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Guelph Evening Mercury OFFICE: .....MACDONNELL STREET. THURSDAY EV'NG, FEB. 20, 1868.

### The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENLEUCH.

#### A Tale of the Covenanters.

Now this peculiarity in her father's character was enough to give pain to Helen Cringan. Thanks to its existence, however, she had not suffered very much from it, for at a very tender age she was forced to go to service, that he might be relieved of the necessity of supporting her, and have the joy of grasping her little earnings. At Brankwood she found a most desirable home, for Lady Barton—Sir Gilbert's mother—took a tender and motherly interest in her, and under her training she grew up into the lovely and lovable girl we have described. It was not often she paid her father a visit, and consequently she saw little of his miserly habits, but when he did come into her thoughts the knowledge which she had of these, brought a certain sadness over her fresh young heart, and this explains the change that passed over her joyous face when she turned her eye on her father's cottage.

After a few minutes' survey of the scene, she passed on, and following the path, which now took a descent, arrived at length in front of the house. It had a most dirty and dilapidated aspect. The little garden was cultivated so far as pruning and weeding went, but the vegetable garden was neglected, for manure was too extravagant a commodity to be applied to it. The one window was rendered nearly opaque by a crust of dirt, the walls were grim with the clay with which they had been in many places patched up, and the door—strong enough in its hinges—was sadly in need of paint and washing.

It was open, and Helen walked in. On a rude wooden stool and by a table as rude, sat her father eating his supper. The meal, as may be guessed, was not sumptuous. It seemed to consist of three potatoes with a little salt.

An eager light came into Cringan's eyes when he looked round and saw his daughter. "My child, you are here at last," he exclaimed. "I thought you were never coming."

"You have been wearying to see me, they say," she returned, with a loving smile.

"To be sure I have. It must be three weeks now since you got your half-year's wages, and I have looked for you every day. You—you have not spent any of the money, have you?" he added, in a tone of nervous fear.

"Not much, father; but—"

"You have spent some, then? What a shame. But let me see how much is gone."

And he held out his talon-looking hand, into which Helen dropped some gold pieces.

How greedily Cringan's eyes gazed over the sight of the yellow coins, and with what haste he counted them.

"Six—only six," he screamed, "and there should be eight. What have you done with the other two?"

"I required some clothes and other little necessaries."

"Clothes?—clothes again? It is only two years since you bought clothes. How could you be so extravagant, Helen, throwing money away on fine dresses? That is the ruin of many girls. They spend all their earnings on useless finery."

"My dress is not very extravagant, father," returned Helen, with half a smile and half a sigh.

"It is too extravagant, much too extravagant for the purpose. If it were coarser it would be stronger, and serve longer than two years."

"But you know I must keep myself neat and tidy at Brankwood. Sir Gilbert would not allow me to appear before him and his visitors like a dowdy."

"Oh, I know it is no use to remonstrate," growled her father. "You will take your own way, and spend and spend and spend like the other wasteful people you live beside. Six—only six—and it will be many months till I receive more."

"Is your money done then, father? she inquired. "Is it all gone?"

"Gone," he shrieked. "Who would take it? Nobody knows I have money, and the neighbours must not think I am a miser. My gold, 'tis here—here in this iron box. It will be yours one day Helen, for I suppose I must die when I grow old. But I am not old yet. I won't be old for a long, long time, and you don't wish my death, do you, Helen?"

"Indeed—indeed father I do not," answered Helen, deeply pained by his question. "I hope I am not capable of ever dreaming such a wicked wish."

"That's right my child. I know you are a very good girl, only a little wasteful with your dress, and you think too little of saving money. But Lady Barton taught you that."

"Now, father, I won't hear a word said against Lady Barton," rejoined Helen. "She was a very, very kind friend to me, and when she died, I lost my mother for the second time, for, indeed, she could not have been kinder to me if I had been her daughter. She taught me everything she thought it would be good for me to know, she made Brankwood the best of homes for me, and even at her death she did not forget me."

"Ay, there again she did a bad thing," said the miser in a highly dissatisfied tone. "She left you a legacy of a hundred pounds to be paid on your wedding day. Why couldn't she have left the money as other people do, to be paid at her death, and I could have had the keeping of it? But there it is, locked up in Sir Gilbert's coffers, and you may die without being married, and the money is lost, absolutely lost."

"Nay," returned Helen, gravely, and in a tone that had a tinge of reproach in it. "If I die unmarried I shall not need the money."

"No, you won't need it, but I will, be assured, returned. "You don't think of me. She did not think of me. Nobody thinks of me. I am to be cheated, defrauded, robbed of what I ought to have. Oh, the spiteful old witch."

"Hush, father," said Helen, flushed and vexed. "Don't rail unjustly against my dear dead benefactor. She had a right to direct the payment of the legacy as she pleased, and no doubt considered that she had arranged it for the best."

"Best or not best, it can't be altered," returned Cringan. "But you can make it right, child, and I wonder you are so long about it. When you marry and get the money you'll give it to me, won't you? Come now, promise that you'll give it to your poor father. You can have no use for the money, none at all, for the husband you get you know will keep you, and it would be a sin to give it to him or anybody to waste. — Say you'll give it to me—that's a darling."

And he laid his lean hand eagerly on her shoulder, and his large glittering eyes looked pleadingly into her face.

"I really cannot make any promise of this kind, father," answered Helen. "It is a matter in which another must be consulted."

"Oh, I know what you mean," he vehemently cried. "You are going to give it to the man you marry, and I'll never see it. — He will squander it away on extravagance."

"I don't think he will," returned Helen, quietly. "Richard Wayland is not inclined to be a spendthrift."

"Ha!" cried Cringan, eagerly, "have you and he settled it? Are you going to be married?"

TO BE CONTINUED.

White wash, Scrubbing, Stove, Horse, Shoe, Cloth, Hat, Hair, Tooth, and Bath Brushes. JOHN HORSMAN. DIED.

GOUCÉ—At Albroath, Scotland, on the 29th December last, in the 63rd year of his age, Mr. Wm. Goucé, father of Mr. D. Goucé, plumber, of this town.

### COMMERCIAL.

The Guelph Markets.

Flour, No 100 lb	3 75	0 4 00
Fall Wheat, 7 bush	1 55	0 1 50
Spring Wheat, 7 bush	1 55	0 1 50
Oats, 7 bush	0 55	0 0 50
Peas, do	0 75	0 0 80
Barley, do	1 00	0 1 10
Hay, 1 ton	11 00	13 00
Straw, 1000	1 00	1 00
Shingles, 7 square	1 00	1 50
Wood, 7 cord	3 00	3 50
Eggs, 7 dozen	0 14	0 15
Butter, firkin, 7 lb	0 13	0 15
Grease, each	0 25	0 25
Turkeys, each	0 50	0 60
Chickens, 7 pair	0 20	0 25
Ducks, do	0 20	0 25
Potatoes	0 60	0 70
Apples, 7 barrel	2 00	2 00
Lamb, 7 lb	0 60	0 60
Beef, 7 lb	0 65	0 65
Pork, 7 lb	0 50	0 50
Sheep, 7 lbs, each	0 40	0 40
Lambskins	0 40	0 40
Hides	0 60	0 60

Money Market. Jacobson's Exchange Office. Guelph, February 20, 1868.

Gold, 140; Greenbacks, 70's at 70 to 70 1/2; Sold at 71 1/2; Silver bought at 44 1/2 to 45; sold at 44 to 44 1/2; Upper Canada Bank Bills bought at 55c; to 60c; Commercial Bank Bills bought at 90c to 95c; full rate in silver.

MONTREAL MARKETS. Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co's report by Special Telegraph to 'Evening Mercury', February 20, 1868.

Flour—Fancy, \$7 70 to \$7 75; Superior No. 1, \$7 50 to \$7 65; Welland Canal, \$7 00. Bag flour, \$3 00 to \$3 75. Oats 46 c to 46c. Barley 95c to \$1. Butter—dairy 15c to 16c; store packed 14c to 15c. Ashes—Pot 40 to 50c; wood 20 to 30c.

Market generally unchanged. Flour—dull and heavy, with but few transactions. Grain no quotable change. Provisions unchanged. Butter fair enquiry; Hogs limited demand. Ashes quiet at unchanged rates.

Toronto, February 19, 1868. Flour—Receipts, 300 bbls; No. 1, at \$7 45 to \$7 10; Fall Wheat—\$1 82; Spring Wheat—\$1 61 to \$1 41; Oats—57c. Barley—\$1 24 to \$1 27. Peas—\$1 10.

HAMILTON, February 19, 1868. Fall wheat—\$1 70 to \$1 77; spring do—\$1 55 to \$1 60 per bushel. Barley—\$1 15 to \$1 15. Oats—62c to 65c. Peas—55c to 60c. Pork—\$6 00 to \$6 50.

GUELPH LUMBER MARKET. (Corrected by Messrs. Gowley & Stewart, of Wellington Lumber Yard.)

Clear 1 1/2 and 2 inch Plank from \$20 00 to \$25 00	12 00	16 00
" 1 1/2 inch Boards	15 00	18 00
Common 1 1/2 and 1 1/4 inch Flooring	14 00	16 00
1 in. boards and 2 in. planks	10 00	10 00
Scantling all sizes up to 16 feet	10 00	10 00
and Joisting from 18 to 20	12 00	14 00
" 22 to 24	15 00	18 00
Shingles No 1 Sawn	1 95	2 00
" 2 Cut and Sawn	1 70	1 75
" Split	1 50	1 55
Laths 6 feet	0 40	0 45
Water Lime per barrel	1 75	1 75
Plaster (Celtic)	4 50	5 50

Guelph, Jan. 30, 1868.

Funerals, Funerals! But you know I must keep myself neat and tidy at Brankwood. Sir Gilbert would not allow me to appear before him and his visitors like a dowdy.

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TO BE CONTINUED.

PRISON INSPECTORS.—The Board of Prison Inspectors have been in session for several days in Ottawa. Through by the Act of Union, the County Jails, Asylums, &c., are now transferred to the Provincial Governments, who will hereafter provide for their inspection; there remain the Penitentiaries and Marine Hospitals of all the Provinces under the supervision of the Inspectors of the Dominion,

### 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 years from O'Connor's Wellington Hotel. Everybody in want of a good Trunk, 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 25c on the dollar of our former low prices, 30 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.

What 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.

REPAIRING done in usual manner. We have on hand all kinds of articles, and will make up on the shortest notice anything you want for the Saddlery Line, a few doors South of the Registry Office.

SMITH & METCALF, Late occupiers of the premises destroyed by fire, adjoining the Alma Block, Guelph, 20th December, 1867.

### FURS, FURS, FURS.

We have opened our stock of FURS, of our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz: Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

F. GARLAND, Market Square, Guelph.

The Highest Price paid for Raw Furs Guelph, Oct. 31, 1867.

### NATIONAL Steamship Company.

STEAMERS Weekly from Liverpool and New York, calling at Queenstown. A Steamship of this line, consisting of the Queen, England, Virginia, and Helvetia, will leave New York, North River, every Saturday, and Liverpool on Wednesday of each week, calling at Queenstown each way.

The size of these Steamships, the spacious state-rooms, all opening directly into the Saloon, the accommodation and fare are unsurpassed, and they will carry by any route, the most commodious and safe passenger service, and plenty of deck room is allowed, whilst the fare is of the best quality, well cooked and ample.

An experienced Surgeon on each ship, free of charge. Tickets are issued in this country to persons wishing to visit the friends of their friends from Liverpool or Queenstown (Ireland), for \$5 American money.

For tickets, special berths, and all information, apply to J. W. MURTON, General Passage Agent, No. 9, James Street, Hamilton, 28th Nov. 1867.

### INDIA & CHINA TEA COY.

Home Depot at London and Liverpool, Canada Depot, 23 Hospital Street, Montreal.

THE India and China Tea Company, agents for the sale of the best quality of Tea, which they import to their direct importers, Tea, which for purity and excellence will be found unequalled.

The Company have made arrangements whereby they have secured the entire produce of some of the best tea gardens in Assam and on the slopes of the Himalayas, and, by a judicious blending of these magnificent Teas, and the best varieties of China teas, they are enabled to offer to the public Tea of quality and favour hitherto unknown to the general consumer. These Teas are in high favour in England and France, and a single trial will prove their superiority.

The Company supply two qualities only: either Black, Green or Mixed. Their Black Tea will be found to possess great bitterness and flavour, combined with colour and strength, and is entirely different to the flat andapid article usually sold as Black Tea; while their Green Tea is altogether free from the deleterious mineral powder so commonly used for coloring the leaf.

PRICES: Rich, full-flavoured Tea, for family use, in genuine and fine article 70 cents per lb. Finest quality procurable, one dollar per lb.

The above can be had either Black, Green or Mixed. To be had in packets of Quarter Pound Half Pound, One Pound, and upwards, or in tin canisters of 5 lbs. and upwards from the Company's Agents in all the chief towns of Canada, &c. All lined packages are lined with tin foil paper, and the Tea will consequently retain its flavour any length of time. On receipt of all packages have the Company's trade-mark without which none are genuine.

MR. N. HIGINBOTHAM, Agent, Guelph, August 13, 1867.

TROTTER & GRAHAM, DENTISTS! GUELPH and BRAMPTON, Members of the Dental Association of the Province of Ontario.

(Successor in Guelph to T. Trotter.) OFFICE: Over Mr. Higinbotham's Drug Store

REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Dr. Clark Parker and Herod, Guelph; A. F. Scott, Esq., County Judge; George Green, County Attorney; Dr. Battalio, M. D.; Rev. Mr. Arnold—Brampton; Dr. Barnhart, Warden of Peel; Dr. Hampton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital.

The new anaesthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain. R. TROTTER, Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. W. K. GRAHAM, (d.w-1)

### CLEMENT'S PATENT CLOTHES WRINGER.

Messrs. J. M. Bond & Co., Guelph are the only authorized agents for the sale and use of CLEMENT'S PATENT CLOTHES WRINGER for the Counties of Bruce, Wellington and Peel, and the City of Toronto.

RICHARD CLEMENT, Patentee.

### WHO'S your DOCTOR?

PASS'S (SUGAR-COATED) CATHARTIC PILLS!

LADIES of delicate constitution, also the aged and infirm, need not hesitate to make use of them, as they have been prescribed with the greatest success for more than thirty years.

Are the only ones recognized and recommended by the Medical Faculty for the relief and cure of Constipation, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Liver Complaint, Nausea, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Drowsiness, and all diseases of the Stomach and Bowels.

MEDICAL TESTIMONY. I have examined the formula from which Pass's Pills are prepared, and can certify that they are a safe and reliable anti-bilious and purgative medicine. Orillia, 10th Nov. 1867. E. S. ELLIOTT, M. D.

I have carefully examined the formula for the preparation of Pass's Cathartic Pills, and can without hesitation recommend them as being the best cathartic within the reach of all. The various remedies are combined in such a manner that they will not grip, and their thorough alternative effect will be unaccompanied with either pain or weakness. As a family pill they have no equal. Brantford, Nov. 11, 1867. J. H. HAWKES.

T. BUCKLE & SONS, Wholesale Agents, Hamilton.

### Valuable Property! FOR SALE LOW.

TOWN OF GUELPH. 1.—Lots 7, 8 and 9, Perth Street, with large frontage on the Erasmus Road. Large buildings. Lots extend to the rear, well situated for manufacturing purposes, and in the heart of the town.

2.—Lots 19, 20 and 21, Hubbard's Survey, fronting on Woolwich and Norwich Streets. Two good houses. Let to good tenants. Plenty of shade trees and good gardens.

3.—6 Lots known as the Poplars, having a close board fence, fronting on Woolwich Street, London Road and Mill Street.

4.—One lot adjoining on Mill Street, with good Frame House, being Lot 5, McCarty's Survey.

5.—Two Warehouse Lots at the junction of the Great Western and Grand Trunk Railways—Grange's Survey. GUELPH TOWNSHIP.

6.—A choice farm of about 53 acres, with never failing brook, situated on the Towlin Line; bounded on the west by the farm of T. Sandilands, Esq., on the east by the G. W. R., admirably adapted for a gentleman's residence, with all the benefits of the town without its taxes.

NICHOL. 7.—A nice farm of over fifty acres, situated on the Town Line of Ebor, being the N. W. 1/4 of Lot No. 2, 1st Con, Nichol.

EAST FLAMBOUR. 8.—A good mill privilege, 14 feet fall, on 12 mile Creek, East Flamboro, with good buildings, 74 acres of land, several houses. Now occupied as a Last and Peg Factory.

For further particulars apply to Messrs THOMPSON & JACKSON, Agents, Guelph, who will also act as my agents for sale.

### Insolvent Act of 1864.

In the matter of Thomas M. Grier, AN INSOLVENT. COUNTY OF WELLINGTON. BY virtue of PROVISIONS OF STATUTE, the authority of the Court is hereby vested in me as Assignee of the Estate of the above-named Insolvent, under the provisions of the above Act, I shall offer for sale at the Town Hall, in the Village of Morriston, in the said County,

Saturday, 11th April, 1868 at two o'clock in the afternoon of that day, all the right, title and interest of the said Insolvent, in that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situated, lying and being in the Village of Morriston, Township of Puskeguy, County of Wellington, Province of Ontario, composed of Village Lot number Eight, on the East side of Queen Street, in Donald McEdward's Survey, in the Village of Morriston, bounded and bounded as is described in a deed from John M. Schlenker and wife to the said Insolvent, made the 23rd February, 1867, with Involving House, Barn, Stable and outhouse, and a good garden, with the contents of an acre.

TERMS: — CASH. Further particulars may be had on the premises, or at the office of Messrs. McLennan & O'Connor, Barristers, Guelph, or at the office of the undersigned, with whom all hypothecary creditors are required to file their claims within six days of the day of sale.

THOMAS SANDERS, Official Assignee. Guelph, 7th January, 1868.

### WILLIAM BROWNLOW

(Late Tovel & Brownlow.) Carpenter and Undertaker, In rear of the Wellington Hotel, DOUGLAS STREET, GUELPH

THE Subscriber begs to return thanks for past favors, and hopes by prompt attention to business and moderate charges, to merit a continuance of public confidence. Coffins on hand or made to order, and funerals attended. All orders will receive prompt attention. A. Hearse for hire. Guelph, 6th June, 1867.

JOHN TOVELL, COFFIN MAKER, Douglas Street, Guelph, Guelph, Sept. 20, 1867.

### BOOTS & SHOES

At Wholesale Prices. HAVING a large stock of BOOTS and SHOES, which must be sold during the NEXT TWO MONTHS, I will offer the same during that time at Wholesale Prices. Note prices and the contents that you will save from 25 to 50 per cent. per pair by buying at the

Kingston Penitentiary BOOT AND SHOE STORE. Men's Coarse Boots! FORMER PRICES.—No. 1, \$3.00; No. 2, \$2.75; No. 3, \$2.50. PRESENT PRICES.—No. 1, \$2.75; No. 2, \$2.50; No. 3, \$2.25. Boys' Boots from \$1.70. Youth's Boots from \$1.35. Women's Boots from \$1.10, with a large variety of everything in the line at equally low prices. Don't forget the place—Kingston Penitentiary Boot and Shoe Store. All work warranted. J. CRIDFORD. Guelph, 4th November, 1867.

### D. KRIBS' HONEY SYRUP

For the various affections of the LUNGS & THROAT Such as Colds, Coughs, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma, Influenza, Consumption, &c.

And for the relief of Consumptive Patients in advanced stages of the disease. Prepared only by DANIEL KRIBS, Guelph, On, and for sale at his residence, and by Alex B. Petrie, Market Square. Price per bottle 37 1/2c. or three bottles for \$1. Guelph, 20th December, 1867.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE of the AMERICAN WATCH

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 counterfeits, have decided from this date to supply their Watches in the Dominion of Canada at the most GOLD VALUE of American Currency. The Company by thus paying all duty, costs and charges on their Watches into Canada, will supply to the people of the Dominion the

### Cheapest Watches in the World.

The Watches are 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 gentleman 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 Cases Watches for Railway Engineers and Lumbermen deserve particular attention in Canada, as nothing can equal them for the purpose. Our leading Watches in 15 Carat 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 as 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., F. S. BARRETT, 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 counterfeits for