

THE SPRING TRADE.
Advertisers to reach a large class of readers by inserting their business advertisements in this paper. Our daily and weekly editions are able to do those of our contemporaries.

Guelph Evening Mercury
OFFICE:.....MACDONNELL STREET.
SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1868.

The Maiden's Choice
OR, THE LAIRD OF BIRKENLEUCH
A Tale of the Covenanters.

On the forenoon of one of these newly-coming spring days a solitary figure was seen ambulating the upper portion of the island. It was Walter Elliot. He had just been released from his cell to enjoy the two hours of open-air exercise daily allowed him, and was gratefully inhaling the fresh and fragrant breeze which came from the land, bringing with it the smell of grass and heather.

No one could be more thankful than he for the passing away of winter, for terribly had his severities been felt by him in the dark, dripping dungeon in which he was confined. It was constructed in the basement of the bastion on the south-east face of the cliff, and was reached by a steep flight of stone stairs, at the top and bottom of which a strong door, bolted and barred, kept him confined to its narrow precincts.

The dungeon was a small, dismal place, nearly devoid of furniture of any kind, and the only means provided for light and ventilation was an open grating, about five feet from the floor, through which the cold wind forced its way, chilling him to the bone as he sat or lay upon his comfortless couch.

Neither fire nor artificial light were allowed him, and when the short winter day closed he crept shivering under his coarse coverlet to listen through many wakeful hours to the melancholy moaning of the wind and the ceaseless roar of the waves as they impetuously dashed upon the rocks below. At times when the storm grew into a tempest the gusts smote the walls of the bastion with tremendous force, and the spray from the foaming billows came showering in at the grating, drenching the couch on which he lay.

The youth had strong limbs and a courageous heart, but these well-nigh sunk under the severities of his position, increased as these were by the sadness of his thoughts and the grief of his heart.

Most grateful, then, to him was the sudden arrival of spring, and on the day we speak of, as he slowly roamed over the higher portions of the rock, his senses were gladdened by the softening influences which had come upon the scene.

How utterly different from the same scene but one short week ago! Then a penetrating north wind so smelt and icy in its breath came in from the sea, keeping hard and firm the patches of snow which lay in the hollows of the rock, and the wide scene which could be beheld presented an unvarying exhibition of wintry dreariness and desolation.

The youth had strong limbs and a courageous heart, but these well-nigh sunk under the severities of his position, increased as these were by the sadness of his thoughts and the grief of his heart.

But, lo! the winter was now past, the balmy breeze of spring blowing, the ocean smiled pleasantly in the shimmering sunlight, the landscapes were colouring with verdure, and, most cheering sign of all, the sea birds had come in hundreds to their summer quarters, and were wheeling overhead with rejoicing screams, as if welcoming the coming of their annual joys.

Walter Elliot was very sensible of the blissful atmospheric changes, and as he wandered to and fro in the warm sunlight, his eye rested with pleasure on the magnificent prospect which the island commanded—the limitless ocean stretching north and east, the noble Forth gleaming towards the west, the fertile straths before and behind, and the blue mountains rising in the far distance into the blue sky.

The change made his physical senses glad, but his heart was sad and his spirit heavy. He was a prisoner on that isolated rock, and the fair Scottish landscape which looked so beautiful to his eye was groaning under the yoke of a dire oppression.

OPENING OF THE SPRING TRADE

STEWART

SPRING DRESSES, NEWEST STYLES.

SPRING DRESSES, BEST MATERIALS.

SPRING DRESSES, MOST MODERATE PRICES.

STEWART

HAS JUST RECEIVED the largest and most choice stock of New Spring Goods he has ever shown, and respectfully requests attention to the great difference in price from last year, being at least **One-third Lower.**

STEWART

HAS opened a case of White Drab and Grey Stays, that fit the body and not the body stays. Highly recommended by the Faculty.

STEWART'S

CARPET STOCK is the largest west of Toronto, and being all this season's importations the designs and colors are new.

STEWART'S

STOCK OF TAPESTRY is large and choice. Styles are new, and will be offered very low, commencing at 75 cents.

STEWART'S

NEW SILKS. BLACK AND COLORED.

DRESS GOODS. CHENES, CAMLETS, REPS, POPLINS, SERGES, MOHAIRS.

MANTLES. SILK, CLOTH AND VELVET.

JACKETS. SILK, CLOTH AND VELVET.

LACES. COLLARETS, TIES, FALLS, MUSLIN AND LINEN SETS.

PARASOLS. RIBBONS, FLOWERS, &c.

HOSIERY. SILK, SPUN AND COTTON.

GLOVES. KIDS, SILK AND LISLE.

SMALL WARES. BELTS, BUGLE TRIMMINGS, BUTTONS IN VARIETY.

PRINTS. BRILLIANTES, PIQUES, SHIRTINGS AND SKIRTINGS

STEWART

Is now showing for the Spring Trade

NEW DAMASKS,

NEW REPS,

NEW CHINTZES,

NEW LENO CURTAINS,

NEW MUSLIN CURTAINS

NEW LACE CURTAINS.

WM. STEWART.

Shoe Tools & Findings
A COMPLETE assortment of the latest patterns of Shoe Tools, Shoes and Machine Thread, Machine Silk, Shoe Pegs, Shoe Nails, Shoe Tacks, Heel and Toe Plates, &c., wholesale and retail.
RYAN & OLIVER,
114 Yonge Street, Toronto.
Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

TO TAILORS.
AMERICAN Shears, Trimmers, and Points of all sizes, Squares, Carved Rules, Straight-edges, Improved Irons, English and American Crayons, Barrets' Needles, Tapes, &c. All the best quality, and at lowest prices.
RYAN & OLIVER,
Importers of Hardware—114 Yonge-st. Toronto.
Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

TO MACHINISTS.
STEEL Squares, Steel Rules, Centre Gauges, Vernier Callipers, Steel Caliper Rules, Calliper Squares, Ames' Universal Squares, Self-regulating Callipers and Dividers, Stubs Files and Tools, Patent Oilers, Sheet Steel, &c. For sale by
RYAN & OLIVER,
General Hardware Merchants—114 Yonge-st. Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

Cabinetmakers & Upholsterers.
HAIR Seating, Curled Hair, Tow, Sofa Springs, Twine, Chair Web, Buttons, Screws, Hinges, Locks, Tacks, Flat Paper, Glue, Piano Stool screws, Coffin Trimmings, Upholsterers' Needles and Regulators, Addis' Carvers' Tools, Extension Lip Auger Bits, Melrose Hardware, &c. For sale at lowest prices.
RYAN & OLIVER,
General Hardware Merchants—114 Yonge Street, Toronto, 1st April, 1868.

CASTLE GARDEN SALOON
MARKET SQUARE,
GUELPH, ONT.

THE Subscriber begs to inform the public that he has leased the above premises for a term of years, and has refitted it in a very superior and substantial manner, and hopes to share a portion of the patronage of the public.

THE BAR
will be supplied with the best

Wines, Liquors & Cigars
And the table with all the delicacies of the season. In fact no expense will be spared to make it a first-class establishment.

LUNCHEON!
Every day from 1 to 3 o'clock.

OYSTERS AND GAME,
Etc. Dinner and Supper parties provided short notice, at reasonable charges.

JOHN MILLER,
Proprietor.
Late of the Commercial Hotel, Whitby.
GUELPH, ONT.,
Guelph, Jan. 29, 1868.

FRUITS
FRESH ARRIVALS AT

No. 2,
Day's Block, . . Guelph.

Canned Peaches
" Pears
" Plums
" Cherries
" Apples, &c.

BOTTLED JAMS
Strawberry
Gooseberry
Damson
Currants, &c.

A choice lot of Stilton and Pine Apple Cheese.

E. CARROLL & CO.,
No. 2, Wyndham Street.
Guelph, April 20, 1868. daw

Toronto Advertisement

W. & D. DINEEN

BEG to inform the people of GUELPH and surrounding country that they have the Largest, Cheapest and Best Stock of

HATS, CAPS AND FURS
Ever brought into Ontario, at No. 80 Yonge Street, three doors north of King-st.,
Wholesale and Retail. TORONTO.
Toronto, 28th March, 1868. dw6t

FOR SALE.
SODA ASH—"Gambles"
CAUSTIC SODA—"Gambles," "Widnes," "Alkali Comp'y," "Garrett's."
SAL. SODA.
CHLORIDE OF LIME.
PALM OIL.
W. T. BENSON,
37 St. Peter Street, Montreal.
Montreal, 1st April, 1868. dw-6m

DOMINION SALOON,
(LATE GRAND'S SEADES SALOON.)
OPPOSITE THE MARKET,
GUELPH.

CHOICE LIQUORS, Cigars, Oysters, &c., &c. Always on hand. Meals furnished at all Hours.
DENIS BUNYAN.
Guelph, December 2, 1867. dawly

Dissolution of Co-Partnership.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, as general merchants, was dissolved by mutual consent on the 23rd day of March, 1868. All debts owing to the said Partnership are to be paid to Alex. MacIntyre, at Clifford; and all claims against the said Partnership are to be presented to George McDonald, of Clifford; by whom the same will be settled.
Witness: GEORGE McDONALD, ALEX. MACINTYRE.
Clifford, April 8. dw 64

Dominion Store!
(Late Post Office Store.)
JUST RECEIVED, a large assortment of Embroidery for Ladies Underclothing. Also for Braiding on all sorts of Dress Goods.
Some of the Finest Patterns ever seen
Call and see them, they are for sale singly. Stamping done to order on the shortest notice. Also on hand an assortment of
New Oranges and Lemons.
For sale GATE'S & CO'S VICTORIA SEWING Machine. Don't forget the stand, next to the Wellington Hotel.
MRS. ROBINSON,
Upper Wyndham Street, Guelph.

New Advertisements.
ALE AND CIDER!

JUST RECEIVED

AT H. WALKER'S,

100 Doz. Magnificent Sparkling

CANADIAN ALE!

in Prime Order, at \$1.50 per dozen. Also,

Penner's Champagne Cider,

in Pints and Quarts at \$2.00 and \$3.00 per dozen.

HUGH WALKER,
Wholesale and Retail Fruit dealer Wyndham-St., Guelph.
Guelph, April 23, 1868.

JACKSON & HALLETT
GUELPH.

(SUCCESSORS TO JOHN L. LEWIS.)
No. 7, Wyndham-st.,

GROCERY AND LIQUOR BUSINESS!

ARE PREPARED TO CARRY IT ON IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

The Subscriber having purchased from JOHN L. LEWIS the whole of his extensive

Having made the purchase on the most favorable terms for cash, they are enabled to offer SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS and complete with any business in the trade. With particular attention to Country Trade, and will continue to do so, in any extent.

CASE FOR PRODUCE

Their Stock of Liquors will be found heavy, well selected and assorted.

The Subscriber feel confident that, with Mr. JACKSON'S ten years' experience in the trade of Guelph at the establishments of both Messrs. Rutherford and Lewis, they will give entire satisfaction to all who may favor them with their support.

DANIEL JACKSON.
Guelph, 20th April, 1868.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

GRAND OPENING OF

SHOW ROOM

BRADFORD HOUSE

PHILIP BISH,

WILL SHOW ON

FRIDAY, the 24th of APRIL, 1868,

Some of the Greatest Novelties in

MANTLES & MILLINERY

Ever exhibited in Guelph, which for extent and quality is no surpassed in the Province.

Ladies should Call at once and Examine the Pattern Bonnets and Mantles.

The above Department is superintended by a first-class artist. Ladies can rely on having every attention by calling at the **BRADFORD HOUSE,** Guelph.

PHILIP BISH.
Bradford House, Wyndham Street, Guelph, April 23, 1868. daw 11

GREAT ATTRACTION.

THE GREATEST ATTRACTION OF THE SEASON IS THE DISPLAY OF

NEW HATS & CAPS

AT

THE GUELPH CLOTH HALL

A. THOMSON & CO.

Savings Bank.
THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE
OPEN a Savings Bank Department at their Branch in Guelph this day.

The rate of interest allowed on all deposits will be four per cent. per annum, to commence from day of deposit, and five per cent. on all sums remaining in the Bank six months from 3rd of June or 31st of December.

The terms in other respects have been made as favorable as possible to depositors.

Further information will be given upon application at the office of the Bank in Guelph.

For all deposits made in this Savings Bank, the Canadian Bank of Commerce is fully responsible.
R. J. DALLAS, Cashier.
Guelph, 1st April, 1868. dw-tf
Herald copy four weeks.

R. J. JEANNERET.
From England,
(Established in London, Ont., 1842, and in Guelph 1863.)

WORKING WATCHMAKER

AND JEWELER,

DAYS' BLOCK,
Opposite the Market, Guelph.

FOR sale cheap, best quality of English and other Fine Gold Wedding Rings, also, a fine assortment of Ladies' English Dress Rings.
Guelph, 8th April, 1868. dw

R. GALBRAITH

TAILOR,
ST. GEORGE'S SQUARE, GUELPH,
In rear of the English Church.

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Guelph and vicinity that he has rented the premises lately occupied by Mr. Jeanneret, Watchmaker, where

Parties Furnishing their Own Goods

Will always find him on hand ready to attend to their orders. All work carefully executed and on reasonable terms.

Garments Altered, Repaired and Cut with neatness and Dispatch.
Guelph, April 8, 1868. dtf wim

NEW BLACKSMITH SHOP

THE subscriber begs to inform the people of Guelph and surrounding country that he has leased and fitted up the Blacksmith Shop, being that old and well-known stand on Gardigan Street, near Goldie's, formerly known as the People's Mills, where he intends to carry on the Blacksmith business in all its branches.

HORSE SHOING.—Particular attention paid to Horse Shoing. As the subscriber intends to keep none but a first-class horse-shoer, the public can rely on getting all work in that line done in a satisfactory manner.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The subscriber begs to intimate to farmers that he is now manufacturing, and has for sale first-class Steel Mould Board Ploughs, (Gray's pattern.) Ploughs of other patterns made to order. Wagons and all kinds of Farm Implements made to order and repaired on the most reasonable terms.

WOOD WORK.—A first-class wood worker kept in connection with the shop. The subscriber having had long experience in the above business, hopes by strict attention to the wants of his customers to merit a share of public patronage.

Don't forget the Stand, near Goldie's Mills.
Guelph, 24th April, 1868. CALER CHASE. dtm-6m

TROTTER & GRAHAM,

DENTISTS!
GUELPH AND BRAMPTON,
Members of the Dental Association of the Province of Ontario.
(Successors in Guelph to T. Trotter.)
OFFICE:

Over Mr. Higginbotham's Drug Store

REFERENCES.—Rev. Archdeacon Palmer, Drs. Clarke, Parker and Herod, 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 (dw-ly)
Guelph, 2nd August, 1867.

STANDARD Life Assurance Company
(Established 1825.)

Accumulated Fund £3,700,005 1s. 4d. Stg

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK,
Agents at Guelph.

THE STANDARD strongly advocates the Bill now before the House under which Insurance Companies are required to make certain deposits with the Government. The Standard is ready and willing to make any deposit required, thus guaranteeing to the fullest extent the Policy Holders. Every information to those desirous of insuring will be given at the office of

DAVIDSON & CHADWICK,
Town Hall Buildings,
Guelph, 18th April, 1868. dw

POTATOES!

Potatoes of all Kinds

Wholesale and Retail,

AT WEBSTER'S

Grain and Flour Store,
West Market Square, Guelph.
Guelph, March 20, 1868. do tf

AGENTS WANTED!

FIVE good men wanted in every Township, to sell on salary, CLARK'S PATENT SASH LOCKS and CAN OPENERS. Address, enclosing \$1 for samples and terms. If Agents cannot sell, return samples and get your money back.
A. KENNEDY & CO., Box 900, Chicago, Ill.
Guelph, 9th April, 1868. dwv

ALBION HOTEL!
St. Paul-st., MONTREAL.

MR. DECKER would say that having assumed the management of the Albion, he hopes by personal attention to merit a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed