

GREAT .

GREAT .
SALVAGE
. SALE.
The Chance of a Lifetime
DON'T MISS IT.

FIRE ! FIRE ! FIRE !

Gladstone Buildings,
DINGWALL

ABSOLUTE UNRESERVED SLAUGHTER
OF PROFITS.

IN consequence of the recent Serious Out-
break of Fire in his extensive Mantle,
Millinery, Dress and Readymade Clothing
Warehouses at Gladstone Buildings

David M'Leay
Has decided to offer the **WHOLE VALU-
ABLE, FASHIONABLE and RICH STOCK**
OF

MANTLES,
COSTUMES,
JACKETS,
CAPES,
UNDERCLOTHING,

CHILDREN'S MILLINERY,
FURS, SHAWLS,
ART NEEDLEWORK, SILKS, WOOLS,
and every conceivable class of
FANCY GOODS,

He is enabled to do this on account of the loss occasioned by the fire having been more or less compensated by the Insurance Companies.

tion with water and smoke, but the greater
portion was saved uninjured

Notwithstanding this the . .

WHOLE VALUABLE STOCK

WILL BE

OFFERED AT PRICES NEVER BEFORE HEARD OF

GIGANTIC BARGAINS

will be the rule, and it is not too much to say
that anyone who misses purchasing during
this

GREAT SALVAGE SALE

will look back with regret on their not having done so.

LARGE REDUCTIONS!

EXTRAORDINARY VALUE

Unprecedented and Unparalleled Bargains
in COLOURED and BLACK DRESS

MATERIALS.

SILKS,

SATINS,

AND VELVETS.

FLANNELS, BLANKETS, and HOUSE

HOLD DRAPERY.
COSTUMES,
FLANNELETTES,
PRINTS, &c.

UMBRELLAS, LACES, GLOVES,
RIBBONS, HOSIERY, FURNISHINGS,
CORSETS, &c.

The Stock is supremely valuable, but
Prices have been cut down with unsparing
hand.

READYMADE CLOTHING,
BOOTS, SHOES, AND SLIPPERS,
— THE —
REDUCTIONS IN PRICES ARE STARTLING.

Men's SHIRTS, HOSIERY, TIES, PORT-
MANTEAUS, BAGS, and all TRAVELLING
REQUISITES at Enormous Reductions.
GENT'S CLOTHING TO MEASURE
A SPECIALITY.

THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE CHANCE
OF A LIFETIME.

DON'T MISS IT!

DON'T MISS IT!!!

HUGE BARGAINS! HUGE BARGAINS!

AT THE

GREAT SALVAGE SALE
Began on
Tuesday, 2nd February, 1897.

David M. Leay's
MANTLE, MILLINERY, AND DRESS SALOONS.
AND
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
HATS, AND SHOE WAREHOUSE.

GLADSTONE BUILDINGS,
High Street and 1 Hill Street.
DINGWALL.

SPITE'S TEAS

GOOD, PURE, AND CHEAP.

1/1, 1/4, 1/6, 1/8, 1/10, 2/2, 2/4 per lb.

BEST VALUE IN THE TRADE.

AGENTS WANTED.

The Prices quoted in our Price List for Teas, Groceries, Provisions, Pure Drugs, Chemicals, Perfumery, Toilet Requisites, Patent Medicines, Proprietary Articles, Dressing, etc., are such as no Co-operative Society can compete with. Sixteen closely printed pages describe Diseases met with in everyday life, and the best method of treating them. The Price List will be sent Post Free to any address.

FRANCIS SPITE & CO., LTD.

ST ENOCH'S SQUARE, GLASGOW

SECOND GREAT SALE

AT
A. B. MACDONALD'S,
NEW WAREHOUSE, WELLINGTON
HOUSE,
104 COWCADDEN, GLASGOW.

Unnumerable Bargains for cash in every Department. The public are requested to call on a visit of inspection and peruse the Goods in the Store. Read carefully and compare the Prices. Save money by calling soon, and get the pick of the Bargains. Underclothing, Ladies' Knickers, 7/6, 9/6, and 11/6; Ladies' Chemises, 9/6, 11/6, and 14/6; Night Dresses in Cotton and Flannel, 15/6, 18/6, and 22/6; Gaiters, 3/6, 5/6, and 7/6; Hosiery, 11/6, 14/6, and 18/6; Splendid mixed lot, 10/6, 12/6, 14/6, 16/6, 18/6, 20/6, 22/6, 24/6, 26/6, 28/6, 30/6, 32/6, 34/6, 36/6, 38/6, 40/6, 42/6, 44/6, 46/6, 48/6, 50/6, 52/6, 54/6, 56/6, 58/6, 60/6, 62/6, 64/6, 66/6, 68/6, 70/6, 72/6, 74/6, 76/6, 78/6, 80/6, 82/6, 84/6, 86/6, 88/6, 90/6, 92/6, 94/6, 96/6, 98/6, 100/6, 102/6, 104/6, 106/6, 108/6, 110/6, 112/6, 114/6, 116/6, 118/6, 120/6, 122/6, 124/6, 126/6, 128/6, 130/6, 132/6, 134/6, 136/6, 138/6, 140/6, 142/6, 144/6, 146/6, 148/6, 150/6, 152/6, 154/6, 156/6, 158/6, 160/6, 162/6, 164/6, 166/6, 168/6, 170/6, 172/6, 174/6, 176/6, 178/6, 180/6, 182/6, 184/6, 186/6, 188/6, 190/6, 192/6, 194/6, 196/6, 198/6, 200/6, 202/6, 204/6, 206/6, 208/6, 210/6, 212/6, 214/6, 216/6, 218/6, 220/6, 222/6, 224/6, 226/6, 228/6, 230/6, 232/6, 234/6, 236/6, 238/6, 240/6, 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following words:—SOER YILL SAYID TUBTUPCRE
LOTEVI LIDODFAF.DIRECTIONS.—Rearrange the above to represent six
well-known flowers. Copy those you find out on a
sheet of paper, and post it, together with your order for
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informed whether their solutions are correct or not.NOTICE.—The £55 is offered to purchasers of the
Puzzle until April 15th, 1897, and orders from those
taking part in the competition should be sent in as
early as possible, but not later than April 15th, 1897,
when the awards will be made, the prizes despatched,
and the results communicated to all competitors, by
April 15th, 1897. If you cannot solve all the puzzle
words, do as many as you can, as the prizes will be
awarded in order of correctness, and in cases of equality,
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food more digestible and more healthful.This is no exaggerated statement, but the
plain unvarnished facts, and electors who
voted Tory at last election cannot divest
themselves of responsibility. Some seven
years ago British ships aided in the
successful bombardment of Navarino, out
of which emerged Greek independence
and liberty. That was an achievement to
be proud of. To-day a Tory Government
sides with a rotten and corrupt Govern-
ment—an action which no decent person,
be he Tory or Liberal, can defend. And
why this action? For no other reason
that we can see than that the value of
Turkish bonds must on no account be
diminished. The Tory party will, of
course, deny this statement; but what
other object can Lord Salisbury's policy
of the last two years have had? Greece
has exploded the war bogey, which Lord
Salisbury and those who cught to have
known better endeavoured to erect. For
all practical purposes Greece has declared
war on Turkey; yet the Sultan has not
been able to put a single soldier in the
field or a single ship to sea.It is a significant fact that Lord
Salisbury on Thursday, when making his
statement in the House of Lords, was
much fuller in his explanation than was
Mr Balfour in the House of Commons. Mr
Balfour told the Commons that the condi-
tion of Cretan "administrative autonomy"
was that the Greek and Turkish troops,
would have to withdraw from the island.
To this Lord Salisbury in the Lords
added that the Greek troops must go first
and he significantly placed no period
to the evacuation of the Turkish troops,
some of whom indeed were said to be
permanently retained as "police," and
as indicative of the Sultan's suzerainty.
All this means, if it means anything
that to the victors—that is the Greeks—
shall not be the spoils. It has further to
be borne in mind that, but for the
interference of this country and the other
Powers, the Cretans would have certainly
completely thrown off the Turkish yoke.
As a matter of fact the whole island is in
the hands of the insurgents, with the
exception of three places where the
Turkish garrison hold out so that their
captivation would only be a matter of time.
The inevitable conclusion is that the
settlement Lord Salisbury proposes is
more in the interests of Turkey than of
Crete. Of course, Turkey will agree to a
suzerainty. Crete, indeed, has already to
all practical purposes passed from
her. We trust, therefore, that when the
Liberal leaders in Parliament come
to criticise the action of Lord Salisbury
they will not be weakly drawn at the
chariot wheels of the so-called Concert.
The Liberal rank and file have been too
long open to the insinuations of their
opponents that the Liberal leaders were
but echoers of Lord Salisbury's foreign
policy. The time has come for a bold
line to be taken. The country is sick of
Lord Salisbury's foreign policy. In any
case the stronger the support the Liberal
party give the Cretans and the Greeks
the more likely is it that some measure
of justice will be carried out. Of two
things we are certain—this country will
never tolerate Britain taking up arms
on behalf of Turkey, neither will this
country tolerate the coercion of Greece
by force of our arms. The bombardment
of Canea has been quite bad enough.India has now had cholera added to
famine and the plague. We would again
remind our readers of the appeal by the
Foreign Missions Committee of the Free
Church.In examination before the South African
Committee Mr Rhodes still insists upon
his Cretan and Transvaal analogy. Mr
Labouchere, on Tuesday, amidst the
startled "Ohs" of the shocked
jobbing empire makers, wickedly reminded
Mr Rhodes that there were no gold mines
in Crete.The Presbyterian Solicitor-General
(Sir Robert Finlay) acting as lieutenant
to Mr Balfour (author of "Philosophic
Doubt") in passing a Bill endowing
Episcopal Schools is hardly an edifying
spectacle. It might even be expected to
put to the test the loyalty of the minister
of the Free North Church.The Inverness School Board Election
is announced to take place on the 18th
of March. There has been talk in some
quarters of a disposition to cause a contest
on this occasion. It would, however,
be a pity were this done. The present
Board has certainly been the most pro-
gressive and active we have had for a
long time.Church affairs loom large to-day. The
Inverness High Church seat-holders have
suggested a tidy sum of arrears to wipe off.
The Inverness Secessionist congregation
is also awkwardly situated—governed by
a committee of two. By the way, in
connection with this, a contemporary has
a most unfortunate conjunction of
sentences. Speaking of the committee
at the Presbytery meeting on Wednesday
the Rev. J. R. Mackay is made to say
"he felt he would with these men along
with him be ready to face the gates of
hell. They knew the county well and
they knew who were suitable for office
in it." A thing like this might surely
have been watched.PRESENTATIONS.—Mr Hugh Paterson,
lately foreman with Mr Gilbert Matheson,
Union Street, and a prominent member of
the Rifle Volunteers, was entertained by a
number of comrades and fellow-townsmen
at the Imperial Hotel on Monday, and made
the recipient of a handsome testimonial, on
the occasion of his departure for the south.
Sergeant Niven occupied the chair, and in
appropriate terms presented Mr Paterson
with a purse of sovereigns as a mark of the
respect in which he was held by his man-
ners in Inverness, who sincerely regretted
his departure. Mr Paterson suitably re-
plied, and with toast, song, and sentiment the
remainder of the evening was passed. Mr
Paterson was also met last week by mem-
bers of the Free East Church Bible Class,
and presented with a Bible and a purse of
money. Mr Campbell, H.M. Customs, pre-
sided, and Mr Simon Mackay made the pre-
sentation.

The Highland News

INVERNESS, Saturday, 27th Feb., 1897.

GREECE JUSTIFIED.

Greece has already justified her inter-
ference in the affairs of Crete. From
the statement made in both Houses of
Parliament on Thursday it is evident
that the action of Greece has forced
the hands of the Great Powers. The
so-called Concert of Europe, which has
been well described by Mr Gladstone
as "the Concert of Dishonour," was
fast developing into a Concert of Infamy.The courageous action of the Greek
Government, backed by the unanimous
voice of the Greek people, has not only
compelled the Powers to agree to the
"Administrative Autonomy" of Crete—
whatever that may mean or be worth
—but it is not at all improbable that
this tardy movement in the right direc-
tion spells the beginning of the end
of Turkish misrule, not only in Crete
but in Armenia and elsewhere throughout
the Turkish Empire. Thus, after many
days, is Mr Gladstone's prediction proved
to be true to the letter—that if one of
the Powers had chosen an active policy
for the protection of the Armenian
Christians the other Powers would have
been compelled to follow suit. But
neither Greece nor Mr Gladstone require
any justification. Both policies were
based on righteousness and were bound
to triumph. The point we desire to drive
home to the understandings and the
consciences of the people of this country
is that while the weakest and most
despised state in Europe was acting
the better part towards their co-religion-
ists in Crete the British Government
were bombarding the Cretan position in
the neighbourhood of Canea; and as if
to signalise this achievement a Sabbath
morning was chosen for the murderous
work: that is to say when the good people
of Inverness, in town and country, were
wending their way to Church and Chapel
last Sabbath day, British ships, instructed
by a Government which the aforesaid
good people—Christians, every one of
them—aided in returning to power at the
last General Election, were doing their
best to slaughter the Christians of Crete,<

LEWIS.

STORNOWAY OFFICE—3 CHURCH ST.

To which complaints as to the defective distribution of the paper should be addressed, and at which orders for advertisements and all Lewis communications may be left.

TIDE TABLE.

High Water at Stornoway.

FEBRUARY.

Date of Month.	M. M.	M. M.
Su. 23	5 22	5 47
MARCH.		
M. 1	6 6	6 25
Tu. 2	6 41	6 58
W. 3	7 15	7 28
Th. 4	7 43	7 59
F. 5	8 15	8 30
Sa. 6	8 44	8 59

STORNOWAY.

The Registrar's returns for the parish of Stornoway for the week ending Thursday are:—Births, 6 (3 males and 3 females); marriages, 2; deaths, 6 (1 male and 5 females).

PUBLIC PARK.—We understand that Mr. Donald Matheson of the Lews has instructed Mr. Orrock, chamberlain, to look out for a park where the various athletic clubs in town can play. Good news!

EPIDEMIC OF MEASLES.—Owing to the prevalence of measles among the town children Nielson Public School and Lady Matheson's Seminary have been closed all this week. Several of the country schools are closed for a similar cause. This would be unfortunate in any circumstances, but especially so in view of the near approach of the annual inspections.

LANDWARD COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the Landward Committee of the Stornoway Parish Council was held on Wednesday—Councillor Torquil Macleod presiding. There was no business of any importance before the Committee except that the Clerk had to report that no reply had yet been received with regard to their application to Mr. Matheson, the proprietor, for allotments and a site for a meal mill. The Clerk was instructed to send a strongly-worded letter on the subject to Mr. Matheson through Mr. Orrock.

HARBOUR COMMISSION.—At a meeting of the Works Committee of the Pier and Harbour Commission on Thursday—Mr. Orrock presiding—it was unanimously agreed, in the event of the telephone scheme being gone on with, to contribute for the placing of an instrument in the Harbourmaster's house on condition that the Commission, as a corporate body and as individuals, and each Commissioner and official be permitted to use the call office at the quay in order to ring up the Harbourmaster at his house on purely harbour business.

PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF TELEPHONE.—Mr. Mackenzie, Inverness, of the National Telephone Company, has been in Stornoway during the present week endeavouring to arrange for the introduction of the telephone. The scheme will only be gone on with provided a sufficient support is guaranteed in advance. In the event of this being forthcoming, we understand the Company will establish an exchange at central part of the town, with a call office at the quay, for the convenience of fishermen and other subscribers when absent from their offices.

LITERARY SOCIETY.—At last week's meeting of the F.E.C. Literary Society a very interesting paper was read by Mr. J. Mortish, of H.M. Customs, entitled "Continental Ramblings," being an account of his own travels in eleven different European countries. Rev. D. J. Martin, president, presided, and there was a good attendance. Among those who spoke at the close were Mr. Martin, Sheriff Campbell, and Mr. Colin Maciver, vice-president. Mr. Mortish was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his instructive paper, and a similar compliment being paid the Chairman, the proceedings terminated.

DEATH OF MR. WELSH, INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS.—Many in Lewis, and Mr. Robertson, H.M.S., with whom he was long associated, will regret to hear that Mr. Hugh Welsh, sub-inspector of schools in the North of Scotland, died on Tuesday evening at his residence in Penryhill Place, Aberdeen. He was a native of Dalnagall, Argyllshire, where he received his early education. Subsequently he studied at the Established Training College, Glasgow, under Mr. Leitch, and his first appointment as a teacher was at Allan's School, Stirling, and from there he was transferred to Morrison's Academy, Glasgow. He was subsequently appointed to the Oglivie, now Chief Inspector of Schools, a few years later he was chosen an inspector of schools in the Aberdeen district, and eight years ago he was promoted to be a sub-inspector, with his headquarters at Thurso. On leaving Aberdeen, he was entertained by the school teachers in Aberdeen city and county, and on that occasion testimony was borne to his capabilities as an inspector, and his high attainments as an educationist. Mr. Welsh had not been long in Thurso when he resided, the district in which he was engaged extending from Aberdeen to Inverness and the Outer Hebrides. Mr. Welsh, who was only 47 years of age, had been in bad health for some time, and the announcement of his death will be received by his colleagues in the teaching profession with profound regret. He was twice married, and is survived by a widow (sister of Mr. W. Keith Leask, author of "High Miller" and "James Boswell" in the famous Scott series) and eight children.

FISHING.—Stornoway, Thursday. —Last week's catch was 561 crans. This week the weather has been decidedly unfavourable for fishing operations, and little progress has been made in consequence. The boats have had to contend all along with very severe gales of wind, and the crews have experienced not a little hardship in pursuing the fishing work. On Tuesday 18 boats arrived with a total catch of 147 crans. Prices ranged from 13s 6d to 18s 9d per cran. On Wednesday 24 boats delivered 136 crans. Prices 12s 6d to 18s 6d. To-day five boats had a total of 80 crans. Prices 12s to 17s. The bulk of this week's catch have been taken from the miles off the Sands of Tolsta. Owing to the continuance of the storm a portion of the week's fishing were landed day after day, and for this reason the prices have been lower, as well as for the fact that large imports of Norwegian herrings have arrived at the English markets within the last ten days, so that prices have been much depressed thereby. The winds have been south-west and westerly all the week, and to-day there were no signs of abatement of the storm, and all the boats, with the exception of two or three, were in harbour. On Tuesday the boat "Evangeline," of Portknockie, had her main mast carried away in the storm, and on the same day the boat "George Wood," of Portsoy, had her main sail torn to ribbons while off Tolsta. She was drifting helplessly when an observer by the "Clan Macdonald," also of Portsoy. The latter bore down on her and offered a tow, but this the "George Wood" was afraid to risk owing to the heavy sea board a spare sail, passed a line to the crew of the other boat, and, fastening it to the spare sail, threw it overboard. Getting it on board after a great deal of difficulty, the crew of the "George Wood" were able to rig it up and sail for Stornoway, where they arrived early on Wednesday morning. They were very white fish have landed this week. The week's herring catch up to and including to-day is 423 crans, making the season's total 2115 crans, as against 5691 at the same date last season.

CONCERT.—We would remind our readers of the concert to be given in the Drill Hall on Friday first in connection with the Stornoway Tonic Sol-fa Class. Particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

LEWIS FREE CHURCH PRESBYTERY.—A meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Lewis was held at Stornoway on Tuesday, when there were present:—Rev. H. Cameron, Back (Moderator pro tem); Rev. D. J. Martin, Stornoway (Clerk); Rev. P. Macdonald, Stornoway; Rev. N. Campbell, Uig; Rev. George Macleod, Knock; Rev. N. M. Morrison, Barvas; Rev. D. M. Macdonald, Ness; Rev. John Mackay, Kinloch; and Rev. Hector Kennedy, Gravin. There was laid on the table a call to Rev. Mr. Campbell, Uig, from the Free Church congregation of Tarbert, Harris, signed by 1494 members and adherents. The Presbytery agreed to meet at Ballaban on Wednesday, 10th March, to dispose of the call, and Rev. Mr. Cameron, Back, was appointed to preach at Uig on Sabbath first and intimate the same to the congregation. The following were nominated for the Chair of Apologetics and Pastoral Theology in the New College, Edinburgh, namely:—Dr. Denry, Brongny, Uig; Mr. Alex. Martin, Morningside; and Mr. Macpherson, Fiddhorn. The report on Sabbath Schools showed an attendance of 2840 junior and 956 senior scholars, total 3805; as against 3165 juniors and 792 seniors, total 3957, in 1895. It was agreed to recommend the congregations to hold a collection on behalf of the Indian famine sufferers. A petition by Mr. Donald Morrison, student, to the General Assembly requesting leave to be re-examined in October next in certain subjects was unanimously recommended. The Presbytery thereafter held a conference on religion and morals, at which favourable reports were given in from several congregations. It was agreed to hold the quarterly fellowship meeting at Ballaban instead of at Barvas as formerly agreed upon. This was all the business of importance.

PARISH COUNCIL.—On Wednesday the usual monthly meeting of the Stornoway Parish Council was held within the Council Chambers, Kenneth Street. Mr. Anderson (chairman) presided, and there were also present—Councillors Eneas M. Mackenzie, J. Macleod, Torquil Macleod, Duncan Mackay, Kenneth Maciver, Malcolm Morrison, Kenneth Macleod, Murdoch Macleod, and William Macdonald, with Mr. Macfarlane, clerk. A number of new and continued applications for relief were submitted and dealt with. The Finance Committee, to which was remitted the question of the auditor's remuneration, reported that Mr. Thomson, Inverness, had fixed his fee at fifteen guineas. They offered ten guineas, which he declined, but as a compromise agreed to accept twelve guineas. The Committee recommended that this sum be paid, but still to press the Local Government Board for the appointment of a local auditor. The report was approved. The local auditor's fee last year was seven guineas, but it should be explained that this year's audit entailed a good deal more labour than that of former years. It was also agreed, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, to employ the Sheriff's officer to execute the summary warrant on the same terms as last year. The Clerk reported that the Government grants had been received and paid into bank. The amounts are, in round figures—Medical relief grant, £400; pauper's lunatic grant, £244; £242. This shows a decrease of £37 as compared with last year. This is explained by the fact that the expenditure on pauper lunatics was about £20 less this year than last. Letter was read from Superintendent Smith, sanitary inspector for the burgh, informing the Council that two patients had been removed to hospital suffering from typhoid fever, and holding them liable for any disbursements that might be made in connection with these cases on the ground that they were in destitute circumstances. It was agreed to rely on denying liability for the fever patients, but the Inspector was instructed to see that the other members of the family who had been temporarily removed to the convalescent home were being attended to. There was read a letter from Mr. Macrae to the effect that as Dr. Macrae was now able to be about again he had much pleasure in resigning the position of interim medical officer for the parish. The question of his remuneration he left entirely with the Council. A letter was read from Mr. Sheriff, medical superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, Inverness, stating that Widow Donald Macleod, Keith Street, had died there on 6th February. A meeting of the Cemetery Committee was afterwards held, at which it was agreed to have the new cemetery opened by the sexton in terms of No. 9 of the Burial Ground Rules and Regulations.

BURGH COMMISSION.—The ordinary monthly meeting of the various committees connected with the Stornoway Burgh Commission was held within the County Buildings on Monday. It was reported that the head of a family and his daughter had been removed to the Mossend Hospital suffering from typhoid fever, and in order to cleanse and disinfect the apartments occupied by them the other members of the family—the mother and five children—were sent to the Convalescent Hospital. It was ordered that, if not already done, notice should be given to the Inspector of Poor that the Parish Council is held liable for any expenditure in respect of these cases; and further, that the family should be returned to their own apartments as soon as they are properly disinfected. The Sanitary Inspector was also instructed to report to the condition of the drainage of the house. A memorandum from the Convention of Burghs in relation to amendments to the Public Health (Scotland) Bill, which was introduced into the House of Commons on 25th January last, was submitted, and approved of generally. Acknowledgments of receipt of copy of the resolution passed at last meeting of Commission were made in regard to the financial relations between Scotland, England, and Ireland were read from the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Weir, M.P. There was also read from Mr. Weir a letter, dated 10th inst., containing copy letters received by him from the Postmaster General and Mr. Steel, manager, Highland Railway Company, with regard to the mail service. The former's letter was in the following terms:—"Referring to your letter of the 23rd December last and 5th inst., I am directed by the Postmaster General to state that the cost of the mail service to places west of Dingwall served by the Stornoway branch of the Highland Railway, including the Islands of Skye and the Outer Hebrides, exceeds the available revenue by £7000 a year. I am to add that in this calculation no part of the cost (£6000 a year) of the steamer service from Oban to Lochmaddy and Dunvegan has been included, although some portion of that expenditure should in strictness be added to the cost of the services in question. The cost of the special mail train from Dingwall to Stromeferry cannot, as you were recently informed in a reply to a question in the House of Commons, be estimated at the least computation at less than £800 or £900 a year, and such an outlay as the foregoing figures will show would be quite unwarranted. I am, Sir, Mr. P. E. Sifton." It was remitted to the Magistrates, with the Clerk, to reply to Mr. Weir's letter. The Finance Committee adjourned to meet on the 1st March to go over the list of arrears, and give instructions thereunto.

PROPOSED CALL TO REV. MR. MARTIN.

PROCEEDINGS AT OBAN.

At a meeting of the Free Presbytery of Lorn held at Oban on Wednesday last, Rev. Thomas Mackenzie, moderator in the vacancy, reported that at a meeting on the 1st inst. of the congregation of Argyle Square Church, Oban, on the recommendation of the Congregational Committee, Rev. D. Martin, Stornoway, was elected colleague and successor to the Rev. D. D. Robertson. The congregation requested the Presbytery to appoint an early day for moderating in the call.

A deputation appeared in support of the application as follows:—Mr. Murdoch Ross, representing the Kirk Session; Mr. Alex. Vass, representing the Deacons' Court; and Mr. William F. Kerr, representing the congregation. Mr. Ross stated that what led the Session to think of the Rev. Mr. Martin as a suitable person to succeed the late Rev. D. D. Robertson was that he had been an eminent Christian minister. A second reason was that his labours had been largely blessed in Stornoway and other places. They hoped the Presbytery would sanction his election. They knew, none had made such an impression as Mr. Martin, and the people were enthusiastic and almost unanimous. He had reason to believe that a number of the minority had fallen in with the majority, and that Mr. Martin would be a unanimous call and a hearty concurrence. A. Oban (applause).

Mr. Vass concurred with what Mr. Ross had said. He would add that they had been praying for Mr. Martin; they believed in prayer; and they made up their minds that they must have Mr. Martin—(laughter)—because God was the answer of prayer. Of all the candidates they had heard they had made up their minds there was none so suitable as Mr. Martin, especially for their church—(applause). They hoped the Presbytery would do all in their power to help them.

Mr. Kerr was glad to say that all the congregation had come in contact with were most anxious that Mr. Martin should accept the call. Mr. Alex. Robertson, elder, moved that the Presbytery grant the prayer of the petition. After remarking that the congregation had had a trying time for the past six months, Mr. Robertson said he did not know anyone who was so suitable for the peculiar circumstances of Oban as Mr. Martin. He was a Highlander and knew the language, as was deeply imbued with the sound Calvinistic theology of their Church. At the same time as a student they knew he took the very highest places and he still reserved his literary tastes. A great deal he would be said of the field in Oban for a man of Mr. Martin's temperament. He regards the opposition, it was a very small one, and the leader had told him he acquiesced cordially in what the congregation had done—(applause).

The application was granted, and the Presbytery agreed to meet in the church on Wednesday evening, 3rd March, to moderate in the call to Mr. Martin, Rev. Mr. Macfarlane being appointed to serve the edict on the congregation to-morrow.

PRESENTATION TO MAJOR ROSS.

On Wednesday night an interesting event took place in the Drill Hall, when Major Ross was, in name of the officers non-commissioned officers, and men of the Stornoway Company, H.V.A., presented with a portrait in oils of himself on the occasion of his marriage. In addition to a large number of Volunteers, there were present—Colonel Campbell, Major Duncan, Inverness, Acting Adjutant; Major Ross, Major Russell, Major Robertson, Lieutenant Bain, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Ross, and Mrs. Robertson.

Major Robertson, in making the presentation, said that they, always loyal to Queen and country, had been engaged at drill for the first part of that evening, believing that the best means of preventive war was to be prepared for it. They had, however, formed up on parade that evening for another purpose more peaceful and pleasant than the contemplation of war. It had, he said, fallen to him during the last quarter of a century to perform many and varied duties in connection with the Volunteers, but none of them had given him greater pleasure than the duty that devolved upon him that night as commanding officer of the Stornoway Company. He was proud to present to Major Ross, he said they were there assembled for the purpose of presenting him, their former respected Captain, with a token of their regard and esteem on the occasion of his marriage. (Major Ross) was so well known and respected by them that it was hardly necessary to refer to his long and valuable services in connection with the Stornoway Volunteers. Like many able and efficient officers, he had loyally served in the ranks, and he had been promoted to the rank of Captain, with distinction to himself and honour to his Company—(applause)—and, although they deeply regretted having lost his efficient services as their captain, they rejoiced at his well-earned and merited promotion to his present rank of Major. He was a man of high character, and he in a small measure contributed to raise this Company to the high state of efficiency which it had attained. Last year they (the Stornoway Company) had added a half company to their ranks, and he was proud to be able to congratulate Major Ross on having taken into himself a better half during the same period—(laughter and applause). It gave them great pleasure to see Mr. Ross present that night, and they extended to her a hearty Highland welcome—(renewed applause). He would ask Major Ross, on behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 8th Company, H.V.A., to accept that oil painting of himself as a token of their regard for him on the occasion of his marriage. In conclusion, he expressed the wish that in future years and days to come, when Major Ross happened to look upon this portrait, it would remind him of the days—might he say the happy days—spent with the comrades of the old 8th, now the 8th Company of the Highland Volunteer Artillery—(loud applause).

Major Ross, in reply, said it was to him a great pleasure to think that any little service he might have been to that corps in the past had been highly appreciated, and he could assure them he would always retain the warmest and proudest recollections of his connection with pride and pleasure—(applause). He was told it was a good likeness—his wife said so, so it must be—(laughter)—but for his own part he thought it was somewhat flattering. After giving a very interesting sketch of the corps' history since he joined it as a gunner twenty years ago, interspersed with some amusing anecdotes of the earlier years, he concluded by thanking them all most heartily on behalf of himself, for the very handsome gift and the kind feeling that prompted it—(applause).

Colonel Campbell, being called upon by Major Robertson, in the course of his remarks, said he would like to emphasize in the strongest possible way the flattering terms in which Major Robertson had spoken of the services rendered to the Volunteers by Major Ross—(applause). He was sure one thing particularly gratifying to Major Ross was that on leaving the 8th Company to serve on the staff of the H.V.A., he left it in a higher state of efficiency than it was before he became its commanding officer—(applause).

Major Russell thought that to endeavour to add anything to what he had already said would only mean the proceedings being referred to the promotion of Major Ross and himself to the Headquarters Staff, he remarked that he had thought of it sooner, he would have declined the honour, preferring to remain connected with the local Company, retaining his old rank, than to assume the impracticable position of a staff officer so far from headquarters. He had given him very great pleasure to be present on that occasion, and he was sure that the men got up the presentation without any solicitation on the part of their officers—(applause).

Major Robertson read an apology for unavoidable absence from Surgeon-Captain Mackenzie.

The call of Colonel Campbell, Major Robertson was awarded a ballot of 2000 votes for the part he had taken in that evening's proceedings.

Major Robertson acknowledged the compliment, after which the gathering broke up.

PROPOSED PUBLIC HALL AT BROADFORD.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS,"]

Sir,—In your issue of the 20th inst. "Ratepayer" writes at some length on the meeting of the ratepayers held at Kyleakin in the proposals of the Strath Parish Council. He says that the Kyleakin ratepayers must be under a misapprehension or were misinformed on the subject before they would take such a step, viz., to protest against the proposal of said Council. "Ratepayer" will understand by the following notice why such a step was taken. "Notice"—It is proposed by the Parish Council of Strath to acquire a building in Broadford by a loan (subject to the approval of the Local Government Board) to be partly charged to the rates of the parish, and to be used for the purpose of public meetings generally. The Broadford Reading-Room Committee will contribute £30 towards the cost. Any objections to the proposal to be lodged at the office of the Clerk not later than 17th February. (Signed) P. C. Mackenzie, clerk.

Regarding the use of schools for general meetings, I hold that the seven schools in the parish are quite adequate for all the meetings that are held in them. Your correspondent says that the Broadford School has suffered long enough as a meeting-place for the whole parish. We in Kyleakin, when we hold a public meeting, do not travel to the long-suffering Broadford School for that purpose, neither will the ratepayers who are in the proximity of the school, but they will travel to Broadford to dispute the fact that the Broadford School is closed on the day of the Parish Council, School Board, County Council, and Parliamentary elections; but "Ratepayer" ought to know how seldom these elections occur. But there is provision made for the holding of the meetings above, as the following will show. "If the school is employed for the purpose of taking the poll at a Parliamentary election, under section 6 of the Ballot Act, 1872, or at an election for a County Council, in terms of section 10 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889, or at an election for a Parish Council under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1894, the number of meetings during which the managers are deprived of the use of the schools in consequence of its being so employed may, if necessary, be counted in making up the 400 meetings of the school." School Board elections are generally on a Saturday, and on these rare occasions when an election takes place the teachers from the six reserving schools are usually at Broadford recording their votes, the children from the reserving schools having a holiday, and not at work, as "Ratepayer" would have us believe.

"Ratepayer" says that teachers do not approve of schools being used for other purposes than those for which they were erected, and also mentions cases in which teachers refused to give the key to parties (ratepayers and others), although these parties had the Board's sanction for the use of the school. I would like to know how many of the teachers are simple—the servants of the Board, and it is beyond their right to refuse the use of the school to parties who have the sanction of the managers.

Certainly there was a case of recent occurrence in which a teacher in the parish refused to give the key to the members of the Broadford Literary Society, although they had the Board's sanction for the use of the school.

"Ratepayer" says the whole parish would benefit by having a meeting-place at Broadford, and that the property would maintain itself from outside sources. There are two townships six miles from Broadford—one 15 miles and Kyleakin 8—and there are schools in the four which they can have for meeting places.

I think I am safe in saying that the revenue from outside sources would not amount to 41 per annum.

It is a well-known fact that the proposal to acquire a building emanated from the Broadford Reading-Room Committee, and if these gentlemen are so generous as to offer £30 towards the purchase of a building, would "Ratepayer" kindly inform me what benefits do the above society intend to derive if the proposal is carried into effect?—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

Kyleakin, 24th February, 1897.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "THE HIGHLAND NEWS,"]

Sir,—"Ratepayer," in his letter which appears in your issue of 20th inst., makes a singularly wretched attempt to bolster the proposal of the Parish Council. By his own showing the facts as stated in the first of the resolutions passed at the Kyleakin meeting are virtually correct. It is quite true that the ratepayers of Kyleakin are a very small minority of the inhabitants of the parish, but there are several other minorities in isolated parts of the parish which, when taken in the aggregate, form a considerable item of the community, which can derive no benefit from this proposal.

"Ratepayer's" argument against the adequacy or adaptability of the schools for public meetings is really very entertaining. To argue that because the teachers disapprove of the schools being used for purposes of public meetings, and to quote in support an instance of a teacher having refused the keys of the school to certain parties duly authorised by the Board to enter, and deduce therefrom as a logical sequence that the schools are neither adequate nor adapted, is the height of absurdity. What, I should like to have the teachers of the parish say to the matter? Are the ratepayers of the parish to be mulcted in additional rates because their servants refuse to carry out instructions issued by the school managers? The idea is preposterous. Your correspondent then states that if the proposal is carried into effect it will only be a nominal figure, and the additional levy on the rates will be a mere trifle, and that the property would support itself from outside sources. That is "Ratepayer's" opinion. But I would ask what is meant by a nominal figure? If neither Broadford nor Breakish Schools (probably two of the largest in Skye) are adequate or adapted to the requirements of the parish, perhaps "Ratepayer" will inform us of the nature of the building which the Council propose to acquire to meet the parish requirements. It seems to me that a considerable expenditure will be incurred before the ideal is realised, and the £30 of the Reading-Room Committee will go but a short way towards liquidating the new liability. Again, we are told that the property would maintain itself from outside sources. How is this maintenance to be derived? Will it be competent to charge the ratepayers for the use of a building to which they already contribute through the rates? I think not, but if such should be the case, even Broadford would be better without it.

"Ratepayer" disclaims all intention on the part of the Broadford Reading-Room to acquire a meeting-place for the special benefit of Broadford; but one can scarcely conceive the Committee voluntarily giving £30 towards the cost from any other than an interested motive. No, Mr. "Ratepayer," we can't swallow that bait; that little act of philanthropy is not indigenous to the soil.

It is admitted that the proposal emanated from the Reading-Room Committee, and it is not denied that the motive underlying the proposal is not so much to secure a public hall for the parish generally as to acquire a reading-room, and in the event of this object being realised, I think it may be taken for granted that all other arrangements for the parish will become subordinate to the Committee of the Reading-Room. If, instead of offering themselves to the Council to augment the Kyleakin rates, "Ratepayer" and his colleagues had held the £30 and made a manly and honest effort to bring the amount up to their requirements, they would have had the sympathy of the whole community, and not have incurred the contempt of poor Kyleakin ratepayers.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH, BICYCLES, WATCHES, BOOKS GIVEN FREE DURING 1897.

RULES.
1. Competitors may enter EACH DAY MONTH FOR EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but MUST SEND IN their entries marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."
2. For the Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 Districts as stated below.
3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP." Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) in the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the competitor contains.
4. The Competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.
6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.
7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPLETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD OF Lever Bros., Ltd., as final.

PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.
The 1st Competitor in each District who sends in the largest number of Sunlight coupons from the District in which he resides, will receive £221 cash.
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HECTOR MACRAE:

A STORY OF THE WEST.

By Hannah B. Mackenzie, Author of "The Factor's Daughter," &c.

CHAPTER IX.—(Continued).

Presently Val spoke again.

"I think I should like to tell you a little about myself, Mr. Macrae; there is a kind of relief in talking about one's self, and I have really no one in the world to take an interest in me or my affairs. Shall we sit down here on this hillock? It looks comfortable."

She seated herself without waiting for an answer, and Hector could do nothing but obey. He did not sit beside her, but stretched himself at her feet, his head resting on his hand, and his face turned, not towards her, but towards the Auld-dubh.

"Of course, you can see for yourself that I am not a conventional society-bred young lady," Val began. "That is accounted for by my colonial training. I was brought up in a ranch that has had its nearest neighbour about forty miles away. I could ride a bare-backed pony, shoot with any man, and bargain for cattle or land as well as my father; these were my only accomplishments till I was about fourteen. So you can understand how it is that I have never quite settled down into orthodox British young womanhood, advanced or otherwise—can you not?"

Hector assented.

"Well, when I was fourteen—m-mother and I were sent off to Rockhampton, where I acquired my academical knowledge, such as it is. My father remained at the ranch. I hardly think I need describe my father to you; perhaps the less said about him the better. I believe he belonged to a good family in England, but they had disowned him, and he took his mother's name when he emigrated. I could not find my relatives, if I had any, even if I desired to do so; for I don't know their names, nor where they live. As for my mother, she was a colonial born—a stock-rider's daughter from far up the country. When I was eighteen, she died, and six months afterwards my father fell from his horse, and was killed. He left me Mr. Chisholm as guardian."

"He knew Mr. Chisholm, then?"

"Yes, they had known each other for years, and I think my father was in some way indebted to Mr. Chisholm—at least, so Mr. Chisholm says now. Of course, I had to obey the terms of the will, and come with my guardian here. But it is only lately that he has told me the whole of these terms—why, I can easily enough guess. If I am unmarried by the time my twenty-first year is completed I shall have to choose between two alternatives—either marry my guardian or lose my fortune."

"A vain there was silence. Val broke it, saying impatiently—

"How quiet you are! Why don't you say something?"

Hector moved his elbow a little uneasily, and felt compelled to turn his face towards her. Val bent a little nearer him; he could feel the scent of the wild violets stuck in her belt; he almost fancied he felt her soft breath on his cheek. A mad desire came upon him to spring into the air, and, as if he were a bird, to fly to the depths of his despair, to tell her all the truth, to seize her for one delicious moment in his arms, and then let her go for ever. It seemed to him as if the memory of that moment would compensate for all the dreariness of his life.

His face was pale with the passion so firmly kept under control, and Val's eyes, with a gleam in them almost of triumph, saw it.

"What do you wish me to say?" he asked, hoarsely.

Val leant a little nearer him. This time he

was sure he felt her breath on his cheek; and

her little gloved hand, slipping from her

lap, just touched his cheek, and then

withdrew. Hector could bear no more. With

a muttered exclamation he caught the hand;

then, raising himself to his knees, he knelt

there, at her feet, and passionately kissed the

palm of her hand.

"Kill me, hate me, if you will—it's yours

has driven me to it!" he exclaimed, his tone

unsteady with passion. "You've made me

your slave for ever, be you a woman or a witch.

I love you—I love you!"

CHAPTER X.

HER SISTER LOVER.

Hector hardly comprehended what he had done. He continued kneeling there, his face almost hidden by his hands, and he felt it seemed to him as if he were kneeling in the sentence of doom kneeling there. He did not see Miss Carruthers' face; but he had done so, his expression might have puzzled as well as startled him. His placidity was not in the least disturbed; but there was a reflection about the white forehead, knit into lines of thought and in the curves of the mouth, and a look of quiet introspection almost dreamy in its far-sightedness, which were far removed from the love-light in the face of the woman, who, "knowing she's loved, loved, is satisfied."

And yet, when she spoke at last, it was in very gentle tones—Val's voice could be soft and gentle when she liked.

"Why should I hate you for that? I would

be very ungrateful if I did; and I assure you

I don't feel ungrateful at all. As for killing

you—that, of course, is a mere figure of speech.

You know very well that I could not if I

would, and I don't think I could if I could."

Was she laughing at him? There was

mockery in her words, but not in her tone.

Hector ventured to look up at last. His own

face was passion-pale; but he was un-

changed—there was still the slight smile upon

it that he had worn before.

"It is ludicrous enough to you, I know,"

he exclaimed, dropping the hand he held

suddenly as if it had hurt him; "but it is

not that to me. It seems to me as if I

had never known what it was to live till I

met you. I thought of nothing but my

studies, my work, my ambition to get on—

my world was bounded by these. I was con-

tent with the friends I had in Torran, poor

and simple as they were; I felt no need of

any others. When first I saw you, it was

as if suddenly the gates of another world

had opened, and I passed in. Then, when

I saw you day by day . . . Why did you

look at me, talk to me, smile at me? Was

it just to try my power? Then you might

have chosen one more worthy of it than I.

I would have kept out of your way if you

had allowed me. But while I'm near you

I am weak . . . I would be content if

I could only be loved always, and touch

your hand sometimes, and see you smile. It

seems to me as if I could be content to be

your slave . . . My God! what a fool I

am! You are thinking what a fool I am

making myself."

His eager torrent of words came pouring

out headlong, disconnected, and almost in-

coherent, but all alive with the passion of

hot Celtic blood. Yet when Val, who listened

without one perceptibly quickened heart-

throb, bent a little nearer him, and laid her

hand on his arm, he drew back.

"No, no," he said, a little hoarsely, "I'm

not going to be laughed at any longer, Miss

Carruthers. Now I've said it all. I'll be

going away, and you won't expect to see

me again. You'll know the reason that I

keep out of your way. I don't ask for your

pity—I'm not wanting it even. I think

pity would be a burden that I could not

bear, coming from you. So I'll be leaving

you now."

He rose to his feet and stood before her.

Val looked up at him. What a perfect spec-

imen of fine young Highland manhood he

was! Such a man as many a woman might

be willing to give up all the world for! And

how proudly he carried his head now, as if,

like Samson, he had just thrown aside the

ropes which bound him, and stood up a free

man, relieved from a woman's sorcery and

one of the son of the people, pale with passion, but set in lines of pride and determination—the face of a man whom no woman could permanently conquer, whom love itself could not permanently enthrall? If she did, she had hardly conscious of it; but she had not been conscious of the persistence with which that face had dwelt in her memory since she last saw it.

"You really think I am the only living woman preferred to make a man of you, Fred?" she said, carelessly. Moray paused, and waited eagerly for her answer. They had fallen into the habit, as was almost natural, of calling each other by their first names when alone. He felt quite weighed down by the "responsibility" of having been an utterly irresponsible person all his life. Besides, somehow I can't take it all in. I have a profound conviction that I am not your affinity, your twin-flame, and that you are not mine; one does not have moral convictions of that kind sometimes. I don't think I have any twin flame; if I have, he is probably an inhabitant of some other solar sphere, and I shall meet him when I have left this one, and become absorbed into it. You don't know what I am talking about. Why haven't you such a theory of "Correlativity"? Fred? But don't look so despondent; I shall be your sister, anyhow, and a sister is a much more influential person than a wife, I can assure you."

"There is no hope," said Moray, tragically. He felt "howled over," as he said afterwards.

"Hope of marrying me, do you mean? How do I know? I am my guardian's property, to be disposed of as he thinks fit. Ask Mr. Chisholm, Fred; if he gives his consent, then I shall think about it."

"Wait a moment," cried Fred, as Val rose to ring for the tea. He felt that he was merely uttering to put him off. He caught her hand, and held it tightly. "It isn't true, it's not true, as Mr. Chisholm says, that you are engaged to some one else?"

"Mr. Chisholm said that, did he? No, it isn't true. I'm not engaged at all."

"But he wishes to be angry at me—he wishes, doesn't he, to marry you himself?"

"I believe he does. Isn't it foolish of him?" she retorted, lightly. She had already touched upon the subject of her father's anger, and she was not going to touch it again.

But next morning, immediately after breakfast, Mr. Chisholm, looking as black as night, detained her as she was leaving the room.

"Go into the library, and I shall join you there in a minute. I wish to speak to you before you go."

Val passed out of the door, which he had ceremoniously opened for her; there was a slight smile on her lips, for she had no difficulty in guessing the subject of the threatened interview.

In a few minutes Mr. Chisholm followed her into the library, where, shutting the door, he advanced to the window by which Val was standing. The girl turned and faced him, her hands behind her back.

"What do you wish to say to me, Mr. Chisholm?" he began abruptly, in angry tones which were, however, carefully suppressed.

"What is the good of keeping up this farce any longer, Valencia? You know quite well that you must come to a climax."

"What do you mean, Mr. Chisholm?" asked the girl, coldly. "Farce? What farce? I am not aware of keeping up any. Please be more definite in your charges."

"You know very well what I mean," retorted the girl, angrily. "I am speaking of your conduct towards your own foot, who imagines he is in love with you. You have no right to play fast and loose with him as you are doing. The fellow had the impudence to come and ask me to leave to go to the States, and I assure you he has done it already without my leaving."

"Well, and what of that?" retorted Miss Carruthers, indifferently. "I suppose it isn't the first case of a young man wishing to pay his addresses, as you call it, to a young woman."

"A young woman whose marriage has been already arranged has an easy answer to give to any such suitors, and that is the answer you must give Lieutenant Moray."

said Mr. Chisholm, with the kind of deliberation that is only to be met in a man of his position. "There is no use beating about the bush, Valencia; we may as well understand each other once for all. Your birth-day is on the thirteenth of September, being four weeks ahead of us now, and you already know that your father's will is to be put into effect on the first of October."

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THE MURDER AT NUMBER THIRTEEN: A Romance of Modern Life.

BY JOHN K. LEYS,

Author of "The Lindseys," &c. &c.

SUMMARY OF OPENING CHAPTERS.

Ida Brathwaite is a very pretty girl with well-connected, and as a matter of course she has many admirers. These include Charles Protheroe, Lord Ormside, and a Frenchman, Pierre Vinet. Ida finds the Frenchman the most persistent in his wooing, and the most to be feared in his temper. These two do not appear to get along smoothly together as lovers sometimes do, and this has been the subject of observation by Mr. Clavering, a rising young lawyer of Eastcliff. Early one morning Vinet is found lying dead on the lawn of his house, No. 13, Sea View Gardens. The discovery is made by a Major Bond, who has a weakness for acting the part of a detective, and with a display of no small ability too. Charles is arrested on suspicion, but at the inquiry he is released, on the ground of the evidence being insufficient to connect him with the crime. Major Bond has made a discovery which points to Miss Brathwaite as being the Frenchman's garden on the night of the murder, friends to have been there. 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