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OLUME 28.

MILTON: THURSDAY DECEMBER 27, 1888.

NO. 28.

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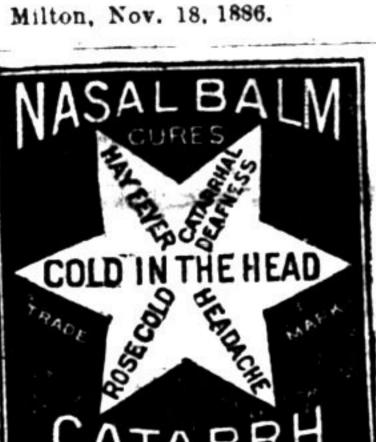
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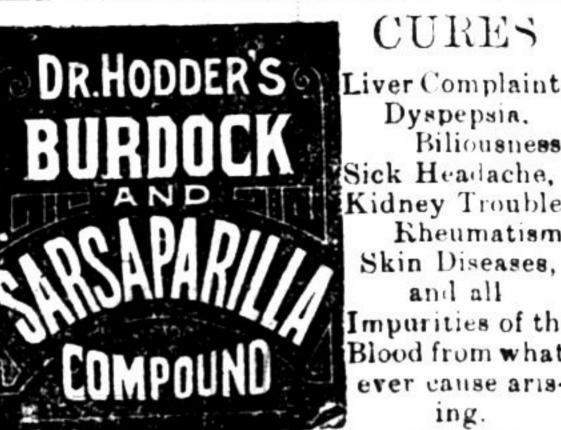
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County Court Sittings, without Jury, Tuesday, 2nd April, and 1st October, at 10 a. m. County Court Sittings-Formerly Terms- Monday, 14th January, 1st April, Tuesday, 2nd July, and Audit of Criminal Justice Accounts-Wednesday, 2nd January, 3rd April, 3rd July & 2nd October.

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BY MRS. ALEXANDER. Eh, we canna carry the two big boxes, Can ye do without them till to-morrow, After a fatiguing journey, for the night Mona, and I'll send the cart for them?" "Yes, uncle. I have my hand portmanwas warm. Mona found herself at Glasgow in the gray of the morning. Early as teau, which is quite enough." it was, Kenneth, "in the garb of old Gaul," The old cart-horse that with bent head

awaited her on the platform. He looked and patient toil dragged the vehicle up the so martial and magnificent, that Mona did long ascent, evidently understood his task not recognize him at first. When she did too well to heed Uncle Sandy's "gee-ups" she was disposed to laugh at what she and occasional applications of the whip considered his "fancy dress." He assured her, however, that it was his habitual costume when among the hills, and that the only difference he had made was to put on his best go-to-meeting kilt and plaid in her

"Not altogether in my honor, Kenneth," she said, when having collected her luggage, they had time to exchange a few

"Well, may be not," he returned, with a happy smile. "Now, if we leave by the one-twenty train for Kirktoun, we'll get to Craigdarroch by six o'elock. My uncle agreed not to expect you before, so you can come away to Mrs. Robertson's, where you can rest and have breakfast. She is a ferry old friend of Mrs. Black, and Mary is just ence of which a wooden gate, with one waiting to welcome you. She is wearying to know you, though she will be half frightened at so grand a young lady as you

OF MAINTON INTERINGUES.

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"Grand! Why, Kenneth, you are chaf-He only laughed, and, calling a cab, they pretty place!" scarcely astir, to the modest mansion of a bourne Villas." Free Kirk minister, who was already in his study, and came forth to welcome, the stranger lassie with kindly warmth; then his wife appeared, as neat and well appointed in her cotton morning-dress as she had made an afternoon toilet; and lastly; Mary, blushing, with downcast eyes and a sweet smile flickering on her lips. The first thing Mona noticed was the golden-red tinge in her soft, abundant hair. "If mine is half as pretty, I am content,"

she thought as she offered her hand, and "I am very pleased to meet you." The words-the tone in which they were said-made Mary look up, and then the smile shone out in her honest, light blue eyes; these, and a red-lipped mouth rarely quite closed over very white teeth, redeemed her face from plainness. Her complexion, though clear and good, was much freckied, and the cheek bones were some what high; still Mary Black was undoubt edly a "bonnie lassie," and pleasant to

look at, as Kenneth evidently thought, his face beamed when his eyes fell upon "You'll be awful tired after so many hours in the train here. Mary, take Miss Craig to the spare room. You'll may be like to wash your hands and brush your hair a bit before you eat your breakfast?

"Thank you. I feel I need ablution sore-"I am so very pleased to see you," said Mona, when she and Mary had entered the sacred precincts of the spare room. 'And so am I to meet you; Kenneth told me what a good friend you have been to when I unpack I shall make it look quite

him; but you are not a bit like what I ex- pretty. The house has evidently been arpected to see." "I suppose not; people never are like what is expected.'

are ready, and I will show you the way to I would be a different mon this day." the breakfast-room." younger bairns; a big-boned lad of four- ed her, was not a bed of roses. teen; a slight, thoughtful boy of nine or Mr. Craig viewed housekeeping expenses ten-both silently intent on finishing their through the small end of his mental tele-

the pet of the family. porridge and cups of milk, the voices, the definitely.

converse with his young English guest. want good meat meals every day."

clear away the breakfast things, and the good oat-meal." latter saidlow, so soon as I have sent Jamie off to at your books?"

"I should think we had a good deal to the siller slips away ower fast."

and Mary, and now you are together, it you mauna ruin me." has just vanished away?" "Like Miss Craig?" cried Mary, blushing eyes must have been all wrong!" Then a very confidential conversation hand. ensued, and Mona promised to help the lovers in all ways. Indeed, her heart went

nlated Kenneth on his choice.

one-horse pheeton, driven by Uncle Sandy tic governmen

"Ay, it is just that! You'll grow strong and weel. Hoo's a' wi' ye, Kenneth? Did you see Mr. Macray, and get the papers!

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When they came to a gentle decline or few level yards, he broke into a slow heavy trot-his great feet beating the road like sledge-hammers; then at the very first upward tendency he deliberately checked his pace to a steady walk, from which nothing could move him. Yet Mona enjoyed the drive immensely. The beautiful wild scenery; the soft, delicious, honeysweet breeze, that from time to time

touched her cheek like a caress; the restf silence, and perhaps, more than all, the would like her." unusually happy expression of Uncle Sandy's puckered face, gave her profound At length, after following a low mos and grass-grown wall for some way, they turned into a narrow road, at the diverg-

broken hinge, lay helplessly open. "Noo," said Mr. Craig, with all the pride of proprietorship, 'you are in the parks of Craigdarroch." "What a delightful country! What a

"Wait till you are up at the hoose, 1 drove away through dull streets, as yet think you'll say it is better than West-They soon reached the "hoose," which was turned in a contradictory manner with, its face to the hill, and built of melancholy, half-mourning gray-stone. At the door stood a respectable gray-haired "dour" ooking woman-the cook and general servant-and behind, the "bit lassie" who

> cle Sandy to the "dour" looking woman: "ye'll just do a' she tells ye." she frae the south," she returned, sulkily. smiling so pleasantly on her that her face "Eh, but he's fust behind mel" cried the

down the passage and introduced his niece

wake ye ony time I want ye." "A delightful arrangement," said Mona Sandy in the drawing-room. They laughing. "It is a charming room, and

morning meal, to be off in good time for scope, and tried to keep them down to imschool-and a chubby girl of six, evidently possible limits; while at the bottom of his manly heart he feared Phemie, the cook, The long, devout grace, the bowls of far too much to do more than grumble in-

dialect, all seemed to Mona like a chapter "She is a wastefu' deil," he whispered to out of a Scotch novel, yet it took her fancy. his niece, the second day of her sojourn at The host appeared to be acquainted with Craigdarroch, when he was solemnly hand-Mr. Craig, and spoke of him with a touch ing her the keys, and instructing her in of dry humor here and there which showed the duties of her new position. "You can he was fully alive to the peculiarities of look after her better than I can. She just his character. Mr. Robertson-a pleasant, drinks pounds o' tea; twa ounces ought well-read man, quite abreast of the mod- do ber and the girlie for a week, and then ern thought movement—seemed pleased to the flesher's bill is just fearfu'. They twa As soon as he had bestowed the final bless- "But, uncle, they must have meat every

"I shall do my best, uncle, but I am not "You three young folk will have a good economical, I warn you. I know what it deal to say to one another, so you can have cost Madame Debrisay and myself to exist it out here, while I am busy above and be- and it will be a sort of guide. May I look

say to each other," said Kenneth, as soon "No wonder you think so, if you keep no as they were alone. "Mary knows that accounts. I will not undertake impossithe only bit of comfort I ever had in you bilities, but if I do not give satisfaction, big dreary town was when I could walk you must turn me away. Craig of Craigand talk with you, Mona, and that kind darrock ought to live like a gentleman." soul Mme. Debrisay! Isn't it curious, "Eh, but that's weel said!" cried Uncle when I used to be with you in London, I Sandy, with sudden enthusiasm, which showed Mona she had hit the right nail o

> "I will not try, uncle." So Mona took up her cross with courag culties vanish at the touch of a bold

out very warmly to the gentle, simple Mona found her hands full; nor was the Highland lassie, and she privately congrat- work unpleasant. Her nature was essentially feminine. She loved order and del- what he says about your rights of fishing, Having been taken to see the cathedral icate nicety in her home, thought no tron- and how far they extend. It and some public buildings, she was given ble too much to secure it. Fortunately she M'Gregor has let his fishing to Lord Finis and some public buildings, she was given the too much to mining the allegiance of the toun, and I am now on my way to Strath ing face, which had worn so bright and luncheon and hurried away to the station, succeeded in winning the allegiance of the toun, and I am now on my way to Strath ing face, which had worn so bright and cook, who, having anticipated that the airlie to see what we can do is the A splendid sunset was glorifying moor stinginess of her master would be intensimountain, the loch, and a distant fled by the minute inspection of a mistress Lady Finistoun yet? You used to be great of blue sen, when the travelers was relieved to find a greatly increased de-chums, I remember," addressing Mona

delightful airi. It is like new life to breathe so transformed it that Uncle Sandy scarce "No; I rarely hold any communication

> mair siller for a long time." furniture and decorations, uncle, before "Bertie is not exactly fascinating." winter." returned Mona, who had learned from experience that the less Uncle Sandy was asked for, the less he was inclined to give. "But I will tell you about them in ing up from the letter he had been readgood time. Now that you are going to re- ing. "I will just look for the letter I had side here, you must have your house nice. frae Balmuir himself. I have it some-I think you ought to be obliged to Miss where," and taking his stick he walked

Black for the trouble she has taken." "Weel, and who says I am not? She

you like. Can she sing a Scotch song?" write to Miss Black?" what a grand place Kenneth is in."

"This is my niece, Miss Craig," said Un-"She'll likely not know our ways, and "Then you must teach me," said Mona,

"Folk learn quick if they are so minded," she said, less harshly.

room, the library.

"You see it's no a poor hoose," he said.

"You see it's no a poor hoose," he said.

"The delight of Kenneth when he heard presumed to offer it! But I shall see you again, I hear your interesting relative apy your ain bed-chains."

I am thinking." Uncle Sandy stumped tion to Mary Black cannot be easily deto a pretty airy chamber, the windows of which looked over the garden, with a side I thought if I were sick, or bad with you nigh hand me. I have had a bell put there, ye see, just over the head of your bed. I can reach the rope frae mine, and

ranged by men, uncle; it seems awfully

"Awcel, women have their uses. If a I will leave you now; ring when you had been able to marry the lassie I loved, Mona soou found that life at Craigdar-At the table were gathered the misister's roch, in spite of the beauty that surround-

ing, the minister bade Moua farewell as he day-no one would serve you without it.' "Well, it's just a bad new fashion. Then Mary assisted Mrs Robertson to Scotchmen grew to be what they are on

"Books! I never keepit any. I just know

thought I saw such a likeness between you the head. "Weel, do your best, dearie; bu

and laughing. "Eh, Kenneth, but your and found, as is often the case, that diffiswelling with pride in his possessions, "and I'm glad you are pleased with it; and noo,

"You're a clever lassie," he cried. "You have made the place look grand at ne great to be the peculiarity of your race!" he reoutlay. Noo, I'm hoping you'll no ask turned, with a caressing smile.

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de of life." You therefore should in starting housekeeping spend your money to the best advantage by making lose record for honest dealings has stood the test of many years, and prominent among this admirable class able old established furniture firm of the Dominion Furniture Company. We would, therefore, advise the

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"We shall want some additions to our observed-

and her people are Kenneth's friends, hey?" prise to find you here!" exclaimed Lisle, "They are. They were so kind and hos- rising and coming over to the window pitable to me when I arrived, weary and where Mona sat, and leaning his shoulder way-worn, in Glasgow, that I should like against the frame. "I never was more immensely to ask her to spend a few days amazed than when my eyes fell upon you. here on her way home, if you would per- Is this old-gentleman really your uncle?" mit me. She is a nice girl. I am sure you "Really and truly my father's elder "Oh! ay, you may ask her as much as natural grade."

"Ay, she'll tell a' the folk in Glencorrie of your marriage for months, then I wrote "Yes; of course she will."



Mr. Craig took his umbrella, and with a on anyone's compassion." Then Uncle Sandy led Mona through the was awfu' bad the day," hobbled off with scribed. His dark ey were aglow with ter he had gone to seek for in his hand. pleasure from the time he heard of it. His gratitude to his benefactress was unbounded. He was indefatigable in his effects to Bas quir himself rites to me oblige everyone. At length the happy and arrived when he was to go into Kirktoun reach that station at half past the. Mona had made all due preparation for the guest, I canno feesh below the gray stane dike and sat down to read the Times to linch

not long been thus employed when it sound of wheels upon the gravel attracted their attention. "It canna be Kenneth, yet," said Uncle Sandy, glancing at the clock. "No, he has hardly reached Kirktoun

yet," returned Mona. "There is a gentleman who wants to speak wi' you," said the little help, coming "You're varra polite. It would save me into the room in the neat cap Mona insisted on her wearing.

plied her master, "Eh, but he's just behind me!" cried the girl, stepping back, whereupon a gentleguished-looking man, with an imbrowned eyes seeking Mona's with a laughing face, rather light eyes, and thick mustache. glance. "You will, I hope, excuse-" he was be- "Just rin oot, dearie," said her uncle, ginning in the clear, haughty voice Mona and tell Jamie to put the horse in the

Mona laid aside her paper, and rising, to-" advanced quietly, saying, as she did so-"How do yea do, Captain Lisle?" "Miss Joscelyn! This is quite an unex- interrupted Mona. pected pleasure!" he exclaimed, taking the She went away to deliver the message, hand she offered, and evidently more and Lisle followed her.

"Is Donald at the stables?" she added. moved than she was. "Hoo's this? Do you know Sir St. John "Make him attend to the horse. I am Lisle?" cried Mr. Craig. "I used to know Captain Lisle," returned Jamie's rude hands," she said to Lisle. "I had the pleasure of meeting Miss your uncle is to ask me to stay." Joscelyn in London some years ago. "There's no Miss Joscelyn here," inter- before the midday meal is over." rupted Uncle Sandy, impatiently. "This

is my niece-my puir brother's daughter-"Oh, indeed! forgive the mistake." He paused, and for a few short seconds something to look at?" asked Lisle, insiseemed less self-possessed than Mona could natingly. have imagined possible. "I suppose," he resumed, in his natural you like to see them?"

autumn in this beautiful spot. Really. "Very well. Uncle Sandy," she said, Mr. Craig, you have a superb view—the spening the door, "Captain—I mean Sir finest I have yet seen since I came up here," St. John Lisle would like to see the garand he advanced to the window, his eyes dens." glancing quickly from the view he praised to Mone's face, which he scanned with a them," and Uncle Sandy leaned over the curious, questioning glance.

what's yer wull?" "Oh-ah-I brought you a letter from Mr. Macfarlane's agent. You will see

ly recognized the once stiff and dreary with her; when we meet, she is as nice and sweet as ever." "Perennial charm and sweetness seem

120 and 122 King Street East, Hamilton.

Mona slightly raised her eyebrows, and

"Bertie, no, of course-" "I'm thinking there is a contradiction somewhere," interrupted Mr. Craig, look-

away into his library. "What an extraordinary, delightful surbrother. You see, I have reverted to my

"I feel all at sea," said Lisle, slowly, his "I have no doubt she can. Then I may eyes still dwelling on her. "Do you know I watched the papers for the announcement to Bertie Everard, and heard from him that you had thrown over the poor devil I had been envying, and disappeared in the deepest disgrace with everyone." "How very good of you to take so much

> see again!" said Mona, looking up in his face with a half smile. "I always hoped to see you again." "Really?" archly. "You knew I did!" returned Lisle, quick-

> interest in a person you were not likely to

"I knew nothing about you, except that you were an amusing partner, and waltzed remarkably well-almost as well as you thought you did." Lisle did not answer immediately; he pulled his mustache, and looked thought

fully out of the window.

"And did you discover your uncle soo after you left the Chase?" "Not for a considerable time." "And how did you manager am dying to hear your history. You will tell me everything, won't you! We mere ofways sworn allies.

"Oh! I have no story to tell. I have been extremely fortunate, and I have no claim muttered complaint that his "puir back A scornful smile curved her haughty museum, the dining-room, the drawing- the accompanying knock knock of his sup- "No. I suspect you would very quickly

with an air of profound interest. "There is a distinct contradiction." h said, when he had finished. "Suppose take both up to Balmuir, and talk the matter over with him, and let you know the result. I do not wish to give you more trouble than I can help," he added, court

a good bit o' trouble. I'm a puir frail body, as you see; and noo, we'll be having dinner in a quarter of an hour, stay and tak a bite," "Thank you," said Lisle, frankly and

graciously. "I shall be most happy," his remembered so well, when his eyes met stable. The gig can bide in the yard." hers, and he stopped, growing suddenly "Pray, Miss-Miss Craig, allow me.

could not think of allowing you to be sent "You had better let me go. Probably Jamie would not attend to your orders,"

afraid of trusting your smart turn-out in Mona, smiling, and looked steadily at him. "He cannot do much. What a trump "And how very much bored you will be "I am ready to risk that." Mona turned to re-enter the drawing-

"Are there not gardens or ferneries or "Yes, we have very good gardens. Won. tone and manner, "you are spending the "Certainly; above all things."

"Varra weel. I'll be prood to show arm of his chair to pick up his stick, which "It's weel enough," said Uncle Sandy, as usual had fallen on the carpet, "I will stay to receive Miss Black, who must soon be here," said Mong, gently, as

she took up her work and resumed her seat by the window. Lisle cast a backward glance at her a be left the room-a glance she did not pre-

E S

or by wearing in every respect TEWARS B