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Guelph Evening Mercury OFFICE: MACDONNELL STREET.

THURSDAY EVENING, JAN 16, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice

OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENLEUCH.

A Tale of the Covenanters.

'One of my most active and zealous officers,' said Sir James. 'What has occurred in connection with him?'

'I know you refer to the youth to whom you refer,' observed Sir James, 'and though I would not class him with the ignorant fanatics who stupidly and wickedly resist the Government, yet I am sorry to say that for some time he has been the object of suspicion.'

'Ye may swear that. The Captain marched to the Cleuch this mornin' by scotch of day, and after gettin' Briar tea accompany him, had him fined five hundred merks, which the young laird paid like a gentleman.'

'But no content w' that the Captain took prisoner both him and his young friend, and then that he had given shelter to the outlawed Minister McKail, and I cam' across him and his troop in the high road conductin' them, like two jail birds, the Dumfries tea you, Sir James, they are near tea Sanguhar by this time.'

'A hoax, a hoax,' exclaimed the huntsmen in a general chorus, who loudly made the statement in different voices that Walter Elliot was not married.

'He was married gentlemen,' returned Sir Gilbert, 'married at midnight.'

'At midnight?' cried all breathlessly. 'I expected to see the ceremony proceed by this same Captain Allan, who has his rival for the hand of the winsom Marion Gordon.'

'The lassie, it seems, preferred the laird tea Allan, which is no tea to be wondered at, for Watty Elliot is worth a hundred sirs as he is.'

'She came frae Edinbro' yesternight, escorted by her cousin, Hugh McKail, and Captain Allan, on his way home frae Bankside, where 'twas of no present had a carriage, for 'thered w' the tea cousins on the moor, 'd was tryin' tea seize Marion, the laird, 'd carry her all by force, when in the midst 'o' the struggle wad cam' some on the scene out the laird himsel' and short work 'd made w' the blusterin' Captain, garrin him wheel about as if his nose had been bluidin', and bearin' hame his hide tea the Cleuch, where as I take it, Maister McKail made them man and wife without mair ado.'

'It was high time I think, seeing that the Captain wad be sure tea be at the Cleuch in the mornin' w' his men at his back, and by my faith, see he was as I have tell' ye. But 'hindin' he was a day abint the market, he tak' this method o' 'revengein' himsel'. Noo, Sir James, what dae ye think o' the conduct o' yer Captain?'

'Well, replied the Commander, colouring for the denunciations of the gentlemen around—who as the influential men of the district, it was necessary he should conciliate—disconcerted him. 'Well, he observed, 'whatever may have been Captain Allan's private motives, he has some ground for his procedure. Mr Elliot has had trafficking for years under bare hands, and as a man of business, gentlemen, is a serious offence.'

'Oddsake! puddin' and panches! I love no anouch tea excuse this!' cried Sir Gilbert with honest warmth.

'It was either a marriage at midnight or the loss of his sweetheart, and a bonny pass things have come tea, Sir James, when a Scotch laird has no way o'ly tea marry in that hasty fashion, but when him and his bride is roosed up, afore they had well gotten warm in their bridal bed, by a King's officer, and 'taen prisoners, as if they were thieves and robbers. I tell ye plainly, Sir James, this is no the way tea increase loyalty in the land.'

'The sentiments so tersely and vigorously expressed by Sir Gilbert were emphatically endorsed by the others, and Sir James, biting his lips to conceal his vexation, and also his mortification at being under the necessity of yielding to their clamour, hastened to allay their indignation by intimating that he would proceed at once to Sanguhar, and overtake the troop with their prisoners before they resumed their march, when he would receive tea Captain's report, and settle the matter at once.'

'Oh, nae doot he'll mak' his report a' richt,' said Sir Gilbert, sturdily. 'His tale will be a fine show o' zeal and duty.'

'I will read it in the light of your information,' returned the Commander, with a smile. 'And I may say at once that Mr. Elliot and his wife will be set at liberty. But, gentlemen, I must put you upon your honour to say nothing of this interference with military action. The discipline of the army would suffer if the matter were known, and their orders were counter-checked, as Captain Allan will be in this business. Captain Allan himself must not know it, and far less the people, whose rebellion it would instantly increase.'

'One and all readily promised not to mention the matter, and Sir Gilbert, in the greatness of his satisfaction, undertook to give Walter Elliot a lecture on his Whig leanings, and wnan him from any sympathy he might have with the Covenanters.'

'Sir James nodded his approval of this course, and was about to ride away when the Baronet shouted that they would expect him to join the company that evening at his mansion house at Brankwood. Turner, who was given to dissipation, returned for answer that he would not fail to come; and, bowing his adieu, set spurs to his horse and galloped away over the moor.'

'Meanwhile the troop of horse, with the two prisoners, had reached Sanguhar, and were having an hour's rest in the castle before proceeding forward to Dumfries. Walter and Marion were conducted to a strong room overlooking the courtyard, and were there left in privacy, though a sentinel was posted by the door. A liberal supply of provisions was here brought to them, and all civility and attention shown compatible with their position and safe keeping as prisoners. The encounter on the road with Sir Gilbert Barton had caused Charles to alter his tone somewhat. Now that the Baronet had come to know some of the facts of the case, and avowed his intention of appealing to Sir James Turner, Charles did not feel the ground beneath him so secure. Sir Gilbert was a man whom it was not safe to defy. His influence among the gentlemen of the district was great, for he was popular and respected, and he met and associated with the Commander on terms of equality. He felt, therefore, that it would not do to treat his prisoners, with that triumphant insult which his passion prompted him to offer. He had his own secret doubts as to the propriety of the course he had taken, and suspected that when they reached Dumfries Sir James Turner would consider it necessary to set Walter and Marion at liberty, for he was quite conscious that there was nothing against them sufficient to justify the high-handed proceedings which he had adopted, less from a sense of duty which he professed to feel than to gratify the passion roused in his baffled soul. From considerations of prudence and policy, therefore, he forbore to further manifest his vindictive hate, resolving to content himself with causing the objects of his hatred to endure the annoyance and degradation in which their enforced journey to Dumfries in the custody of prisoners. For the rest he felt

quite indifferent, knowing well that the Commander would not ensure him for what could so easily be set down as an over-display of zeal in the King's service.

TO BE CONTINUED.

CHOLERA SAILING VESSELS AND OVERCROWDED STEAMERS.—The New York Herald of Tuesday says: 'Twice of late has it been our painful duty to record the arrival of German emigrant vessels whose voyage across the Atlantic has been rendered dreadful beyond description by cholera of the most malignant and fatal type. On the ship Leibnitz, which arrived last Saturday, the disease raged four weeks, and out of one hundred and forty-five victims attacked by it only forty survived. No language can properly depict the heartrending scenes which were witnessed by the ill-fated company on board; and no language can be too severe to stigmatize the guilty neglect of the owners of the ship to provide medical attendance and all other means of precaution against sickness. No surgeon was on board either in this or in the previous case to which we have alluded.'

COMMERCIAL.

Guelph Markets. MERCURY OFFICE, GUELPH. January 16, 1868.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes Flour, Spring Wheat, Oats, Peas, Barley, Hay, Straw, Shingles, Wood, Lumber, etc.

Money Market. JACKSON'S EXCHANGE OFFICE. Guelph, January 16, 1868.

Gold, 139 1/2. Greenbacks at 70 to 71; sold at 71 to 73c. Silver bought at 4 1/2 to 4 1/4; sold at 4 1/2 to 4 1/4. Upper Canada Bank Bills bought at 30c to 32c. Commercial Bank Bills bought at 30c to 32c.

MONTREAL MARKETS. Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co's report by Special Telegraph to 'Evening Mercury.'

MONTREAL, JANUARY 16, 1868. Flour—Fancy, \$7.00 to \$7.75; Superfine No. 1, \$7.50 to \$7.65; Welland Canal, \$7.55. Bag flour, \$5.60 to \$5.70. Oats 45c to 46c. Barley 90c to 95c. Butter—dairy 10c to 12c; store packed 14c to 15c. Ashes—Potash 40c to 42c, pearled 45c to 50c.

Flour moderate receipts, no business doing, and rates practically unchanged. Grain nominal and unchanged rates. Provisions—pork quiet but steady; hogs still demand at former rates; Butter neglected. Ashes dull, rates unchanged.

TORONTO, JANUARY 15, 1868. Flour—Receipts, 100 bbls; No. 1, at \$7.10; Wheat—\$1.64. Pass—70c. Oats—55c to 58c. Barley—\$1.00 to \$1.10.

HAMILTON, JANUARY 15, 1868. Fall wheat, \$1.55 to \$1.65; spring do \$1.50 to \$1.60 per bushel. Barley—95c to \$1.00. Oats—55c to 58c. Pass—75c to 80c.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

CANADIAN National Series of Reading Books, Authorized by the Council of Public Instruction for Ontario.

NOW READY FOR DELIVERY. PRICES: First Book, with 31 illustrations, strongly bound in limp cloth—five cents.

Second Book, 2nd Part, 54 illustrations, strongly bound in limp cloth—ten cents.

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Sixth Book, 50 illustrations, strongly bound in cloth boards—fifty cents.

Stocks kept supplied at the lowest Toronto wholesale price for cash only.

T. J. DAY, Opposite the Market, Guelph. Guelph, 6th January, 1868.

CHEAP Photographs

W. BURGESS. BURGESS leave to inform his friends and the public in Guelph and surrounding country, that having received a large lot of FRAMES suitable for

Christmas Presents, REDUCED PRICES.

Parties wishing to make presents of Photographs to their friends should call at once.

PICTURES

of all kinds furnished in the first style of the art. Gallery above John A. Wood's Grocersy Store.

THE RED MILL.

THE mill, having put a steam engine in it, his Mill, farmers bringing in their Grain can rely on having them ground the same day.

FLOUR AND FEED

GROUND PLASTER for sale at the Mill, and also at his Old Stand, near the Railway Crossing. GEORGE BALKWILL. Guelph 19th December, 1867.

EDUCATIONAL.

Private Lessons in German, French, Latin and Greek, at the Pupils' Residences. YOUNG men wishing to form or join an Evening Class, will also find an opportunity of doing so. Terms reasonable. Apply to the undersigned, at Barclay's Buildings, near corner of Norfolk and Norwich streets. PROFESSOR H. G. VON HÖRNER. Guelph, 3rd Jan, 1868.

An Apprentice Wanted.

WANTED at this Office, a stout active lad, about 15 or 16 years of age, possessing a good English education, to learn the printing business. None other need apply except those possessing the qualifications above mentioned. Apply at the Mercury Office, Macdonnell street, Guelph. Dec. 23, 1867.

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. Higginbotham's Drug Store

BRAMPTON.—Rev. Archibald Palmer, Dr. 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 anæsthetic agents used for extracting teeth without pain.

R. TROTTER. W. K. GRAHAM. Guelph, 2nd August, 1867. (dw-ly)

STEPHEN BOULT, ARCHITECT AND BUILDER,

Office, Woolwich Street, nearly opposite Douglas Street.

Plans, Specifications & Estimates, Supplied, and work superintended in all its branches.

STEPHEN BOULT having succeeded to the old established Lumber Yard of Thos McCrae, Esq., begs a continuation of public patronage. All kinds of Lumber on hand. Prompt attention given to all orders.

Planing Done to Order, AND ALL KINDS OF Mouldings, Sashes, Doors Blinds, and Machine Joiners' Work, Executed with despatch and kept always on hand. Cash paid for all kinds of Lumber at the yard.

S. Boult thanks the public for eleven years kind favours, and hopes for a continuance of the same.

THOMAS McCRAE thanks the public for past favours, and recommends Mr Boult to their favourable consideration. THOMAS McCRAE. Guelph, January 31, 1867.

OPPOSITION LINE TO CALIFORNIA

via Panama, carrying United States mails, and also via Nicaragua.

North American Steamship Com'ry

will dispatch one of their Fast and Elegant Steamships from NEW YORK.

Every Ten Days. Rates for First, Second and Third Cabin VERY LOW. For Special Berths, Tickets, &c. apply to J. W. MURTON, General Passage Agent. Hamilton, 26th Nov., 1867.

THOS. HOBSON & CO., Produce Commission Merchants,

486 and 488 PAUL STREET, MONTREAL.

CONSIGNMENTS of Flour, Grain, Pork, Butter and Ashes carefully realised. Advances made by draft or cash, on receipt of Bill of Lading for three-fourths value of shipment. Charges, as low as any responsible House in the trade. Having had many years experience in the business, both in Great Britain and Canada, we are thereby enabled to offer special advantages to our correspondents. We have connections in all the leading Ports of Great Britain, as well as in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland, and consignors have the choice of any of the above Markets when prices are favorable.

THOS. HOBSON & CO., Commission Merchants Montreal, 10th Jan. 1867. 690-17

AGENTS WANTED

IN EVERY COUNTY FOR THE LIFE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS BY FRANK H. ALFRIEND, of Richmond, Va., formerly Editor of the 'Southern Literary Messenger,' and well known both during and after the war, from his connection with the Richmond press.

This is a full, complete and authentic history of the life and services of the great Southern leader. It is a new and original work, an sheds a flood of light upon many important subjects connected with the late war, which have never been understood—or, at best imperfectly so—because the facts necessary to their elucidation have remained inaccessible to all previous writers. Mr. Alfrend has unequalled and peculiar advantages in the preparation of this volume, as it will be apparent to all on examination. It will everywhere be looked for with eager interest, and is certainly to prove one of the most rapidly selling books ever published.

For circulars giving full particulars, terms, &c., address THE CAXTON PUBLISHING HOUSE, 38, West Fourth-st., Cincinnati

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Cool Oil Burners

Superior to the 'Sun Burner,' received

At Apothecaries' Hall! MARKET SQUARE.

No. 1 Coal Oil

Kept constantly on hand at

Fifteen cts. per Gallon

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CHURCH-ST. - - - GUELPH. MISS WIGHTMAN begs to announce that her school will reopen (D. V.) on the 4th of January. Vacancies for two or three boarders. Guelph, 26th December, 1867.

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A. HOWIE & CO.

Royal Hotel Buildings, James-st., HAMILTON.

Watches, Chains, Rings, Pencil Cases, and all kinds of Jewelry Plated in Gold.

Tea Sets, Cake Baskets, Knives, Forks, Spoons, &c., Plated at reasonable rates.

Also, Door Plates & Carriage Trimmings of every description done to order with neatness and despatch.

Orders from a distance punctually attended to. Hamilton, November 23rd 1867. dwm

FURS, FURS.



WE have opened our stock of FURS, of our own manufacture, which we will sell at LOW PRICES, viz: Extra Dark Mink, Royal Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, River Mink, Ladies' Hoods, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

And a full assortment of CHILDREN'S FURS, GENTS' MUFFLERS and GLOVES, SLEIGH ROBES, &c.

F. GARLAND, Market Square, GUELPH.

The Highest Price paid for Raw Furs Guelph, Oct. 31, 1867. 884 w792

BOOTS & SHOES

At Wholesale Prices. HAVING a large stock of BOOTS and SHOES, which must be sold during the NEXT TWO MONTHS, I will offer the same during that time at Wholesale Prices. Note price, and be convinced that you will save from 25 to 50 per cent. per pair by buying at this

Kingston Penitentiary

BOOT AND SHOE STORE. FORMER PRICES.—No. 1, \$3.00; No. 2, \$2.75; No. 3, \$2.50.

PRESENT PRICES.—No. 1, \$2.75; No. 2, \$2.50; No. 3, \$2.25.

Boys' Boots from \$1.70; Youth's Boots from \$1.50. Women's Boots from \$1.10, with a large variety of everything in the line at equally low prices.

Don't forget the place—Kingston Penitentiary Boot and Shoe Store. J. W. MURTON, General Passage Agent. Guelph, 4th November, 1867.

FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE

Manufactured by the Lamb Knitting Machine Manufacturing Company, CHICOPEE FALLS, N. Y.

IT is the best Family Knitting Machine extant. No other invention affords so profitable employment for women. It has taken the Highest premium (a Gold Medal) at the Fair of the American Institute, New York, and the Exhibition of the Mass. Charitable Association, Boston, and the Provincial Exhibition of 1867, and the highest Premium at every State and County Fair wherever it has been exhibited—collecting all other machines.

It sets up its own work, knits all sizes, widens and narrows off the top complete; it knits a yard of plain work in five minutes; a pair of Socks in thirty minutes; knits the single, double, ribbed and fancy flat wels, producing all varieties of knit goods from an infant's stocking, mitten or glove, to a lady's shawl or hood, which no other machine in the world can do. It is simple, durable, and easily operated.

Call and see the Machine worked, Lot No. 2, 3rd Con., Pauline, opposite Cober's Carriage Shop. Samples of Knitting sent on receipt of 25 cents in postage stamps.

Agents Wanted. JACOB-N. COBER, Sole Agent for Wellington and Waterloo Counties, N.Y., Agent for the BARCLAY SEWING MACHINE, manufactured in Paris, Ontario. Address Hespeler P. O. 739-5m

FLOUR, GRAIN, PROVISIONS, ASHES, LEATHER, &c.

CONSIGNMENTS solicited. Highest prices realized, and returns promptly made. Every possible information afforded consignors in reference to the Markets, Packing of Pork-Manufacture, &c., as required.

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ADVANCES. DRAFTS authorised against Consignments to Montreal and Halifax may be made at the option of Consignors, on either City. Cash advances made on shipments to our Correspondents in Foreign Markets.

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FISH, OILS, &c.

ORDERS for Fish, Oils, or West India Produce carefully and promptly executed.

Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co., HALIFAX, N. S. October 12, 1867. daw ly

CORDWOOD for SALE

IN GUELPH. GOOD, cheap Cordwood for sale at BROWN'S WOOD YARD

Woolwich Street, nearly opposite the Court House.

Quantities from half a cord and upwards delivered in any part of the town by leaving the order at the wood house in the yard, at the rate of \$3.75 per cord. ALEX. BROWN. Guelph, 25th November, 1867.

Funerals, Funerals!

NATHAN TOVELL has to intimate that he is prepared to furnish funerals as usual Coffins always on hand. Hearse to hire. His Steam Planing Mill is in constant operation. All kinds of miter, sashes, doors, blinds, mouldings, &c. He solicits a share of public patronage.

NATHAN TOVELL, Nelson Crescent Guelph, 27th Aug. 1867.

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OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.

FRANK SMITH & CO.

77 Front Street, Toronto,

DEAR to intimate to their Western friends and the public generally, that they have now received a large portion of their Fall supply of

Fresh English Groceries, Wines, Brandies, &c., Ex. 'Planet,' 'Chandler,' 'City of Hamilton,' 'Glenborie,' from London. 'Avon,' 'Onida,' 'Hibernia,' 'Peruvian,' 'Summer,' and 'Pericles,' from Liverpool. 'Absona' and 'Glenliff,' from Glasgow. 'Agnes' from Charente. And are daily expecting the arrival of

Fresh New Crop Fruit and Mediterranean Cargo Ex. 'Deodara,' 'Canny Scott' and 'Mary Ann,' from Malaga, Marseilles and Denia

JUST RECEIVING IN STORE. 323 lbs and Tiroes of Barbadoes, Porto Rico and Cuba Sugars. 522 lbs Currants crop 1866, VERY CHEAP. 5175 Half Chests and Cattie's Souchong, Congou, Japan, Gunpowder, Young and Old Hyson Teas. With a full assortment of Tobaccos, Refined Sugars, Wines and Liquors and Dry Groceries. All of which will be submitted to the trade, equal to and below Montreal prices. Inspection invited. Terms Liberal. Cash and prompt paying customers desired. Toronto, 6th November, 1867. dwf

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We are frequently asked why we don't advertise prices. We reply that as we only supply the trade and as our Watches are now kept by most respectable houses, the public can rely on being served at a fair advance on the Manufacturer's List. Our trade marks are AMERICAN WATCH CO., APPLETON TRACY & CO., WALTHAM WATCH CO., P. S. BARTLETT, WM. ELLERY, HOME WATCH CO., GUARANTEED in all cases by special certificate (except the Home Co., which is warranted by the seller. The purchaser should always require the guarantee, as there are Swiss counterfeiters for sale in some places.

ROBBINS & APPLETON, New York, } General Agents. ROBERT WILKES, Toronto and Montreal. D. SAVAGE, Agent, Guelph. December 10th, 1867. dw

GREAT CLEARING SALE

The Great Clearing Sale of

DRY GOODS!

IS STILL GOING ON AT

WM. STEWART'S,

Guelph 11th December, 1867. dw

CANADA HOSIERY.

LADIES' SCARLET WOOL HOSE, LADIES' WHITE WOOL HOSE, LADIES' BLACK WOOL HOSE, LADIES' FANCY WOOL HOSE, MISSES' HOSE in all sizes, BOYS' KNICKERBOCKER HOSE, GENTS' UNDERCLOTHING,

A. O. BUCHAM, Guelph, Jan. 11, 1868. d

Fire in Alma Block

THE Subscribers beg to intimate to their numerous customers and the public that until larger premises can be procured the

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Where they hope to continue to receive the patronage of their friends.

The WHOLESALE TRADE

WILL BE CARRIED ON AT

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JAS. MASSIE & CO.

Guelph, 2nd January, 1868. dwf