Guelph Evening Mercury

OFFICE :.....MACDONNELL STREET FRIDAY EV NG, NOVEMBER 22.

NORAH CUSHALEEN

HAUNTED CASTLE.

'Leave that fellow, hussy,' roared her father, as he angrily dragged her away. 'She is mine—my affianced bride,' said Hargreave, with quiet dignity.
'The bride of a beggar!' sneered the

"The bride of a beggar!" sneered the Equire.

"Is the ceremony to be proceeded with? asked the priest; 'or what am I to make of this unseemly interruption?'

"Certainly, it shall go on,' cried the Equire. 'Stand forward, Blantire, and receive her for your wife.'

"Oh 'no-no-no' is screamed Mary.

"It shall not be. I forbid it,' said Har-

'Oh I no—no—no? screamed Mary.
'It shall not be. I forbid it,' said Hargreave, calmly.
'You forbid it!' shouted Malvrin, with contemptuous fierceness. 'And who are you, that dare interfere in such a matter,—a wandering, penniless adventurer, whose impudence should have been whipped out of him?'
'It matters not, as regards the ceremony intended to be performed, who or what I sam,' said Hargreave, addressing himself to the Squire. 'I forbid it, not alone because of my own rights, but because Malvin Blantire is already married.'
'Ay, sure and he is!' exclaimed Terry.
'He's married to my own sister, Norah Cushaleen; and sorry I am that she went afore the priest with such a blackguard.'
'Married,' repeated the Squire. 'What absurd story is this, Malvrin? Speak out and give the lie to the slander of these fellows.'
'He dam't do it,' said Terry, fiercely.

fellows.'

'He darn't do it,' said Terry, fiercely.
'If the lie didn't choke him in the throat,
Father Murphy would make him ate it

fellows.'

'He dam't do it,' said Terry, fiercely.

'If the lie didn't choke him in the throat, 'Father Murphy would make him ate it back again.'

'Speak, Malvrin,' said the Squire. 'Is this true or false?'

'I was feolish enough to allow the girl to draw me into a ceremony,' answered Malvrin, who saw that denial would be useless, 'but she is dead, and——'

'Silence, Sirl' said Hargreave, sternly confronting him. 'Does your guilty conscience not cause your tongue to falter, when you speak of her death? I have a heavy account against you for the outrage you caused your myrmidons to commit, one of whom I see standing yonder, and I would be doing only what was right if I handed you over to justice.—But I scorn to crush one so vile and con temptible. Go, sir; leave this place which your presence has desecrated, and cease all pretensions to the hand of this lady.'

'That you may get her,' cried the Squire, with a burst of anger. 'But don't think for a moment that I am to be imposed upon or wheeled over. I certainly was upon a ware that Malvrin was legally married to that girl of whom I have before heard; but she is dead, and it matters little. Had he been ten times married, I would rather see Mary his wife than that she should marry a low, penniless plebdian, who can't even call himself an Irishman.'

'Oh, father,' pleaded Mary, 'be not so cruel, so unjust. He saved my life at the risk of his own.'

'And on the strength of that accident he would possess himself of your wealth,' said her father.

'Mr. Kendal,' said Hargreave, firmly, 'you are in every respect utterly mistakenin me. Wealth is the last consideration that would influence me in the choice of a wife; and if the conduct I pursued in paying my addresses to Miss Kendal seemed strange, I could have fully explained it, and was intending to do so at the very moment when I was unceremoniously seized and carried to the mountains. But having been prevented then, I shall do so now. Know, then, sir, that I am no beggardy adventurer, or wandering artist, as you and ot

"Let me explain," remonstrated Hargeave.

'No, I don't want any impertinent explainations. Whoever you are, you are not a suitable husband for my daughter. I have already selected the gentleman who is her equal in rank and station.—There he stands, and to him she shall be married. Your reverence will please perform the ceremony.
'Stand back, sir,' said Malvrin haughtily, as Hargreave went close to Mary to protect her against the monstrous injustice. The youth bestowed on him a withering, flashing look, which made him recoil, especially as he had just received a proof of his strength.
'Will your reverence proceed?' asked the Squire.
'I am ready,' returned the priest. 'No valid objection has yet been made, and if no other reason exist.—'
'There is morther reusen' cried a voice.

'Good gracious!' ejaculated the olu Squire.
'The ghost again! Oh, perdition,' groaned the terror-stricken murderer.
'No, Malvrin,' said Norah, in a solemn tone, 'I am no ghost. You thought me dead; you had good reason to think so, but I was saved, and so was your child. I have appeared here only to save you from crime, and this young lady from ruin.'

roin.'

Back, back, roared Malvrin, as a convulsive shudder seized him. 'Keep her from me. She comes from the grave to accuse me—to drag me to perdition.—'
Away—away.'

The Squire had sprung forward to save him from falling, and now held him in his arms in a state of insensibility. The priest brought a cup-full of cold water, and, pouring some of it on the face, at once revived him.

The moment he opened his eyes, he started up, and putting on a strong resolution, confronted Norah.

'Not dead' he said; 'then I am not your murderer.'

Batth but no thanks to was that the

'Not dead? he said; 'then I am not your murderer.'

'Faith, but no thanks to you that she is alive,' said Terry.

'Then, this is your wife,' said the Squire, in tones of displeasure.

'Curse it, yes,' roured the wretched man, and, clearing the altar rail at a heard, he rushed out at the open door.

The said the said; 'then I am not stock of Fancy Goods, comprising Wools of the Stock of Fancy Goods, comprising Wools of

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" Filberts,
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