

about to take it, when he perceived his mistake, and withdrew hastily amid roars of laughter. A little before 5 o'clock, Lord J. Russell made his appearance, and proceeded to his usual place amid cries of "Hear, hear," which were pretty general over the House. The Clerk then read the orders of the day, and again the message of the House was read by the messenger. "Improvement of Tawaia Island Bill, second reading." That measure was, however, at once postponed, and the second reading of the Metropolitan Buildings Bill shared the same fate.

THE MINISTERIAL EXPLANATION.
On the order of the day for the Committee of Ways and Means, Lord J. Russell made his promised statement of the reasons which induced him on Friday to propose its postponement. His explanation was brief. Adverting to the results of Mr. Russell's and Mr. Locke King's motions—the first giving the Government a majority only 14 in a vital question, the second leaving them in a minority—he said he had come to the conclusion that they were not in a position to conduct satisfactorily the business of the country like-wise very disadvantageous to the country that the Government should be liable from time to time to defeat. He, therefore, with the concurrence of his colleagues, tendered their resignations to her Majesty, who was graciously pleased to accept the same, and informed him of her intention to send for Lord Stanley, to take the charge of forming a Government. He (Lord John) had since been informed by her Majesty that Lord Stanley had stated that he was not then prepared to form a Government, and her Majesty had asked him (Lord John) to undertake the charge of re-constructing one. He had thought it his duty to attempt the task, and had assured her Majesty that he would undertake it. It was meanwhile he asked the House to adjourn until Friday. Mr. Russell expressed his conviction that it would be found, when Lord Stanley gave an explanation in his place in Parliament, that his saying that Lord Stanley had informed her Majesty that he was not then prepared to form an Administration, Lord J. Russell had made a statement to the House which, on further consideration, he would acknowledge was not founded upon what had really occurred.—Lord J. Russell felt assured that Lord Stanley's explanation would bear out what he had said.—Mr. Russell hoped that Lord J. Russell, as leader not only of a great party in that House, but of a great principle, would not forget that that principle was now in his hands.

The motion, that the House at its rising do adjourn until Friday, was then agreed to, and after the other business on the paper had been disposed of, the House rose at a quarter past 5 o'clock.

In the House of Lords on the 28th ult., the Marquis of Lansdowne stated the failure of the attempt of Lord J. Russell to reconstruct his Administration, the subsequent unsuccessful essay of Sir J. Graham, and the resolution of her Majesty to avail herself of the advice of the Duke of Wellington before taking other steps.—Lord Stanley then detailed the abortive effort made by him to form a Ministry by a coalition of the Protectionists with the Peelite party. If he had succeeded in the attempt, he should have consisted it his duty to repeal the Income Tax, and to bring in measures for the relief of the agricultural districts, but would not have pursued so rash and hasty a course with reference to the Papal Aggression as had been taken by the late Ministry. The noble Lord sat down amid loud cheering.

On the same day, similar statements were made in the House of Commons by Lord J. Russell, Mr. Russell, and Sir J. Graham, the latter stating the chief obstacles that prevented the Earl of Aberdeen and himself from concluding with the late Administration were his own and his noble friends determination to consent to no extension of the franchise, which, in his candid judgment, he deemed not likely to preserve the Government an assenting party to the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill, even with the modifications that his noble friend had indicated.

Several questions were put and explanations requested by Mr. Hume, Mr. Wakley and other Members, but Lord J. Russell said that he could give no Ministry existing, he could give no reply.—The House adjourned.

GUELPH HERALD.
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1851.
MARKET HOUSE MEETING.

The Public Meeting of the Rate-payers called by the Reeve, "to consider and decide on the propriety of erecting a Market House," came off in the Court House, on Saturday. Samuel Smith, Esq., Town Reeve, took the Chair about half after ten o'clock, at which time a large number of the Rate-payers had assembled: and soon after, the spacious Court Room was filled with perhaps one of the largest assemblages ever congregated within its walls.

The Reeve stated that he had called the meeting in compliance with a resolution of the Town Council, adopted in consequence of a Memorial presented by Mr. John Smith on behalf of a body denominated by him "The Guelph Market House Building Committee," and which prayed the Council to erect, under the superintendence of such Committee, a Public Building, comprising a Market House, and a variety of other structures. The Memorialists, he said, styled the affair "a scheme," which was indeed its fitting designation; a scheme to procure a Market House for the advantage and convenience of individuals and then make the people pay for it. The Town Clerk would read the resolution of the Council. The resolution of Council 8th instant, directing "That the portion of the Building Committee for erecting a Market House be referred to the Rate-payers, and that a public meeting be called by the Reeve in the Court House on the 22nd inst., at 10 a. m.," having been read, the Reeve said it was now requisite for the meeting to appoint a Chairman. He would propose that Alfred Baker, Esq., should take the Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Harrison. The Rev. A. Palmer was of opinion that the Reeve was himself the proper person to be Chairman of such a meeting. Mr. Smith said, as he might feel desirous of speaking on the question to come before the meeting, he had rather, not occupy the Chair. As, however, it was expected that Mr. Baker intended to move a resolution in opposition to the prayer of the Memorial, it was not desirable that he should be placed in a position which would prevent his doing so; and Mr. Tracy and Mr. Pirie having supported Mr. Palmer's opinion that the Reeve ought of right to preside in a meeting of the Municipality, Mr. Smith consented to retain the Chair.

It was then moved by John Smith, Esq., seconded by Mr. W. Stevenson, that Mr. J. Hough act as Secretary Mr. Pirie moved, seconded by Mr. C. Horning, that

Mr. W. S. G. Knowles be Secretary, which latter motion was carried by a majority.

On the motion of John Smith, Esq., seconded by Mr. A. Stephens, the Memorial of the so-called "Guelph Market House Building Committee" was read, (this precious document, intended to have been deposited under the foundation stone of the anticipated Public Building, appeared in our issue of 11th inst.) amid the ironical cheers and laughter of the meeting, which were more especially awarded to the 13th and 15th clauses, containing the singularly modest request that the Council would appoint the said Committee "a Building Committee to carry out the arrangements necessary for the speedy erection of such a building as that contemplated by your Memorialists!" and

"That, for the more duly authorizing the acts of your Memorialists, they pray that your Hon. Body may pass a By-law, stating the powers and defining the duties to be performed by the said Committee, so that the whole business may be harmoniously and efficiently conducted, and the interest of your constituents promoted and permanently secured."

[At this period, considerable amusement was created by Mr. R. Smith—a gentleman of rather anti-theatrical propensities—rising to state that he went for the whole scheme, with the exception of the Lock-up.]

Mr. Stephens said, that as allusion had been made to "The Building Committee" as composing some of the most influential and heaviest Rate-payers, it might be well the meeting were in possession of their names; he then moved seconded by F. W. Stone, Esq., "That the names of the parties comprising 'The Guelph Market House Building Committee' be furnished to the meeting."

Dr. Clarke inquired if it was intended the superintendence of the erection of the proposed building, were it decided on, should go out of the hands of the Council into those of an irresponsible body.

The Reeve replied, that he considered the request of the Memorialists to that effect, an insult to the Council, and which he was certain the Council would never concede.

[Some attempt was here made to supply the names of the Committee, but the motion was eventually permitted to fall to the ground.]

The Rev. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Harrison thought the consideration of this point was premature, and that it should first be ascertained whether or not the meeting would entertain the proposal to erect the building; were that resolved on, it would then be the fitting time to decide as to the parties by whom the resolution should be carried into effect.

Mr. John Smith understood the Meeting was assembled for the purposes stated in the handbill—to consider and decide on the propriety of erecting a Market House, other matters in connection with which were for after consideration. Personal feelings, he knew from whence originated, had been mixed up in the affair; he cared nothing for such; he was not prompted by self-interest to advocate the measure; his self-interest was the interest of the community, (!) personally he should derive small advantage from the carrying of the measure. The question was simply this—Will Guelph be benefited by the erection of a Market House or not? (No! no!) He was prepared to adduce reasons to show that the result would be beneficial, but should the meeting come to a different conclusion, he should save his \$50 that was all. The expression of hostile feeling directed against him would fall harmless to the ground. (Some interruption was here caused by Mr. Stephens rising to insist that the motion previously made by him should be put to the meeting; the chairman, however, ruled that he was out of order.) He should be glad to hear Mr. Stephens in relation to the Committee; but the real question was, Shall we have a Market House or not? He was prepared to make a motion in the affirmative.—There was a time when a town must obtain a Municipal Council and other privileges, and it seemed to him that a Market House had become requisite. He was willing, however, to bow to the decision of the majority, aware that it was ridiculous to expect that every one should be of his opinion. All he asked was a calm consideration of the proposal, he should then be prepared to give his vote in accordance with the will of the majority. The time was when the trade system was best adapted to the state of the locality; that period had, however, passed away, and the prosperity of the town would be best promoted by using every legitimate means to procure cash sales. Under such a system there would be fewer Bailiff's Sales than at present, and the inhabitants would be able to procure an amount of value for 17s. 6d. equal to what they now pay 25s. for. Other towns had reached this stage of their progress, and he believed Guelph was prepared for such a change. Mr. Smith went on to state the advantages of a cash trade, the impropriety of permitting produce to be sent to a distant market, and the inconvenience he, in common with others, had experienced in procuring potatoes exactly when wanted; he having on one occasion had actually to send four miles for a supply. The cost of the proposed structure was next taken into consideration, and an inquiry instituted as to what departments would and what would not be remunerative. The 11th clause of the 10th section of the Municipal Act was read to prove the necessity for the construction of a Lock-up, and which proved nothing of the sort, and the want of an Engine House was brought into play, as if such a thing were inseparable from a Market House. The Dundas Market House cost £2,175, and as material could be got here cheaper, it was thought a similar building might be erected for £1,500.—The receipts and disbursements of the Dundas Market House for 1850, stood thus:—

Receipts.	
Market dues.....	75 11 0
Butcher's Stalls.....	35 12 6
Use of Town Hall.....	25 12 0
	136 15 6

Disbursements.	
Clerk of the Market.....	30 0 0
Insurance.....	4 16 0
Whitewashing, &c.....	15 15 0
Interest on £2,175.....	130 10 0
	181 1 0
Deduct Receipts.....	136 15 6
Annual Loss.....	£ 44 5 6

Mr. Smith believed the receipts in Guelph would be nearly equal to those in Dundas, and as there would be a smaller outlay under the head of interest, the result would show that provision would only require to be made for the gradual liquidation of the capital embarked. He concluded by moving the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. Wm. Day:—

"That it is the opinion of the Ratepayers of the Town of Guelph, that the erection of a Market House would tend to the benefit and prosperity of the place, and that immediate steps be taken for the erection of the same."

Mr. Hefferan here stated that he understood a letter had that day been received by Mr. Marcon from the Canada Company, affirming their right to certain lots in the Market Square.

Mr. Thorp said the letter was addressed to the Council and could not consequently be with propriety read to the meeting (hear and laughter.)

Mr. A. Stephens explained the cause of his having interrupted Mr. Smith.

Dr. Clarke wished to know on what authority the meeting had been called. Who were the requisitionists? who sent the Memorial to the Council?

Mr. Stevenson, interrupting the Doctor, said he might have his own name put to the memorial if he chose.

Dr. Clarke wished to know who were the men by whose authority they had been that day called away from their business to take part in a debate for which there was no necessity. Had it been known to the electors in January, that the Council would take such a step, none of the present members had been returned to the Council board. He saw no urgent necessity for the immediate building of a Market House. It would be well that some knowledge were first obtained of the working of the new Assessment Law, and the amount of taxation to which they would individually be subjected. He had signed the subscription paper which had been handed about, and from the large number of signatures attached to which it was now endeavored to be shown that a majority of the Rate-payers were in favor of a Market House tax. He had signed it on the understanding that the intention was to get up a Joint Stock Company in conformity with the heading of that paper; but he, in common with other parties whose names were appended to that document, was entirely opposed to levying such a tax on the community. It had been alleged that he opposed the present scheme from the dread that the site selected for the proposed building would be in the Market Square, and from a desire to have it in his own neighborhood. He disclaimed all such personal motives; he believed, when eventually a Market House became necessary, the Market Square would be the fitting place for it. Even were such not exactly central, the inhabitants were indebted to the first settlers, who had built in that vicinity, for many public advantages; they had borne the burden and heat of the day, and deserved remuneration.

Much rather irrelevant matter was subsequently introduced.—Mr. Thorp charging Mr. Hefferan for having opposed the construction of the Brock Road from selfish motives.

Mr. J. Harrison supported Mr. Smith's motion at some length; asserted that a building equal to that in Dundas might be erected for £1,100, and that the requisite tax would only amount to 1½d in the £, by something like the following statement: Assessment of 1½d in the £ on £12,000, amount of taxable property and income under new Act £ 75 Surplus Revenue from Market House 50

Interest on principal expended..... 125 Leaving for the gradual liquidation of the cost a yearly surplus of..... £ 59

Mr. Harrison read a letter from a party in Dundas, showing that the Market House there was likely to pay some years hence, and urged the artisans to go for the Market House, as he and others wanted a job, and the money being all spent in the locality, would merely pass from one pocket to another.

Mr. Baker rose to move the following amendment, which was seconded by T. Hefferan, Esq.:—

"That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that the building of a Market House, or engaging in any other speculation, implying a large outlay of public money, and consequent debt and taxation, in existing circumstances, unnecessary, impolitic, and not to be entertained."

Mr. Baker showed the absurdity of the calculation made by the previous speaker. By assuming half the actual amount of cost, and doubling the income, any desirable result might be obtained. The meeting had to do with facts, not fanciful theories. He understood the Dundas Market House, with furnishings, had cost about £3,000, and was a similar one to be built in Guelph for £1,100! The Building Committee proposed to erect a Building which would cost £1,500 they proposed to tax the town for the current year £250, which would require a rate of 5d. in the £ on £12,000—the amount of taxable property according to the Assessors estimate.

That, a person rated at £25, would have to pay 10s 5d of Market House Tax; at £30, 12s 6d; at £40, 16s 8d; at £50, £1 0s 10d; at £60, £1 5s; at £70, £1 9s 2d; at £80, £1 13s 4d; at £90, £1 17s 6d; at £100, £2 1s 8d; at £150, £3 2s 6d; at £200, £4 3s 6d; at £250,

£5 4s 2d; at £300, £6 5s; at £350, £7 5s 10d; at £400, £8 6s 2d; at £450, £9 7s 6d.

[In subsequent years the rate would indeed be smaller; but supposing provision made for the liquidation of the principal at six and ten years, this, together with the annual interest—not a very questionable matter—would require an average yearly tax of over 2½d. in the £.]

Mr. Baker supported his amendment at some length, amid much applause from the audience.

Mr. Carroll was positive an adequate building could not be erected at Mr. Harrison's estimate. The people could not pay the taxes already levied. He had been informed by the Collector, that he had obtained distress warrants, and would be obliged to sell the effects of several persons for payment of taxes. How then could they afford to pay a double rate, and that merely for enhancing the property of individuals. He wanted a job as much as Mr. Harrison, but not by a tax on his fellow townsmen.

There was again a considerable melee among the speakers, in course of which Mr. Councillor Hubbard asserted that Mr. Councillor Thorp manifested more honesty at the Council Board than did Mr. Councillor Stevenson.

The Rev. Mr. Palmer then addressed the meeting, urging the propriety of considering the affair in a business-like manner and Christian spirit. He desired to see a Market House erected that would be a credit to the locality—not a mean affair, the only recommendation of which would be its small cost; but he desired it only on the showing that it could be erected without being unduly burdensome to the inhabitants. He thought there was not sufficient data on which to form a decision, and he subsequently moved, but eventually withdrew, a resolution requesting the Council to associate with themselves five other gentlemen to form a Committee for the purpose of obtaining such, and to report to a subsequent meeting.

Dr. Clarke again spoke at considerable length against Mr. Smith's resolution, showing that a cash trade could only be expected during 3 months in the year—that the tradesmen must necessarily do much of their business in barter—that the convenience resulting from a Market House would be chiefly felt by office holders independent of trade; and gave ludicrous descriptions of Market Clerks, and wood measurers carrying their hands in their pockets at the public charge. He asserted the speculation would not pay, and more especially the Assembly Room would be a failure, as the Tradesmen would not go near it, being resolved to erect one for themselves. We regret our space will not permit of our transcribing the Doctor's speech, which was alike argumentative, facetious, and to the point.

Mr. Pirie contended that the meeting being specially called to consider and decide on the propriety of erecting a Market House, it was incompetent for the Chairman to put any other motion than those already submitted, and that the question to be decided was—a Market House, yea or nay.

Mr. Stephens and the Rev. Mr. Draine spoke in favor of a Committee and delay. After much desultory conversation, charges and recriminations, the motion and amendment were put, when the latter was carried nearly unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Pirie, seconded by Mr. C. Horning, the Reeve left and Mr. A. Stephens took the Chair.

Mr. John Smith then spoke something about protesting and demanding a poll.

Dr. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Harrison, moved the thanks of the Meeting to the Chairman; and the assembly having given 3 cheers for the Reeve, and 3 do. for Dr. Clarke, broke up.

"The House that Jack built" has turned out a "Castle in the Air," and we believe sometime will elapse ere another meeting of the ratepayers is called to decide on a similar scheme.

COUNTY ASSIZES.

The Spring Assizes were opened here soon after noon of Tuesday last, by His Honor Chief Justice Robinson; Solicitor General Mc. Donald attending on behalf of the Crown. There was no criminal case for trial, and the only civil case submitted to a Jury was unimportant.

Several Jurors (of German origin) having been excused from attendance on account of their not understanding English, His Honor addressed the Grand Jury at some length, explanatory of the duties they had been called to discharge. He was sorry to see so small an attendance of Grand Jurors, (there were only about a dozen present,) which he attributed to the provisions of the new Jury Law not having yet been brought into efficient operation. The beneficial working of the Act so much depended on the selection and arrangement of persons competent to the duties of jurors, in their respective classes, that it was to be hoped the selectors would exercise discretion in returning suitable parties, and who at all events understood the language in which the business of the Court was conducted.

The Queen vs. Pratt.—It will be in the recollection of our readers, that at last Assizes a verdict was returned against Mr. Pratt for a misdemeanor, arising out of certain pecuniary transactions in which he had been engaged in connection with the trust estate of his son-in-law, Mr. William Dyson. On that occasion, Mr. Fergusson Mr. Pratt's counsel, moved for an arrest of judgment, on the ground of a flaw in the indictment, and the point was reserved by the Court for the consideration of the Judges, Mr. Pratt being bound over to appear at the present Assizes. It was now intimated by the Court that the objection taken to the indictment had been sustained by the Judges, and that consequently no sentence would be passed. His Honor said, that it was evident from the verdict, that the Jury considered the

defendant guilty of having done something wrong; and it was to be hoped that if such were really the case—if a transfer of Dyson's property had really been made with the view of defrauding creditors out of their just rights,—the verdict of the jury would be a warning against any thing of the kind in future. Mr. Pratt was then discharged, on payment of costs. The Court then adjourned till Wednesday morning.

The Court opened soon after 9 o'clock on Wednesday, when the first case called was that of

Kerr vs. Coe—Action of Ejectment.—The case was tried last Assizes, when the jury found for defendant; a new trial had been granted, and it now came up for a second hearing. The plaintiff had purchased the defendant, in 1846, his right to a half lot on the 7th concession of Erin, on which the greater part of the original purchase money still remained due to the Crown. Kerr paid up the installments of the price that were due, and took the Crown Agent's receipts which warranted him against all claimants. It subsequently appeared that the Crown had granted a 2½ years lease of the lot to a party of the name of Griffin, dated in 1834; and it was pleaded that it was consequently not competent for the Crown Agent to dispose of the land during the currency of the lease, without providing for the interest of the tenant. Mr. Geddes, the land agent, denied all knowledge of the lease at the period he received payment from Kerr on the defendants deed of assignment. The Court was of opinion that, had Griffin claimed under the lease, the case would have been different; but that unless it could be shown that the assignment had been fraudulently obtained, the verdict must be for the plaintiff. The jury found for the plaintiff, damages 1s.

Fergusson and Hurd for Plaintiff; McLean for Defendant.

The only other case was that of **Lamprey vs. Holcomb**, an action brought for the recovery of a document obtained from the plaintiff in reference to the purchase of a lot of land in Puntich, in which a nonsuit was ordered.

The Grand Jury reported favorably in regard to the state of the Gaol, and the Assize business finished.

We would direct the attention of our readers to the following extract from the Niagara Mail, containing a different explanation of one of the clauses of the Assessment Act from that generally adopted in this quarter.

THE ASSESSMENT LAW.—We have authority from the Hon. Mr. Hinks to state, that the interpretation given to the assessment Law in this Town has been erroneous, and that six per cent only of income is to be taxed in Towns and Cities. With this understanding the law is a pretty fair one, and an improvement on the old Law. The income tax, as thus explained, will not bear oppressively on any person, and will proportionately relieve real estate. Formerly many persons were totally exempt, who had a right to incur some portion of the burden of taxation. It is to be regretted, that some of our enactments, as in the present case, are so obscure, as to puzzle persons of no ordinary degree of acumen, in reference to material portions of their provisions; and we think it would require but little trouble to make them so definite as to prevent the possibility of mistaking their meaning. Were the law in question properly understood in all its parts it is likely the outcry against it would die away, at least so far as those are concerned, who are not interested in the overthrow of the ministry. The operation of the Law will be understood when we say that an individual assessed for £100 of income, will only have to pay 3s., currency of tax provided the rate is 6d., in the pound—should he be assessed for £75 he would have to pay at the same rate 2s 3d., of tax and so on.

Temperance Celebration in Fergus.

On Friday last, the institution of the first Division of the Sons of Temperance in the "Model Township" was celebrated by a Soiree, &c.—Soon after 8 a. m., deputations from the Guelph Division of the Sons and Section of Cadets left town in ten carriages, preceded by the banners of the Division and of the Temperance Society, escorted by the Conductors and Sentinels on horseback. On arriving opposite the residence of C. J. Mickle, Esq., three cheers were given for that zealous and long-tried supporter of the cause of Total Abstinence. What with good weather and good spirits, made yet more buoyant by the knowledge that they were engaged in a good and steadily-advancing cause, the progress of the party was rapid until where, within about six miles of Fergus, the Macadamised road comes to an abrupt conclusion. The road thence to the village is at this season of the year not particularly excellent, and it may scarce be doubted that had the Members of the County Council been privileged to be driven over it, in the common patent spring wagons a few times annually; they had very now to effect the completion of the line to the Grand River.

On reaching the brow of the hill overlooking the very prettily situated village of Fergus, the party drew up, and the Fergus Division were seen crossing the Grand River and ascending the hill to meet them. The scene was alike interesting and picturesque. The banners of the Sons of Temperance, the first that had ever waved in the locality, seemed to herald a coming time when inebriety and its consequent evils will be abated, if not exterminated, in the vicinity, and when a large proportion of the money now wasted in intoxicating liquors will be expended in fructifying the fields of the husbandman, and replenishing the pockets of the artisan. The party having passed through the village returned, re-crossing the Grand River, to Melville Church, where refreshments were hospitably provided. A Procession was then formed, which proceeded to St. Andrew's Church, where the Rev. J. J. Braine delivered an excellent Sermon from Nehemiah 4th chap. and 3rd verse. "Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall." The argument of the discourse being to show the parallel circumstances of the

antagonistic parties mentioned in the context of those of the advocates and opponents of the cause of Temperance, and to prove and anticipate that the results must also be alike.

The Soiree was held in Melville Church, commencing soon after 9 o'clock, when the trays were filled with a profusion and richness not customary on similar occasions in Gt. Brit.

After tea, Mr. Pirie having been called to the Chair, the Rev. J. Middleton commenced the further proceedings of the Evening with prayer, and the Guelph Temperance Chorus sang "The Maltese Boat Song," Temperance edition.

The Chairman then offered a few remarks.—Alluding to the formation of the first Temperance Society in the township some 11 years since, he said the gentleman was present who had then come to him to propose that they should form a society, which, although subjected to various untoward circumstances in the interim, had formed a nucleus for Temperance efforts in the locality; and some of the original members, and who had had fast their integrity to the cause, he was happy to see taking part on the present occasion.

Admirable and effective addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. S. Griffin, J. Middleton, J. J. Braine, and C. Fish, interspersed with Temperance Hymns by the Guelph Choir; and the thanks of the meeting having, on the motion of Mr. James Ferguson, seconded by J. Watt, Esq., been offered to the Rev. G. Smellie and Dr. Mann, for the use of their respective churches, the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. J. J. Braine.

The Guelph party reached home about eight o'clock, highly gratified with the courtesy and kind attention they had experienced.

We had prepared a report of the addresses delivered, but are unable to find room for it.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—On Saturday week an Inquest was held by Dr. Finlayson on the body of Mrs. Reeves, who was found in her house, about a mile from Elora, burned to death. There had been a spree in the house the previous night, after which Mr. Reeves and the maid had gone to the village, and returning in the morning found Mrs. Reeves lying by the fire-place shockingly burned and dead. The Jury found that the deceased had come to her death by falling into the fire in a fit.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—We would remind our readers that the Rev. Andrew Bell of Dundas will deliver a Lecture on Geology, in the Temperance Hall, on Friday Evening, at 8 o'clock. From the reverend Lecturer's well-known attainments in the science, we anticipate a specially interesting and instructive lecture, and hope to see a large attendance.

To the Editor of the Guelph Herald.

SIR:—I am under the necessity of requesting a place in the columns of the Herald, in reply to an uncalculated letter of John Kirkland's, describing a school meeting, in which Mr. K. made a wholesale calumnious attack upon the principal portion of the inhabitants of the section, and also in reference to a garbled or curtailed letter of mine which appeared in the Guelph Advertiser. I say curtailed, for the Editor of that paper, in the exercise of his editorial license, was pleased to attach my name to that letter, curtailed as it was, and afterwards called it mine, contrary to the custom of editors, moreover an editor claiming the principles of liberality and impartial fair play. Had he refused, at first, the publication of my letter, I would have known what to do; but to take it in for insertion, and then withhold it till the third publication afterwards of his paper, and then give it a curtailed insertion, was not acting in accordance with the usual and honorable practice of editors; so that now I have full reason to believe what others before told me is true, that Mr. Kirkland's favor at the Advertiser office would deprive me of equal justice. Mr. Kirkland, in his letter of the 8th Jan., applied many slanderous epithets to the simple, unoffending inhabitants of this School Section, and for that reason, I care but very little for his opinion of my morality while he describes my neighbors as unnatural parents, in which charge I have cause to suppose that I am included; and if his letter contained not a single misrepresentation but this alone, I think it too gross a slander to pass unnoticed. In my last letter to the Advertiser, I gave a contradiction to this in strong terms, but it never made its appearance to the public. I am assailed by Mr. K. for mentioning Mr. Heath's name in my letter imperceptibly. I leave the reader to judge whether to him there was the shadow of impermissible allusion made; neither did I want to defame any man's family connections, nor did I introduce his name to give my letter a coloring of respectability, for the cause of the advocacy of my neighbor's good fame was respectable without such aid; but I introduced his name to show that if he was to speak of himself as a public man, he would do so with some consistency, as being one of long standing; whereas the present self-sulgiat had no good grounds whereon to puff himself, save that he has been lately made Superintendent of Schools. Nor did I introduce his name in bad company, for I was not ranked amongst us till Mr. K. had the charity to place him in similitude with me on paper. And does not the similitude between himself and Cain come nearer in resemblance? for it was the spirit of jealousy, malice, and envy in Cain, that caused the murder of his brother; and what was it but the same that produced, on the part of Kirkland, the unwarranted, scurrilous epithets applied to the greater part of the people of this school section—while at the same time, like the Pharisee, he described himself in glowing terms, as one whose actions had raised to themselves imperishable monuments of public spirit, and challenged any, or all of us put together, to show such monumental trophies? It would seem to those unacquainted with him, that he had fronted some great battle with his country's fate trembled in the balance, or that he was the founder of some venerable and renowned structure, such as the pyramids of Egypt; when at last, behold the smoke was dispelled in the announcement that he shared, in common with his neighbors in the presentation of a road passing through the neighborhood, in which, mutually with others, he derives a share of its benefits; and if that be the case, erecting to himself imperishable monuments of public spirit, we are all public-spirited men in these dignities.

I have to give my contradiction to two misstatements in Mr. K.'s last letter. First, wherein he ascribes the writing of my letter to some one else. I assure the man he is greatly misled in his opinion, for I am the originator of that letter as well as this; and if I were one of the first-class writers of the age, I would consider myself bound to maintain the good fame of my neighbors as well