Huron Signal.

WEEKLY EDITION

W. F. FOX, Editor and Proprietor. "The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

$1.00 PER ANN IN ADVANCE, $2.00 AT END OF YEAR. GODERICH, ONTARIO, D. C., THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1870. VOL. XXIII.-NO 9

Business Directory.

HURON HOTEL,
ZURICH, CO. HURON.

JOHN PRANG, - - Proprietor.

This house is fitted up with every convenience for the travelling public,

☞ Good Stabling and prompt attendance.

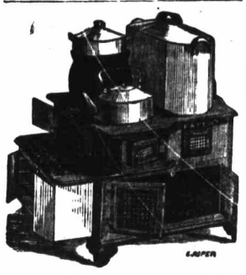
February 1st, 1870. w2-tf

MRS. DAYS' HOTEL
WROXETER.

ON the direct road from Seaforth to Walkerton. Every necessary accommodation for the travelling public.
HANNAH DAYS.
Wroxeter, Nov. 5, 1867. w4

Commercial Hotel, Mitchell C.W

JOHN HICKS, Proprietor. This is the largest and best Country Hotel in Western Canada, and charges as moderate as any House in Mitchell. Stage Proprietor. Good stabling for 100 Horses Horses and Carriages for Hire on Shortest Notice. 1tf



THE
PARLOR GEM PIANO FORTE,
MANUFACTURED BY
Marshall & Wendell of Albany.

EVERY Instrument is fully warranted and has the modern improvements, full iron frame overstrung bass and bushed ivory front keys. For

STANDING IN TUNE,
we guarantee these Pianos second to none.

Pianos, Melodeans and Organs Tuned,
R. RADCLIFF,
Agent at Goderich.

☞ Second hand Pianoes taken in exchange.
Goderich, 17th June, 1869. w21-6 m

NOTICE.

All parties indebted to R. Runciman & Co

EITHER BY NOTE OR BOOK ACCOUNT are hereby notified, that unless they

CALL AND PAY UP AT ONCE

they will be sued, without further notice.

R. RUNCIMAN,
Huron Foundary,
Goderich, Ont.

Goderich, 29th Dec., 1868. w49.

ROOM PAPERS
ROOM PAPERS.

A VERY LARGE VARIETY OF
Three Different Kinds of Papers
REQUIRED
For Halls, Parlors, Dining Rooms and Drawing Rooms,
ALL NEW PATTERNS,
Good Stock and declared by Painters and Paper Hangers to be the most beautiful designs.
The Best and Cheapest
PAPERS EVER INTRODUCED
IN GODERICH.
FOR SALE AT
BUTLER'S.
Goderich, April 15th, 1869. w11-

Feed! Feed!!

JUST RECEIVED
AT
Shephard & Strachan's,
20 TONS OF BRAN, SHORTS & Middlings,
WHICH THEY WILL
Sell Cheap for Cash.
Goderich, June 7th 1869. w19-tf

WASHING MACHINE!

A PERFECT GEM.

Price only $2.00 each

THE SUBSCRIBERS OFFER FOR SALE "A little wonder in the Washing Machine line" patented and manufactured by Israel Kinney, of Woodstock. It is the cheapest machine ever invented; can be attached to any ordinary wash-tub; can be adjusted by springs to suit either light or heavy goods; washes as rapidly and efficiently as more cumbersome and costly machines; and does less injury to the clothes; and leaves them nearly as dry. If desired, as a regular Wringer. The low price of $2.00 brings it within the reach of any family. With it any housekeeper can do her own washing without either getting sore hands or aching back.

Call and See the Machine
AT ROBINSON & YATES'
Market Grocery
Goderich, 28th Dec., 1869. w49

Land Office,
A REGISTER of Improved Farms and Wild Land for Sale,
G. M. TRUEMAN,
Goderich March 1, 1867. Market Square

Business Directory.

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE

CRABB'S BLOCK, KINGSTON STREET.

Prices to Suit the Times!

Photographs reduced to $1.00 per Doz.,
OR 75cts. PER HALF DOZEN.

Large Photograph Reduced in Proportion.

Also will make the largest Photographs made in Goderich, very cheap. Porcelain pictures from one dollar upwards at

D. CAMPBELL'S
Photograph Gallery.
Goderich, Oct. 19th, 1869. w27

REMOVAL.

ALEX. WALLACE,
WATCHMAKER
AND JEWELER,
WEST STREET,
GODERICH

THE Subscriber having removed to the Store lately occupied by A. Naysmith, West Street, opposite the Post Office, wishes to thank his friends and the public for the liberal support with which they have favored him for the last 25 years, and begs to assure them that no effort will be spared to merit a continuance of their patronage, his anxious study will be to supply,

Watches Clocks and Jewelery
which will give satisfaction to the purchaser, and as all work has been done by myself, customers may depend on having it well executed.

☞ A good assortment of Gold and Plated Jewelry Watches, Clocks &c., always on hand.

ALEX WALLACE.
Goderich Oct. 26th 1868. w40

THE
Oldest Establishment in Town.

MARTIN AMANN

BEGS TO INFORM HIS OLD CUSTOMERS that he is still able to sell for cash, at the lowest rates,

ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE,

At his shop on Kingston Street, opposite the Huron Hotel, Goderich. Give him a call.
Goderich, Oct. 3, 1868. rw11w37.

NEW PATENT
HAY FORK.

STRACHAN & McKINNON,

BLACKSMITHS, Nelson street, Goderich, would intimate to farmers and others that, having purchased the right for Carter's Hay Lifter, they are now prepared to furnish them at $5.00 each. The are made in a neat and substantial manner, and have given great satisfaction to those who have used them.

An agent will be out for the sale of the lifter in a few days.
Goderich, Jan. 25th, 1869.

FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE.

PHŒNIX FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY of London, England, established in 1782, one of the oldest, largest and best offices in Canada.
HORACE HORTON, Agent

PROVINCIAL INSURANCE COMPANY of Canada. Head office, Toronto. Will take risks on Country and City property. Marine risks taken at as low rates as any other first class office.
HORACE HORTON, Agent.

MONEY TO LOAN.
$20,000 on good farm security payable from one to twelve years. No interest retained in advance.
HORACE HORTON, Agent.
Goderich, March 31, 1868

Auction & Commission.
GODERICH & CLINTON
Established 1852.

SALES of Miscellaneous Property in Goderich every Saturday, and in Clinton every Wednesday.

Money advanced on Property for immediate sale and prompt returns made.

Farm Stock and other Sales punctually attended to throughout the County,

G. M. TRUEMAN'S Auction Mart,
w61 Market Square, Goderich

TAILORING
D. ADAMS

RETURNS HIS MOST SINCERE THANKS for the very flattering encouragement he has received since he commenced business in Goderich, not being able to execute over one-half the orders brought to him last season having now secured facilities to

Carrying on Business Extensively

and employing none but first-class tradesmen And as D. A. believes his experience as Cutter is second to none in the Province, having carried on business extensively and successfully in Hamilton, principally first-class customers, and having been Cutter in one of the Principal Establishments in Edinburgh, Scotland, he earnestly states to a discerning public that

CLOTHING CAN BE MADE
as this establishment equal to the best Establishment in Toronto or Montreal.
Goderich, October 3rd, 1863. sw17

CHEESE, CHEESE.

Shephard & Strachan,
GROCERS, GODERICH.

HAVE been re-appointed sole agents at Goderich for the sale of the celebrated Exeter Factory Cheese.

Local dealers supplied at the Factory Prices.

SHEPHARD & STRACHAN.
Goderich, May 27, 1867. w18tf

PHOTOGRAPHS
$1.00 Per Dozen.

HALF DOZEN FROM BACK NEGATIVES 51 cents, postage free. One dozen from back negative 87 cents, postage free, to any address.

☞ Particular Attention paid to Copying old Ambrotypes,

For either large or small photographs. The subscriber in returning thanks for the liberal patronage heretofore extended to him, would just say that he has made such improvements in his gallery as will merit a continuance of the same.

☞ A Great Reduction on Large Photographs.

E. L. JOHNSON.
Goderich, Oct. 26, 1869. w44tf.

I. FREDERICK,

WATCHMAER, JEWELER, &c.,
WEST ST., GODERICH,
Near the Post Office.

BEGS MOST RESPECTFULLY TO RETURN HIS sincere thanks to the people of Goderich and vicinity for their liberal patronage during the past 8 years, and now that the holiday season has arrived with all its social enjoyments and amenities, he would state that all who wish to purchase jewelry for presents or otherwise of warranted material and workmanship would do well to buy from him at rates comparatively cheaper than that asked for worthless trash.

All Jewelry Sold for Gold Warranted.

☞ Repairing done in the best style of workmanship.

ISAAC FREDERICK.
Goderich, Dec. 20th, 1869. w39-tf

Maitland Salt Well

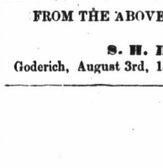
PLATT'S PATENT EVAPORATOR,

The undersigned is prepared to
FURNISH No. 1 SALT,
IN ANY QUANTITY AT THE
Lowest Price,
FROM THE ABOVE WELL.

S. H. DETLOR.
Goderich, August 3rd, 1869. w27

$30,000 TO LEND ON
THE SECURITY OF
Real Property
IN THE
COUNTY OF HURON,
at from 6½ to 10 per cent, by
DOYLE & SQUIER,
Barristers, Goderich.
February 23rd, 1870 w8-tm

GODERICH
CABINET FURNISHING
WAREHOUSE.
DANIEL GORDON,
CABINET MAKER
UPHOLSTERER,
AND
Undertaker, &c., &c.,



HAS now on hand a large stock of FURNITURE in every variety which cannot fail to command the favor of all in want of furniture who may favor him with a visit, whether in style or price, such as

Bureaus,	Wood Chairs,	Cane Chairs,
Bedsteads,	Sofas,	Lounges,
Tables,	Bookcases,	Cupboards,
Extension Tables,	Easy Chairs,	Rocking Chairs
Wardroes,	Side boards,	Chiffoniers,
Wash Stands,	Kitchen Tables,	Stands.
Sea Grass Mattresses,	Wool do,	Moss do

Hair do, and 4 or 5 different kinds Spring Mattresses

N. B.- Keeps always on hand a large assortment of Washable gilt and Rosewood Moulding-frames, square or oval, made on the shortest notice.

Having made arrangements with JACQUES & HAY, Toronto, can furnish anything here or at their Warerooms in Toronto.

☞ Has always a complete assortment of
Coffins & Shrouds in the Latest Style
Also, HEARSES to hire.
Cheap FOR Cash
Goderich, February 1st, 1870 w2

BY EXPRESS!

WHERE DID YOU GET
THE FRESH SEA FISH?
AT
E. BINGHAMS,

HE has Haddock, Cod, and Lobsters fresh. Also smoked Salmon, Kippards Herrings, Yarmouth Bloaters, Finnan Haddies,

FRESH OYSTERS!
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, AT
E. BINGHAM'S,
Westside of Market Square,
Goderich, Jan th 1869.

JUST ARRIVED.
MADAME TAYLOR,
With Her Great European Herb Remedy

THOSE suffering with Consumption, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Headache, Loss of Appetite, Bad Digestion, Catarrh and Noises in the Head, are advised to try this Remedy, in Bilious, Liver, and Stomach Complaint, it succeeds when others fail, in fever and ague, cold sweats and chills it was never known to fail. Recommended by Physicians throughout Europe. This is no humbug as one bottle of her medicine will prove. Do not suffer when you can get ease, by consulting Madame Taylor, at room No 8, Colborne Hotel, Goderich Ladies unable to call will be attended at their own homes.
Goderich, 10th Aug. 1868. w 29

MONEY TO LEND.
EASY TERMS.
J. B. GORDON.
Goderich, Jan. 14th, 1866. w51tf

Saw-Logs & Stave-Bolts WANTED.

THE SUBSCRIBERS ARE PREPARED TO MAKE contracts for the delivery of a quantity of

Elm, Ash, Beech, Pine, and Hemlock, Sawlogs, also, Stave Bolts

Delivered on their premises opposite the railway station. Also to undertake the sawing of custom Logs

For particulars apply to Mr Gunn on the premises or at the residence of Mr James Tomlinson

STANDLY & Co.
Goderich, 23rd December, 1869 w49-tf

Money to Lend.

ON very reasonable terms. Apply to

B. L. DOYLE.
Savage's new Block
Goderich, 9th Jan. 1869.

POETRY.

DONAGHADEE.

"AIR—*Dirge of Carolan.*"

Wherever my home in the wild world may be,
My heart's in old Ireland, away o'er the sea,
Mong the green sunny hills that look down on the stream,
And the soft dewy valleys that gladden'd youth's dreams
Where shelter'd in peace in the deep willow glen
I've listen'd the notes of the wild, merry wren,
And thought, in my fondness it warbled to me
'Sing Beauty, Sing Love, and Sing Donaghadee'!

My breast has an aching—I cannot tell how,
But it felt not in boyhood the way it feels now:
And my brain too, has throbbings as well as my breast
Which the wealth of an empire could ill set at rest,
There's a winter in Nature, that falls on the heart
Ere the hopes of the spring tide can fairly depart;
And I still hear a small bird, that whispers to me—
'Sing Beauty, Sing Love, and Sing Donaghadee'!

Ah, me! shall I never return, o'er the main,
To my home, in the north of old Ireland again?
Where the cot of my fathers for ages hath stood
Unstained by dishonor—unravaged by feud!
Where she—my fair Nora—my lifes proudest joy!
'Neath the green mossy turf of the valley doth lie
Mongst the wild pretty flow'rs where she often with me
'Sang Beauty, Sang Love, and Sang Donaghadee.

I love thee my country! how fondly and true!
No realm in the wide world, so dearly as you.
Tho' Tyrants oppress thee, and Cowards beguile
And the star of thy freedom seems clouded the while,
Yet, deep in my bosom, one solace I own,
Tis the hope that thy day of Misfortune hath flown,
And a little bird near me, proud-perch'd on a tree
Sings Beauty, Sings Love, and Sings Donaghadee.

WM. BANNATYNE.
Ashfield March 7th 1870.

Goderich Township.

The Council met at Holmesville this day (14th) according to appointment. Present the Reeve and councillors Ford, Weston, and Lomas. Moved by Mr Ford, sec. by Mr Lomas, that the Clerk be instructed to notify Henry Lippet to remove his fence off the side-road running between lots 10 and 11, in the 1st con., so that persons and cattle can have ingress and egress to and from said side-road, and also, to notify Mr Isaac Salkeld and Mr Andrews to open up the side-road running between lots 5 and 6, 1st con.—Carried. Moved by Mr Ford, sec. by Mr Lomas, That Ed Graham be refunded $3.72, being overcharge of back taxes on N pt of lot 8, in the 3rd con., being 19 acres, for the year 1865—Carried. Moved by Mr Lomas, sec. by Mr Weston, That Mr Burnett be paid the sum of $8 for paying the Dr's bill for John Langbourne, an indigent person who fractured his arm in August, 1868—Carried. Moved by Mr Lomas, sec. by Mr Ford, That Dr Shannon be paid the sum of $5 for attending Harriett Watt in her confinement while stopping at the house of Thos McKee—Carried. Moved by Mr Lomas sec. by Mr Ford, That H Cook be refunded the sum of $1, overcharge on a dog for 1869—Carried. Moved by Mr Lomas, sec. by Mr Ford, That Ebenezer Rumball be refunded the sum of $1.99, being overcharge for taxes for 1869—Car. The account of Valentine Harrisson was presented, $10.50, ordered to be paid. Moved by Mr Weston, sec. by Mr Ford, That the Reeve be instructed to prepare a Deed for Gabriel Elliott of a Road allowance running between lots 22 and 23, in the Bayfield con. and receive payment therefor, as the same has been advertised for sale and sold according to Statute—Carried. Moved by Mr Weston sec. by Mr Lomas, That the Auditor's Report having been read and passed by the Council, that the Clerk get 100 copies printed for general distribution—Car'd. Moved by Mr Ford sec. by Mr Lomas, That J Hicks be paid the sum of $15 for keeping a foundling for sixteen weeks this sum paying up to the 14th March, 1870, in full of all demands—Carried. The account of Mr George Weston and others, amounting to $10.25, for work done at Hall's bridge, was ordered to be paid. Acct of Jas Patton for $10, for stationery, &c., ordered to be paid. Moved by Mr Ford, sec by Mr Lomas, That the time for collecting the taxes be further extended for two weeks—Carried. The Council then adjourned to meet the first Monday in May next—said meeting to be Court of Revision.

T. B. STOKES, Tp Clerk.

Report of the Ladies' Benevolent Society for 1869-70.

The Committee beg to report that the amount placed at the disposal of the Society for the year was $198.24, which included a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $12.34, from the previous year. Thus the sum actually collected for the year just ended was $185.90, of this amount $67.90 were collected in St. Andrew's Ward; $57.60 in St. George's Ward; $30 in St. Patrick's Ward, $30.40 in St. David's Ward. The amount expended up to the end of February is $104.80, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of $93.44, which will enable the Committee, to be chosen at this meeting, to carry on the work of the Society until the time arrives for another appeal being made to the public. This Society, as your Committee would remind you, has been its existence for the last four years. Through its instrumentality during the whole of this period, important benefits have been conferred on many individuals and families. Your Committee have used their best endeavours to dispense judiciously the funds placed at their disposal. Any member of the Society wishing for details may obtain the information desired at any of the monthly meetings of the Committee. The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Wm Kay and John B. Gordon, and found correct. All of which is respectfully submitted.

MARY MACDONALD, Sec'y.

OFFICE BEARERS:
President, Mrs. Rich;
Vice President, Mrs. Johnstone;
2nd Vice President, Mrs. McLean;
Treasurer, Mrs. Preston;
Secretary, Mrs. Macdonald.

The Infallibility Scheme.

On Monday a scheme on infallibility was distributed to members of the Council. It asserts that the Church possesses supreme and complete primacy, and that the principality over the universal Church was received with plenitude of power from the Lord himself by St. Peter, of whom the Pontiff is the successor. All the questions of faith must be determined under that power, else the words of the Lord to Peter would be disregarded. In the apostolic see, Catholic and immaculate, the doctrine has always been fully maintained, consequently we, say the scheme inculcate with the concurrence of the Council and define as a dogma of faith that, thanks to divine assistance, the Roman Pontiff of whom it was said in the person of Peter by Christ: "I have prayed for all," cannot err when acting as supreme teacher of all Christendom. The scheme defines what the Church must hold in faith and morals, and that the prerogative of Papal infallibility extends over some matters to which the infallibility of the Church is applicable If it concludes, any should dare, which God forbid, to controvert the present definition, let him know he departs from the true faith.

At Havana the assassin of Greenwaldth, the American, has been found guilty and sentenced to be executed.

Belgium and the United States have made a treaty, now only awaiting ratification, which reduces to one half the present rates the postage between the two countries.

☞ Howe has sacrificed his son Sydenham for the service of the Dominion. He will in future serve as Auditor at Halifax on a good round salary.

THE HAUNTED SHIP.

CHAPTER I.

A man is born a sailor as he is born a poet; and when a boy's heart turns to the ocean, you might as well try to move the pole star from its appointed place as seek to force him from his chosen career. My family had no naval interest, and very little property. It was desirable, therefore, that I should do something to increase our finances, rather than to incroach on them; nevertheless, I would go to sea. Reasoning with me was of no avail; and when at last I yielded to my mother's entreaties, and consented to forego my dearest wish, the concession caused me to pine in health, and sink into a state of spiritless apathy, which terrified her into becoming herself a warm advocate with my father for the fulfilment of my yearning desire for a sea life. He yielded to her advocacy, and I entered the Royal Navy, and served for eighteen years in some of the finest ships in her Majesty's service.

At the end of that period, however, I found myself on shore, on half pay, and with no prospect of getting a ship. I had been made a Commander, and was less likely to be needed in my new rank than I should have been as a lieutenant; and, as I have said, I was totally without naval interest to push me on in the service. It was a sad position for a young man of my age; and I chafed sorely at my enforced idleness, and banishment from the quarter-deck. The sea was as dear to me as ever; and I yearned for the ripple of the water near my pillow when I sank to sleep, and for the fresh breezes of the ocean by day.

My father had now been long dead, and my mother, whose means were very limited, had taken a cottage in the village where her elder brother was the squire, a dull little place, inland. My joy may therefore be imagined when one morning the post brought me a large letter, bearing the inscription 'On Her Majesty's Service' on the envelope, and I read my appointment to H. M. surveying vessel *Viper*, which I was ordered to join immediately.

Surveying was not exactly the kind of service I should have chosen; but I had so long vainly importuned the Admiralty for employment, that I accepted my fate thankfully, and departed with all possible despatch for Milford Haven, where the *Viper* was then stationed.

The pride and affection a sailor feels in his ship have been said to resemble the feelings with which he regards his wife. I felt almost inclined to acknowledge the truth of this assertion as I paced the deck—my own deck now—of the smart little surveying vessel. The number of her crew was not yet complete, as the *Viper* had been towed round from Chatham by a steamer, with only a few extra men on board; but the two other officers had joined before me, and I gave me a cordial reception. The lieutenant was a fine, handsome young fellow, an Irishman, of the name of Desmond; the master was an elderly and 'canny' Scotchman, called Bertram.

From the size of the vessel, there was only a mess-room in common for us; and it was but small, as a bulk-head, or partition of wood, cut off from its dimensions on each side the space allotted for our sleeping cabins. My own was on the right-hand side, my messmates' (two smaller ones) on the left; a row of lockers (resembling old-fashioned window seats, my un-nautical reader) ran under the stern gallery windows. In the centre of the room stood our dining-table, a lamp swinging above it; my Davenport was placed near the lockers. I am obliged thus minutely to describe our apartments in order that my story may be clearly understood.

As soon as the number of our crew was complete, we were to sail along the coasts of Wales and Ireland on our surveying duties. There were only two of the old crew who had re-entered the vessel—the captain's steward, and one able-bodied seaman, both of them elderly men bearing a very high character.

I soon discovered that these two men were great friends, having been for many years messmates in different ships; and I learned from Allan Bertram that they were wont to read the Bible and sing hymns together, in, as he said, 'a vara praise-worshy manner.' I cannot say that I liked either of them on our first acquaintance; they both had a gloomy look, and not the frank merry manner of the seaman.

We sailed at length from Milford Haven, and were soon in the Irish waters. We hoped to put into Donaghadee harbour on the morrow, and as I had been very much occupied during the day with my new duties, I sat up late to write a letter to my dear mother, which I hoped to be able to post the next day. Desmond had gone to his berth as it was Bertram's watch, and the vessel was hushed and still. Not a sound broke the silence except the tramp of the measured tread overhead, and the soft rippling of the waves against the side.

My letter ended, I lighted a cigar; and although it was now—near midnight, sat smoking and dreaming, as was very often my wont. Never was a man less inclined to 'see a ghost' by pre disposition of the mind than I was then. I was unusually contended and happy. I liked my employment. I had hope, now, in the future, about which I was building most fantastic castles in the air, and my reverie was all *couleur de rose*, when I was startled by the sound of a low, deep sigh, close beside me. I looked round, surprised, but could see no one. The next moment a still louder sound, resembling a faint, suppressed wail, proceeded from the same direction. I concluded, then, that Desmond was disturbed by nightmare, and that the sound only appeared to be near me; therefore I went to his berth, and softly opened the door, resolving to rouse him from the dream-agony if he seemed oppressed by it; but, to my astonishment, he lay in the most placid of slumbers, with a smile on his lips, as if his dreams were pleasant ones.

Stealing softly away from the side of his cot, I gently closed his door, and was about to resume my seat, when I distinctly heard the rustle of a silk dress, and the sound of a light footstep pass by me, and go apparently into my sleeping-cabin. I cannot describe my state of mind at that moment;—an instinct fear, an awe, which chilled my blood, seized me; but it was only for a moment; the next I had walked rapidly towards my cabin, pushed open the door, and looked into the apartment. There was nothing to be seen; but the rustle of the silk dress was again distinctly audible.

Perplexed and annoyed, angry with myself, and half afraid that some impending illness must be the cause of this strange delusion, I opened the mess-room door, and desire a man, whom I saw outside it, to send Parker, the steward, to me. The summons was somewhat tardily obeyed; and, when the man entered, I was struck by the exceeding pallor of his countenance.

'Parker,' I said, scarcely knowing what reason to assign for my summons, 'Parker, I am not feeling quite right to-night. Bring me a glass of brandy and water.

The man obeyed, and when he returned with the glass on a tray I bade him remain till I had finished my grog. He glanced nervously about him with a kind of scared look, as I slowly sipped the brandy and water.

'What is the matter, Parker?' I asked, with an assumed tone of banter. "You look as if you expected to see a ghost.'

I had scarcely uttered the last word when the lockers beneath the stern-gallery windows opened and shut again with a sudden crash, while, with a rush and a rustle, the invisible silk dress darted past us.

With a repressed cry the steward fled from the cabin, and as soon as my sense of dignity allowed, I followed him and went on deck. There I joined Bertram, and on his expressing some surprise that I should be still up, I told him of my singular adventure, but he manifested no astonishment.

'Captain Alford,' he said, gravely, 'you are a most unprejudiced witness to the truth of a fact to which few people would give credence; but every one who sails on board the *Viper* soon finds out that she is haunted.'

'Haunted!' I exclaimed. 'Absurd, my good fellow.'

'And yet, Captain Alford, you confirm the fact by your own present experience,' he said, sarcastically.

I felt that I had only repeated, like a parrot, the ordinary remark made in answer to such assertions as his, and that in my secret soul I had a firm assurance that the sounds that I had heard were supernatural.

'Were you aware of this report of the vessel being haunted when we left Milford Haven, Mr. Bertram?' I asked.

'Yes, sir; it is vara weel kenned in the navy,' he replied. 'Ye must have heard of the 'haunted ship,' only ye didna recognise her under her new name. Ye have heard of the *A*——.'

I started. 'Of course,' said I. 'And is the *Viper* that evil-renowned vessel?

'Ay, sir,' said he; 'but it was found impossible to get men to enter for her, so my lords of the Admiralty have re-named her, and it was hoped she sailed this time under more favourable auspices.'

'I remember,' said I, reflectively, 'having heard of the 'haunted ship' some years back; but I did not listen to the story. What is supposed to have caused the phenomenon?'

'A murder of great atrocity,' he replied. 'The vessel was at one time a packet, conveying passengers between Milford Haven and Donaghadee. About ten years ago—so runs the tale—just as she was about to start for her destined port, two passengers came on board her—one a dark, middle-aged man, the other a very young and lovely woman. The lady was richly dressed in a dark brocaded silk, with handsome bracelets, a jewelled watch, and round her neck was suspended a large gold cross. She remained on deck for about an hour chatting with her companion; then, as the sea grew rougher (for it was very stormy weather), she became uncomfortable and sea-sick, and went below. The cabin assigned for her use, sir, was the one now occupied by you. The stewardess followed her thither, and went backwards and forwards, rendering her assistance for some hours. The woman made remarks to several of the crew about the beauty and splendid attire of the lady; but added that 'she was sure the poor thing was not happy in her mind, she looked so anxious.'

'Delayed by the storm, the vessel did not reach her destination till about two o'clock on the following morning; and so great had been the danger for some hours previously, that the young lady passenger was forgotten, both by the crew and by the stewardess. It was quite dark when the other passengers landed, and in the confusion, hurry, and even peril of getting the boats with them off, no one remarked that the young lady was not seen again on deck.

'It was some hours after daylight before the stewardess (who had herself succumbed to the unusual pitching of the vessel, and her alarm at the danger) visited the lady's cabin with the intention of setting it in order. An instant afterwards her loud cries alarmed the crew. The captain hurried to the spot, and was horrified at beholding his beautiful passenger lying on the floor of the cabin in a pool of blood, with her throat cut from ear to ear.'

I shuddered; and after a moment's pause my companion continued.

'Of course every inquiry was made at once to discover the person who had committed this hideous crime. The young lady's bracelets, watch, and other jewelry had been taken, and nothing was found in her pocket. It was surmised therefore that robbery had been the motive for the murder; but what had become of her companion? Why had he gone away without her? Suspicion at once fixed on him as the assassin, and the police, who had been sent for by the captain, declared that they had no doubt that he was guilty of the murder. Every search was made for him, but ineffectually; not one of the crew had seen him go on shore, nor had any one seen him land; in short the detectives signally failed in their efforts to discover the assassin, and from that time to this the *Viper* has been a haunted ship.'

'A very singular story,' said I, with a slight shiver. 'Is the spiritual manifestation only that with which I have just been favoured?'

'No,' replied my companion. 'Sometimes, when nearing the port where the murder must have been committed, the lady is seen on the paddle-box—at least, so I have heard, but I cannot speak from my own observation. I joined, you know, Captain Alford, only a week before yourself, and have heard and seen nothing of the ghost. My knowledge is derived only from hearsay. I was informed that it was only in Irish waters that the *Viper* is haunted.'

'Heighe?' sighed I, 'that one should come to be tormented by a woman to whom one has done no wrong! But I am talking nonsense, too. Of course the murder has given birth to the ghost in the imagination of the seamen, and some clever fellow keeps up the joke. You remember the Woodstock ghost in the time of the Commonwealth. It would be quite as easy, I have no doubt, to manage the sounds on board the *Viper*. We must do our best to discover who is playing upon our possible credulity.'

'I will do my best to help you, Captain Alford,' replied Bertram; 'though I confess to a little superstition myself, owing, perhaps, to my nationality.'

We walked the deck, talking the matter over for another half hour or so; then bade the worthy master good night, and went down below.

I had little sleep that night—a ghostly atmosphere seemed to pervade the little cabin. I have a lively imagination, and I could not help picturing to myself the horrid scene of bloodshed which had polluted my berth. And every now and then the impression grew more painful as a soft sigh stole on my ear, or a low, faint, scarcely audible wail, came on my half slumbering senses. I tried hard to persuade myself that it was but some murmur of the 'vasty deep,' to which fancy lent the semblance to a human voice, but I could not succeed in my endeavours.

At day-dawn I fell into a restless and troubled sleep, in which a dream played the disturbing part that the ghostly sounds had done, and I saw a pale, beautiful corpse, its golden tresses dabbled in blood, lying beside me. Never did I rejoice more truly than when the steward called me, and brought my warm water.

The next morning I made strict inquiries about the noises which I had heard in the mess-room, especially as to what had caused the opening and falling of the lids of the lockers; but I could trace no human agency in the matter. The men had never heard of a ghost being on board before, strangely enough, neither the steward nor his friend, who had sailed many times in the *Viper*, and had again re-entered here had named the subject to the crew.

I questioned Parker closely, but could only get from him 'that he had seen the lockers open before, and that he knew the murdered lady haunted the ship, but that he did not mind it after the first time.' He owned that his comrade also knew about the ghost, and would not venture near the mess-room, if he could help it; but he declared very solemnly that neither of them had anything to do with the opening of the lockers on the previous night. He added that they had both been on board the *Viper* at the time of the murder, and 'could not help having a kindly feeling for the poor lady.'

I then examined Joe Sims. He was a very singular fellow, quoted Scripture much as an old Puritan would have done, and did not hesitate to inform me that he remained on board the *Viper* for the sole purpose of seeing 'the Lord's doings in the end.' By which I found that he meant the final discovery and punishment of the murderer, in which he devoutly believed.

I cannot say that I was convinced there was no trickery at the end of my examination, but I certainly could not detect it. However, I determined to be on the watch for any future signs given by the ghost, and endeavour to detect their perpetrator. I had nothing except them.

That evening, while Desmond, Bertram, and I were still seated at dinner, a distinct rustling of silk was audible. I must premise that when he spoke to Desmond of the last night's marvels, he laughed, and declared that he loved 'the sweet creatures' so well that even a lady's ghost was better than no lady at all.' But he changed colour now at the sound, and glanced nervously round him. Bertram's keen quiet gaze was turned in the direction of the sigh. At that moment the lockers again opened and shut violently, with a sudden crash. We all started to our feet, and hurried over to them, opened them, examined them very carefully—it was still daylight—and found nothing to account for the phenomenon.

We gazed at each other in amazement. Parker, who was waiting at table, stood looking at us with an awed expression of countenance. We searched carefully over and over again for any sign of a string attached to the lockers. We made Parker turn out his pockets—in vain! There was no trace of any mechanical agency in the fact we had witnessed.

You may imagine our perplexity. We returned to the table, and discussed the singular event again and again, while a sort of accompaniment of faint sighs, and the distinct rustling of a dress, blended at intervals with the conversation, which had certainly become of a ghostly and supernatural character, each in turn recalling the forgotten stories of haunted houses, etcetera, which had been familiar to his boyhood. At length I rose, and saying I preferred the deck to the cabin, with its present occupant, I went up the companion-ladder, and was followed by my companions.

I remained on deck till midnight. It was a starlight night, clear and solemn, without a moon. The wind piped shrilly across the booming sea like a wail from the lost and absent; afar off, the lights on shore were visibly twinkling on the horizon. We were nearing Donaghadee. I was standing on the starboard-quarter, gazing thoughtfully over the sea, when Bertram touched my arm with his telescope.

'Captain Alford,' he said, 'just look at that light on the larboard paddle-box.'

I turned to comply, and stood transfixed with horror and amazement. I beheld a pale blue, flickering light, in the centre of which stood the form of a woman, with one hand clasping her throat, from which red drops appeared to ooze through the delicate fingers. I could see her face distinctly. It was a lovely, but peculiar countenance. Never can I—never have I forgotten its expression of profound, yearning regret. The dark, tender gray eyes looked a very wail at me—a mute, reproachful appeal. I meant to speak to her, to ask her—poor, desolate ghost—what we could do for her future rest; but the words would not come; something choked my voice. I struggled with the oppression; but just as I succeeded in gasping out, "Speak!" the light and the figure slowly faded out of sight. Then I heard Bertram speak, and his voice sounded as far off, as we hear sounds in a dream.

'I am afraid I startled you, Captain Alford,' he said.

"Startled me!" I exclaimed. "It was terrible—awful."

He looked at me with amazement.

'It was vara singular for this latitude,' he replied, in his provoking Scotch drawl; 'but I cannot think it terrible. I have seen the like in the Mediterranean often.'

'A ghost in the Mediterranean?' I cried.

'A ghost, sir?' he repeated, with equal surprise. 'I was speaking of the electric fluid which rested a minute ago on the larboard paddle-box. I have seen it flickering at the mast-head sometimes in the Mediterranean, as I said, but never in these latitudes before.'

'Then you did not see the lady?' I exclaimed.

'The lady?' he cried; 'no, indeed. I saw nothing but an electric light. Did you see sight beside?'

I scarcely know how I explained to him what I had seen, for I felt ill and faint, and had to ask for brandy before I had more than hinted at the vision I had beheld. He heard me with amazement and evident incredulity. Had he not also been looking at the very spot?—and yet he had seen nothing but an electric light! I perceived he thought me the victim of an excited imagination. He was urgent with me to lie down and get some sleep; but we were nearing the port, and I would not hear of leaving the deck.

The next morning I summoned Joe Sims to the cabin. He entered it with evident reluctance, and his eyes wandered uneasily about him, as he answered my questions.