOLD CASES for Ladies and Private Gentlemen, at medium prices, will also be found very desirable. We are frequently asked why we don't advertise prices. We reply that we only supply the trade and as our Watches are now kept by most respectable houses, the public can rely on being served at a fair advance on the Manufacturer's List. Our trade marks are AMERICAN WATCH CO. APPLETON TRACY & CO. WALTHAM WATCH CO. P. S. HARTLETT, WM. ELLERY, HOME WATCH CO. GUARANTEED in all cases by special certificate (except the HOME CO. which is warranted by the seller. The purchaser should always require the guarantee, as there are Swiss counterfeiters for sale in some places. ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York, General Agents. ROBERT WILKES, Toronto and Montreal. D. SAVAGE, Agent, Guelph. December 10th, 1867

THE GROCCERY & WINE TRADE.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT. FRANK SMITH & CO. 77 Front Street, Toronto, BEG to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now received a large portion of their Fall supply of Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c., Ex. 'Planet,' 'Chaudiere,' 'City of Hamilton,' 'Glenborie,' from London