

G FROM BUSINESS!

TREMENDOUS CLEARING SALE OF THE LARGE STOCK OF DRY GOODS, MILLINERY, READY-MADE CLOTHING, &C., BELONGING TO HOGG & CHANCE, GUELPH.

The Co-partnership Dissolved! Mr. HOGG retires from the Business!

The Stock to be Cleared Off at Cost Prices, commencing on Monday, the 9th of December.

GREAT BARGAINS!

Families ought to take advantage of this rare opportunity of laying in their Winter supplies at once, as this Stock is very large and complete in every Department. Actual Cost Prices will be asked for all the Goods, and no second price or bantering. Store will be open at 9 o'clock in the morning, and close at 6 o'clock in the evening during the sale. All Goods will be sold for Cash only.

Guelph, 30th November, 1867.

dw-1m

HOGG & CHANCE

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers wishing to take the EVENING MERCURY by the week, or for a longer period, will please leave their names at the office, and it will be regularly delivered at their residences. Subscribers whose papers are not regularly left by the Carrier Boys, will please call at the office at once and inform us of the neglect.

Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.

TUESDAY EVG. DECEMBER 17.

OVER THE SNOW.

A Christmas Story.

His wife made no reply. Still they pressed onward, onward. Each could hear the other's breath, as they passed through the driving wind, which blew in their faces, and buffeted them back, as though opposed to their errand of mercy. Suddenly a cry came from the old woman's lips, a shriek so shrill, so agonized, that for a moment it alone was heard, and the moaning wind seemed, by contrast, hushed into stillness. She clutched her husband's arm.

"Oh Davy, hurry on! You're the swiftest hurry on for dear life. Oh, God in heaven! she's making for the Black Pool!"

With a hoarse cry, like that of a wounded animal, a cry hardly less fearful, in its subdued anguish, than his wife's agonized shriek, David seized the light and bounded forward, the old woman following as best she might, her hand pressed to her side, and her grey locks fluttering in the night wind. The feeble glimmer of the lantern became dimmer and dimmer in the distance, and Mary Holt felt her strength fast leaving her, and the light came to a stop. With renewed energy she pressed forward, and in a few moments was kneeling with her husband on the snow, supporting the insensible form of her lost daughter in her arms.

With passionate tenderness the mother chafed the cold hands and kissed the death-white face, striving by close embraces to bring back the spark of life. But all in vain. The unhappy girl lay, as David had found her, a black heap on the snow; so still, so motionless, it seemed as though God had saved the wanderer from the last great sin—that awful sin which, shutting out repentance, shuts out mercy too—by taking to Himself the life she would have cast away.

Still the father and mother, clinging to the shadow of hope, relaxed not their loving efforts. Wrapping the warm woollen cloak about their child's lifeless form, they half dragged, half carried her along till they reached the cottage. Then while David hastened for the village doctor, the mother essayed such simple means as her homely experience suggested, to recall the spark of life, if perchance it might not yet have faded into utter darkness. After a little while her loving pains were rewarded by perceiving the beat of the feeble pulse, and the appearance of a faint flush of colour on the white cheek; and, a little later, her ears were gladdened by the sound of the well-known voice, though uttered in the ravings of delirium.

But her happiness was of short duration. Soon the good doctor came, and with tears standing in his eyes, spoke words of doom. The frail form had suffered more than it could bear, and the little life left was but the fire of fever, which might, or might not burn through the night. For a little while the light of reason might come back; but if it should so come, it would be but to sicker for a moment, and then be quenched for ever.

And meanwhile, all unconscious of its mother's life ebbing so fast away—of the wind and snow without, and the rain of tears within—of life or death—of sin or sorrow, the little babe lay sleeping before the fire; a dimpled arm supporting a dimpled cheek, on which the flickering firelight cast a rosy glory. And the cuckoo-clock on the mantelpiece still ticked on the minute. Each tick, each drop of time, as it fell into the ocean of eternity, bringing a stronger throbbing to the life that was just begun, and stealing one more pulse from the life that was passing away.

With quivering lips and streaming eyes, the father and mother sat by their daughter's pillow, listening in silent anguish to her delirious moanings. Her dying fancy seemed to hover hither and thither about her life; striving far back into the past and recalling incidents of her childish days—incidents long forgotten, but returning now with strange vividness under the influence of her broken sentences. And then a sadder page was turned, and then the parents knew (too late!) how their darling had been drawn aside from duty; and the father learnt, with bitter self-reproach, how his own sternness had repelled the loving confidence that had often risen to his child's lips; and which might, under Heaven, have hindered that bitter ending. At one moment she fancied herself with her betrayer, and pleading, as though she had just left her home, for permission to write to her parents. And here the listeners noticed, with strange feelings of surprise, that no thought of shame seemed to mingle with her pleadings; she begged as though for leave to communicate joyful tidings, rather than to confess her sin, and sue for pardon.

"Oh, Robert darling, if you would let me tell father and mother, they would be so glad and proud. They will be a little vexed at first, of course, at our having kept it from them, but they will soon forgive that. And if it must be kept secret at present, on account of your uncle, why, I don't think they would mind, at least, not very, very much. And if the people did say hard things of me in the village, I could bear that, for you sake, darling, you know; and perhaps it would only be for a little while. And when you get your uncle's consent (and I'm sure you will, because you make everybody do just as you like, darling), why then it needn't be a secret any longer, need it? And I should be so proud, so proud of my darling soldier Robert. You will let me write, won't you, dear? to please your pet Ally. I don't mind about anybody else, but I can't feel quite happy till father and mother know that I am your wife."

The listeners started, and bent forward with longing eyes, to hear more. But the feeble fluttering spirit, exhausted by even so short a flight, had sunk down again; and the sufferer's eyelids dropped, and for a while she seemed to slumber. Presently, however, she started again, with a wild cry, and sat up in the bed, gazing with fixed, dilated pu-

pils, and pressing her thin white hands upon her forehead—"Oh Robert! don't say that. Even in fun, darling don't say that. You don't know how my heart is beating, even now, when I know it's a joke. Just put your hand against it, dear, and feel. Why don't you look at me darling; why do you turn away? Robert, it isn't, it can't be true. A false marriage! Oh Robert, how could you do it, when I trusted you so?"

The loud passionate sobs of the dying girl as she sat wringing her hands and rocking to and fro in her delicious grief, disturbed the sleeping child, which awoke with a cry. The sound seemed to touch another chord.—She ceased her sobs, and listened, smoothing her hair back from her forehead as though trying to recollect something. Her mother, with womanly instinct, put the baby in her arms. A look of sweet content came over the faded face, and she sunk back upon her pillow, nestling the little one to her bosom, and caressing the baby head with her wasted fingers. Then the wandering mind roved into another track.

"Baby dear! baby dear! Baby will never never go away from his poor mamma, will he? Poor mamma! left all alone with baby in the whole wide world. Hush, dear, must not cry; poor mamma Alice may cry, but baby dear mustn't cry. Baby must be a happy baby boy, and grow up strong and handsome, like papa. Oh baby darling, pray God you may never hear anybody's heart! Hush-a-bye, dear, go to sleep on mother's bosom. Mamma will sing to him—sing him to sleep."

And then she softly crooned a fragment of a song that had been her favourite at the home-days, a sad song of a faithless love, and with a tender, plaintive burden of one hoping against hope:—

"He will return, I know he will; He would not leave me here to die."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Stock-Raisers will find in the New York Tribune a vast amount of profitable and interesting information. See advertisement for terms.

BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

PRIZE PENMANSHIP!

Superior Advantages Offered!

THE attention of young men looking forward to mercantile life is earnestly requested to the internal arrangements of this College, which afford every possible advantage and facility for acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of business life and business habits. The great characteristic of this institution is its actual business system. It is not only the first College in British America in which the system was established, but likewise the only one in which that system is rationally, practically and efficiently carried out. The result is that any youth who passes through the course is ready on getting his diploma to take his place behind the accountant's desk. Both, therefore, by right of priority and unexampled success in the business world, and in fact what by its name it professes to be—THE BRITISH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

One of the direct means of attaining and holding this high position has been the constant and varied selection of thoroughly competent, conscientious and energetic teachers. In the Writing department the First Prizes for Business Penmanship were awarded to us at the Provincial Exhibitions of 1863, 1866, and 1867, the only occasion on which we competed. As this honor undoubtedly places this College at the top of the wheel, we shall always strive to maintain that superiority in this, as in all other branches of study which are characteristic of the institution. Plain legible business writing is the style to which we have ever given the most prominent place, our motto being "a business hand for a business man."

The time required to complete the full course varies considerably according to the attainments, attention and ability of each student. Young men, however, are earnestly cautioned against the injurious practice of hurrying. The great danger from the mistaken idea that they will thus be gainers by the saving of money in the item of board. Infinitely more advantageous would it be to the student, since his full complement of tuition already paid for, to incur the comparatively small additional expense of a few weeks' board in order to make himself completely master of the course, and thus by a small present outlay, qualify himself for some lucrative situation. The crudeness that such haste entails is highly detrimental not only to the student himself, but also to the college where he graduates, and besides it brings up the question of Commercial Colleges generally. The common practice, therefore, of holding out this crowding system as an inducement to students is most deceptive and highly reprehensible.

For penmanship, circulars, &c., address HUSGROVE & WRIGHT, Toronto, 6th Dec, 1867. dw

INDIA & CHINA TEA COY.

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

THE India and China Tea Company beg to call the attention of the Canadian community to their directly imported Teas, 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 plantations in Assam and on the slopes of the Himalayas, and by a judicious blending of these magnificent Teas with the best varieties of China produce, they are enabled to offer to the public Teas of quality and flavour 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 Teas will be found to possess great briskness and flavour, combined with colour and strength, and to be entirely different to the flat and waded article usually sold as Black Tea; while their Green Teas are altogether free from the deleterious mineral powder so commonly used for coloring the leaf.

PRICES: 1/6 each, full-flavoured Tea, for family use a real 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 1 lb. and upwards, from the Company's Agents in all the chief towns of Canada.—N. B. All the packages are lined with tin foil paper, and the Tea will consequently retain its flavour any length of time. Packages.—All packages have the Company's trade-mark, without which none are genuine.

MR. N. HIGINBOTHAM Agent, Guelph. Guelph, August 13, 1867. dw-1j

CORDWOOD.

IMPORTANT to the FARMERS

Near ACTON, ROCKWOOD, GUELPH, SHANTZ, BRESLAU, and BERLIN,

CORDWOOD in quantities from Five Cords upwards will be received at the above stations, or anywhere along the track of the G. T. R., at greatly advanced prices. Payment,

CASH ON DELIVERY

or as soon as wood is in a shape to measure.

MEN WANTED

Good Steady Choppers will always find constant employment. Apply to ALEX. NAIRN, Rockwood, Oct. 2, 1867. Rockwood, G.T.R. 6d-wsm (Berlin Journal to copy one month.)

TEAS. TEAS.

A LARGE Lot just received of New Crop

TEAS.

A SPLENDID ARTICLE.

AT 75 CENTS,

Equal to any sold at 87 1/2 Cents!

E. CARROLL & CO. No. 2 Day's Block. Guelph, Nov. 13, 1867. dw1f

Liverpool & London & Globe INSURANCE COMPANY.

Capital Surplus & Reserved Funds \$16,271,675.

DIRECTORS IN CANADA: T. B. ANDERSON, Esq., Chairman, (President Bank of Montreal.) HENRY STARNES, Esq., Deputy Chairman, (Manager Ontario Bank.) E. H. KING, Esq., (General Manager Bank of Montreal.) HENRY CHAPMAN, Esq., Merchant. THOMAS CRAMP, Esq., Merchant. G. F. C. SMITH, Esq., Resident Secretary. F. A. BALL, Hamilton, Ont. JAMES SPIER, Montreal, Inspectors.

Fire Insurance & Life Assurance Policies issued at moderate rates.

This Company offers to Insurers the security of Wealth, Position, Increasing Revenue and Liberal Management. G. F. C. SMITH, Resident Sec., Montreal. THOS. W. SAUNDERS, Agent, Guelph. Guelph, Oct. 23, 1867. dw1f-186

H. HOGG'S FLOUR AND FEED STORE

Opposite the Market Shed.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND, all kinds of Mill Feed, Chopped Peas, Middlings, Shorts, Bran, Cornmeal, Oatmeal, Flour!

Bacon, Sugar-cured Hams, and Potatoes. Guelph, 28th August, 1867. dw-1f

THE RED MILL GRISTING & CHOPPING

FOR SALE AT THE MILL. GEORGE BALKWILL. October 24, 1867.

STRAYED PIG. CAME on the subscriber's premises, about two months ago, a large white hog. The owner on proving property and paying expenses can take it away. JOHN RENNE, Guelph Township. Guelph, 4th Dec, 1867. dw

THOS. GRIFFITH & CO.,

Wholesale Grocers,

39 Front-st., TORONTO, ARE now receiving Ex. S. S. Nova Scotia, Moravian, and other vessels,

Boxes New Valencia Raisins New Layer do Very Prime West End Layer Raisins Bbls English Crushed Sugar New Currants Bags and Pockets choice Java Coffee Qr Casks and Cases Dunville Irish Whiskey Cases Kinahan's L. L. do Chests, Half Chests, and Caddies New Season, Ping Suey, Young Hysons, Gunpowders, Congous, Souchongs, Color'd and Uncolored Japans, Imperial, Twankay, Orange, Pekoe, &c., &c.

Bags superior Arracan Rice Cases English Thumb Blue Bbls Brazil Nuts Bags S. S. Almonds Walnuts Filberts Cases Pearl Tapioca, Thin's Pickles Booth's, Betts' and Barclay's Old Tom John Bull Bitters Crates Wine, Beer and Whiskey Bottles Cases Orange, Lemon & Citron Peel Boxes Valencia and Jordan Almonds Cases Table Salt, in glass jars do Liqueur, &c. &c.

AND DAILY EXPECTED

Crosse & Blackwell's Pickles, Sauces, Preserves. The above, together with a large stock of

GENERAL GROCERIES,

INCLUDING Raw and Refined Sugars, Bright and Dark Tobaccos, (in Caddies, Butts and 1/2 Butts), and WINES & LIQUORS,

COMPRISING Pale and Dark Brandies, Hollands and Old Tom Gin, Jamaica Rum Pale and Deep Golden Sherries, Champagnes, &c.,

Will be sold at unusually Low Prices to the Trade. TERMS LIBERAL.

THOMAS GRIFFITH & CO., WHOLESALE GROCERS, 39 Front Street. Toronto, Nov. 1, 1867. dw-2m

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, D.D., Clarke, Parker and Herold, Guelph; A. F. Scott, Esq., County Judge; George Green, County Attorney; Dr. Pattullo, M. M. C.; Rev. Mr. Arnold—Brampton. Dr. Barnhart, Warden of Peel; Dr. Hampton, resident Surgeon Toronto Hospital. The new anesthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain. W. K. GRAHAM. (dw-1j) Guelph, 2nd August, 1867.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COY.

1867 1867

GUELPH AGENCY. Steam to Liverpool, Londonderry and Glasgow.

Steamship MORAVIAN, Portland to Liverpool, 7th December, 1867. Tickets to and from the Old Country, Passage Ce tillicates to bring friends out. Return Tickets for six months, issued at reduced rates. State ooms secured, and every information given on application. Insurance Policies for the voyage issued at the low rate of 1/4 per 1,000 up to 10,000. Apply to GEORGE A. OKNARD, Agent, G. T. R., Guelph. Guelph, Oct. 21, 1867. dw

DIRECT IMPORTATIONS

OF STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS!

AT THE BRADFORD HOUSE.

GEORGE JEFFREY

Has much pleasure in announcing the arrival of his

FALL AND WINTER STOCK!

WHICH WILL BE FOUND ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE IN CANADA. HE WOULD PARTICULARLY DIRECT ATTENTION TO A FEW DEPARTMENTS:

SILKS, Black and Coloured. REPS, PRINCESS' CLOTHS, MANTLE CLOTHS, Some things Quite New.

And every other description of Goods will be shown as they appear in the Market. GEORGE JEFFREY. Guelph, September 21, 1867. d

HAVE YOU SEEN BARNUM?

YES! Well the next biggest thing is the BOOT and SHOE Establishment of

PREST & HEPBURN

COME AND SEE IT.

THERE IS NOW ON EXHIBITION the Largest, Best, Cheapest, Neatest and most Durable assortment of

BOOTS AND SHOES

ever offered to the trade in the county of Wellington. In fact, it is the Stock of Ontario! This is the only house that manufactures their own Boots and Shoes.

SUPPORT HOME MANUFACTURE!

and keep your money in the county! We do not believe in puffing, but simply ask the public to come and see our Boots and Shoes, and we are confident the verdict will be in our favor. We will guarantee all our goods. Remember the Stand—

The Old Penitentiary Boot and Shoe Store!

And the oldest Shoe Store in Guelph. REPAIRING DONE AS USUAL. PREST & HEPBURN. Guelph, 16th October, 1867.

Come and See the Bargains at the RUTHERFORD HOUSE!

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING

And a Cheap lot of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Underclothing, All of which we are determined to sell cheaper than any house in the town, and our Groceries, Crockery and Liquors are Cheaper than evi

Just Arrived from Newfoundland 100 Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings, 100 Half Barrels Latest Caught Labrador Herrings, which can be confidently recommended as the best imported this year. Commercial Bank Bills taken at par. Guelph, November 14, 1867. daw-1f

DEVON BULL FOR SALE CAUTION. FOR sale by the subscriber, the Devon Bull "Prince William," 4 years old. He has taken eight premiums at the Provincial and County Shows, and also at the last New York State Fair. He is the best bull of the Devon breed in Canada. Apply to GEO. RUDD, Fulford Plains, Guelph. Guelph, 6th December, 1867. WILLIAM CRAWFORD. Exrs, Dec 11th, 1867.