Jeannie Sinclair,

THE LILY OF THE STRATH.

No one was more surprised and anased at the proposal than Jeannie herself, while it threw Thomas Sinclair and Grizzy into raptures. For Jeannie to be made "my lady," and the mistress of Baigley Castle—the grand fortune was design, and the honour was one not to be refused. Doubliess she was young, and the Baronet well within the shady side of the hill of life; but he was strong and hale attll, and the position to which he would raise her was far more than a set-off against his age. Eagerly, therefore, those to whom she was indebted for everything, presed her to give a willing consent to what the Baronet had so munificently proposed.

thing, pressed her to give a willing consent to what the Baronet had so munificently proposed.

Jeannie hesitated, and well she might. Her young, fresh, glowing heart had some concern in the matter, and it told her that the use of the word love or affection in reference to such a union would be a desecration. But there had been no profession of such. The Baronet, certainly, was not repulsive or distasteful to her. Nay, she liked him after a fashion, but her liking had no affinity with the liking of a wife to her husband. It would have better suited the feelings of a child to a parent. Still she did like him, and if it was only in this way there was the cold, sunless fact remaining that she had no liking of a higher kind for any other nor was ever likely to have. Circumstances were such that there was no probability of the love of Jeannie's heart being called forth at all. Separated as she was in tastes and education from the young men of the Stath, no one there had power to draw or lix her affections. Why, then, should she wait hopelessly in single blessedness for the upspringing of a love of which there was no promise? Was it right for a scruple of this nature, to reject a position so brilliant, and doom hereelf to a life of solitude and isolation? She did not know. She never could have decided for herself, but those about her were of but one opinion—eyes—Miss Wilson's advice coincided with the urgent persussions of Thomas and Grizzy.

When the day came on which the Baronet was to receive his answer, she promised to become his wife at the expiry of a year and three months. Fain would Sir Fergus have shortened the period, but the death of Lady Sinclair was still so recent, that Jeannie would not listen to an earlier date. So it was settled, and Sir Fergus went back to the castle, filled with the thought that soon now his protracted desire would be gratified, and the expectations of his hateful cousin disappointed.

Another stipulation Jeannie carefully insisted on, viz., that her engagement to the

a favourable and approving view of it. Jeannie was such a favourite with them that no one gradged her the good fortune, while the disparity of years between the Baronet and herself was lost sight of in the numberless and immense advantages which the marriage would bring?

On, felse and fatal expediency! What terrible mistakes are often committed under thine insiduous temptations! Hearts cannot be bought and sold, neither are they to be bought and sold, neither are they to be morrgaged as Jeaunie's thus was. Their deep and holy capacity of affection may not be marketed away with impunity. If by any compact this is done, they refuse to be a party to the bargain, and when favourable conditions arrive they assert their own aupreme power, and show by the light of bitter experience how wrong it is to depart from the Divine order of nature, and frame and fashion human life according to false and hollow notions of external advantage.

Had William Demman not come to the Strath, or the close and peculiar intercourse between him and Jeannie not taken place, she might have gone quietly and contentedly to the altar as the tride of Sar Fergus Sinclair, and lived such as iffe of calm indifference at the castle as the unawakened love of her soul would permit. But he did come as we have seen, and his coming changed all.—In him Jeannie was brought into contact with one who was fitted to strip her nature to its libwest depths, who had mental features and good moral and intellectual qualities answering to the refinement and cultivation of her hent. Mind and heart, therefore, we her whole nature, responded instinctively and almost unconciously to the attraction, as the needle is drawn to the magnet; and now she awoke to the knowledge that she loved the youth with her whole soul—she who had parted with the right to love—she who belonged by promise to another. It was a terrible realization, and a heavy punishment for the crime committed arrains the row being.

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Gnalph, 24th December.



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WE do not believe in bosh and brankum, but deal with facts, and leave the vertiset in the hands of the intelligent people of Wellington. We are prepared to prove, and we positively affirm, notwithstanding all the pulming and blowing which has become the order of the day, that PREST & HEFBURN, Wyntham Street, diseiph, maintage-

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Guelph, Dec. 21. SPECIAL NOTICE.

The subscriber in returning thanks for the liber-al patronage bestowed on him in former years, begs to announce that he has erected a NEW OPERATING ROOM at conside able expense, in-troducing all the improvements of the day, as

New RUSTIC Accessories.

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Parties requiring-a large sized Photograph wit helsome frame, are any other Portrait of then tyes or friends, will find it to their advantage t land examine specimens and prices. Rooms: Directly over John A. Wood's Grocer ore, Wyndham-St. Guelph December 12. WILLIAM BURGESS.

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AT COST AND UNDER. As this is a rare opportunity of scenning first-class Goods at auction rices, they would recommend all to take advantage of the greet bargains which shall be given. \$5\frac{1}{2}\to \text{Three will positively be no credit given during this sale. All indebted to the are firmresectfully requested to call and notife their accounts at once.

A. THOMSON & CO elph 5th February



Any account remaining unpaid in my books on the 15th February, 1869, will, without any reservation or distinction of person, be handed into A. A. Baker, Esq., who will receive the amount with costs.

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Feb. 3, 1869. Golden Lion, Guelph.

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Dec. 29, 1868

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