THURSDAY EV'NG, JAN'Y 9, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

usions creature of the Government that had en him his place. Out of some unknown scurity he had emerged, had received lers from the Bishop of Glasgow, and was used the place so long and worthily de-tailed by Mr., Gordon. The latchets of that d man's alones he was not worthy to un-

rained by Mr. Gordon, he would have strong Whig leanings, and a warm heart towards his exited friend and guardian.

It gave Briar great pleasure, therefore, to recive the visit of Captain Allan, and to accompany him to the Cleuch, to have a fine inflicted on walter Elliot for non-attendance. But he also liatened with ready and complying ear to the latter's representation of the rivalry existing between him and Walter in great to Marion, and acreed to assaching in using his power to obtain possession of the person of Marion, Briar agreeing to make the prize secure by going through the ceremony of marriage, which would make her effectually his for ever. He well understood, therefore, the ulterior object Charlie had in his visit to the mansion, and though he with-

How do you feel under the change of circumstances?

Water maintained a contemptuous silence, as if he neither heard the speaker, nor was conscious of his presence.

'Oh, he! You affect to be sullenly insolent, do you?' continued the other, with a mocking laugh. 'But you cannat deserve me with a show of indifference. I well know your proud heart is writhing in its impatience. Let it writhe. I had long enough to bear scorn and contunely from you, and my soul gloats over this chance of enjoying revenge for all the insulist you have heaped upon me!' of Malter,' cried Marien. 'He never injured you—never!'

"Did he not? said Allan, in a tone of bit-ter passion, 'Do you call it no injury to supplant me - to over-reach me - in my sut; to get himself preferred to me by your father, and have me kicked out of doors like a beaten spaniel, while he remained to improve he opportunity and secure you for himself. Think you I can either forget or forgive that?"

opportunity and secure you for himself. Think you I can either forget or forgive that?

'It was not Walter's fault that your suit did not prosper, Charlie! exclaimed Marion bold in the consciousness of her wifely freedom, to speak much more plainly than she as a maiden could. 'He used no advantage against you but the advantage which he had in his own nature. He never tried to lower you in my esteem—he never said one word in your disparagement; and on no occasion did I know of him treating you unkindly.'

'Oh, no, of course not,' rejoined Allam with a malicious sneer. 'It was the highest presumption in such as me to feel hurt at any kind of treatment, or to dare to count myself equal to the Laird of Birkerdleuch! I was then nobody, and could be safely tranpled on. I bore it then because I could not better do. I can revenge myself now, and this very day I shall do it.'

'No! no! Charlie,' exclaimed Marion in an agitated tone. 'You will not be so base, so ornel, so ungrateful as to use your power for Walter's injury.'

'Ungrateful again!' roared Allan furiously.' What gratifued do I owe him or any of you? Doublless it was a great favour for the nameless bastard to be received into Greystone manse and allowed to ext of the

the nameless bastard to be received into Greystone manse and allowed to eat of the crumbs that fell from the table,' Charlie, your aspersions are as false as they are unjust,' burst out Marion, stung into indignation by Allan's groundless charges.' Yo one in the house ever treated you ill by word or deed. My father acted like a father you. Walter the a heather act.

er protect.

Oh, yes, you were very magnanimous to me, and would have me prove magnanimous to you. But I tell you once for all that four test it. I will allow you, however, to be the arbiter of Walter Elliot's fate. Again do I offer you my hiand, and remember it is not now the penniless bastard nephew of Sir Thomas Allan who asks you to be his wife, but a Captain in his Majesty's service, whom circumstances have made a more envisible match for you than even the Lail of Birken-cleuch. Accept my sair, and I will ascort.

'You still refuse me then,' roared Allan ith glittering, gleaming eyes.

'My choice is made,' replied Marion bold-, y bestowing at the same time a glance of oride and affection on Walter. 'By all that sacred and holy, by love and honour,' am' Walter's, and can never be yours.'

Clan lie Allan smiled sardonically. 'Your hoice is made is it?' he repeated, 'so is mine, and by all the fiends I swar to abide by it.

Interval of the same and that ere the sun has left.

Mine you shall be, and that ere the sun has set.

'Charlie Allan, you are a coward and a villain,' said Walter Elliot, starting up, and in his-strong indignation, towering to his full height, his eyes flashing wrath, and his face expressive of bursting manly rage.

Allan started back a pace towards the door drew his sibre, and pointed it towards Walter. Marion uttered a slight scream, and would have rushed between him and the glittering blade, but he drew her gently, though firmly back, keeping his glowing eyes all the while steadfastly and sternly fixed on Charlie.

TO BE CONTINUED.

THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION Sheddon & Co., cartage agents of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, was given by Mr. Sheddon, on the evening of Mr. Jas, Smith, Union Station, Mr. McKenzie cashier, occupied the chair, Mr. Thos. Gray, foreman, the vice-chair. On the right of the chairman was Major-Jas. Stephenson, Local Superintendent George Spence, cashier G. T. R. Freight

of the Grand Trunk, and on his left, Mr. Depot. The entertainment was enlyened by the presence of the Grand Trunk

deby the presence of the Grand Trunk Battalion band. About sixty are as at down to an excellent epast. Aft the usual wal and path o coasts has been disposed of, and the leath M. C. J. Brydges been put, and responded to in his behalf by Mr. Stephenson, the vice-chairman in a few appropriate are wise introduced the toast of the evening. The behalf by Mr. Stephenson, the vice-chairman in a few appropriate are wise introduced the toast of the evening. The behalf by Mr. Stephenson, the vice-chairman in a few appropriate are wise introduced the toast of the conting the was drunk amid the most enthusiastic hurrah. As Mr. Sheddon himself was absent Mr. McKenzie responded. In the name of the former gentleman he extended a hearty welcome to his employees and the olicies of the Grand Trunk and others who were present, and then proceeded for pear of the good understanding and the feeling of thermony which existed between Mr. Sheddon, and those in his employ, and hoped that all present might meet at another reunion after another year had passed! Several other toasts were drunk and duly responded to, and the company separated satisfied that they had speat a most agreeable evening.

The Victoria Cross.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to grant the Victoria Cross upon Dr. Douglas and four privates of the 2nd Battalion of the 24th Begiment for their gallant conduct in rescaling a number of their comrades from imminent peril on tho May, 1857. It appears that they formed part of an expedition which had been sent to the Island of Little Andaman with the view of ascertaining the fate of the command. effectually his for ever. He well understood, therefore, the ulterior object Charlie had in his visit to the mansion, and though he with drew when Walter paid the fine and returned to the manse, it was in the full expectation of being soon followed thither by Allau bearing Marion, who was instantly to be made the boat being expectation. The curate halves are soon of the crew of the crew of the ship Asharity with the control of the crew of the crew of the ship Asharity with the manse, it was in the full expectation of being soon followed thither by Allau bearing Marion, who was instantly to be made the boat being expectation. It is control to the crew of the

of being soon followed thither by Allan bearing Marion, who was instantly to be made this wife.

The curate being gone, and the soldiers having dispersed to search for Hugh M'Kail, Charlie ordered Andrew and Marjory into the passage, to be watched over by the two soldiers stationed there. Then he closed the door of the chamber, and was alone with Walter and Marion.

The observation of others being thus excluded, all attempt to disguise his concentrated feelings of hate and triumph was thrown off, and striding towards the recess where Walter had stationed himself beside Marion—'Now, Walter Elliot,' hissed Allan, 'last night, when we parted, I swore that your triumph over me should be short-lived. An old inhabitant, who is weather-wise and otherwise, and who can tell a rate from a lap dog, prophested this morning that before the week was and the four privates referred to, gallandy many through the surf to the shore, but finding their boat was half filled with water, they retired. A second attempt made by Dr. Douglas and party proved a success, five of the men being safely passed through the surf to the boats outside. A third and last trip got the whole of the party left on shore as for the boats.

An old inhabitant, who is weather-wise and otherwise, and who can tell a rate from a lap dog, prophested this morning that before the week was and the four privates referred to, gallandy and the four privates referr from a lap dog, prophested this morning that before the week was out.
we Cannucks should be favoured with from two-and-half to three feet of snow.
We trust he knows, good sleighing will bring down the price of provisions and fuel, two articles which the Dominionists have not yet learnt how to do without.

> MARRIAGES. reen-Overland, In Erin, by the Rev. J. Thompson, Mr. Wm. Beer jr., to Miss M. Overland, all of Erin.

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets. MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH January 9, 1868.

Geese, each Turkeys do Chickens per pair Money Market.

JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE. }
Guelph, January 9, 1868. Geld, 1364.
Granshocks bo't at 72 to 73; Sold at 73 to 7.4.
Silver bought at 43 to 4. dis. toold at 54c to 4.
Upper danada Bank Bills bought at 50c, to 55c.
Commercial Bank Bills bought at 90c to 95c.

MONTHEAD. RARKETS.

Fall wheat,—\$1 50 @ \$1 55. Spring do—\$1 45 @ \$1 50. per bushel. Barley—\$1 @ \$1 25. Oats
—53c to 55c Peas- 78c @ 75c.

REMOVAL.

WM.G. TAYLOR

Veterinary Surgeon, Are his subre, and pointed it towards Walter. Marion uttered a slight scream, and would have rushed between him and the glittering blade, but he drew her gently hough firmly heack, keeping his glowing eyes all the while steadfastly and sternly fixed on Charlie.

To BE CONTINUED.

Several farmers in the township of Ancaster have suffered depredations in their sheep pens, attributed to a full-grown bear from the appearance of tracks discovered in the snow. A hunting party turned out on Saturday and traced the monster to the tenament of a club-footed negro.

Office, Woolwich Street, nearly opposite Dougle's Street.

Plans, Specifications & Estimates, Supplied. and work superintendend in all its branches.

CTEPHEN BOULT having succeeded to the old established Lumber furth of Thes McCrae, Esq. begs a continuation of public patronage. All kinds of Lumber on hand.—Prempt attention given to allorders.

Planing Done to Order, Mouldings, Sashes, Doors Blinds, and Machine Joiners' Work, Executed with despatch and kepfalways on hand. Cash paid for all kinds of Lumber at the yard. S. Boult thanks the public for eleven years kind favors, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

Thomas McCraethanksthapublicfor partfavours, and recommends McBourt to their favourable consideration: THOMAS McCRAE. Guelph January 31, 1867. 698-tf

Produce Commission Merchants, 486 and 488 . PAUL STREET,
MONTREAL

CONSIGNMENTS of Flour, Grain, Pork, Batter and Ashesoarefully realized. Advances made by draft or cash, on receipt of Bill of Lading i-other-fourths value of shipment. Charges, as low as any responsible House in the trade. Having had many reare those of the control of the con

D. BRIBS Montreal .10th Jan .1867. HONEY SYRUP

For the various affections of the LUNGS & THROAT Such as Colds, Coughs, Hoarscness, Bron chitis, Asihma, Influenza,

Consumption,
And for the relief of Consumptive Patients in advanced stages of the disease. vanced stages of the disease.

Prepared only by DANEL KRIBS, Guelph, Onaret for sale at his residence and by Alex BPrice per bottle 37gc., or three bottles for \$1.

Quelph, 8th January, 1868.

Insolvent Act of 1864. In the matter of Thomas M. Grier,

Wednesday, 26th Feb., 1868

Reference—Rev. E. A. Healy, Stratford P. O., O'Connor, Barris, etc., Guelph, or at the office of Messrs. McLennan & O'Connor, Barris, etc., Guelph, or at the office of the underpend, with whem all hypothecary cerdians within six days of the day of sele.

FIOMAS SAUNDERS, Official Assignee.

Guelph, 7th January, 1868.

Valuable Building Lots for Sale IN EVERTON.

THE subscriber offers for sale, cheap for cash, two valuable building lots in, the Village of Everton, being No. 138 and No. 138, as laid out on the map made by Wm Haskins, Esq. P. L. 8.—There are two-fifths of an acre of land in the two lots, and a since close to the Decider of the Control of the Management of the M

South Wellington AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at ELLIS' HOTEL, On SATURDAY, 25th January,

Funerals, Funerals!

is slph, 27th Aug. 1887. Nelson Cresce

GEORGE PALMER ARRISTER and Attorney at Law Solid-tor in Chancery Notary Public and Bon-yancer. Office, No. 2, Day's Bloom, Quelph

A. HOWIE&CO.

Tea Setts, Cake Baskets, Knives, Forks, SI

For Sale in Eramosa. West-half of Lot No. 28, 3rd Concession.

One Hundred Acres

Two Storey Stone, House

The building is nearly new. There is also a large FRAME BARN nearly new, and a thriving young orchard of the best grafted fruit. This property will be sold cheap. For terms and partless. HENRY HATCH, Guelph Guelph, 10th December, 1867. w3m

BOOTS & SHOES

Kingston Penitentiary BOOT AND SHOE STORE

Men's Coarse Boots!

FURS, FURS.



Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS. GENT'S MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, XC

F. GARLAND, The Highest Price paid for Raw Fur SHUTTLE SEWING MACHINE.

work, of terms, address

J. E. SPAFFORD,
Ponsonby P.

Manufactured by the Lamb Knitting Machin

It is the best Family Knitting Machine extant. No other invention affords so profitable employment for women.

It has taken the Highest prednium to Gold Meddal) at it lair of the American Institute, New York, and the Excitation of the Mass. Charitable Association, Boston, and the Producial Exhibition at two ones also and the Producial Exhibition at two ones also appears. From the every State and County Fair wherever it has been exhibited—eclipsing all other machines.

If you place was work, brits all areas, a cleans and the control of the c

CORDWOOD for SALE

BROWN'S WOOD YARD Woolwich Street, nearly opposite the Court House.

ALEX. BROWN.

HAY IN TRUSSES PHATERMS CASH.

JOHN WEST.

aelph, July 22 - M. S. J. J. daw-tf

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

77 Front Street, Toronto, BEG to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now a large portion of their Fall supply of

Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c.,

Excellent Farm Fresh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo

Ext 'Deodarn' Canny Scott' and Mary Ann, from Malaga, Marseilles and Dehis

JUST RECEIVING IN STORE.

Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying

GREAT SALE OF

BOOTS AND SHOES

New Saddlery Shon

On Monday next, 23rd Dec.,

To sell off the entire Stock of Imported Goods

Cost and Under

Whole Stock will be sold without Reserve for Cash only.

PREST & HEPBURN.

IMPORTANT

IN PRICE GREAT REDUCTION

Cheapest Watches in the World. The Watches are of all grades, from the finest Gold Watch made, adopted to any climate from the ropics to the Poles, at a price to suit the weathy connoissent or for inchestical to the Chean

a l'i advance on the Manufacture's last.

Party & C. & Walthan W Frenco, F. S. Bartiert, W. Ellen, Hose Warth Co. Guaranteed in all'dages by special certificate (except the Hose Co., which is warranted by the seller. The purchaser should always require the guarantee, as there are business controlled in all pages. ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York, ROBERT WILKES, Toronto and Montreal General Agents.

Come and See the Bargains at the

RUTHERFORD HOUSE! DRY GOODS, GLOTHING

And a Cheap lot of Ladies' and Contismen's Underdisthing

Just Arrived from Newfoundland

100 Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings, 100 Half Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings, which can be confidently recommended as the best imported this year. Commercial Bank Bills taken at par.

NEW HOOP SKIRTS.

Newest Styles, for Ladies and Misses.

Berlin & Fancy Wools

Another Lot of Cheap Blankets!

A.O. BUCHAM daw-tf | Guelph, 31st Dec, 1867.