POETRY.

SONG FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY. Atr-Donnybrook Fair.

Shall re-echo the somet and list to the lay, That will meltingly chant in the Island of Gre

r land we remember thy sweet verdanthills, crystaline fountains, and pure purling rills, whose marginal banks grows the Shanrock a

to show that we value the land of our birth

The fairest, the dearest, the bravest on earth, with a wreath of the Shamrock our cup we'll er

Oh, spirit of Patrick look down from on high, For a moment forget thy abode in the sky, Beign to east but one glance on the sons of thy Isl That Island that owes all her splendor to thee,

May we all be united in freedom and love,
Twin-sisters that both did descend from above,
And our hearts beat in unison on this blest day;
May Erin's lone exile where'er be his lot,
Let the home of his infancy ne'er be forgot;
And when death draws the curtain his prospect

The Maiden's Choice

OR. THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

He crossed the ante-room, and stood for a moment looking along the narrow passage, then he glanced at the massive door, and trying it and finding it fast, concluded that, as it led to the turret, it had been long closed up; and that, therefore, Helen could not possibly have gone that way.

Without a moment's further hesitation, he stalked along the passage, and down the stair to which it led. This was the same private stair which Walter Elliot had ascended on the night when he bore Marion away from Birkencleuch, and it conducted to the lower parts of the mansion, and to the underground cells. Charlie proceeded from room to room, searching in every nook and recess, but of course unsuccessfully, and the further had to go the more savage did his wrathful humour become.

After exploring all the habitable chambers

After exploring all the habitable chambers he came in his search to the entrance to the subterranean spartments, and made sure that she had sought concealment in one of these. He had never before been within their precints, but their existence was very well known to him, and, in the full expectation of finding Helen in this region, he entered the long dark passage, and peered carefully on every side as he advanced.

From passage to passage, from cell to cell. from arched chamber to dark dungeon he went, seeing nothing of her he sought, but growing forth curses in plenty, being moved thereto as much by the pain of his blistered hands, and scorched shoulders as by the ineffectual character of his search. By-and-bye his passionate expletives arose from another cause, and one annoying enough to his already chafed spirit—he became bewildered in the labyrinth of passages, knew not in what direction he was going, or how to find his way back. His very ire prevented him from calmly taking his bearings, and foaming stamping, cursing, swearing, he moved about in the trap into which he had fallen.

We leare him there to extricate himself as best he may, and return to Helen, whose path of flight he had so fortunately missed. Having made secure the massive door, the trembling, agitated girl stood in the darkness in a state of almost helpless prostration till she heard his heavy boots go tramping along the passage, and then she knew that he had gone in search of her in a different direction. Could she now escape from the mansion? was the question that now arose in her distracted mind. Every moment was precious, for doubtless the house would be immediately roused, and she would be sought for in every direction. Without daring to move, she pierced the gloom around her, and discerned a narrow sit, through which a faint light came trom without. At once she groped her way round the circular wall, satisfied that she was in the interior of the tower, from which, in all likelihood, there was a private stair leading to a side door, by

seemed to be interminable, she longed with such feverish intensity to reach the bottom, and learn whether it led her to freedom or no. The long descent was accomplished at last, and the way brought up by a massive door, secured by two thick iron bolts and a heavy strong lock. The handles of the bolts were stiff with rust, as if they had not been moved from their places for years—nor had they—and the first attempt she made with her trembling fingers failed to dislodge them. But the strength of desperation is able to do much, and, after several frantic pulls, one of the bolts flew back, with a noise so loud and grating that she was alarmed lest it abould bring her pursuers upon her. The crisis was one, however, which did not admit of weakness or hesitation, and after a moment's pause she set to work upon the remaining bolt, which required no less labous to draw it from its socket.

The lock was the next thing to be operated on, and here the difficulty seemed insurmountable. The key was in it, but it was immoveable. The gathered rust of years had sealed the wards, and though Helen took both her hands, and put forth an evergy which no woman in less peril could have exerted, it never moved or gave the slightest sign of yielding.

Poor Helen was in despair. With liberty so near, and the consequences of failure so appaling, it was terrible to feel herself unable to turn the key. The thought of the momentuous consequences that hung upon the issue derved her anew to the effort, and sgain and again she crushed her tender hands together around that hard, inexorable ring of iron, till her temples throbbed, and her heart seemed bursting with the strain.

And yet she might have saved herself all the effort and anxiety, for the door was composed of two halves, which opened up the entre—that half to which the sockets of the bolts were fixed being secured by an iron bar joined to the lintel. All she had to do was to lift up the end of this iron bar, when the two portions of the door could be pulled open without the lock being t

the frame.

The achemence of her emotion also shool the bar on which she leaned, and the motion brought the suggestion to remove it. This he hastened to do, then pulled with all he might, and the next moment the cool mid night air blew freely through the open door on her burning brow.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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MR. N. HIGINBOTHAM Guelph, August3. 1867

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Guelp's, Jan. 29, 1868. do tf

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MR. W. S. G. KNOWLES has been instructed by A. MACNIDER, Esq., late Manager of Bank of Montreal, Guelph, to offer for sai At the Bank of Montreal,

THURSDAY, 19th of MARCH

1868, his household furniture, consisting of Draving room sofas and spring chairs, centre table assy chairs. Canterbury window seats, handson dinner table, side table, smoking chair, iron do, handsone drawing room Brussels carpet, bedroo furniture, spring, mattresses, hair mattresse bureaus tollet glasses, mirrors, cooking stov and utensils, kitchen furniture, a handsome diner set and tea set, lamps, china, crockery, glassware, and numerous personal and miscellaneou effects. Also:

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Also a good bearing orchard. The land is well watered. The lot lies on the gravel road. Terms made known on application to the undersigned, if by letter, post-paid,

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FOR Sale by PRIVATE BARGAIN two farms in Puslinch. They consist of the front and rear halves of Lot No. 25, in the 7th concession. There are 100 acres in the front half and 86 acres in the rear half. Both farms are in a good state of cultivation and well fenced. There is a good brealing flouse and banked frame barn on the rear half, and fair buildings and a first-rate orchebe learned on application to the subscriber; if by letter post paid,

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GEO. FRASER, Salem P.O., Co. Wellington March 6th, 1868.

FARM FOR SALE.

TOR SALE, in Guelph Township, on the Watterloo Road, 5 miles from Guelph, a farm containing 70 acres, about 55 acres of which are containing 70 acres, about 55 acres of which are contained to the second specific of the second factor is and a second specific of the second factor is an about 15 acres ready for crop. Terms made known by application to the proprietor.

EDWARD VANCE.

Guelph, 12th March, 1868. w2m

FARM FOR SALE.

FOR SALE, the West half of Lot No 12, in the Cth Concession of the Township of Luther, 100 acres; 26 of which are cleared and fenced.—
The land is of good quality and dry. That which is uncleared is covered with good hardwood and to uncertain the control of the

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M ISS WIGHTMAN begs to announce that her school will re-open (D. V.) on the 6th of January. Vacancies for two or three boarders.

Guelph, 26th December 1867. w1

School Teacher Wanted. WANTED for School Section No. 1, Township of Erin, a 1st class male teacher, to commence immediately.

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