

is the gentleman whom we are now called upon to honour and congratulate on his safe arrival in our harbour; and we, this evening, tender to him the hospitalities of the city. It is gratifying to the commercial community to see a steamer, for the first time, laden with goods for our merchants, and we hail this first arrival as a harbinger of better times. Although the Steamer "Genova" was longer in her voyage than we anticipated, still there is a striking contrast between this and the old system. I speak from facts. Our goods left Liverpool by her, and in twenty-one days we had them for sale in our establishments. It would have taken a sailing vessel sixty days, and decidedly we have reason to rejoice. The toast was drunk amid deafening cheers, with the utmost enthusiasm. Band—"Life on the Ocean Wave." Song—"The White Squall."

"Captain Paton, on rising to reply, was greeted with prolonged applause. He said he felt he was placed in such a position as he had never before found himself in. When he looked around him on the brilliant assemblage which had met there to greet him, he found he lacked words adequately to convey to them the gratitude he felt for their enthusiastic reception of his name. He felt highly honoured that he had been selected to bring out the first steam packet to such a country as Canada—England's greatest colony—still a young country, but so fast rising to greatness. He assured them that that was indeed the proudest moment of his life, when he was welcomed as the first who had brought a steam packet to a new and rising country, more especially to such a country as Canada. It was quite true that the 'Genova' was but a small steamship, but she had many good qualities. He had sailed her for 14 months in the Mediterranean, and she was there esteemed the pet or favourite steamer. He had there had the pleasure of having several distinguished personages in Britain as passengers in her, who all pronounced a favourable opinion concerning her. Unfortunately, upon this voyage, they had used a kind of coal which had caused them to take 20 days in crossing the ocean, instead of 14 or 15, as they should have done. He could not tell them how much vexation and annoyance this had caused him; but he was happy to say that they had secured good Scotch and Newcastle coal for the return voyage, and he asked them to take note of the time when he should arrive in England. He begged to return his most sincere thanks for the hospitality so generously proffered him, and for the cordial welcome given his ship, which was, for the time, his better half. He hoped and believed she would redeem her good character in going home. He hoped that as long as he was at sea, he would sail between Britain and Canada. He hoped to be able to serve the Canadian merchants so that they should be satisfied with his management. They would find that their goods entrusted to him would be kept safe from chafing or damage, and he would use his best endeavours to make his passengers comfortable and happy. Again he thanked them for the cordiality of his reception."