ribers wishing to take the Everyon by the week, or for a longer period Buelph Evening Mercury SATURDAY EV'NG, DECEMBER 21. The Maiden's Choice

TO SUBSCRIBERS

## OR. THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLEUCH. A Tale of the Covenanters.

APTER I.-ADVENTURES ON THE MOOT

CRATTER 1.—ADVENTURES ON THE MOOL. Twilight had fallen, and the creasent moon miny lighted a wild and solitary region in the upper part of Mithsdale, as two travel-lars on the back of one horse, made their way show the upper part of Mithsdale, as two travel-lars on the back of one horse, made their way be upper to the moot. In the north-east, the di-section from which they were coming, dark add for heights stood sliently against the parend to be lease ragged, and of a more fer-life character, for dark masses of wood lay here and there in the dim distance, inter-parend to be lease ragged, and of a more fer-life character, for dark masses of wood lay here and there in the dim distance, inter-ption which the erops had recently been car-ted to the farm-yards. Between this cult vised strath and the moutain range pread the dreary waste, was covered with signify rising knolls, and gread darks storetones of heather, containing treacherous to death are ready to swallow up those one main the sympartic the storetones of here many there are any out and a maiden.

The transitionsly and is available the incastionsly and is available to the second sec

together the gathered folds of her long flow-ing skirt. The horse, which was a stout, sober-paced mag, walked with a firm step beneath his double burden; but, indeed, the weight of his two riders was in no degree oppressive, so alim and uncorporeal were the figures of both-scarcely amounting, in combined butk and weight, to one stout-hodied ycoman, or a songy west country laird. Suddenly the youth drew the rein, and brought the horse to a stand still, while he put his head to one side and listened intenty. "Is anything the matter Hugh? asked his companion in a sweet voice, though with somewhat of an anxious tone. "Some one is on the moor in front of us," he replied. 'Hark ! it is the voice of sing:

Indness. 'So it is—Jamie Tamson, the cadger,' said the youth, most thankfully. 'We are all

right now.' PAnd as he spoke he set the horse in motion, and soon the dark form of the cadger and his pony became visible on the road before them, as he leisurely trudged forward, perched on the unsure had, here the two creels.

he man, wanne reath. , -deed, wha and it be Charlie Alla and his company o' troopers are quu doon at Sanquhar, and mair helli hes are no in s' Turner's army. If be true, there's nachody kens bet you, Miss Marion, hoo he wad like you, Miss Marion, hoo he wad like

The lieve you are right in that,' a Kall, 'But unprincipled as Delieve Al be, he would never be so ungrateful as run Mr. Gordon, to whom he is so m isbted.'

TO BE CONTINUED

If you want Wine, Brandy, Rum, Gin, Extra Old Rye, Malt, Scotch Family Whiskeys, go to Geo. Wilkinson's.

No other House in Town has one-quarter the Stock of COALOIL LAMPS that Mr. HORSMAN has.

NEWSPAPER CURRENCY.

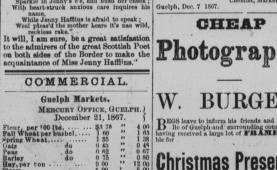
A Chicago divorce case rests on the complaint of a lady that her husband made her get up in the middle of the night and make the bed over. Tom Morgan, of Manchester, N. H., recently placed his tongue against an iron hamp post and was "frozen fast" for his pains. Hot water was required to felease him.

Professor Goldwin Smith, it is rumored, proposes to quit England for life in the course of the ensuing spring. It is believed that Mr. Smith intends emigrat-ing to the United States, where it was an oversight of Nature he was not born.

Have you seen the new Coal Oil Burner at MR. HORSMAN'S.

HORSMAN'S. STRIKING LITERARY ANNOUNCE-MENT. — A correspondent of *Punch* says: "Amongst your readers there must be many who are also readers of Burns. It may interest them to know that I have this day made a most important discovery. I have ascertained the surname of the exemplary young woman in "The Cot-tar's Saturday Night," who has hitherto been only known to us as Jenny. Hav-ing occasion to examine the catalogues of the Royal Academy Exhibition, I found in the one for the year 1643, a quotation from Burns's celebrated Poem, which ran exactly as follows: "The willy mother sees the conscious flame Bynche in Jenny's edition is afraid to speak." While Jenny Haffing is afraid to speak.

while nearly active anxious care inquires no while Jeany Haffinia is a fraid to speak; weel pleard the mother hears it's nas wild, reckless rake.". It will, I am sure, be a great satisfastion to the admirers of the great Stottiah Poet on both aides of the Border to make the acquaintance of Miss Jenny Hafflins."



OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT. FRANKSMITT & CO **Opposite the** 77 Front Street, Toronto, MARKET. BEG to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c. andiere, 'City of Hamilton,' 'Glenborie,' from London. ida,' 'Hibernia,' 'Peruvian, 'Summer,' and Pericles,' from Liverpool And are daily expecting the arrival of 1.000Fresh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo Ex. ' Deodara,' ' Canny Scott' and ' Mary Ann,' from Malaga, Marseilles and De JUST RECEIVING IN STORE 303 Hhds and Tierces of Barbadoes, Porto Rico and Cuba Sugars. 522 Bbls Currants crop 1866, VERY CHEAP. 5175 Half Chests and Cattles Souchong, Congou, Japan, Gunpowde ou, Japan, Gunpowder, Young and Old Hyson Teas With a full assoritonent of Tobaccos, Refined Sugars, Wines and Liquors and Dry Groceries. All hich will be submitted to the trade, equal to and below Montreal prices. [4] Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired. Toronto. 6th November, 1867. dwif CHRISTMAS BOXES WE WOULD INVITE THOSE ABOUT TO PURCHASE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS Guelph, 11th December, 1867. nine our stock, as it is larger and more varied than even D. SAVAGE DRY Apothecaries' Hall, MARKET SQUARE, GUELPH.

TEAS. TEAS. A LARGE Lot just received of New Crop FALL A SPLENDID ARTICLE. PERFUME AT 75 CENTS. Equal to any sold at 874 Cents ! E. CARROLL & CO No. 2 Day's Block. nelph, Nov. 13, 1867 **Gold & Silver Plating** A. HOWIE & CO. toyal Hotel Buildings, James-st., ALEX. B. PETRIE, Chemist, Market Squa HAMILTON. Watches, Chains, Rings Pencil Cases, and all kinds of Jewelry Plated in Gold. Tea Setts, Cake Baskets, Knives, Forks, Spo &c., Plated at reasonable rates. Also, Door Plates & Carriag Trimmings of every description done to Hamilton November 28 1867. dw3m



pony became visible on the road before them, is he leisurely trudged forward, perched on his pony's back, between the two creels. He did not cease his singing as they neared with which he began to execute the tune as your of the second the second the tune as your of the second the second attention with which he began to execute the tune as your of the second the second attention of the second the second attention with second the second the second of the second the second second of the second the second second the second second second second as they at length came abreast of cach other on the narrow road he became silent, and, pulling up his pony, sat gazing at them with second second second second second as the second second second second second as the second second second second the cadger, in a tone at once of a surprise and concern. If shis really you, Maister M'Kail? "Yere as of, Jamie. Husiness and duty both have brought in son old acquaintance of yours. Don't you recognise her?" - Miles Martion,' cried Jamie, 'I guessed as mided silently down upon him. - Miss Martion,' cried Jamie, 'I guessed as mided, for weel did I ken that Maister WKail couldrab be gallantia' onybody but you. But keep us a', what has tempted yo tase come near Gregystame in thir uncanny - More throw it my father has come to

you know it my father has come to cleuch,' asked the maiden, in a cautious

Birkeneleuch, 'asked the maiden, in a cautous whaper. The cadger cast a careful glance round the moor in all directions before making answer to this question, and when he spoke it was in voice as low and suppressed as here own. "Yes, ho's come. He has been there for a week past, and two or three meetings have been spit. It's overe, venturesome, Miss Marion, fir owre venturesome, for the Curate is sure tas get word o't, and he'll send the sodgers up use the Cleuch." "Yoo be unto us, Jamie, if we preach not the Goupet at all possible places and assort of the Goupet at all possible places and eason's which at inplous Government has deprived them, and we, the divinely appointed mini-ters of the land must feed then by statisth are of the land invaries of the statistics."



Shingles per square Wood per cord .....

Money Market.

JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE. Guelph, December, 21, 1867.

0 40

Gold, 133, Greenhacks bo't at 73 to 74; Sold at 74 to 75. Silver bought at 4 to 46. dis ; sold at 54e to 3. Upper Canada Hank Bills bought at 50e. to 56e. Commercial Bank Bills bought at 92e to 96e.

Calt Markets

Fall wheat—\$1 50 @ \$1 60. Spring wheat -\$1 40 @ \$1 42. Barley—65c @ 70c. Oats -45c @ 48c. Peas—65c to 70c.

MONTREAL MARKETS. sood, Livingstone & Co's. report by Speeds Telegraph to 'Evening Mercury.') MONTREAL, December 19, 1867.

Flour-Fancy, \$7 40 to 87 50; Superfine No. 1 \$7 05 to \$7 25; Welland Canal, \$7 10. Bag flour \$3 40 to \$3 50. Oats 40 c to 42c. Barley 75c to \$0c. Butter-dairy 16c to 18c; store packed 14 to 16c. Ashes-Pozs \$5 50 to \$6 55. pearls \$5 9 at 00. 80c. 1 to 16c. \$6 00. Flour

40 00. Piour-small receipts; prices unchanged but less enquiry and rates mosity nominal. Grain unchanged; sales of U. C. spring wheat at \$1.60 Peas-no sales. Provisions-pork unchanged from former rates, prices a shade lower. Butter soarce, and good wanted. Ashes-pots lower; pearls firm.

TORONTO, December 20, 1867

Flour- Receipts, 200 brls; No. 1, at \$6 75.-Wheat-at \$1 44. Peas-72c. Oats-55c to 57c. Barley-82c to 84c.

HAMILTON, Dec Fall wheat,-\$1 45 @ \$1 50. ember 20 1867

PREST & HEPBURN.