THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IS IN VERY POOR CONDITION

Guelph Evening Mercury
FRIDAY EVENINNG, SEPT. 26, 1873

The Rival Clansmen:

A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER. I.

THE VOW TAKEN—"COMING EVENTS CAST THEIR SHADOWS BEFORE."

The hut itself was a dark, dingy place, divided in the middle by a rough partition, formed of spars of wood interlaced with broom, and roughly coated with mud. The walls were black and smoke-begrimed, and in the roof were several holes, through which the rain entered and fell upon the floor. An old high-backed chair, considerably dilapidated, stood in one corner of the compartment, while a low stool, overturned, lay on the middle of the floor; and these were the only articles of furniture to be seen. Several pieces of mutton, black as the walls and roof, were suspended by cords from the latter, and around the former were hung two or three heavy claymores, several skeindhus, dirks, some belts, and an old firelock. All the arms and appurtenances had a bright and polished appearance, showing that their owner valued and took care of them. At some little distance from the back of the hut a screen was drawn across the room, depending from roof to floor, so that whatever might be behind it was effectually concealed.

The young man before referred to had not the appearance one would naturally have expected to find in the inhabitant of such a place.

As he turned after replenishing the fire, and looked around the room, his fine figure and proportions became more conspicuous. He was dressed in the Highland garb, wearing a neat bonnet which sat jauntily on his head. A neat tunic and kilt of M'Kenzie tartan encased his body, and, judging from their cut and rich mountings, it was evident they were of Lowland make. The dress was in every way carefully fitted, and tended to set out his form to the best advantage. He appeared to be from twenty-five to thirty years of age, and was from five feet ten to six feet in height, although, being broad-shouldered and square-built, he did not look so tall. His hair was of a fiery red hue; his eyes were small, restless, and penetrating; his nose thin, long, and straight; and his lips thin and firmly compressed. Altogether, the expression of his face betokened a hasty, nervous temperament, combined with an inflexible, iron will. His chest was full and well expanded, and his firmly knit limbs, broad shoulders, and brawny arms indicated great strength and endurance. His carriage, too, as he commenced to pace backwards and forwards, through the hut, was easy and graceful.

As he paced to and fro his brow ever and anon became clouded, and a look of perplexity crossed his face.

"A poor welcome I have got," he muttered to himself, halting, and, with his arms behind his back, looking moodily into the fire. "The hills and the glens and the elements seeming to rise up in mutiny against my presence here. My father in a most pitiable condition, and likely to require my assistance for some time yet. I can't well go and leave him in the state he is in, but really I should have been giving my time instead to looking after Flora and this stranger, whom I understand she favors with her smiles and her regard. Fool that I am, I should have spoken my true sentiments to her long ago, and not have allowed another to forestall me. Forestall is rather a strong word, for I have sworn that Flora Macgregor shall be my wife, and I do mean to keep my vow sacred. Ugh, how the wind howls. What a shell of a place this is, the very rain rushing in upon me; yet it is likely to be my patrimony. That raises up a new thought; but my father asks too much of me. I feel that I would have an exquisite pleasure in running my claymore through the heart of this Hector M'Leod, but it would gain me nothing but a mere passing satisfaction, and I shrink from making a vow which would be sacred and binding. Besides, I have enough to do of my own without this new obligation. I must try and put the old man off it. Hush, he is moving, perhaps he wakes."

And the young man listened attentively for a few seconds.

"Ian," suddenly exclaimed a weak feeble voice from behind the screen; "are you there, Ian?"

"Yes, father, I am here," replied the young man, as he took down the cruizie from where it had been hanging and with it in his hand approached the screen and drew it aside, revealing a heap of straw on which lay the form of a man.

He was an old man, evidently on the verge of the grave. His face, which was thin, had a fierce, forbidding appearance, and his sunken eyes, hollow cheeks, and high cheek-bones gave him a ghostly aspect. This was rendered the more striking because of the long white hair among which his head was pillowed, and the flowing beard of the same colour which covered his breast. When the young man had approached he turned with an effort, and, looking up, said in Gaelic—

"What sound is that I hear, Ian?"

"A storm has broken over the district, and is now raging furiously in the Glen," was the reply, in the same tongue.

"Ha! then will my spirit find a congenial atmosephere in which to wing its way to the home where the rest of my kinsmen wait to meet it. My soul is troubled and tired. A purpose I had set before me is unfulfilled, and death, death, which I have so often laughed at, now embraces me, and will, before a new day has dawned, close my eyes, seal my tongue, unnerve my limbs, and still my heart for ever. My, Ranald forgive me! I have done what I could, but now, now——"

"Hush, father, hush," said Ian, soothingly. "I do not like to hear you talk in such a fashion. This is but a passing illness; you shall again be able to don the plaid, and with the claymore in your hand, lead the clansmen to the field of fame. Your voice will yet ring through the glens, lighting the fiery cross, and causing the slogans to peal forth until their sound reverberate among the hills, inspiring hope and courage in every heart, and making all eager to rally round that gallant chief whose form they so much admire, and whose daring feats they have so often chronicled in song."

The old man said something in reply, but at the moment the wind broke out with additional force, howling and shrieking, and with the rain dashing against the window pane, so that not a word which he said reached Ian's ear.

At Petrolia on Thursday afternoon, a man named Thomas Finley was leaning on his gun, with both hands over the mouth of it, when the gun went off. The charge made shocking wounds, and no doubt both hands will have to be amputated. It is reported that Finley's friend threw a stick at him, which struck the cock of the gun.

At Newcastle on Wednesday a gentleman said to Mr. Burnham, of Peterboro, a lawyer, jumped from a train while in motion. He struck a wood truck, and was thrown under the wheels of the car. His left leg and foot were fearfully smashed.

Grand Display of New Dry Goods

AT GEORGE JEFFREY'S.

The Proprietor has pleasure in announcing the arrival of his immense stock of

FANCY AND STAPLE DRY GOODS

Which will be found very attractive, embracing all the latest novelties in English, French and American Goods, as well as a choice selection of Canadian Manufacture.

Parties Visiting the Exhibition should Call and Examine this Stock

Before leaving Town, as it is the Largest and Best Selected ever brought into Guelph.

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH

The Cheapest House in the Dominion for Fancy and Staple Dry Goods.

A MONSTER STOCK FROM EUROPE!

227 CASES AND BALES OF

NEW FALL AND WINTER DRY GOODS!

Ex-Steamships Corinthian, Manitoban, Prussian, and St. Patrick.

The Largest Display of Dry Goods ever shown in Guelph!

An assortment unequalled by any Retail Establishment in Ontario. A monster stock bought for cash.

HEFFERNAN BROTHERS

Beg to announce that their stock of goods for the Fall and Winter Trade is now complete in every Department. Our importations which are unusually heavy this season, have been carefully selected by Mr. Thomas Heffernan, who has just returned from Europe, where he has purchased extensively from the leading manufacturers of Great Britain and Ireland, France and Germany. DRESS GOODS — We direct particular attention to our display of Dress Goods, which for quantity, quality and price surpasses anything ever before seen in Guelph. Over one thousand SHAWLS—We are prepared to show over one thousand Shawls of every variety, pattern and color. English Cloths, Scotch and Canadian Tweeds, Gents Furnishings. We show more goods in this department than any three houses in Guelph, and we sell a better Tweed at 75c. per yard than can be had at any other establishment at one dollar. In Ready-Made Clothing, Carpets, Blankets and General House Furnishings, our stock is simply immense, completely overshadowing the pretensions of other houses. MILLINERY & MANTLES—Our Show Rooms will be open during the week of the Exhibition. Everything that is novel and fashionable can be seen. Pattern Bonnets, Hats and Jackets direct from Paris, London and New York.

Noted for Cheap Dry Goods. (Guelph, Sept. 13, 1873.) HEFFERNAN BROTHERS.

GO TO THE

RED MILL

Flour and Feed Store,

Opposite Alma Block,

WYNDHAM STREET,

—FOR—

FLOUR AND FEED OF ALL KINDS.

ROBERTSON BROS.,

Guelph, Sept. 13, 1873 dtf

ARCADE OF MUSIC,

GUELPH

Intending Visitors to the Central Exhibition, don't go away without calling at our Establishment.

The Great Estey Cottage Organ,
Peloubet, Pelton & Co's. Organs
Simmons & Clough's Organs,
—AND—
The Webster Sewing Machine

ARE ALL TO BE SEEN THERE.

These Instruments are conceded by all eminent artists and competent judges to be the best, and have taken the prize wherever they have been on Exhibition.

Warerooms:

Three doors from the Post Office, opposite the Wellington Hotel.

A. C. OSBORNE.

Guelph, Sept 13, 1873 dw

GUELPH
Pianoforte Factory
IS NOW
IN FULL OPERATION

affording an opportunity to intending purchasers of inspecting the construction of those celebrated instruments.
All new Instruments

Warranted for Six Years;

Tuned (if in town) free for one year. Second hand taken in exchange or repaired.

TUNING ATTENDED TO PROMPTLY

Prices lower than any Imported, and quality and finish unsurpassed.
Show Rooms and Office,

WEST MARKET SQUARE,

GUELPH, ONT.

JOSEPH F. RAINER, Proprietor

Guelph, Dec. 14, 1872 dw

PLOUGHS.

Just received, a quantity of the celebrated

Gray Ploughs,

From Scotland, manufactured by Gray & Uddington, near Glasgow;

THE PORTER, ONTARIO & VICTOR

Steel board Ploughs; also some cheap Cast Board Ploughs on hand. Prices from $7.50 to $30.

A good assortment of Stoves and Tinware for sale cheap.

W. HEATHER,
Corner Woolwich-st. and Eramosa Road
Guelph, 2nd April, 1873. dw

ELECTRICITY!

THOMAS' EXCELSIOR ECLECTRIC OIL!

Worth Ten Times its Weight in Gold!

"Pain cannot stay where it is used."

It is the CHEAPEST MEDICINE EVER MADE. One dose cures common Sore Throat. One bottle has cured Bronchitis. Fifty cents worth has cured an Old Standing Cough. It *positively* cures Catarrh, Asthma, and Croup. Fifty cents worth has cured Crick in the Back, and the same quantity Lame Back of eight years' standing. It cures Swelled Neck, Tumors, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Contraction of the Muscles, Stiff Joints, Spinal Difficulties, and Pain and Soreness in any part, no matter where it may be, nor from what cause it may arise, it always does you good. Twenty-five cents worth has cured 1100 cases of Chronic and Bloody Dysentery. One teaspoonful cures Colic in fifteen minutes. It will cure any case of Piles that it is possible to cure. Six or eight applications is warranted to cure any case of Excoriated Nipples or Inflamed Breast. For Bruises, if applied often, and bound up, there is never the slightest discoloration to the skin. It stops the pain of a Burn as soon as applied. Cures Frosted Feet, Boils, Warts and Corns, and Wounds of every description on Man or Beast.

Prepared by S. N. THOMAS, Phelps, N.Y., and NORTHROP & LYMAN, Newcastle, Ont., Sole agents for the Dominion.

NOTE.—*Eclectric*—Selected and Electrized.

Sold in Guelph by E. Harvey & Co., A. B. Petrie, McCullough & Moore, and all medicine dealers everywhere. mr9-

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BELTS, BELTS.

—Just opened to-day—

At J. HUNTER'S

20 dozen BELTS of the most fashionable kind from 20 cents up.

Chignons, Braids,
Coronets, Switches,

Combs and Fancy Hair Pins.

ALL KINDS OF

BERLIN and OTHER WOOLS

Slippers, Cushions, and

General Fancy Goods.

SMALL WARES AND TOYS

AT J. HUNTER'S
Berlin Wool, Fancy Goods, and Toy Store, Wyndham Street Guelph.
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FRESH STOCK OF

WATCHES,

CLOCKS,

—AND—

JEWELLERY.

R. CRAWFORD,

Has just returned from New York with a large and well selected stock of American Watches, &c. which he guarantees

Will defy competition as regards lownes in price and quality.

Examine the goods before purchasing elsewhere.

Jobbing done as usual.

Store next the Post Office.

R. CRAWFORD,
Guelph, June 24th, 1873. dw

$5 to $20 PER DAY. Agents wanted All classes of working people, of either sex, young or old, make more money at work for us in their spare moments, or all the time, than at anything else. Particulars free. Address G. Stinson & Co., Portland, Maine. my5dwy

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GENT'S NEW FURNISHING STORE

IN GUELPH

WM. ANDERSON

Begs to intimate that he will open on Saturday, the 13th inst., in the premises

Adjoining Pringle's Jewellery Store,

a large, varied and choice assortment of Gents' Furnishing Goods, including a full range of **Perfect Fitting Shirts** in all sizes and prices, warranted to give complete satisfaction.

Fancy and Plain Flannels cheap.
Shirtings in cotton, wincey, and plain and fancy.
Bows and Ties, a large choice.
Scarfs in all the latest styles.
Collars in all the new shapes, in linen and paper.
Cuffs, new shapes, in linen and paper.
Underclothing, a large assortment.
Socks, in Lamb's wool, merino and cotton, plain and fancy.

Also, a choice stock of Ladies' Hosiery and Kid Gloves—the two button Kid from 75 per pair. Hosiery in all the new colors—Claret, Brown, Greys, Scarlet, White, Black.

WM. ANDERSON,

Guelph, Sept. 9, 1873. d1m

New Clothing Store.

THE ELEPHANT ARRIVED

On Wednesday, Sept. 3rd.

C. E. PEIRCE & CO.

Have great pleasure in stating that they have secured those splendid premises at present occupied by Hepburn & Co., and will open them about the 3rd of September with an entirely new stock of

READY-MADE CLOTHING

and Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods.

These Goods will be offered at such prices as will make them be sold.

Mechanics and Farmers, wait for the New Store---You will save Money.

Further particulars in a few days.

C. E. PEIRCE & Co.

GUELPH, Aug. 1873 dw

Co-Operative Store.

The Stock of Fall and Winter Clothing

(formerly owned by Mr. Galloway)

WILL BE SOLD AT THE FIRST COST.

Men's Wool Pants	$2.50,	former price	$4.00
" Vests	1.50,	"	2.25
" Coats	5.00,	"	7.25
" Suits	10.00,	"	15.00
Boys' Wool Suits	6.00,	"	8.50

The Stock of Hats and Caps

From Seaforth will be sold for one half the usual retail prices.

J. C. MACKLIN & Co.

GUELPH, Sept. 5, 1873. dw

HART & SPEIRS,
Conveyancers, Land, Loan, Insurance and General Agents,
4 Day's Block, Guelph

In reference to the above, Wm. Hart begs to inform his friends and the public that he has entered into partnership with Mr. Jas. S. Speirs in the above business, and while expressing his grateful acknowledgments for the liberal share of patronage bestowed upon him for the past three years, would respectfully solicit a continuance of the same to the new firm.

All business entrusted to us will receive prompt and strict attention.

Deeds, Mortgages, Wills, Leases, &c., &c.

neatly and correctly prepared.

MONEY always on hand in sums to suit borrowers, on mortgages or good personal security. No delay or extravagant charges.

Our list of Town and Farm Property is large and varied, and parties in want of real estate of any kind should call on us before purchasing elsewhere.

Agents for the Commercial Union Assurance Company of London, England.

HART & SPEIRS,
My14-dw Day Block Guelph, Ont

SPRING AND SUMMER, 1873.

POWELL'S
BOOT AND SHOE STORE

Call and examine my new stock of

LADIES', GENTS' & CHILDRENS

Boots and Shoes,

Which for moderate prices, style and workmanship, cannot be surpassed in the town.

Particular attention paid to

Custom Work and Repairing.

West side Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Guelph, April 8th, 1873 dw

FANCY GOODS
AND
Variety Store,

UPPER WYNDHAM STREET,

Next to the Wellington Hotel.

All kinds of Fancy Goods

BERLIN WOOLS,

Constantly on hand.

All orders promptly attended to.

MRS. WRIGHT,

Guelph July 4, 1873. dw

J. MARRIOTT,
Veterinary Surgeon,
M.R.C.V.S., L., H.F.V.M.A.,

Having lately arrived in Guelph from England, and taken up his residence here, intends continuing the practice of his profession. Orders left at the MERCURY Office, or at H. A. Kirkland's, Paisley Street, opposite Howard's new foundry, will be promptly attended to.

Having had great experience in all diseases of Horses and Cattle, all cases placed under his treatment will receive the greatest attention. Charges moderate. o19dwy

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A. A. GRANGE,
Veterinary Surgeon

Graduate Ontario Veterinary College.

OFFICE—No. 6, DAY'S BLOCK, UPSTAIRS.

All calls at night will be attended to by calling at the office.

N.B.—Horses bought and sold on commission. May 17, '73.—C.&W.ly.