

A pale-looking youth with vivid locks of red hair hanging straight down over either ear, answered my rather nervous ring. To my enquiry as to whether Mr. Gryce was in he gave a sort of snort which might have meant no, but which I took to mean yes.

"My name is Raymond, and I wish to see him."

He gave me one glance that took in every detail of my person and apparel, and pointed to a door at the head of the stairs. I hastened up, knocked at the door he had designated, and went in. The broad back of Mr. Gryce, stooping above a desk, confronted me.

"Well!" he exclaimed, "this is an honor." Rather chilly day, eh?

"Yes," I returned, eyeing him closely to see if he was in a communicative mood. "But I have had but little time to consider the state of the weather. My anxiety in regard to this murder—"

"To be sure," he interrupted, fixing his eyes on the poker, though not with any hostile intention I am sure. "A puzzling piece of business enough. But perhaps it is otherwise to you. I see you have something to communicate."

"Yes," said I, "I have, though I doubt if it is of the nature you expect. Mr. Gryce," pursued I, "since I saw you last, my convictions upon a certain point have been strengthened into an absolute belief. The subject of your suspicions is an innocent woman."

If I had expected him to betray any surprise at this I was destined to be disappointed. "That is a very pleasing belief," he murmured. "I honor you for entertaining it, Mr. Raymond."

I suppressed a movement of anger. "So thoroughly is it mine," said I, determined to arouse him in some way, "that I have come here to-day to ask you in the name of justice and common humanity to suspend action in that direction till we can look around and see if there is not a truer scent to go upon."

"Indeed," exclaimed he, "that is a singular request to come from a man like you."

(To be continued.)

Our Christmas Gifts.

"Not what we give, but what we share, For the gift without the giver, is bare."

The excitement of Christmas is abroad in the air, and old and young are busy preparing and choosing their gifts. "It is such a pleasure to make anything for Nora, for she begins to use it right on Christmas Day!" said a bright-eyed schoolgirl to me last year. "My hair-pin holder is on her dressing-table; the blotter Hattie gave her, she uses whenever she writes, and she has Clarence's picture where everybody can see it—in the music-room, not hidden away in a box. We just love to make presents for Nora! She appreciates even the smallest thing, and wonders how she ever managed without it." You see, the gift to such a one is twice blessed: it blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

Wrap your gifts up daintily. Pretty tissue paper or Japanese paper napkins (which cost only 5c. per doz., and may be had with a charming holly design), and a few yards of bright narrow ribbon, will add much to the attractiveness of your Christmas parcels. Where possible, try to have a little sprig of holly on the outside of each little gift. If one has not time to make all her presents, she need not be at a loss nowadays in selecting gifts, as there are many pretty inexpensive things in the shops. Dainty ribbons, collars, turn-over cuffs, gloves, handkerchiefs, and such things are always acceptable to young girls; collars, cuffs, ties, braces, gloves, are useful and always appreciated by the boys and young men. Everyone likes a year's subscription to a magazine, and, in ordering these, why not patronize our own Canadian ones? They are just as good, if not better than the American publications that are flooding our country, and even if they were not, still they are Canadian, and we should show our patriotism by encouraging our home productions. The beauty of a magazine as a gift is that it is a monthly or a weekly reminder of the giver. "Presents endear absent."

Attention is directed to the advertisement in this issue of sheep, wanted in carload lots.

Remember the second annual free fat-stock show, on Dec. 12th, at the Union Stock-yards, Toronto Junction. Prizes for cattle, sheep and swine. Admission free. This is meant to be the coming fat-stock show of Canada, where accommodations for stock on a large scale are provided, and arrangements are made for feeding visitors at moderate rates.

Breeders, dairymen and farmers generally should bear in mind the important auction sale of Holstein cattle and Yorkshire hogs, the property of Mr. C. R. Gies, Heidelberg, Waterloo Co., Ont., advertised to take place on December 21st, at his farm near Heidelberg station, on the Elmira to Galt branch of the G. T. R., and some six miles from Berlin, on the main line of G. T. R.

Stockmen and farmers generally are reminded of the attractive auction sale on December 14th, of seven Clydesdale mares, 25 Scotch Shorthorns, 50 Yorkshire hogs, and the implements of a 200-acre farm, property of Mr. John Hill, Wellesley, Ont., to be sold at his farm, near Baden and Milverton stations, G. T. R., where trains will be met evening before and morning of sale. Terms of sale, 10 months' credit. The stock is high class, including a number of imported animals in each class. See the advertisement and plan to attend the sale.

The annual sale of Shorthorns was one of the principal events of the great International Show at Chicago last week, and attracted buyers from Ohio to Kentucky, Texas and north, and north-west to Utah. Cols. Geo. M. Bellows, Barclay and Kidd, assisted Col. Woods in the ring and on the block as auctioneers.

Six head males and females, sold for \$2,915, average of \$485.83. Fifteen bulls sold for \$3,690, average of \$246.

Forty-four head of females sold for \$10,215, average of \$232.15.

Fifty-nine head males and females sold for \$18,905, average of \$235.05.

TRADE TOPICS.

PHONOGRAPH RECORDS.—The Dominion Music and Phonograph Co. has something special to offer in the way of unbreakable records, which are to be sold at a price lower than ever before. If you have not a phonograph, you will do well to see what this company can do for you. Don't fail to see their advertisement shown elsewhere in this issue.

VITÆ-ORE.—On the back cover page of this issue appears an announcement by Mr. Theo. Noel, regarding the origin of Vitæ-Ore and its efficacy in the treatment of disease.

California.

The Chicago & North Western Ry. has issued a new publication entitled "California." It contains a beautiful colored map of the State, a list of hotels at California tourist resorts, with their capacity and rates; and a most interesting series of pictures, showing California's resources and attractions. The prospective visitor and settler should be in possession of a copy of this profusely illustrated folder. Sent to any address on receipt of two cents in stamps. Low rates from all points. B. H. Bennett, 2 East King St., Toronto, Ont.

Super-fluous Hair



On the Face

Moles, Warts, Birthmarks, removed permanently by electrolysis. Satisfaction guaranteed. If afflicted, come during the holidays for treatment. Beware of applications.

Skin and Scalp Diseases always cured by our successful home remedies. Consultation free at office or by letter. Send 10c. for our books and sample of cream. Graham Dermatological Institute, Dept F, 502 Church St., Toronto. Established 1892.

Established Over 50 Years

Ye olde Firme of Heintzman & Co.

Established Over 50 Years

BARGAIN PIANOS FOR Xmas Buyers

Another splendid opportunity for bargain pianos. Any one desiring a piano for Xmas, cannot do better than select one of these fine pianos. Make a choice now, and piano will be reserved for you and shipped when you say.

SQUARE PIANOS.

1. Stoddart, New York, rosewood case, square piano, 6½ octaves, octagon legs; a good practice piano. Special at..... \$ 61 00
2. Dunham, New York, rosewood case, 7 octaves, overstrung scale, octagon legs, a first-class practice piano, at..... 71 00
3. R. S. Williams, Toronto, with carved legs and lyre, serpentine base, rosewood case, 7 octaves; in A1 condition. Special at..... 100 00
4. Dominion, Bowmanville, overstrung scale, carved legs, serpentine base, 7 octaves, rosewood case. Special at..... 115 00
5. Mathushek, New York, rosewood case, carved legs and lyre, 7 octaves, serpentine base; in excellent condition and a very satisfactory piano. At..... 121 00
6. Hardman, New York, beautiful light rosewood case, carved legs, with top mouldings and serpentine base, 7½ octaves, overstrung scale; a beautiful piano. Regular price, \$600. Special at..... 135 00
7. Heintzman & Co., Toronto, our own well-known make, with rosewood case, serpentine base, carved legs and lyre, 7½ octaves, overstrung scale, a piano that will give the best of satisfaction. Regular price, \$500. Special at..... 140 00
8. Weber, New York, rosewood case, carved legs, overstrung scale, top mouldings, serpentine base, 7 octaves; an exceptionally fine piano. Regular price, \$650. Special at..... 145 00
9. Chickering & Sons, Boston, rosewood case, carved legs, overstrung scale, 7 octaves, serpentine base; in first-class condition. Regular price, \$700. Special at..... 150 00

UPRIGHT PIANOS.

10. Mason & Risch, rosewood case upright piano, with a nicely-decorated top door, overstrung scale, 7 octaves; Boudoir size; a very good upright piano. Regular price, \$350. Special at..... 210 00
11. Dominion, upright piano, walnut case, 7 octaves, 2 carved panels in top door, an elegant toned piano and in A1 condition; regular price, \$350. Special at..... 225 00
12. R. S. Williams, Toronto, walnut cabinet grand, 3 carved panels in top door, 7½ octaves, panelled ends, heavily carved trusses; one of their best, in good condition. Regular price, \$475. Special at..... 235 00
13. Palmer, Toronto, upright cabinet grand, Colonial design, in fancy walnut, Boston fall, continuous music rack, 3 pedals, 7½ octaves. Regular price, \$385. Special at..... 239 00
14. Dominion, upright piano, walnut case, cabinet grand size, 7½ octaves, carved beautifully on top door, extensive music rack, in the best possible condition; practically as good as new; regular price, \$450. Special at..... 245 00
15. Prince, Toronto, cabinet grand upright piano, with Boston fall, continuous music rack, nicely decorated top door, 3 pedals, 7½ octaves, used less than three months; regular price, \$375. Special at..... 265 00
16. Eanis & Co., Hamilton, elegant upright piano, beautiful walnut case, cabinet grand, with continuous music rack, Boston fall, beautifully decorated top door, 7½ octaves, 3 pedals, practically brand-new; regular price, \$400. Special at..... 271 00
17. Wormwith & Co., Kingston, upright walnut case, cabinet grand, with continuous music rack, Boston fall, beautifully decorated top door, 7½ octaves, 3 pedals; practically brand-new; one with mandolin attachment, susceptible of banjo, mandolin or harp effect..... 275 00
18. Weber & Co., New York, beautiful mahogany case with 3 carved panels in top door, 3 pedals, 7½ octaves; made by one of the best manufacturers in the United States, and is certainly a magnificent instrument: regular price, \$650.00. Special..... 325 00
19. Heintzman & Co., upright, with Boston fall, continuous music rack, beautifully decorated top door, 7½ octaves, 3 pedals; an instrument that would be a credit to any drawing-room, and a pleasure to the musician. Almost as good as new. Regular price, \$475. Special at..... 339 00

BARGAINS IN PIANO PLAYERS

- One Beautiful Piano Player, regular price \$275.00, special at..... 225 00
 One Beautiful Piano Player, regular price \$275.00, special at..... 200 00
 One Beautiful Piano Player, regular price \$275.00, special at..... 185 00
 \$10.00 worth of music goes with each machine. Anybody desiring to purchase a Piano Player will find it to their advantage to communicate with us.

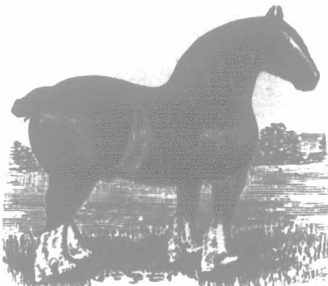
TERMS OF PAYMENT:

Square Pianos.—Under \$100, \$5 cash and \$3 per month. Over \$100, \$10 cash and \$4 per month.
 Upright Pianos.—Under \$250, \$10 cash and \$6 per month. Over \$250, \$15 cash and \$7 per month.
 Discount of 10% for all cash with order.
 Should quarterly or half-yearly terms be not agreeable, wire your selection at our expense, and it will be set aside until terms can be arranged satisfactorily. Handsome stool and drape with each instrument, and freight paid to any point in Ontario, and proportionate amount to other Provinces.

YE OLDE FIRME OF

HEINTZMAN & CO., Limited
 115-117 KING STREET WEST - - TORONTO, CAN.

IMPORTED CLYDES and SHIRES



Five first-class stallions, personally selected, large heavy bone, best quality. Clydesdales by such sires as Gold Mine, Lord Lothian, Crown Rights, Blacoon Baron by Baron's Pride, etc. Shires, Prior's Hero and Bodenham Banker. All guaranteed sound and good workers. Best securities given for guarantees. 30 years' experience in the business. Come and see, or write.

T. J. BERRY,

Railway Station, Hensall, G.T.R. o Hensall, Ont.

ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

In answering any advertisement on this page, kindly mention the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.