way of all reform on these vital questions; he is the acknowledged champion of ecclesiastical monopoly. But, on the eve of a general election, feeling that his position had become rather insecure, he has had recourse to some singular tricks. "*Stulti dum fugiunt vitia current in contraria.*" Finding he could no longer keep "*the* Church" in quiet and peaceable possession of all the Tory spoils of Canada, he proposes to endow all denominations, not from the Reserves or Rectories, but from some other imaginary source. There, Mr. Chairman, is conservative consistency. The champion of Protestanism offers to lavish his state endowment on Popery. Here is the sort of principle, state supported members imbibe from their system: he did not wish to speak disrespectfully of any party of professing Christians; but it is well known that the Protestant churches generally designate Popery as the anti-christian system, and Roman Catholics believe all Protestants to be heretics; and if a Protestant proposes to endow Popery, or vote for the man who proposes to do so, he (Mr. McPherson) can have no hesitation in charging him a recreant from Protestantism, and void of conscience and principle on that point; and, on the other hand, if a Roman Catholic proposes to endow Protestantism, or continue such endowment, or vote for the man who would do, so, he (Mr. McP.) has little hesitation in pronouncing him recreant from *his* principles. Your late representative, Mr. Cayley, therefore, is in this sad dilemma: he was forfeited of all true Protestants, by proposing to endow Popery; and he has forfeited the confidence of all true Roman Catholics by proposing to continue the endowments of Protestanism in fact. But there is another feature in the political conduct of your said representative, which he (Mr. McP.) thought should damage him in the estimation of all the lovers of justice. It is well known that no Presbyterian minister, and no minister of any Protestant dissenting community, can legally solemnise marriage in this country. No matter about his learning, piety, popularity—no matter how regular his call and appointment to office,—till he first go to the Registry office of the county in which he officiates—takes responsible parties with him to testify that he is what he professes—take an oath of allegiance to Her Majesty, and pays for, and gets a certificate of his Registry. To these degrading formalities, a priest from Rome or Naples, or a Puseyite curate from Oxford, is not required to submit. A member of the last Parliament (the Hon. J. H. Boulton, he thought,) seeing the injustice of this law, brought in a measure to abolish it, and put all denominations on a level in regard to the solemnization of marriage. Your late representative, Mr. Cayley, was the chief agent in opposing and preventing this just proposal; choosing that the dignitaries of his church should rather continue in a state of fraternization with men whom they have been accustomed to view as emissaries of Satan, than lose any portion of their exclusive superiority. There is a vulgar saying in Ireland,—"He wad need a lang spoon wha sups wi the deil." Our prelatic neighbors, of both parties, must guard against the necessity of using *cutties*. But to be serious, where is the Presbyterian Methodist, Baptist, &c., so spaniel-like, as to lick the hand of this man? "Wha sae base as be a slave?" Your choice then, is between a man who would not only rivet the chains already around you, but also, like the Pharisees of old, would bind heavier burdens, and lay them on your shoulders,—a man who would continue all the grievances of the country for the selfish interests of a few;—and, another, (Mr. Cameron,) whose every act in his political career has been on the side of liberty and justice. Apologising for detaining you so long with these unpremeditated remarks, he begged to second the resolution.

PROTECTION.

We give the concluding portion of Sir J. Graham's speech in the House of Commons, on the 15th ult. The facts and figures which it affords must be decisive that the Protection so much noised about there is for ever exploded.—*Free Press.*

I say that a due homage to the representative system is at variance with such a request (hear, hear), and that our representative system would be brought into disrepute if a Government so situated recommended in office, or assured Parliament to sit an hour longer than was necessary to provide for the safety and defence of the country. (Cheers.) What was the course taken by Mr. Pitt in that great struggle in 1783? He only asked permission to pass the Mutiny Bill, and then he said he would dissolve. Mr. Pitt stated "Only give me the Mutiny Bill and this House shall be dissolved." He said on that occasion that the confidence of the House of Commons is indispensible to every Administration. [Cheers.] Well, what was the course pursued by Lord Grey in 1831? General Gascoigne beat us upon the Reform Bill—upon some question of comparatively secondary importance, on the relative proportion of members, I think. General Gascoigne beat us, and 18 hours did not elapse before the Government had tendered their resignations to Her Majesty. [Hear, hear.] There is another instance. I was then opposed to my noble friend [Lord J. Russell]. It was in that season well to be remembered and pregnant with example, the year 1841. A vote of want of confidence was carried by my late right hon. friend [Sir R. Peel] on Friday night. Lord J. Russell asked to have until Monday to consider the course he should take. He then came down to this House to move the estimates, which were not yet passed. The army, navy, and ordnance estimates were passed, but the commissariat and miscellaneous estimates yet remained. He asked for a vote to enable him to go on for six months. Upon that occasion Sir R. Peel went through all the points of Parliamentary history which bore upon this question. He said to the noble lord [J. Russell]. "You do not possess the confidence of this House. Your proposal to take a vote in supply for six months is too long a period and you will by that course profong the session to about its usual termination. I have no security that you will call a Parliament together directly." And Sir R. Peel then said distinctly "Unless you pledge yourself to dissolve this Parliament with the least possible delay, and call a new Parliament together immediately, I will propose that the votes shall be, not for six months, but only for three months." (Cheers.) But what is the course which the Government are about to take now?—and this brings me to the speech of the right hon. gentleman [Mr. Herries]. The right hon. gentleman is about to move in ten days or a fortnight for the renewal of the East-India Co.'s Charter. [A laugh.] What a melancholy state of things is this! Here, too, is the Secretary of the Colonies declaring that he entertains the strongest opinions that our recent policy relative to the sugar duties is unjustifiable, and he has been seeking to arrest the further reduction in the duty upon sugar which is to take place on the 5th of July! He thinks our policy regarding the colonies is ruinous as it stands, that every step we have taken is indefensible.—[Hear.] And yet he, the Minister of the Crown, and charged with the protection of the colonial interests, contrary to his own views, is prepared, without making an effort, to allow that effort to come into operation, and when he has the opinion of one of his colleagues that a step of this kind when once taken is irrevocable. (Cheers.) What does this mean? What is the intention of the Government, as it is indicated by the arguments of its members? The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Herries) has adverted to the Navigation Bill. I will not weary the House with statistics; but I am prepared to show to him that in this year the tonnage inwards and outwards has increased, as compared with the two antecedent years; and, save one exceptional year, which was the highest ever known, the tonnage outwards this year is larger than any year preceding. [Cheers.] The right hon. gentleman views with jealousy and regret the fact that, while our tonnage is increasing, the tonnage of other countries is also increasing. But when we opened the imports and exports we were aware that would be the case. [Hear, hear.] But by renewed and increased duties upon imports the right hon. gentleman would seek to diminish our imports, and he would benefit the shipowner by imposing fresh fetters on our exports to the irretrievable disaster of the shipping interest. [Cheers.] Is he, a Minister of experience, prepared to off a change of policy? He says "No; I appeal to the forbearance of the House. [A laugh.] Was such a thing ever heard of, that a Government entertaining strong opinions and political views should not take the bold step of bringing their measures before this House, and if it rejected them, should fail to advise Her Majesty to give effect to their policy by dissolving Parliament. [Cheers.] Is it a fact, as was stated by the Earl of Derby, that our agricultural produce is diminishing, and that we are becoming more and more dependent upon foreign states? I doubt that. I will not weary you; but I will only say, that since 1846, £5,200,000 of public money has been advanced to the landowners of the United Kingdom for drainage. [Hear, hear.] Every farthing of that sum has been expended, and more has been required. The Duke of Richmond brought in a bill, which passed into a law, enabling the owners of entailed estates to borrow money for improvements, and immense sums have been borrowed under that act. [Hear, hear.] But does even that satisfy the demand for drainage? A private company was formed last year to find money for purposes of drainage, and was empowered to lend by act of parliament. I speak in the presence of men of experience, and I say that, with the present knowledge of agricultural science, I do not believe these vast sums have been injudiciously expended, and, if they have not, I appeal to any gentleman versed in the cultivation of arable land to say whether it is not impossible that, on the surface of that land, the area remaining the same, an increase of produce should not have taken place to an amount which it is very difficult to estimate? [Cheers.]—But is that all? You drain your land. Has the demand for manure diminished? Take the importation of guano. During the year 1839, when the landowners were ruined as we were told, under free trade, they imported 83,158 tons of guano. In 1850 the quantity was increased to 116,823 tons, or nearly double d; and during last year not less than 242,213 tons of guano were imported into this country. You may say this is for land of a superior quality on which this stimulating manure was employed. But what do you say to the increasing desire to enclose waste land, which was not brought into cultivation during the high prices of the war, or during the late monopoly enjoyed by the landed interest? [Hear, hear.] The number of acres enclosed since the passing of the act of 1845 has been 365,932.—[Cheers.]—And are the landowners even now discouraged? Last year, and since the last annual report of 1851, there have been enclosed nearly 5,000 acres of waste land, which had never been cultivated before. [Cheers.] There is another most remarkable fact, in the amount of taxes remitted. Taxes amounting to £17,000,000, which directly affected the power of consumption and the comfort of the people, have been recently taken off, and yet there has been received in your Exchequer, notwithstanding those taxes have been repealed, a sum of nearly £4,800,000 more than the whole amount of taxes remitted. [Cheers.]—During the existence of Sir R. Peel's Government, the Duke of Buccleuch agreed with Lord Derby that it was not wise to suspend the operation of the corn laws in December, 1845, unless a pledge were given by all his colleagues that the attempt should be made to re-impose the duty upon corn as soon as the emergency had ceased. The Earl of Derby contended for that pledge, and the Duke of Buccleuch conferred in that view. The Duke of Buccleuch is one of our largest landowners, taking into account the area of cultivated land possessed by him, and Lord Derby knows the truth of what I am about to state, that the Duke of Buccleuch, who in 1846 agreed with him, stated last year that he was then in receipt of as much rent as he had ever enjoyed (hear, hear) of as much rent as he desired to receive (hear, hear); that he had not a tenant whom he wished to keep who was not ready to pay him his rent, and that any attempt to re-impose the corn laws was to be deprecated as most dangerous to the owners of the land.—[Cheers.] Thus the Duke of Buccleuch, who once agreed with Lord Derby as to the propriety of re-imposing the corn Laws, now differs from him *toto cœlo* with respect to the restoration of protection. [Hear, hear.] I have talked of dukes and great men, allow me now to call your attention to the poorer classes in that country of which the Duke of Buccleuch is one of the most worthy, as he is one of the greatest proprietors. I have before me some statistics of the town of Glasgow, published in a most authentic form, in Dr. Strong's *Social Statistics of Glasgow*:—

"It is found that there has been a gradual substitution of wheaten bread of oatmeal among our population. In six years, from 1840 to 1845, inclusive, the average annual imports were—wheat, 132,157 quarters; flour, 107,032 sacks. From 1846 to 1850, annual average import.—wheat 199,633 quarters; flour, 211,265 sacks. 1851.—single year, wheat, 388,022 quarters; flour, 333,139 sacks. In 1819, 102,278 quartern loaves were baked weekly, showing about 3 lbs. of bread for each individual, the population of the city then being 140,000. Assuming a population of 600,000 now dependent on the Glasgow market, it seems that the use of bread has doubled in Glasgow since 1847, and we arrive at an average weekly consumption of bread amounting to 8 lbs. for every inhabitant. N. B. The necessary luxuries of tea, sugar, and molasses have increased in consumption since 1846, tea 325,351 lbs; sugar 5,610 tons; molasses, 923 tons.

Thus, with a population of 140,000 in 1810, the consumption of bread was about 3lb. for each individual, while now, with a population of 600,000 the average weekly consumption of bread is 8lb. for each individual. [Loud cheers.] But have my neighbours lost their thrifty habits? Have they ceased to lay by something from their wages? The accounts of the Glasgow Savings Banks show an increase, since 1841, of the number of depositors of 16,110 and of funds of £344,416 10s. 1d.; and since 1850, of 1,898 depositors, and £60,034 5s. 8d. Comparing at the two periods of the census the number of depositors with the population, it appears that in 1841 there was 1 depositor to every 21 inhabitants, whereas in 1851 there was 1 to every 12; and carrying out the comparison between the amount of funds at each period, and the relative population, the results are, 12s 3d for each inhabitant in 1841, and £1 8s. 9d. in 1851. So much for the saving progress of Glasgow, as illustrated by this establishment." (Cheers.) I not only say, with the Duke of Buccleuch, that there is much danger in attempting to reverse our present commercial policy, but I say that there is something more trembling in the balance than either corn laws, or no corn laws, import duties or no import duties. (Hear.) If the result of our dissolution of Parliament should be a majority in favour of a reversal of that policy in which the comfort, the interests, and the feelings of the people are bound up, there will be, not against your policy, but against the representative system, a feeling of discontent which it will be difficult to allay. (Loud Cheers.) I shall be glad to bring to a close the observations I have addressed to the House, but there are one or two points to which I must advert. I have heard it stated that this Government, whose policy is stated not in details, but generally, to be a protective system, are bent upon introducing a system which the head of the Government in the other House described as conductive to "peace on earth, and good will towards men." (Hear, hear.) Solemn and awful words! (Hear.) Holy words! (Hear.) Words of the harbingers of glad tidings and of heavenly messengers, who come, with healing on their wings, on their message of mercy to mankind. Sir, can it be truly stated that this policy was ever of that description which could be said to bring peace on earth, and good will towards men? I pass by the watchword of "Up Guards, and at them." (A laugh) But I say I am satisfied that if this policy is adopted, it is not peace that will bring, but ill-feeling, discontent, and such animosities between class and class as you do not expect, and the consequences of which I cannot foresee. (Cheers.) The other day the Secretary at War was re-elected for North Essex. He described the great advantages of a tax on corn, when a voice from the crowd called out "Cheap bread." What was the reception given to that man? The candidate said he was "not an elector of North Essex, but one of the crowd of Braintree. He appealed not to men from the factories of Braintree, but to men who had votes in the country." (Hear, hear.) I do not fear the ultimate reversal of free trade in the country, whatever the state of its representation may be, but if its representatives say that they will disregard the opinion of the rabble on the question of cheap bread, I very much fear the result. (Hear.) I am asked the bonds of the Ministerial party to act with those around me. I Sir, have entered into no unworthy compact. I have but one object, and that is the maintenance of the policy to which, when in office, I gave my humble advocacy. And I am anxious to give my co-operation to every gentleman in this house who wishes to maintain it. (Cheers.) But I check my ardour. I remember the last conversation which I ever had with Sir R. Peel. It was upon the eve of that great discussion upon our foreign policy in which he and I found it our painful duty to vote against a Government which upon other accounts, and, more especially upon the account of their support of a free trade policy, we had usually assisted. It was impossible not to look to the consequences of that vote, and I pointed out to Sir R. Peel the possibility that the Government would be overthrown, and asked him what would then ensue! He said, "I know that in this country, without party connexions, no man can govern. I know that my party ties are dissolved, and I am not prepared to renew them, and do not desire to renew them. But, come what may, there is no effort that I will not make to maintain that free trade policy, which I believe to be indespensable for the maintenance of peace and happiness in this country." (Loud cheers.) Sir, I do not possess the abilities of my right hon. friend, but I possess his determination, and, like him, there is no effort I will not be prepared to make, and no sacrifice I will not be prepared to undergo, to uphold that policy, which, in my heart and conscience, I believe to be necessary for the peace, the happiness, and the well being of my fellow-countrymen.

THE STORM.

MARINE DISASTERS AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The first intelligence of the more disastrous effects of the late gale, reached this city this morning, and gives sufficient evidence of the dreadful severity of the storm. The following information was brought from Cohasset this forenoon. The brig Mariel, of Belfast, Capt. Staples, from St. Mary's Ga., for Boston went on to Cohasset rocks some time during the gale, and went to pieces, *All hands were lost!* She had a cargo of naval stores, consisting of 1,706 barrels and 500 hides, and 4 bales of deer skins. A memorandum of the captain was found on the beach at Cohasset. The wreck has completely broken up.

The cargo of the Mariel was insured in this city, and a portion of the brig also.—About 200 barrels of rosin and tar have been picked up on Long Beach.

A large barque, with the masts cut away is at anchor off the Second Cliff, Scituate. A portion of her cargo, 18 bales of cotton, was found on the beach. The steamer R. B. Forbes has been sent to her relief.

The light ship off Minot's Ledge, we are told, rode out the gale in safty, and remained on her station this morning.

The steamer St. Lawrence, which left Portland on Monday evening at 7 o'clock, had a very stormy and dangerous passage, and did not reach this port till about 7 o'clock this morning. About twelve o'clock on Monday night, when about half-way between Thacer's Island and the Isle of Shoals, she encountered a tremendous snow storm, the wind blowing a hurricane, and the sea running very high. The weather was so thick that she could not make a harbor, and she lay with just steam enough on to keep her under control, till 10 o'clock last night. During the gale, one of the deck hands, named James Sprague, was washed overboard while trying to lash one of the boats. He was seen to swim toward a bale of goods which had been thrown overboard, but the sea was so high no aid could be rendered him. He was about 30 years of age, and leaves a wife in this city. The passengers made up a purse of $50 for her.

There were about 250 passengers on board, most of whom suffered very much from sea sickness. During the gale a quantity of bulky freight, such as dried apples, &c., was thrown overboard to ease the boat. At one o'clock last night few on board thought they would ever see the land again. The boat behaved most admirably, and the passengers speak in the highest terms of praise of the conduct of Capt. Sturtevant and his officers and crew. For eight hours the engineer worked the engine by hand, not daring to put on steam, as the sea was so rough. About 10 o'clock last night it began to clear up, and soon after the boat was headed for its destination, and reached the city about 7 o'clock this morning.

The steamer R. B. Forbes left this port yesterday morning, after the storm had somewhat abated, on a cruise in the bay, to render assistance to any vessel in distress but returned in the afternoon without meeting any who required aid. The schr. Mary, of Newburyport, from Philadelphia, was seen ashore om Painsford Island, where she remains in an upright position, and will be got off as soon as she can be relieved of her cargo.

From all parts of the country we learn of the great severity of the storm, and snow has fallen in large quantities everywhere.

On the Sound the Storm raged with almost unknown fury. The steamers all started from New York at the usual hour. The fall River boat, impelled by the fury of the elements to seek a harbour, and being unable to make a port on the Sound, returned to New York at 3 o'clock the same night.

The Stonington train reached this city last evening at about 6½ o'clock. A passenger informs us that the officers of the boat, the Massachusetts, could not remember a more furious storm. The wind was high, and the swell of the sea was very heavy. From the commencement of the storm until Tuesday morning, no lights whatever were seen in the sound; and from 10 o'clock until daylight, the officers were entirely ignorant of their position.

An effort was made to run into Huntingdon harbor, but no light could be found, accordingly the boat kept on her way. At daylight they were 80 miles from Stonington, which place was reached at 12 o'clock. But few of the passengers conjectured the danger through which they passed.—The Massachusetts behaved nobly, and but about an inch of water was made in the hold. The freight from the decks was all carried into the cabin, which it is thought, saved the boat.

At Portland about four inches of snow fell.

At Newburyport the storm was violent on Monday night, and yesterday the wind blew a perfect gale. About 8 inches of snow lay on the ground yesterday, much drifted.

In New, Bedford, Fall River, and other places in that section, large quantities of snow fell.

At Hartford it snowed violently, and several inches of snow fell.

Remarkable storms for three or four years past, have occurred in April, but for inappropriateness to the season this surpasses them all.—*Boston Journal.*

THE ELPLOSION OF THE "REDSTONE."—The *Cincinnati Gazette* gives the following particulars relative to the explosion of the *Redstone*, on the 3rd inst.:—

Three boilers exploded at the same instant. All the upper work of the boat forward of the ladies' cabin was blown to atoms—the hull swung round with the current, and immediately sunk at the bow, in 20 feet water, while the stern rested on the bottom near the shore. There were on board at the time about sixty-five passengers, of whom it is thought thirty-five must have been killed. Among the killed are Rev. Mr. Scott, Mr. Goble, editor of the *Lawrenceburg Press*, and Mr. Meyers, foreman on the same office. The 1st. and 2nd. engineers, and all the firemen were killed instantly. Mr. Soper, the 1st. clerk was standing near the office, and says the first intimation of the danger he had, was being lifted up fully 100 feet and falling into the river, and swam ashore; a moment after he heard a cry of distress in the river a few rods distant; he swam out and rescued a drowning person. This was the Captain, (Pate,) who had one of his legs broken.—The second clerk was accidentiy left at Madison. The pilots were badly injured. Captain Wright brought one of them up to Aurora; he had both of his legs broken.—The other could not be moved, and it is probable that he will not recover. The awful force of the explosion can be conceived from the fact that a large piece of one of the boilers was blown *half-a-mile*, lacking 5 or 6 yards, from the wreck!—Eleven bodies were blown into a corn field at some distance from the water. Among them those of the first and third engineers. The people of Carrolton and the vicinity hurried to the scene, and 25 dead and wounded bodies were immediately borne to a small farm-house on the top of the hill which rises back from the river, and which was converted into a hospital. The inmates of this house gave up their rooms, bedding, and everything in their possession, to the suffering. The scene here beggars all description. The mangled and ghastly corpses by the side of the wounded and dying, with inadequate medical aid and means for the care of the latter—the floors of the rooms covered deep with blood: this and the view of the scattered wreck, and the awe-stricken multitude, on the shore below, made up a scene of horror before which the intensest paintings of 'Sue' and 'Dickens' pale and grow dim. The river for some distance below Carrolton was strewn with the fragments of the boat, furniture and clothing. Small pieces of bedding and clothing were found at the distance of very nearly half-a-mile back from the river, while the trees along the shore were littered with the fragments of the same and of the wreck!

FIRE IN BOSTON—LOSS £200,000!!

A few minutes before 1 o'clock this morning, (March 31), fire caught in the north-west corner of Tremont Temple, and in less than an hour the entire structure was in ruins. About two o'clock the roof fell in, and in about half an hour the south wall fell, outwardly, upon the roof of a low building adjoining, and soon the front fell directly into the street, when the building was entirely demolished.

There was a rumor at one time, that several persons had been either killed or very badly injured, but as far as we could learn only one person was injured, George Esty, belonging to No. 7 of Charlestown, who was very badly injuried by the falling of the South wall. His left leg was broke, and he was otherwise bruised. Three firemen were upon the building next South of the Temple, upon which the wall fell, but they luckily escaped the falling ruins.

Several others were badly cut and bruised, but we can learn of no other serious injuries.

Tremont Temple, as is well known, was formerly the home of the drama, having been built as a theatre in 1827, and was used as such until 1843, when it was sold to the Baptists for public worship for $55,000. It was fitted as at present at an extra expense of $25,000. The depth of the building was 135 feet; width in front 78 feet; width in rear, 90 feet; covering an area of 11,340 feet.

The upper Temple was capable of seating 2000 persons, and was 88 by 90 feet. The lower hall is not so large. One of the most magnificent organs in the city was in the upper hall, which was insured for $2,500.

There was an insurance on the building to the amount of $43,000, divided between four offices—one in this city, one in Hartford, one in Salem, and one in Portland.

The building next South of the Temple was completely smashed by the falling walls, and was occupied by Stephen B. Stewart, plumber; Joseph Pierce, oyster saloon; Mr. Howe, Tremont market; John Cadmus, billiard saloon, and the Gem.

The adjoining buildings were pretty severely scorched, but none of them took fire. Joshua Steward's stable, in the rear, was in great danger, and the horses and carriages were removed when the fire first broke out. The iron shutters of the Temple probably saved the stable and other buildings.

The destruction of this noble edifice must be looked upon as a public calamity, for its central locality, its great capacity, and its convenient arrangement for its uses, aside from its massive and stately appearance, made it an object of interest and regard to all citizens and strangers.—*Boston Journal.*

TERRIFIC CONFLAGRATION.

CHILLICOTHE, OHIO, April 1.

At 12 o'clock this day a fire broke out, by the bursting of a stove in a cabinet shop in the rear of the Clinton House, in this city, and the wind blowing from the E. N. E., the flames soon communicated with the stables of the hotel and then to the building itself. In ten minutes the roof of that structure was on fire, and cinders were carried to a great distance.

The buildings opposite the Clinton, on Walnut st., soon caught, and thence the flames spread rapidly towards Paint st., sweeping off every warehouse on the canal, north of Second st., and all the stabling, smoke houses, &c., in their rear. By 2 o'clock, every house in the square, bounded by Walnut and Paint sts., every store and warehouse, every tenement, with four singular exceptions were irretrievably lost.

Still the wind blew, and, as the canal was empty, [the water being drawn off for repairs] the entire northern part of the city, north of Second st., and east of the Clinton House, was at the mercy of the elements.

Suffice it to say, fully one fourth of the taxable property in Chillicothe, including all the buildings on the two most valuable squares, stores, hotels, dwellings and warehouses, were destroyed.

The fire soon communicated across Paint st., beginning at the northern end, and spreading eastward and southward towards the Maderia House. That of course was destroyed. East of Mulberry st., [two squares from the place where the fire originated,] about one half of the buildings escaped, though some were burned at the distance of four or five furlongs from the Clinton House Corner. The only houses left standing on the north side of Paint st., are those of O. H. W. Lucket, H. Holcombe, new Catholic Church, and Dr. Willis.

The whole population, women as well as men, are worn out with fatigue. By strenuous and heroic exertions, the fire was prevented from communicating to any buildings south of Second st. While "Ross Block" was burning, the heat on the opposite corners [Woodbridge's and Waddell's] was intense, and the cornice, shutters, &c., were only prevented from catching by painful and constant exertions.

It is impossible to arrive at a correct estimate of the losses. Old Chillicothe has received a blow from which she cannot recover in years. I name, as they occur to me, a few of the sufferers.

Two thousand of our population are houseless. From Six to Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars worth of Property was consumed.

All our principal warehouses, with their stocks of groceries, pork, bacon, &c., &c., are burned. Maderias, in another part of the town, alone excepted.

THE TRUNK RAILWAY—NEWS FROM ENGLAND.—We understand that the last English mail has brought advices from Mr. Hincks, and we are happy to learn that Canadian credit never stood higher in England than it does at present. It affords us additional gratification to be able to state that Mr. Hincks anticipates no difficulty in making such arrangements as will ensure the speedy construction of the Great Trunk Railway from Halifax throughout the entire length of the Province. We have reason to believe that action has been taken by the Canadian Government to ensure the commencement of the whole line within a very short period.—*Quebec Gagette.*

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1852.

THE PUBLIC LANDS—SETTLEMENT—EMMIGRATION AND PROGRESS.

In a new country, population and settlement form the first condition of progress. When a country is comparatively young like Canada, one of its chief sources of strength lies in those accretion which it is constantly receiving from emigration.—It, therefore, becomes an object of the Government to hold out to emigrants such inducements as they may present, without any unnatural violation of economy. For some reason or another emigration has rather taken the direction of the United States, than of Canada for the last fourteen years. Before that period, the emigrants from Britain to North America, the majority came to Canada. It would show an obvious non-appreciation of the various causes that have been at work, were we to attribute this result to any one cause, however potent in itself. But of the various causes that have been at work, there is one which stands out conspicuous among the rest. We have not always afforded equal facilities to settlement with the United States. In fact, we have not taken any very decided steps to bring our *interior* lands into market. Choice locations on the frontier of the country, within a reasonable distance of those great lakes which form our internal highways, are valuable, and should be sold at corresponding rates. It has always appeared to us a defect of the American system, disposing the public lands, that they reduced good and bad, distant and near, all qualities and all locations, to the level of one uniform price. In point of actual value, it is impossible thus to democratize the soil. The good is not rendered intrinsically worse, nor the bad better, by the reduction of all to one unvarying price. Who sells all his horses at one uniform price? and yet, is the difference in the quality of different horses not more than that of different kinds of lands. In point of true national economy, it may be wisdom to make free grants of lands in a distant locality, difficult of access and laboring under all the disadvantages of a settlement so situated, while it would be downright profligacy to submit to a similar rule, other lands, altogether differently situated, and of great public and private value.—For instance, there is some half million acres of land lying between Owen Sound and Lake Huron, yet unsurveyed, and consequently not in the market, which, lying as it does on the neighboring waters, which are destined to form the highways for the shipment of its produce, possess an intrinsic value, far beyond the great tract of unsettled land North of the settlements on the Ontario frontier, and bounded on the West by Lake Simcoe, the Severn River and the Georgian Bay, and on the East by the Ottawa. Of the disability of procuring a speedy settlement of these two localities there can be no doubt; but no statesman who understood the duties of a minister would think of subjecting the two, so differently situated, to the same rule of settlement. We may be mistaken in our judgment, but we should deem it desirable that the tract of some three millions of acres back of the Ontario settlements should be brought under cultivation, thus adding to those productions which are identified with the wealth and strength of the country on almost any terms, of course we would provide against their being made the subject of speculation, for speculation is the antipodes of settlement. But suppose these lands well disposed of on a system of free grants, well guarded and protected by rigid conditions of actual settlement, it is indispensable that they would thus be put to a far better purpose than being left to lie in waste producing nothing and contributing nothing to the general stock of the province. We hope the government will take a step in this direction, and thus while furnishing to thousands the means of securing happy homes, be adding to the wealth, the power and importance of the country.

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

All honor to that distinguished philanthrophist, Elihu Burritt, whose powerful energies are at present directed in rousing the people of Great Britain to agitate for the adoption of OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

We recollect its being remarked by Mr. Burritt, in communicating his impressions of Britain to an American friend, "What a splendid country in which to originate and give currency to an idea!" And what a blessing may it not prove to thousands in Britain, in America, and in other parts of the world, that this magnificent idea, *Ocean Penny Postage*, has so distinguished, and so efficient an advocate, as Elihu Burritt. It must indeed be gratifying to him, to see that his labors in this cause are greatly appreciated; and the best testimony of this that he desires in the meantime, is hearty, and energetic action, in bringing the public mind to bear on the immense advantages to be derived from this object.

By an extended interchange of communications between the people of Britain, and this country, our familiarity, and knowledge of each others wants and difficulties, would correspondingly increase; every Canadian correspondent would advocate the advantages which this country holds out to the industrious settler; so that, apart from the social and intellectual benefits which it would assuredly confer on the masses of mankind, it would doubtless prove *the best, the cheapest*, in fact, in every way *the most efficient emigrant agent* that could be employed; and we have yet abundance of room in Canada for the surplus population of our Father-land. In these Counties alone, we would *willingly* accommodate a few thousands, and we are bold to say, that no part of Canada possesses better natural advantages, nor is better adapted for agricultural purposes, than the United Counties of Huron, Perth and Bruce.

Let us not however rest satisfied with the fact that our trans-atlantic friends are moving in this matter, and are confident of success. All America is interested in this cause—we in Canada, have a deep interest in it, and each has a duty to perform in striving for its accomplishment. Such being the case, let our voices at once be heard in petitions to the throne, the Lords, and Commons of Brittain, and to our Provincial Legislature, that every available influence may be brought to bear in its behalf. And when it is obtained, we will then feel satisfied that we have done our duty. Our friends in Canada are just commencing to bestir themselves, and with us in Huron, it is surely not too late to begin a good work; we therefore say that in a matter of such importance to all parties, we feel justified in anticipating a spontaneous and united effort on the part of our citizens, in behalf of Ocean Penny Postage.

We are of opinion that the organization of the Sons of Temperance, now so extremely spread over the country, might, legitimately, take up this subject and give it the whole weight of their united influence. They are in a position to work effectually in this matter, and we trust they will see it their duty to do so, and act immediately.

☞ The annual spring Show of Stallions came off yesterday, when a number of beautiful animals made their appearance. In fact we would say, judging from our limited knowledge of Horses, that six of the animals exhibited were a credit to their owners. This is the first season that any of the Clyde breed of Horses has been shewn. Mr. John Rattenbury of the Township of Tuckersmith, showed a very fair specimen of a four years old Clyde.—Mr. Horace Horton of this Town exhibited a beautiful three years old animal bred from the old imported Clyde, which bids fair to rival his famed Sire for beauty and size by the time he is 5 years old. We noticed two very splendid Bay horses said to be owned in McKillop and Tuckersmith, which pleased us much. The premiums we understand were awarded to the two Clyde Horses, as follows:—

Mr. John Rattenbury's Farmers' Glory, 1st Premium,	£7 10
Mr Horace Horton's Huron Clyde, 2nd Premium,	5 0
	£12 10

We saw two very nince Durham Bulls on the ground immediately after the Horse Show, but we do not know who were their owners, or if any premiums were awarded to them.

☞ Our Tavern-keepers were fined five pounds, with cost, each, for selling Liquour without License. Their trials occupied part of Tuesday and Wednesday, 20th and 21st instant.

☞ We are glad to see that some of our vessels are making the necessary preparations for navigating the Lake, there is very little ice to be seen on the Lake, and what little their is, is disappearing fast.

The Steamboat *Ruby* is expected to arrive here on Saturday evening.

THE PRESS.

We regret to observe that the Huron *Loyalist* has condescended to bring before the public a private transaction of the Hon. Malcolm Cameron—a paltry five pound dispute, in which the great public has no interest or concern; the sole object being to damage the reputation of Mr. Cameron. We doubt not that the case as stated could be so explained as to put a very different face upon the matter; but what if it were all true? Is this a matter to parade before the public to extract political capital from?—is it a duty of the Fourth Estate to rake in such filthy water as this? Out upon such a degrading supposition. When the Press descends thus low, it becomes a nuisance, and not a blessing. The *Loyalist's* friends moreover should be the last to seek the maintenance of political warfare by such weapons. If every five pound "difficulty" of the Tory leaders were made the subject of a newspaper paragraph, what a scene would there be!—*Globe.*