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Guelph Evening Mercury
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.
SATURDAY EVE, MARCH 14, 1868.

POETRY.
A PARABLE.

"Where can it be,
That hand of Eternity?"
E. A. For.

We toil along life's pilgrimage
In sunshine and in shadow,
And every heart looks yearningly
Toward its own Elysium.

Yet, if at last we reach the goal,
When close the prospect viewing,
We find the place we thought so fair,
A desert of a ruin.

But there is a city, golden bright,
Where none e'er dreamt the morrow;
There rested the weary feet,
And dried the tears of sorrow.

A Crown is placed on every dome,
A Cross on every steeple,
The Palms of Peace shade every street,
And white-robed walk the people.

Before it rolls a river deep,
Fed with the tears of mourning;
Those who embark on that dark flood,
Are never seen returning.

Death rows a ghastly boat across,
Thick clouds around it hover,
But when Christ's hand is on the helm,
Safe is the passage over.

Then, Child of Earth, toil bravely on!
There's sun behind life's shadow;
Who bears the Cross, shall wear the Crown,
In Heaven's true Elysium.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENCLUECH.
A Tale of the Covenanters.

And, with a gesture of angry resentment, she flung on the table Baron's paper, which Charlie silently, and without an expression of surprise, lifted and began to peruse. It took him several minutes to master the contents; and, while he read, Helen studied the changes of expression that swept across his features. His countenance wore to her an aspect which it had never done before. It indicated now, plainly enough, the selfishness, the cruelty, and unscrupulousness of his character, she wondered with amazement that she had not detected these manifestations in his face before. But hitherto, in her presence, Charlie had been careful to assume qualities which he did not possess, and to hide the violence of his true character. "So," he said, after he read the paper to a close, "this document in friendly hands might give the forester a chance of becoming Baronet. Poor devil, the reverse of fortune might turn his brain, and so, to prevent such a catastrophe, he shall—"

"Charlie, what would you do?" screamed Helen, rushing forward and grasping his arm, as he was about to consign the paper to the flames.

"Burn it, of course," he answered.

"No, no," she cried, "you would not do anything so monstrous."

"Can't help it," he returned. "We must secure ourselves, and this we cannot do if the paper is presented."

She tried to possess herself of it, but he rudely snatched his arm from her grasp. She still clung to him, however, with convulsive force, and prevented him from reaching the fire.

"What mean you?" he angrily exclaimed. "Are you fool enough, or, if you are, do you think I am fool enough to show this paper, which would ruin ourselves?"

"She stood in front of the fire, and in amazement fixed him."

"How would it ruin us?" she asked.

"Because it alludes to your mother's letter."

"Well, what of that?"

"Simpleton, don't you see that that letter, and the revelation it makes, must go into eternal oblivion? The knowledge of it is confined only to ourselves and your father, and none of the three will, I take it, reveal the secret."

"Secret?" repeated Helen, with increasing wonder. "This cannot remain a secret. A public explanation is due even to ourselves, for how else could we account for the immediate disavowal of to-day's ceremony?"

"It was now Allan's turn to be surprised, and he did not seek to disguise his astonishment."

"Girl, are you raving?" he exclaimed. "Who talks of disavowing to-day's ceremony?"

Helen turned exceeding pale, and the first glimpse of a horrible apprehension made her tremble.

"Charlie," she faltered through her bloodless lips, "you must know that this discovery separates us."

"You think so, do you?" he fiercely returned. "Your game is to leave me and marry Wayland, whom you hope to make a Baronet, and do you imagine that I will suffer this—that I will allow another rival to triumph over me?"

"Think, Charlie, think," returned Helen as calmly as she could. "This is no case of rivalry, Human and Divine law alike prohibit our union."

"Bah, a truce to such trash as that. I am neither a fool nor a coward to be superseded by superstition. Religion and its dogmas I despise as fit only to frighten children, and as for human law, I shall take care to be secured against that by destroying these papers, which contain the only existing evidence against us."

"Oh Heaven! oh Heaven! Your meaning is too horrible to be credited," said Helen so pained that her voice could not rise above a whisper.

"Tush, Helen," he impatiently rejoined. "Let us have no more of this. Understand at once that this relationship between us presents no barrier to me. The world would no doubt cry out about it, and they would be absurd enough to interfere, but we have the means of concealment in our hand, and need not fear that the affair should come to light. Nay, you need make no further opposition, for it is useless. Here you are completely in my power, and I am one who never forgets a purpose. Be wise enough, therefore, to yield to what is inevitable, and do not force me to compulsory measures. First then, these papers must be destroyed."

He advanced towards her to cast Lady Barton's letter into the fire, but with blood-shot eyes and the desperation of despair she withstood him.

He smiled grimly and turned to the lamp which stood on the table, and thrust the paper into the flame. With a wild cry she sprang forward to prevent the deed, but was too late for the paper had already ignited, and with a mocking laugh he held it above his head in a blaze. Frantically she struggled to reach and extinguish it, but in vain. With his left arm he held her back, and glanced triumphantly at the consuming paper, which was fast passing out of existence. There he held it firmly against all her efforts and with greedy eagerness the flame flickered round it with devouring power, till it reached Allan's very fingers. Then he let it drop on the floor, and again laughed mockingly, as the last unconsumed speck was surrounded by a blaze, and the paper was reduced to black filmy ashes.

No. 2,

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON.
MARKET SQUARE,
GUELPH, ONT.

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Best Wines, Liquors and Cigars

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

LUNCHEON!
Every day from 1 to 3 o'clock.

OYSTERS and GAME,
Etc. Dinner and Supper parties provided on short notice, at reasonable charges.

JOHN MILLER,
Proprietor.
Late of the Commercial Hotel, Whitby.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!
Guelph, Jan. 29, 1868. do tf

Auction Sale
OF
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

MR. W. S. G. KNOWLES has been instructed by A. MACDONNELL, Esq., late Manager of the Bank of Montreal, Guelph, to offer for sale

At the Bank of Montreal,
In GUELPH, on

THURSDAY, 19th of MARCH,

1868, his household furniture, consisting of Drawing room sofas and spring chairs, centre table, easy chairs, Canterbury window seats, handsome dinner table, side table, smoking chair, iron do., a handsome drawing room Brussels carpet, bedroom furniture, spring mattresses, hair mattresses, bureau, toilet, glasses, mirrors, cooking stove and utensils, kitchen furniture, a handsome dinner set and tea set, lamps, china, crockery, glassware, and numerous personal and miscellaneous effects, also—

A HANDSOME PIANO,
By Dunham, quite new.

The above Furniture has not been in use one year.
To be viewed at Bank of Montreal, Guelph, (private entrance) on 14th, 17th and 18th March. TERMS—\$40 and under cash Bankable funds, over that sum by cheque or cash on approved joint notes with interest.
Sale to commence at 11 o'clock A. M.
W. S. G. KNOWLES, Auctioneer,
Guelph, March 4, 1868. dw

PLATT & CO'S

OYSTERS
Received daily by Express. Wholesale and Retail.
GEORGE WILKINSON.
Next door to Telegraph and Express Office.
Guelph, Jan. 7, 1868. do

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Fresh Haddocks.

Sea Herrings.

Finnan Haddies.

Yarmouth Bloaters.

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E. CARROLL & CO.,

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Guelph, 5th February, 1868. dw

Funerals, Funerals!

NATHAN TOVELL has to intimate that the Coffins always on hand. Hearse to hire. His Steam Planing Mill is in constant operation. All kinds of lumber, shingles, doors, blinds, mouldings, &c. He solicits a share of patronage.

NATHAN TOVELL.
Guelph, 27th Aug. 1867. do

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

THE REV. EDWARD A. WILSON will send (free of charge) to all who desire it, the prescription with the directions for making and using the simple remedy by which he was cured of a lung affection and that dread disease Consumption. His only object is to benefit the afflicted, and he hopes every sufferer will try this prescription, as it will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing. Please address—
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EDWARD VANCE.
Guelph, 12th March, 1868. w2m

Desirable Lot for Sale,
IN CARAFRAXA.

FOR SALE by private bargain the Southwest 1/4 of Lot 34, 2nd Concession, Carafra, containing of 100 acres, more or less, 10 acres of which are chopped, the balance being covered with good hemlock and maple. The lands of good quality. There is a small creek that flows into the lake. It is well situated for farms, being only one mile from the Fergus and Mount Forest Roads, and one mile from Arthur Village. The lot will be sold on reasonable terms.
For terms and other particulars apply to Patrick O'Reilly, Lot 22, 18th Con., Township of Peel. By letter to the same, Arthur P. O.
PATRICK WRIGHT, Proprietor.
Guelph, Feb. 12, 1867. 1404

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Chemist and Druggist,
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Guelph, Ontario. do

Guelph, 22nd Feb. 1868 dw

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7. Old Mortality 20. Highland Widow
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The new anesthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain.
R. TROTTER. W. K. GRAHAM.
Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. (dw-1v)

Hamilton Evening "Times."

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Containing 40 columns of reading matter, is issued every Thursday morning, and contains all the important news of the day—Editorial Tales, Miscellaneous Matter, Markets, &c., and is mailed to subscribers at
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An experienced Surgeon on each ship, free of charge. Tickets are issued in this country to parties wishing to prepay the passage of their friends from Liverpool or Queenstown (Ireland), for \$50, American money.

For tickets, special berths, and all information apply to
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Remember the New Store, Wyndham-st., next door to Horsman's.

JAMES CORMACK,
Guelph, 14th February, 1868. dw Wyndham-st., Guelph.

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Guelph, 27th February, 1868. dw

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P. S.—Also, Agent for C. Wilson's Sealed, Toronto.
Guelph Coal Yard, 6th March, 1868. dw w

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Guelph, March 6, 1868. 1419

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MR. N. HIGINBOTHAM
Guelph, August 3, 1867 Agent, Guelph. dw-17

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Guelph, 19th December 1867. dwtf

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Guelph, Jan. 22, 1868. dw

CHEAP

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