The Maiden's Choice

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

the term, concluding that if there was any advantage in an alternative it was in favor of allowing Patie to take his own way. The Baronet had great said to the instinct of a horse, and his past experience fully warranted him in chertaining it. At the same time, he could no trust much to this only chance, for he was aware that Patie was as much a stranger in those hills as in was himself, and as he did not know where his riders wished to go, it was not expected that he could take them to Glencorthie. But poor though the chance in trusting to latie was, it was all they had, and Sir Gibbert took it, yielding up all control over his horse's motions, except to quicken his progress by an occasional spur.

to quicken his progress by an occasional spur.

On they went, with bent heads and closed eyes, the storm increasing and the darkness deepening every moment. The drift was not only blinding but threat aning to be sufficeating as it rushed sgainst their faces and stopetheir breath. The severity of the cold was to Helen fast becoming unbearable. The stalwart form of Sir Gilbert, behind which she sat, formed some protection, brealing the fierceness of the wind, and preventing the anow from beating fully upon her; but neither his portyparabn not; the thickness of her few happings made anything like an adequate defence against the intensity of the cold, and her fragile form was being list conquered by its ruthlans gower. But her kept a brave, uncomprisining silence. Knowing that Sir Gilbert was powerless to make matters better, she would not add to the distress which she knew he experienced by any expression of pain or fear.

But her very silence was unbearable to Sir

knew he experienced by any expression of pain or fear.

But her very silence was unbearable to Sir Gilbert, and at length he shouted—his words being caught from his lips and swept by the wind over the wild waste—

'Hoo are ye, Helen' Speak, lassie, for ony sake speak, and tell me hoo ye're fairu', 'Helen opened her stiffened lips, and strove to reply, but so faint was her voice that he could not catch the words.

'Puddin's and painches, I clean forgot the brandy,' he exclaimed, and, diving his hand into a vide pocket, nearly drifted up with snow, he extracted therefrom the flask containing the liquor, drew out the cork with his teeth, and passed it over his shoulder to his companion's medith.

Helen readily drank of the fiery fluid, and felt a warmth come to her heart. Sir Gilbert, following her example, took a stiff pull at the flask, and he, too, experienced benefit.

Still they kept on and on in their unknown.

bert, following her example, look a stiff pull at the flask, and he, too, experienced benefit.

Still they kept on and on in their unknown way, the wind howling and the snow-drift rushing around them, as if flendish voices were hissing in triumphant mockery over their discomfiture. It was perfectly dark now—the near hills, as well as the far, were shreaded in gloom, and the sky above was as dark as the earth below.

Another quarter of an hour passed in this bewildered wandering and hopeless battling with the tempest, and Helen felt that her frozen and benumbed limbs were rendering her incapable of keeping her seast on the saddle. The arm which encircled, Six Gilbert's waist had lost its power to hold, and such a stappor was coming over her senses that the energy of her will was likewise departing. The intense painfulness of the cold had left her, and a fatal drowsiness had succeeded, which was rendering her every moment more oblivous of, and indifferent to, their position. The Baronet's stronger frame was making a better resistance, but he, too, was getting feeble and benumbed, and the anguish and agony of his soul were great. Had he been alone he would have cared less, but thoughts of the delicate companion he had under his scharge, and whom he was unable to protect, filled his heart with excrucisting pain.

Hoo are ye noo, Helen ?'he shouted again and turned his head to catch the reply, but received none.

Belen, dawtie, speak tae me!'he anxious-

none. n, dawtie, speak tae me!' he anxious-

"Helen, dawtie, speak tae me!'he anxiously cried.

She heard him, and tried to answer, but
could not. Tongue and lips refused to fulfil
their office.

"Mercifu' heaven! hae pity and succour
as! ejaculated Sir Gilbert. Then after a
moment's pause he added, in a tone of dread
and apprehension—

"Helen, Helen, dae ye no hear me?

"Still his companion remained silent, to
Sir Gilbert's utter grief and terror.

"Guid God! she's past baith hearin' and
speakin', he groaned. "The cauld has perished her!

At that moment Patie gave a stamble when
the Baronet felt Helen's hand loosen, and
she slid from behind him and fell upon the
smown ground.

In a moment he pulled up, and leaped
from the saddle, or at least tried to leap.—
His frozen limbs could not yield, and he
toppled over the horse's side all of a piece,
and rolled on the earth like a log of wood.

With desperate energy he shook off some
of his lethargy, and crawhed towards a dark
mass a few yards from him. This was Helen
lying motionless and huddled up, and already
the drift was beginning to whiten her apparendy inanimate form.

He took her in his arms, chafed her, and
spoke to her in a tone of the most anxious
solicitude.

"Oh, what wull I dae, fwhat wull I dae?'
he wailed. "Where we are the Lord only

spoke to her in a tone of the most anxious colicitude.

'Oh, what wull I dae, fwhat wull I dae?' he wailed. 'Where we are the Lord ouly knows, or whether we are near or far frae shelter; but there's no a stime o' licht tae be seen in ony direction, and the open hills seems a' around us. Help I manu hae, and that sune, or it will be ower late.' Sif Gilbert was now in desperation, and with a strength born thereby, fie threw Helen over the neck; of the horse, sprang again into the saddle, caught firm hold of her, and in Patio'.

Part with cases, sides.

Patie snorted with agony and angry aston-inhment, and went plunging forward through the darkness. Sir Gilbert's teeling was this, that if the animal was, by the exercise of his instinct, making for some habitation, he could not reach it too soon. He therefore kept spurring him on, and the goaded beast galleped over the uneven ground with mad immetionity.

PROTECTION OF EMIGRANTS ON SHIPBOARD.—Mr. E. B. Washburne has submitted a bill to the House of Representatives providing that whenever any passenger shall die "after the contract of his embarkation in any vessel, by any cause incident to the voyage, and not being the act of God or the peril of the seas," the master and owner of the vessel shall be liable to pay his personal representatives the whole value of his earnings he would have made if he had lived the period assigned him by the usual tables of mortality. This law, if passed, will make it a more serious thing than it is at present for men to trifle with the lives of emigrant passengers under their control.

we regret to learn the sudden death of Sir Domnick Daly, Governor of South Australia. His loss is much regretted by the colonists, upwards of a thousand of whom followed his remains from the Roman Catholic Cathedral to the place of interment.

Bistori is about to take her final leave of the American stage. This great queen of tragedy has been upon this continent for twenty-two years.

HARVEY'S

BENZOLINE

and other Spote from Silk, Velvet, Cloth and Hid Gloves, Carpets,

E. HARVEY, Chemist and Druggist, Wyndham-

April 16. TO BE HAD ONLY AT

The Apothecaries' Hall.

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The New, Extraordinary, and Tonie Remedy

Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Sciatica and Lumbago.

Also, for Face-ache, Tooth ache, Earache, Coughs all affections from Cold.

The Powders are entirely Tonic in their action, giving strength and tone to the system, and increasing the appropriate to the system.

A. S. PETRIE,

Chemist, Sole Agent, Guelp daw tf

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Remember the best is the cheapest. We also manufacture every description of Fire and Burglar Proof Securities, such as Vault Doors, Locks.

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J. & J. TAYLOR, Manufacturers, 198 & 200 Palace-St. Toronto, April 11, 1868.

FOR SALE. SODA ASH-"Gamble's."

CAUSTIC SODA—'Gamble's,' 'Widnes
'Alkali Comp'y,' 'Garrett's.'

Alkali Comp'y,' 'Garrett's.'
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W. T. BENSON,
37 St Peter Street, Montrea
Montreal, 1st April, 1868

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Potatoes of all Kinds

Wholesale and Retail,

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INSURANCE COMPANY. THIS Company has been in existence Thirty-two years, and during that period has paid Lossee exceeding Five and a half mil-lion Pounds Storling.

The disbursement of this enormous sum over a wide area, has without doubt contributed to the extabilalment of this Institution, in the confidence extabilation, the confidence and Baulous men generally, wherever it is repre-sented.

and Business men generally, wherever sented.

In its 1st year, 1836, the Fire Premiums alone arrounted to £ 9,970 in '1s 10th year, 1846. 47,763 ' 20th year, 1856. 222,279 ' 30th year, 1866. 789,382 One year later, 1867, 818,055 The Fire Beserve Fund is now \$4,727,464 The Life Reserve Fund is now \$9,828,468 The Company is represented throughout Ontario and Quebec by influential Agents, to whom application for Insurance may be made G. F. C. SMITH, Resident Secretary, Montreal.

Agent, Guelph. Guelph, 12th Feb. 1868.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber having purchased from the Executors of his late partner, Mr. Hendernson his share of the business, begs tonetify his friends and the public that he will continue to carry on the business in all its branches at the old stand, Wyndham Street, Guelph, and would solicit a continuance of that patronage so liberily bestowed on the late firm.

C. B. PERSED.

Guelph, 27th March, 1668.

RYAN & OLIV 114 Yonge Street, 7 nto, 1st April, 1868.

TO TAILORS

TO MACHINISTS.

TEEL Squares, Steel Bules, Centre Guige Vernier Calipers, Steel Caliper Rules, Calipe Squares, Ames' Universal Squares, Self-regula ing Calipers and Dividers, Sunta Files and Yook Patent Ollers, Sheet Steel, &c. For sale by General Hardware Merchants—114 Yonge-st Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

Cabinetmakers & Upholsterers.

Coronto, 1st April, 1868.

DAY'S BOOKSTORE.

NOTICE OF

REMOVAL

In consequence of the rapid increase of the subscriber's business within the past few years, he has pleasure in intimating to his numerous patrons, and the Trade in general, that he has

THIS DAY REMOVED

To a much larger and much more mmodious store,

One Door West of the Old Stand,

And directly opposite the front door of the Market House, where he will be enabled to carry on his business on a much more extensive scale, and will be in a position to serve his customers to better advantage to them and to him-

T. J. DAY,

Bookseller, opposite the Market, Guelph suelph, April 2, 1868. daw tf

FIRE AND BURGLARS! BOOT and Shoe Store WHOLESALE&RETAIL



FASHIONABLE BOOTS & SHOES

inion can Produce. TERMS, CASH.

and examine our Stock.

JOHN McNEIL,

Montreal Boot and Shoe Store, Wyndham-s
Guelph, 8th April, 1868.

dw Toronto Advertisement

Liverpool & London & Globe HATS, CAPS AND FURS

Ever brought into Ontario, at No. 80 Yonge Street, three doors north of King-st., TORONTO Teronto, 26th March, 1868. dw6t

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON

GUELPH, ONT. THE Subscriber begs to inform the public that he has leased the above premises for a term of years, and has refitted it in a very superior and substantial manner, and hopes to share a portion of the patronage of the public.

THE BAR will be supplied with the best

And the table with all the delicacies of the sea on. In fact no expense will be spared to make a first-class establishment.

LUNCHEON Every day from 1 to 3 o'clock OYSTERS AND GAME,

Etc. Dinner and Supper parties provide short notice, at reasonable charges.

JOHN MILLER, Late of the Commercial Hotel, Whitby Guelph, Jan. 29, 1868. THE QUEEN.

Guelph, 4th April, 1868.

I: (O) NESA NE SMO REPLY VILLE

ESTABLISHMENT.

GUELPH. ONT.



AT IT AGAIN.

From unforeseen circumstances, I am obliged to once more plunge into the torrents of active business life. It affords me no small degree of pleasure and satisfaction to know that I am still to continue to serve and be a means of profit to the great mass of the inhabitants of the County of Wellington and its vicinity. I shall in the time to come, as in the past, make it a study and one of the leading features in my business affairs at all times to be in a position to secure Goods in the very best markets, and to the best possible advantage. My purchases will all be made for the best possible advantage. My purchases will all be made for the control of the cont

tomers.

COTTON GOODS have all advanced very rapidly within the last month. During the period of panic prices I bought heavily, indeed sufficient to do my business requirements during the summer. Since an advance of fully forty per cent, has taken

place.
My stock now in every branch is full, and an early call from my old friends will be well repaid both as regards variety to select from and the great saving to be effected in price.
Thanking you for past favors,
I remain yours,

JOHN HOGG. Guelph, 3rd April, 1868.

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CHARLES DICKENS

AND CHROMO LITHOGRAPHS

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Toronto, 26th March, 1868.

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Wines, Liquors & Cigars NEW HATS & CAPS

THE GUELPH CLOTH HALL

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Professor Esmeraldo's PELLATITE.

This Pellatite is the Concrete Julee of the Fruit of the Anthemis Pyrethum, a Brazilian Shrub that grows along the banks of the Amnon River. This truit and its jules possess the peculiar properties of imparting its color to the Human Harr only, and gives it an Blegamt. Soft, Glossy, Srows or Black Color, promother its rapid and luxuriant growth.—

Judies and Gontle Rith or clothing. Among Ladies and Gontle Rith or clothing or already become grey, the Pollatite stands as

THE VICTORIA

GREY HAIR RESTORERS!

THE PELLATITE Side.

Other Preparations
Are all made of preparations (Lead, Suitant Chemicals and Attenuaris. They convert the preparation of the

The dates and glossess the Hair.

It is healing to the scalp.

It combines a Hair Dressing.

It combines a Hair Dressing.

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It is indispensable, and It is universally desired.

Compare them. Test them and decide. Avaz, with fithy, dangerous Compennes, and use the clean and Harmless Pellstite. At one bound it aweeps the field, and the old fogy crucibles of Minerala, are dropped by the public like a red hot tron. Go to your nearest Dregist and ask him to furnish you with the Pellstite. Don't fail to give it a trial, and don't wait until your Hair is destroyed or you are the inmate of a Lungsite Asylum. Go et once.

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Professor—My head was sore from other Dree. Your Pellatite healed my scalp and colored my hair beautifully.

"It am deighted with your Pellatite—I will sever again use any other wash or dye, my cour Pellaties is a Sotanic Worder, and no mistake,"

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mistake."
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"Enclosed find \$5 for six bottles more. Send immediately."
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"Since using your Pellatite my head is entirely free from pain and eahn." PROF. ESMERALDO'S PELLATITE!

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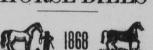
OPEN a Savings Bank Department at their Branch in Guelph this day.

The rate of interest allowed on all deposits will be four per cent, per annum, to commence from day of deposit, and five per cent, on all summ remaining in the Bank six months from 3rd of many or 31st of December.

The terms in other respects have been made as favorable as possible to depositors.

Further information will be given upon application at the office of the Bank in Guelph. For all deposits made in this Savings Bank, the anadian Bank of Commerce is fully responsible

R. J. DALLAS, Cashier. Guelph, 1st April, 1868. d6w4 Herald copy four weeks.



PROPRIETORS and Travellers of Stallions will please note the fact that at

THE MERCURY OFFICE

Insolvent Act of 1864.

THE Creditors of the undersigned are notified to meet at the Law Office of Messieurs PAL-MER AND LILLIE, in the Town of Guelph, in the County of Wellington, on TUESDAY, the TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY OF APRIL, Instant, at Twelve c'clock in the forenoon, to receive statements of his faffirs, and to name an Assignee under the above Act.

Guelph, April 11, 1868. R. GALBRAITH

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