

Silvering.

Mystery of the Silvering.

SILVERING was the name of a country where I frequently stopped nearly half a century ago, when connected with a surveying party, establishing certain dividing lines on the section known as the "Hindus."

It was one of the places where travelers liked to tarry, for the host was genial, a good provider, and made every body feel comfortable who found it convenient to stop at his house.

Only one thing was there to mar the perfect quiet of the place. Now and then a robbery had been committed there by some expert burglar, and with all the efforts put forth to detect the thief or thieves, no clue had been obtained that pointed with certainty in any direction.

It was generally supposed that some member or members of a regular organized band of thieves, known to exist in that part of the country at the time of which I write, carried on the work.

In every instance the robber had gone away with the plunder, leaving no distinct trace of how he came or how he went.

The landholder had a standing reward posted up in the bar-room and other places, of five hundred dollars for the apprehension of the guilty party.

I, perhaps, felt greater interest in the affair than any other outsider: not from any danger of losing a great amount of money, for it was, unfortunately, not in my possession, but because I had formed a warm attachment for that beautiful daughter of the proprietor of the Silvering.

I had indeed become infatuated with Eleanor, and had the blessed satisfaction of knowing from her own sweet lips that my love was not bestowed in vain.

For more than a year I had become a frequent guest at her father's house, and each occasion had been one of exceeding happiness. The parents of my ideal knew that fancy for each other had ripened into a strong affection, and they most heartily encouraged the proposed union.

Eleanor at times was a troubled soul, often in the midst of a spirited conversation would lapse into silence or burst into tears, and especially was this the case when reference was made to the dispute her father's house was likely to fall into if the crimes perpetrated in it were much longer continued.

Her emotion showed a sensitive nature, and a filial affection which strengthened my admiration, and led me to vow over and over again, with solemn oath, that I would not rest until the rogues had been detected and punished.

My first investigation developed the fact that thirteen of the chamber was the one in which the greater number of robberies had taken place; but this was accounted for from the fact that it was the best room in the house, and the one usually occupied by parties of considerable number.

The second development was, that as the doors and windows were simply supplied with locks, bolts and bars, there must be a confederate connected with the house, for these appeared in no way to interfere with the silent and successful working of the thief.

My suspicions naturally fell upon the hostler, who was a shrewd fellow in deportment, but a man who kept his own counsel.

The more I thought of it, the more I became certain that I had a clue. These suspicions were conveyed to Eleanor and her father, who were somewhat surprised at first, but finally admitted that they were not, perhaps, groundless, and both promised their full cooperation in working out a plan to bring the criminal to the surface.

I had only got my network arranged, as I supposed, for capturing the thief, when I was called away to attend to other and important business, which might detain me for a month.

I informed my host and Eleanor of my call to leave, and after getting a full assurance that they would play the part of detectives, according to the plans I had laid out, I took an affectionate leave of my affianced, promising to return at the earliest possible day.

For fully a minute, and it may have been many, neither of us moved. Through the window came sufficient light to show that a pair of eyes were bent upon the bed where I lay, as if to ascertain if its occupant was sleeping.

Apparently becoming satisfied the shadowy figure cat-like moved forward. The situation was one of more terror than I had anticipated, and my heart pounded as if it would break from the breast. Perhaps if I moved, I would the next instant feel a blade of cold steel in my back. To allow him to escape would undo all that I had done for detective duty.

I thought of my affianced and resolved to act. I had a small, single barreled pistol, and as the object came slowly to the bed I quickly leveled the weapon and pulled the trigger. It missed fire, and the burglar made for the closet again. Springing from the bed I followed the villain by the throat.

Twice had I thrown my adversary to the floor with all my power, before I could get hold of anything in the way of a weapon. Luckily, I stumbled against a chair; seizing this, the contest was soon brought to a close: one crushing blow laid the interloper senseless upon the floor.

The noise brought the family to my door, and unbolting it, the landlord and hostler rushed in. The lights which they held revealed a sight more terrible to me than the supposition of a few moments before.

One glance at the bruised and blood stained face, told the whole story. For a moment I stood paralyzed; the landlord, however, had had the blessed satisfaction of knowing from her own sweet lips that my love was not bestowed in vain.

An hour was spent in wondering, bewildered thought. Had I killed my own beloved? I dreaded to know the truth. The sweet, blood stained face haunted me at every turn, and I was glad when the day-light came to drive the phantom away.

I was met at the steps of the inn by the landlord, who informed me that his daughter would like to see me. "Then she is not dead?"

"She is not seriously injured," were the welcome words that fell upon my ear, and I hastened to the room where Eleanor was sitting in an arm chair, with a bandage around her fair brow.

Upon entering I was motioned to a seat close beside her, and taking my hand in hers, she said for some time. At last she spoke in a clear, cheerful voice, telling me that all was now over, and her happy dream of a loving and sinless life was ended.

The crimes she had committed had not been her voluntary acts; her father had compelled her to do the deeds; had prepared trap doors in the closets; had provided the male attire for her to wear; she had only acted in obedience to a law she had never been allowed to think could be disobeyed.

She told me that I had kept my vow to detect and punish the thief, and she would not be one more pledge; that of secrecy, and then we would forget all else, or remember it only as a dream.

Her father hoped for my mercy, and only asked a trial as a test of his pledge to never violate the law again at the Silvering.

The hostler, who was an entirely innocent party, would keep the secret and retain his position. The question of justice came up, and for a moment battled with my stricken heart, and dear reader, you know which conquered. I vowed not to ever divulge the secret so long as the guilty parties lived, and I kept it.

I will not attempt to describe my parting with Eleanor. It was painfully bitter the poor girl mourned as if her heart would break, and I wept as I had never done before.

We never met again. I dared not venture a visit to the Silvering, knowing too well that I had left the life light of my soul there, and I knew her too well to encourage the hope for a moment that the truth would ever be told.

Both she and her father have been for long years beyond the cold river. I am an old man now, but there is upon my heart of hearts a spot as green as the valley in spring time, an imprint for eternity, a name engraved there which is part of my existence, and that is the name of my misguided Eleanor.

GRAND CLEARANCE SALE OF STAPLE DRY GOODS!

10 BALES OF GREY COTTONS, at cost, 5, 6, 7, and 8 cents,

6 BALES OF Printed Cottons, at cost, 6, 7, 8, and 9 cents,

5 BALES OF White Cottons, at cost, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 cents,

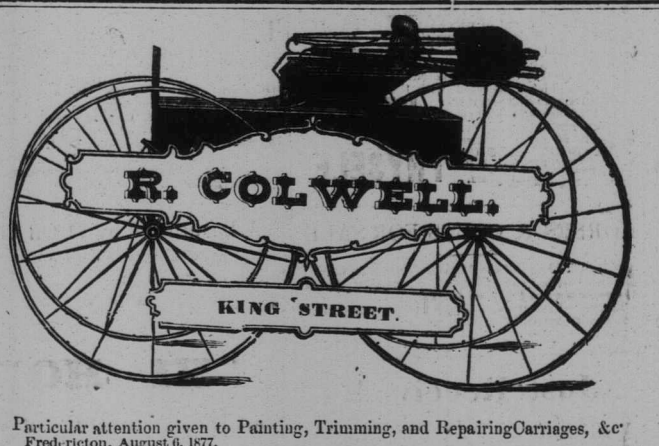
5 BALES OF GREY FLANNELS, at cost, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 25 cents.

Dress Goods and the balance of stock at BOTTOM PRICES!

We do this in order to make a SPEEDY CLEARANCE, as we are about to make a change in the firm.

DEVER BROTHERS.

Fredericton, September 10, 1877



Particular attention given to Painting, Trimming, and Repairing Carriages, &c.

Fredericton, Sept. 10, 1877.

NOTICE

OATS BRAN & FEED

Always on hand at the Storehouse of the undersigned, Campbell Street.

From Jan. 7-20 JAMES TIBBETTS.

CASH FOR HIDES

FOR THE

Gibson Tannery.

ASBY and the highest prices paid for Hides and Skins of all kinds, including Sheep, Cattle, Horses, and other animals. Also, for the manufacture of leather goods.

Monmouth Point, Gloucester, N.S.

115 King Street, N.S.

12 Boxes Fresh Hides.

Z. R. EVERETT.

Groceries and Provisions

In Store and For Sale by

BENT EVANS,

Opp. the County Court House, Fredericton.

Golden Cure for Catarrh

A golden cure for Catarrh, a disease which is not incurable, whether it be of the bladder, prostate, or other parts of the urinary system. The cure is simple and effective, and is guaranteed to bring about a permanent cure.

It has cured thousands of cases, and is now being sold in large quantities.

It is a positive guarantee to cure, and is not a false medicine.

It is the property of the great good will to accomplish, and is the best remedy for Catarrh.

For no incurable case of Catarrh.

Catarrh Not Incurable.

Our experience and success has taught us that Catarrh is not incurable, whether it be of the bladder, prostate, or other parts of the urinary system. The cure is simple and effective, and is guaranteed to bring about a permanent cure.

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BUSINESS CARDS

DENTAL NOTICE.

Jas. A. McAllister, D. D. P., (Graduate of Penn Dental College.) Has opened a Dental Office on Queen Street near the Court of Westmoreland Streets. Nitrogen Gas used in extraction. From July 25, 1877.

S. S. BLACK, M. D., HOMOEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN & SURGEON. Office, Corner King and Surgeon Streets. From Sept. 17, 1877.

ALLEN & WILSON, Barristers and Attorneys AT LAW. Solicitors, Notaries Public, &c. Loma Negocios, Advocates Collected. OFFICE: Upper part of Wiggins Building, next to the Court House. From Sept. 26, 1877.

W. F. COLEMAN, M. D., M. R. C. S. ENG. Homoeopathic Surgeon to the Royal Free and St. George's Hospitals. Office: 25 Gresham Street, London. From Sept. 27, 1877.

BECKWITH & SEELY, Attorneys-at-Law, Notaries Public, &c. Office in the City Hall. From Nov. 16, 1874.

CITY HALL, FREDERICTON. Verdicting in this paper. Accounts Collected, and Loans Negotiated. From Nov. 16, 1874.

WAVERLY HOUSE, FREDERICTON. This well known hotel has been improved, and the premises enlarged. The building is the best in the city. From Jan. 25, 1877.

J. CARLETON ALLEN, BARRISTER & ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. OFFICE: 25 Gresham Street, London. From Sept. 27, 1877.

JOHN MONAGHAN, Solicitor, King's Quay, N.B. NEW BRUNSWICK. From Sept. 1877.

SAMUEL B. BELJING, HAMPTON VILLAGE, KING'S CO., N.B. and Manufacturer of Leather. From Sept. 1877.

EDWARD CADWALLADER, Organist, Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton. From Sept. 1877.

E. N. FRESHMAN & B. O. S. Advertising Agents, 186 W. Fourth St., CINCINNATI, O. Are authorized to contract for advertising in this paper. From Sept. 1877.

GENTRAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW BRUNSWICK, (ESTABLISHED IN 1866.) OFFICE: Their Brick Building QUEEN STREET. NEAR COUNTY COURT HOUSE. From Sept. 1877.

MRS. BECK. THANKFUL for the patronage, on August 1st, 1877, of the ladies of the city, who have been so kind as to patronize the business of the undersigned. From Sept. 1877.

OHAS. H. LUGRIN, Barrister & Attorney AT LAW. Solicitor, Notary Public, &c. OFFICE: Over the W. U. Telephone Office. From Sept. 1877.

MISS LUGRIN. WILL receive a limited number of Pupils for the French Language, on application. From Sept. 1877.

LOMO'S HOTEL. Corner of King and York Streets. THE Subscriber having leased the above well known hotel, and having made every preparation to receive and accommodate the public, he respectfully solicits the patronage of his friends and the public. From Sept. 1877.

THE Subscriber has been recently patronized, and has been so kind as to patronize the business of the undersigned. From Sept. 1877.

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Fredericton Railway

WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

ON and after MONDAY, November 12th, and after further notice, TRAINS will run as follows: 6.40 A. M. Through Express Train leaves Fredericton for St. John. 8.00 A. M. Express Train leaves St. John for Fredericton. 2.30 P. M. Express Train leaves Fredericton for St. John. 4.30 P. M. Express Train leaves St. John for Fredericton. From Sept. 1877.

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More New Goods.

FOR SALE.

THAT two-story BRICK BUILDING, situated on the corner of Taylor's Alley and King Street, will be sold at a low price. For particulars apply to W. WILSON, Notary, Sept. 1877-1878.

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