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NUMBER 23.

FRANK HENSE, Pres't. CHAS. ERICKSON, Vice Pres't. S. S. PETERSON, Cashier.

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His Goods are all New, and Bought at Bottom Prices and he Proposes to sell them on a Very Small Margin. He will be Pleased to see his old customers and friends. Remember the place, Murray Building.

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Many Merchants try to Elevate Their Business through Advertising, Announcing Their Ability in Lowering Prices, Etc. But most of the time They Fail to Give Reasons How They can Afford to do so when Others Can't. And as We are to Announce Our

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I. The Rapid Increase of Our Stock causes our place of business to become too Small to Carry Over Stock from Season to Season.

II. We Like the Increase of Customers more than the Increase of Stock—while of the latter we can get all we can dispose of, Patrons are what merchants should work for, and the Only Way of getting them is to Cut Prices.

III. The money Lost on this Clearance Sale we call money made on the Gain of Patrons—a Good Foundation for the Future.

Trusting that Our Old Customers and the New Ones as well will Surely take Advantage of the Occasion, We Remain, Yours Respectfully,

Minneapolis Bargain Store,
BURG & TETELBAUM, Proprietors.

Spring is Coming! I. H. ESTES LUMBER CO.

AND YOU WILL NEED A

New Suit!

JOHNSON THE TAILOR

And Get It. He will Make You a Nice

Dress Suit for \$28 and Up,

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From \$7 Per M. Up.

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Makes Regular Visits to Princeton Every 60 Days.

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Special Orders Promptly Attended to.

Corner Main and First Sts., Princeton.

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Teams, with or without Drivers, day or night, at very reasonable rates.

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R. B. NEWTON,

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Will Pay the Highest Cash Price for Hides, Pelts and Furs of all Descriptions.

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COFFINS, CASKETS AND BURIAL SUITS.

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OLD RELIABLE MEAT MARKET

Is the place to get Choice Fresh and Salt Meats.

We deal in the Best and our prices are reasonable.

Opposite Caley's Hardware Store.

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PRINCETON BARBER SHOP AND BATH ROOMS.

Hot and Cold Water Baths.

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Having bought the Meat and Provision Store lately occupied by O. B. Newton, I am prepared to furnish the citizens of Princeton with meat of all kinds, game and fish in their season. I shall endeavor to suit all my customers. "Once a customer, always a customer." A share of your patronage is respectfully solicited. Yours to please,

D. W. SPAULDING.

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—BY—

F. C. STAMM.

In Princeton every sixty days.

Next trip about June 6th. Satisfaction guaranteed or no charges.

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IS THE PLACE TO BUY

Single and Double Harness

SADDLES, WHIPS,

Robes, Blankets, Etc.

Repairing Neatly and Promptly Executed.

ABDUCTION CLUBS.

How Young Adventurers of the Last Century Got Their Wives.

Abduction of Beautiful Girls an Everyday Occurrence in Ireland.

The Tragic Case of the Kennedy Sisters—Their Abductors Executed.

To drink a toast, a proctor roast,
Or bailiff, as the case is;
To steal a wife, or take a life
At ten or fifteen paces.

The old Irish song well describes the dare-devil spirit of the young adventurers who banded together as an Abduction club, smote terror into the heart of the timorous pater-familias in the British islands during the last century.

For heiresses and beauties of gentle birth was devised the ungallant motto of the club:

"If she will not then she must."

And the daughter of many a landed proprietor, whose name had been drawn by one of the members, found herself coerced into marrying a man with whom she was but slightly acquainted, after he had forcibly abducted her with the assistance of the club.

On May 4, 1780, 112 years ago, occurred two executions in Ireland, which by virtue of the prominence of the two principals, did much at the time toward the suppression of the organization, and they also served to perpetuate the memory thereof.

These men were not common rowdies or cut-throats. While characters of the Jack Sheppard type might have been found in their retinue, the club members themselves could usually boast a gentle and not infrequently a noble descent. At that time the cadets of ancient families who had lost their estates through adherence to the Stuart cause formed a numerous and dangerous class; they would not engage in commerce, and were debarred from public service. Their restless energy found no legitimate safety valve. As a result some of them became mere outlaws, while others revenged their hereditary wrongs by carrying off the daughters of English settlers who had supplanted them. Loved by the peasantry, as much as the settlers were detested, it was easy for one of these adventurous youths to gather around him an army of frieze-coated adherents, and in this way scions of attainted houses succeeded in regaining their confiscated property.

AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE.

So successful were the early abductions that the forcible capture of heiresses became an everyday occurrence and no gentleman of means felt himself safe who had an unmarried daughter or ward beneath his roof tree. Laws were passed to put down the grievance, but without avail. Finally by special act of parliament forcible abduction was made a capital offense, punishable with death. Even this did not mitigate the outrage. The quick-witted Irishmen when carrying off a girl placed her before instead of behind him on horse or coach, thus making it appear in the eyes of the law that she had abducted him.

About the year 1766 the abduction club was formally organized in the ancient town of Cashel, among its original members being younger sons of families famous in Irish history. A solemn oath bound the members to assist each other in the carrying off of such young women as had been fixed upon by any of their colleagues. Emisaries and confederates in every district of the two southern provinces communicated full particulars regarding the extent of the girl's fortune, the state and circumstances of her family, with details of their domestic arrangements and movements. When a girl was thus pointed out the members who wished to marry her drew lots, and all assisted in securing her for the fortunate man.

He may never have known or spoken to her, but he at once made it his object to meet her at a public ball or reception, where he contrived to make himself agreeable to her. Meanwhile his associates and retainers without had placed relays of horses at every stage on the road to the nearest port. During the hurry and bustle of departure the girl was separated from

her friends, placed in a chaise or on horseback and carried away, with or without her consent.

The most notable because the most tragic case of abduction which occurred under the auspices of the club was that of the Kennedy sisters. Katherine and Annie Kennedy were the daughters of Richard Kennedy of Rathmeaden manor, in the county Waterford, a wealthy squire of Scotch descent. He had been dead for some years and the sisters lived with their mother in the old manor house of Rathmeaden, formerly an appanage of the Strange family, Barons of Dunkett. Their wealth attracted some members of the abduction club, and their names were drawn in the usual lottery. They fell to the share of Gen. Byrne, a grandson of Sir Gregory Byrne, Bart., and James Strange, of Villard, a decedent of the family which formerly owned the Kennedy estates.

Young men of great popularity, dissipated, spirited and well born, whose dispositions, however, differed widely. Strange, of irritable, impetuous and tyrannical temperament, eternally brooded over the treatment of his ancestors. Byrne, on the contrary, was amiable and careless, a general favorite with women. He had attached himself to Catherine Kennedy, while Strange had fixed his regards on Annie. In the ordinary round of country fashion they had casually met at fox hunts, races, balls and the like.

At this time Annie was but sixteen and her sister only fifteen years of age. They were both very lovely young women, but Annie was by far the more beautiful.

On April 14, 1779, the girls accompanied their mother and some friends to a country house near Kilkenny to take part in a private theatrical performance. During the play a messenger informed them that Strange and Byrne had formed a plan to carry them off that night, and that hundreds of armed farmers and peasants were surrounding the house for that purpose. In great alarm the girls fled to a distant part of the mansion, and a party of gentlemen bolted and barricaded the doors. An hour later the abducting party discovered their place of concealment, overpowered the owner of the house and his sons, who stood with drawn swords before the door, and rushed into the apartment.

The girls were conveyed into the courtyard, where a large bonfire had been kindled, by the light of which they could see about 200 men, armed with muskets and pikes, and wearing white shirts over their clothes. Two horses were ready saddled. Anne, was forced to mount before Strange, while her sister was placed on Byrne's saddle, and in this way, surrounded by a desperate body of men, they were carried into the open country.

To allay their terror, Strange proposed to send for other females who would accompany them. The proposal was joyfully accepted, but the women who joined them proved to be tenants and servants of the Strange family, prepared to promote the object of the abductors.

They rode all night, surrounded by an armed guard, until they reached a village called Kil-ma-hane, when a man purporting to be a clergyman was introduced. All the way the girls had been solicited to marry their abductors, and finally, through the medium of threats, a consent was extorted from them. A short form of ceremony was read, and the girls were told that they had been married. Next day the journey was continued to the residence of a clergyman of another denomination, who again married the couples, thus in the opinion of the abductors, making the knot doubly secure.

For five whole weeks they were paraded night and day, accompanied by their lawless cavalcade, and resting at houses belonging to members of the abduction club, until they reached the small fishing village of Rush, near Dublin. Here a vessel was in readiness, and the party embarked with the intention of sailing to France, where Strange had influential relatives. Storms drove the ship into the port of Wexford, and here Byrne and Strange ventured ashore for a carousal, leaving their wives in charge of a few men. While they were absent a company of the local yeomanry boarded the vessel and rescued the harassed young women. Strange and Byrne were hurried to Wales in the private yacht of a noble viscount, also a member of the club, but were arrested in Milford on July 6th and lodged in Cardiff jail.

For some time few people believed that any prosecution would follow. The girls had begun to entertain an affection for their abductors, and would

have forgiven them were it not for a feud between their uncles, the famous duelist Hayes, and Strange. Hayes induced them to make accusations against Byrne and Strange before the lord chief justice, and the two young men were tried in Kilkenny on March 24, 1780. The evidence of abduction was overwhelming; they were found guilty and condemned to death.

THE SENTENCE EXECUTED.

It was supposed that the sentence would not be executed. The high birth of both men, their actual marriage to the girls, and the frequency of the act of abduction created a strong feeling in their favor. Intercessions of powerful kinsmen poured in from every side. Ministers at the court of Vienna, grandees of Spain and France, peers and generals implored their pardon. A petition signed by thirty lords and 140 gentlemen of property were sent to the judges asking for a mitigation of the sentence. But Attorney General Scott was relentless in his prosecution. He declared that an example must be made to check the growth of the abduction evil, and called upon the government to carry out the sentence. Pardon or reprieve was refused, and the unfortunate men were executed on the 4th day of May. A rescue had been planned by the abduction club, and four troops of cavalry, with two regiments of foot, were stationed around the jail. To prevent interference the execution took place during the night. Strange and Byrne met their fate without an apparent tremor, and marched to the scaffold with portraits of Anne and Katherine Kennedy pinned upon their breasts.

Such was the extraordinary sentiment in their favor that for days after their death the gentry, farmers and peasantry of five counties were mourning; and when the girls appeared in the streets of Dublin or Kilkenny they were assailed by the mob, who followed them with execrations through the streets. The hatred of the people marred their subsequent life, and they were entirely excluded from fashionable society.

An even more tragic catastrophe occurred about the same time in the North of Ireland. John McNaghtan, a graduate of Trinity college, Dublin, and a young man of small property, fell in love with the beautiful daughter of Mr. Knox of Prehen, a wealthy country squire. He induced Miss Knox to go through an imitation of the marriage ceremony with him, but this marriage was set aside by the spiritual court. Finally he became a member of the abduction club, and secured a band of mercenaries. Hearing that Miss Knox was about to make a journey to Dublin with her father, he lay in wait for the travelers at the head of his swordsmen. When the Knox coach, attended by a few servants, reached his ambush McNaghtan leaped forth and attempted to drag Miss Knox into the road. A struggle ensued, during which McNaghtan discharged his pistol at Mr. Knox's head, but killed the girl he loved instead. Overcome with horror, he at once relinquished the fight and retreated, but not before two shots had taken effect in his body. The countryside was aroused, and as the abduction club had not so many friends in the north as in south Ireland, McNaghtan was soon arrested, tried and executed.

These events did much to break the spirit of the abduction club; but even after the deaths of Strange, Byrne and McNaghtan abductions continued to be perpetrated in Ireland.

In 1770 the club had been introduced into England by a member of the "mad" Beresford family; but few people of position joined it, and it soon collapsed for want of funds. A like attempt in Scotland met with ill success, and it soon became apparent that only in the disorganized elements of Irish social life could so rank a weed exist.

Even in Ireland, however, the days of the club were numbered, because the spread of revolutionary sentiment and the operations of the United Irishmen soon gave these restless younger sons and adventurers something even more dangerous to think about. Thus the fortunes of the abduction club rapidly declined, and in 1802 it was formally disbanded by its remaining twenty-nine members.

Very many of the marriages made through its efforts resulted happily; the maidens carried off becoming reconciled, liked the Sabine women of old, to their abduction.

BUTLER C. WANDESFOTD.

F. C. Stamm, jeweler, will be in For-eston on or about May 20th, in Milaca, May 30th, and in Princeton about June 6th.