The Maiden's Choice

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

hen Sir Gilbert drew rein at the garden and cast his eye over the dirty, dilapid cottage, his first impulse was to sumforth the inmste by a lusty halloo, and it his seat in the saddle, while he poured his vial of wrath on the wretch's head. presently he changed his mind, and, dispressed he changed his mind, and, dispressed her control of the control of the direct her control of the direct his control of t

himney, and Sir Gilbert would have con-lituded that Cringan was absent, if he had not noticed that the outer door stood two or here inches ajar. This was indubitable roof that the miser was within, for it was of conceivable that he would quit his house, saving it open to the entrance of strangers. With a stride indicative of the passion arging in his bosom, the Baronet approach— it the door, pushed it vigorously open, and epped over the threshold into the passage youd.

He shurely canna be far off, since the doors are open.'

He cast his eyes in a peering way round the chamber preparatory to going out again, when a dark object in one corner caught his gaze, and fixed him to the spot. The aspect it had was that of a human being hanging from the roof, but at the point where the Baronet stood, there was not light enough to determine what it was. A gruesome shuddering feeling came over the gazer, and a nameless but irresistible fascination drew him to the spot, when to his horor he found the dark object to be the corpse of Jabez Cringan, suspended from an iron hook in a beam overhead. One end of a rope was attached to this hook, the other being passed round the miser's neck, and his feet were within a few inches of the ground.

Lord, hae mercy, he's hanged!' ejaculated Str Gilbert, as his look of horror fixed itself on the livid, distorted face of Jabez Cringan, which was indeed a spectacle dreadful to behold.

The eyes were open, and the glazed balls

Denoid. The eyes were open, and the glazed balls protruded from the sockets, the lips were wide apart, showing the long, file-like teeth, and giving an aspect to the distorted face peculiarly horrible.

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Of course, the miser was dead, and more—he appeared to have been dead for a long time, for putrefaction had set in, only the cold nature of his body had made the process of deexy alover and less repulsive.

In horrified alarm Sir Gilbert started back, and his foot struck against a hard substance of the sockets, and his foot struck against a hard substance of the sockets of the sock

have taken him past the house of the murdered man. Jamie was betrayed into the mentioning of this fact by the excitement into which he was thrown, along with the other inhabitants of Greystone, on the discovery of the murder. He had concealed it hitherto, for the reason that Richard had asked him to do so. The place at which they had met was at a short turn of the grassy road, where they could neither see nor hear the approach of each other till they were face to face. Richard was striding forward in great haste, and he had a wild agitated manner which Jamie understood to arise from the marriage that day of his sweetheart with Charlie Allan. With earnest vehemence the youth implored the cadger to say nothing of this meeting with him, and Jamie readily promised, for he had a great liking for Rich-Wayland, and pitied him exceedingly for the great wrong he had sustained at the hands of Helen Cringan. Accordingly, he had till now observed the promise he had made; but so startled was he by the tidings of the miser's murder, and so instantaneously did he connect Richard with the deed, that under the excitement of the moment, he spoke of the meeting, and was immediately sorry for it when he saw the possible consequences it to which it might lead. But the words being spoken could not be recalled, and Jamie's statement, taken along with that of the beadle, made the suspicion against Richard so strong that it became at once the general belief that he was the murderer of Jabez Cringan.

TO BE CONTINUED.

The rattle-headed Train writes a six column report of the Feniantrials at Sligo to the New York World. It seems the for the native-born Americans; but left the merely naturalized citizens of the Republic to pay their own lawyers. Geo. Francis and the World are indignant, and find in this another weapon of attack upon Mr. Seward.

produce merchants of Alba Craig, met with an accident on Monday last, of such a serious nature as to cause his death. He was assisting in loading a grain car, when the box truck used for that purpose, and which contains about 14 bushels of grain, commenced to tip up. Mr. Atkinson endeavored to stay it, and to that end leant his body across the handle; in this position he was forced upward till he came in contact with the top of the car, where the weight of the wheat in the box rendered it impossible for him to move, and at the same time crushed him with great force between the cross piece of the handle and the top of the car, and it was found necessary to cut the handles off to release him. Medical aid was at once rendered, but of no avall, inflammation of the lowels set in, and after thirty-six hours of intense suffering he breathed his last. The deceased was a young man of about 25 years of age, and was much esteemed in the neighbourhood.

The Journal of Education, being maintained by public funds, should keep itself free from party politics. A correspondent of the Globe complains, and very properly, that nearly three columns of the last number are devoted to upholding the claims of Victoria College to public support! The Journal of Education apart from this complaint, is just the most older fogylsh, musty specimen of current literature that falls under our observation. Dr. Ryerson, wake up!

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MALL Fruit Culture. By S. Puller, Practical Conductive and the price of the Central Park, New York—Illustrated.—Price, \$1; by mail \$1.40. Address.—

T. J. DAY,

Guelph, March 21st, 1868.

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W. B. COWAN, M. D. HOMGOPATHIC Physician, Surgeon and A concher. Graduate of New York Homos pathic College, and Licentiate of Canada. Off over Mr. Massie's new store—entrance Macdonne

nelph, 27th Jan, 1868.



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The very vest of Linguists, whose courteous attention, as well as whose courteous attention, as well of the state of the s Guelph, 27th December, 1867.

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