[illegible] of the Priest, and he wants it to be under sacerdotal direction [illegible] Common School. Unfortunately [illegible], for our system of Public Instruction he lays his hand on the Public Chest, [illegible] the aid of the State for [illegible] into effect his denominational views; and it is to and in the recognition of these claims that this most anomalous [illegible] of all alliances has been effected. The results we may venture to predict. The basis of this coalition will be extended with the return of every annual election, and our school system bids fair to be completely annihilated.

These efforts to destroy Public Instructions are not confined to this Province.—In the neighbouring country—so near us as New York State, similar efforts are being made for the overthrow of the Public Schools but their the friends of Education are not afraid of the result. The institution of Common Schools instruction is too deeply fixed in the regard of the people to suffer from the antagonism of sectarian [illegible]. Would that it had been so here.—*Examiner.*

MASONIC PROCEEDINGS IN NAPANEE.

We publish the following from the *British Whig*, by request:—

Previous to the departure of Worshipful Brother William Gunn, Past Master of Union Lodge, No 6-499, for Kincardine, in the Huron Tract, the Brethren of that Lodge invited him to dine with them. On the day appointed, the 27th of Sept, the Brethren met their guests at the Inn of Brother George Carnall, to whom was entrusted the offices of Caterer on this occasion, and who, as usual, acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of the fraternity. The Chair was taken by Bro. John Chamberlain, W. M., with Bros. Asahel B. McCay and B. C. Davy, senior and junior Wardens, in their respective places. A blessing having been asked, the Brethren sat down to dinner, and certainly did ample justice to the good things set before them; for, on the fragments being taken up, it appeared very evident that, with the practice of the darker mysteries of the craft the Brethren present had attained to a high state of proficiency in the "knife and fork" degree. On the removal of the cloth the following Toasts were given from the chair by the W. M., the Wardens assisting, viz: The Queen and the craft.

The Earl of Zetland and the Grand Lodge of England.

Sir A. N. McNab and the Hon. William Badgley, the Provincial Grand Masters of Canada West and East.

Our Guests Brother Gunn.

Masons Wives and Masons' Bairns.

Secrecy and silence, the beast that conceals, and the tongue that never reveals.

Volunteer Toasts.

The Junior Warden's Toasts.

The proceedings throughout were enlivened by the interposition of choice Masonic Songs and Speeches and the greatest possible harmony prevailed during the evening.

Before the party broke up the following Address was presented to Brother Gunn by Brother Chamberlain, W. M.:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

We, the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethern of Union Lodge, No, 4-99, of Free Masons Napanee having heard of your intended departure from amongst us, cannot allow this occasion to pass without expressing our regret that circumstances necessitate the removal of yourself and family.

We feel gratefully for the efficient services you have rendered us during a period of two years in which you have held the most prominent office in our power to confer upon you. Your conduct while in the Chair, and the kind manner in which you have at all times performed the duties of your office as master, render your departure a source of the deepest regret.

We trust that when you shall have removed to another portion of this Province, success may attend all your efforts and in taking our leave we beg you to present to your estimable wife and family our sincere regards and warmest wishes for their future prosperity and happiness.

On behalf of Union Lodge, we are, Dear Sir and Brother, yours respectfully.

[Signed]

JOHN CHAMBERLAIN, W·M.
ASAHEL B· McCAY S·W.
B. C. DAVY, J. W.
CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN, SEC'Y.

To Worshipful Brother Wm. Gunn, Past Master Union Lodge, No. 4-99, Free Masons, Napanee. Napanee, Sept. 27, 1852.

To which Brother Gunn replied as follows:

Worshipful Master, Bros. Senior and Junior Wardens, and Brethern;

I feel highly gratified at the reception of this unexpected token of your kindness and good will. While it afford me much pleasure to learn that my masonic conduct during my residence amongst you has been such as to merit your approbation, I am deeply sensible of having, in many respects fallen far short of the standard of Masonic duty.

The important office of Master of a Free Mason's Lodge, I have ever considered as one of vast moral and religious responsibility. The duties appertaining thereto, are neither few nor unimportant, and I candidly confess, that, with a consciousness of the existence on my part of the very best intentions, I never felt myself thoroughly competent to the proper discharge of the onerous duties devolving upon the occupant of the Chair. The most efficient Master however, can effect but little without the co-operation and support of the officers and members of his lodge. These I happily enjoyed; and I flatter myself that by joint efforts we have accomplished something for the benefits of Masonry.—I hope that our labor may not have been altogether in vain.

Communication with the Brethern of Union Lodge, No 6-499, has to me been a source of much pleasure, not unbeneficial, with some degree of profit:—Wherever my lot for the future may be I shall ever look back with fond delight upon that portion of my life passed amongst you.

I merely thank you for the honor you have conferred in inviting me to meet you on this occasion; for the interest you evince in my future prospects and, on behalf of my wife and family for the sentiments of regard and solicitude which you express in reference to their well fare.

Now dear Brethern, in taking leave I permit me to impress anew upon you the sense of the weighty obligation which one and all of us are laid under to be worthy of our high vocation and its vows. While "Free Masonry," is well observed, "as a science includes all other sciences, it more directly teaches us a knowledge of our duties we owe to God and to our fellow men. As a distinguished Brother, in the Western Hemisphere, has said, "the diffusion of knowledge, as a means of promoting universal happiness, is specifully solicits a share with the progressive spirit of the times in which we live." Geo. Hill, Detroit; Kelly, Stanley; T. Bickle & Co., Lymans, Bro. & Co., Toronto; Lawrence and Co., No. 40, Courtland Street, New York.

[May 27, 1852. v5-n19

THE NEW PREMIER.

The London *Daily News*, representing strongly progressive opinions, holds the following language towards the new British Premier.

"Lord Aberdeen's past life,—though not at all an inactive one,—is also remarkable for so complete an abstinence from interference in all domestic questions, except three, and those now settled, as the predominant feeling as to what he will do in power is curiosity, not unleavened by anxiety.—Two and twenty years ago he was resolutely, if not violently, opposed to the Reform Bill; yet now there is some reason to hope that he is favorable to the extension of the suffrage. Lord Aberdeen is not, therefore, a statesman on whom all experience is thrown away. He has shown that he can follow in the wake of more powerful minds than his own. But now the question is, has such resources of power within himself as to lead and direct a policy of progress? Departmental experience has drawbacks of its own,—and a mind and a life devoted to diplomacy,—a hitherto exclusive consideration of a nation's internal affairs,—and the easy and uncontrolled direction of the Foreign office, can hardly promote that universality of knowledge of our inner life and wants, on whom alone a Prime Minister can found either his fame or too Public welfare. Nevertheless, Lord Aberdeen has shown no more than one recent occasion that he is not deficient in large and liberal views on some important subjects; and has exhibited a great reliance on his own sense of what is right and true.

"In Lord Aberdeen—for the first time since the Revolution of 1688—we shall have a Premier who is not a member of the Church of England. Junius's Duke of Grafton was, indeed, a Socinian in religious opinions. Unlike him, however, Lord Aberdeen is at least orthodox; for he has always continued to belong to the church of his forefathers and of his country, the Presbyterian Kirk of Scotland. In the midst of its late troubles, he stepped in to compose, on historical data, differences that were really irreconcileable. But his bill, which (in spite of the opposition from the law lords) became a national establishment which constitute one of the memoriabilia of our age. During the discussions of the measure, Lord Aberdeen, however, it is pleasant to recollect, expressed many opinions which now encouraged a hope that when a larger sphere of duty is open to him he will not be indifferent to the cause of ecclesiastical reform. And both then, and subsequently on the ecclesiastical Titles' Bill, he manifested a freedom from those mischevious Church opinions with which some nearly connected with him are deeply infected.

In dealing thus freely with Lord Aberdeen's character, it would be injustice to deny that the statesman under whom it is understood, Lord John Russell, after having himself occupied a foremost Cabinet position, is willing to serve, and whom Sir James Graham, the Duke of Newcastle, and Mr. Sydney Herbert agree to recognise as their leader,—is probably a person of greater capacity and power than has yet been apparent. It can hardly be supposed that the colleagues whose aid he has sought have joined him, expecting that over the Cabinet he names, Lord Aberdeen will not be a real chief. And this it is which renders just now a general estimate of his Lordship's antecedents and probabilities so interesting and important.

Liberals must, then, have their fears and apprehensions,—for of their party the Earl of Aberdeen has certainly not been in times past. The transition state in which, however, his lorship has of late been, is not, on the other hand, unsuggestive of hope and expectation. And in this state of suspense and doubt the best policy Liberals can adopt is 'to stand by their guns,' and be satisfied with nothing short of substantial progress—thankful, however, for that, whensoever it may come.

POLICY OF THE ABERDEEN MINISTRY.

The following address from Lord John Russell to his constituents, on assuming office, throws some light on the future policy of the Administration:—

"*To the Electors of the City of London:*

"GENTLEMEN,—Having contributed by my vote to the overthrow of the administration of Lord Derby, I have considered it my duty to assist, when called upon by my Sovereign, in the formation of a new Ministry. I have felt it incumbent upon me, in order to give to the country the full advantages of a liberal policy, to sink those personal pretensions which my position might have entitled me to form. I have consequently accepted office under the Earl of Aberdeen, upon whose upright character and enlightened views I place the greatest reliance. My seat is therefore vacant.

"I have little of novelty to add to the declarations I addressed to you on the 22nd of May, previously to the late general election. I then said that I could have no hesitation in accepting the challenge—to decide finally, completely, and conclusively the contest between Protection and Free Trade. That contest has been settled finally and conclusively in favor of Free Trade. I then said, and I now repeat, that the following account of the policy of the last ten years [illegible] pursuing universal happiness [illegible] mitigated, but a good [illegible] Chas. Cary, on the premises.

Ashfield, March, 25th, 1853. v5-n9-6w

[illegible] tous policy; which ought to be reversed, altered, or modified, but a just and beneficial system, which should be supported, strengthened, and upheld. I adverted at the same time to the legal difficulties and expenses which clogged the transfer of lands, the complicated machinery of the Custom's Department, and the remaining burdens and restrictions on the shipping interest.

"Now, as then, I am prepared to attempt the removal of these impediments to the increase of our prosperity.

"Now, as then, I am prepared to attempt the relief of that portion of our fellow-subjects who are still excluded by their religious belief from political privileges. I entertain a sanguine hope of success in that endeavour.

"I then stated that the progress of the working class in knowledge and intelligence ought to be accompanied by an increased share of political power, while I was well aware how difficult a task it is to adjust, in any plan of representation, the respect due to ancient prescription with the claims of advancing trade, increased population, and growing intelligence.

"To this task the Ministry of the Earl of Aberdeen will anxiously apply themselves. A matter of so much importance requires from the Government the most deliberate consideration before any measures are submitted to Parliament.

"By joining the administration of Lord Aberdeen, I believe I shall best promote the cause to which my political life has been devoted—that of rational and enlightened progress. It is to progress that all our efforts will be directed.

"I look to the extension of education, of civil and religious liberty, of commercial freedom, and of political rights, as the true means of preserving those institutions under which we have enjoyed so much happiness.

"I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your grateful and obedient servant,
J. RUSSELL.

"Chesham-Place, Dec., 27, 1852."

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF ADVANCED LIBERAL OPINION.

There is this at least of good in the Aberdeen Russell Ministry—that it marks an advance in importance and influence of the class of politicians called by some "independent Liberals," and by others "educated Radicals." As early, it is true, as the Lichfield House compact, the way, to office was opened to some of this class.—But under Lord Melbourne they were only admitted to subordinate offices. The consequence was that having no vice in the deliberation of the Cabinet, all that these Radical officials gained was the privilege of being dragged through the dirt by their superiors. (now Sir Henry) Ward, Mr. Hawes, and others did not leaven the Whig Cabinet with the leaven of advanced Liberalism; they merely contracted the tone of their new associates, and were spoiled as Liberals. Sir William Molesworth escapes the influences which have lowered Sir H. Ward and Mr. Hawes to the level of mere commonplace hacks in office, he is a nucleus round which the advancing Liberals holding inferior appointments can rally; in his person the claims of advancing Liberalism to employment in the service of the state are finally recognised. But little reflection is required to show the importance of this movement.—Whigs as well as Conservatives take their principles and rules of action in a great measure from tradition merely. The advanced Liberals of whom Sir William Molesworth is a sample, are more in the habit of testing the value of measures by reason and the standard of utility. A Cabinet Minister avowedly of this school of politics is a novelty. But one having been introduced more must follow. Sir William has only been admitted from a conviction that his professed principles are favoured by a pretty numerous section of the politically powerful class—that regard must henceforth be paid to them in determining the course of national policy. The accession of Sir William Molesworth to the Cabinet marks the growing ascendancy of systematic reasoning political opinions in preference to mere party or family traditions. The section of advanced or independent Liberals will be more strengthened by this event than at first sight appears.—Their principles are in reality entertained by many who fear to confess them, lest they should be looked down upon as mere theorists. But now that a professer of rationalistic politics is admitted into Cabinet Councils such fears may be surrendered. Many secret adherents of advanced Liberalism will now begin to make a merit of strutting and boasting of their opinions in the light of day. The sect will become a party and its principles will exercise a most beneficially influence over the whole course of public affairs. We are not so sanguine as to expect that this will lead immediately to the realization of certain reforms or ameliorations upon the necessity of which "educated Radicals" are agreed. The verbiage of traditional Whiggery may still for a while be successfully used to deter Parliament for adopting many sound principles of action or from modifying our administrative institutions by the practical application of the great principle of utility. But from this time forth men will pay more and more deference to strict reason, and less and less to mere tradition and sentiment in political arguments. The abstract principles of the "educated Radicals" thus accepted their practical conclusions will follow in the course of time as a matter of course.

For this advance of rational political principles we are indebted mainly—we might say solely—to their inherent palpable truth and utility. They have gained upon the minds of men by their own apparent excellence. The conduct of their professors has assuredly done little to promote them for a more contentious, quarrelsome unfriendly, set among themselves have rarely engaged in politics. They appear to have agreed in little save to disagree.—Each has been anxious to throw out imputation on the sincerity of his fellow to make charges of unsoundness of opinion,' to prove that he did not understand their Common principles in the right way and consequently had better not have pretended to uphold them. Unreasing, bigotted party spirit is no doubt mischevious and contemptible. It is a two edged weapon that hacks down what is good as easily as what is bad. But there is something worse still than this that captious, fault-finding uncoming spirit by which men adapted to abstract thinking are too apt to be characterised.—If the presence of a number of advanced Liberals in the new Ministry one of them in the Cabinet should only have the effect of accustoming those who think with them to keep their spleen in check and make some occasional sacrifice of their self esteem, in order to afford countenance and support to the representation of their opinions in the national council; in other words to act within reasonable limits as a party the gain to themselves and the country will be great. The concession [illegible] public opinion—by the admission of one of their number to the Cabinet really ought to set them a thinking how well they may make most of this advantage. By mutual concessions and steady zealous co-operation, they may do much to accustom men to rational views in all departments of politics. It is thus that the triumph of Free Trade is to be consolidated Electoral Reform, Law Reform, Financial Reform, all reforms promoted; and reasonable *practical* views of peace policy done justice to.—What they have to do is in the first place ungrudgingly, to allow it securing a fair trial for the composite cabinet. But in the second place to beware of making any compromise or sacrifice of principle for this purpose.—They may advance for a time more slowly to allow others who are disposed to come by with them; but they must continue to assert their position in the van of public opinion. It is quite as much their mission to tell useful truths as to embody them in legislative measures.

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA.

HALIFAX, January 21, 1853.

The Cunard steamship *Europa* arrived at her wharf at 7 o'clock this morning.—She left Liverpool on the 8th, and brings one week's later news 36 through passengers, and four Halifax. The *Niagara* arrived out on the 3rd, and the *Arctic* on the 5th, at half past nine A. M. News important. Cotton unchanged, except for Mobile, ¼d. down. Speculators have ceased to operate, and the total sales of the week foot up 50,000 balcs. The activity in the breadstuff market, which has characterized the advices from Liverpool for some time past, has ceased, and prices have a declining tendency. The *Hermann* put back to Cowes, considerably damaged.

QUEBEC, 21st January.

There was an explosion last night in Sword's Hotel, but no person seriously injured. The cook, it is said, had her arms burst; and the door leading out of the east end of the building into the street was blown out.

NEW YORK, 21st January, 1853.

The steamship *Andes* is coming up the bay. She left Liverpool on December 20, and put into Queenstown, and was their on the 31st; we do not therefore know whether she brings anything later than the *Arabia*.

The three California steamers yesterday took no less than about two thousand passengers.

Hon. W. A. Graham of South Carolina, delivered a very interesting speech before a very crowded audience at the Metropolitan Hall, last night, under the auspices of the New York Historical Society—subject, the British invasion of North Carolina.

The parties concerned in the Art Union of New York were arrested yesterday, on a charge of fraud on the public.

BLANKS.

MORTGAGES with and without Dower. Also, Deeds with and without Dower, and Division Court Blanks—for sale at this Office.

January 27th, 1853,

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 1853.

GODERICH HARBOR.

Until the last day or two our harbor has been very open and free from ice, in fact as late as last Saturday a Regatta or boat race took place, the frail craft leaving the harbor and venturing a considerable distance out on the lake. The weather now appears to be assuming a more blusterous character, but the season is considerably advanced, and we question much, whether upon the whole, there is any port upon the lakes, which would present better opportunities for winter navigation than Goderich. In connection with the Railroad, we have no doubt steam vessels of substantial construction might be navigated for nine, and sometimes for ten months in the year, and as there is a clear coast and deep water outside of the harbor, there is much less danger of accident than at many other ports which ignorance and prejudice have viewed more favorably. Whatever envy may suggest in other quarters, we look forward with pleasant anticipations to the profits which the Town and Counties generally will reap from the immense and almost uninterrupted carrying trade secured to us by our Maritime position, the advantages of which will begin to be developed by the railrord now in course of construction.

BUFFALO AND GODERICH RAILROAD.

In order in some degree to satisfy the enquiries of our friends relative to the Railway. We can inform them that every preparation is being made to finish the entire work with the least possible delay.—We some time ago stated that the iron for the lower end of the road had been purchased in England, the money for the payment of the same being lodged there, this iron will arrive at the opening of the navigation, and in a few months a part of the road will be in working order. The people of Huron have so often been disappointed in railway projects that many of them appear to imagine the "certainty" of the accomplishment of the present undertaking too great for belief, but such doubts are excessively weak and unfounded, for the present work is in the hands of parties interested in its construction, and as soon as the season becomes favorable more ostensible demonstrations of progress will be manifest along the line. Appropriate to this subject we insert the following, taken from the Paris *Star*:—

"A meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company was held at Dunnville last week, at which a large amount of important business was transacted. Authority was given to the Chief Engineer to order four locomotives of the best description [illegible] Comstock on the Wrapper of each article. Remember this, as [illegible] company. Orders were also given that the permanent survey from Brantford to Paris should be completed forthwith, and Mr. Wallace, the Chief Engineer, will be here this week, to carry this into effect. Tenders for the construction of a Bridge over the Grand River, at this place, are also to be advertised for at once. Altogether, this company seem determined to push the works along as fast as possible, as they are anxious to have the road in operation before the close of the present year."

COUNTIES COUNCIL.

The Counties Council met at the Court Room, at the County Gaol, Goderich on Monday, January 24th, 1853, pursuant to Statute 12 Vic. cap. 81.

William Chalk, Esq., Warden, in the chair. The following gentlemen presented certificates from their respective Town Clerks, of having been elected Town-reeves, and having taken the necessary oaths as such:—Robert Davidson, Esq., Ashfield; John Aitkinson, Esq., Biddulph; Wm. Young, Esq., Colborne; Wm. Wallace, Esq., Town of Goderich; John Holmes, Esq., Goderich Township; Jonas Gibbings, Esq., Hullett and Morris; Wm Fraser, Esq., Kincardine; Francis Walker, Esq., Deputy Reeve, Kincardine; Patrick Flanagan, Esq., Town Reeve, McGillivray; Robert Hays, Esq., McKillop and Grey; Andrew Walker, Esq., Stephen; Ninian M Woods, Esq., Stanley; Wm Chalk, Esq., Tuckersmith; Thomas Lamb, Esq., Usborne and Chas Girvin, Esq., Wawanosh.

A committee was appointed to examine into the documents submitted by the several Town Reeves, and to report upon the same, consisting of Messrs. Hays, Lamb, Holmes, Wallace and Gibbings.

It was moved by Mr Holmes, and seconded by Mr Lamb, That William Chalk, Esq., be Warden for the current year—carried. It was moved by Mr Fraser, seconded by Mr Gibbings, That the Council do adjourn to the British Exchange Hotel, to meet at nine o'clock, to-morrow morning. Moved in amendment by Mr Wallace, and seconded by Mr Hays, That the Council do adjourn till nine o'clock to-morrow morning, to meet at the Huron Hotel. There voted for the amendment 11—motion 3, so the amendment was carried. On Tuesday the Council again met. Moses Johnson, Esq., presented his certificate as Town Reeve for Hay. The Warden presented his oath of office as such, which was ordered to be filed. The report of the committee appointed to examine the certificaties of the several Town Reeves was then brought forward, upon the consideration of which all were allowed to take their seat with the exception of Francis Walker, Esq., Deputy Reeve, in whose case the terms of the Act had not been fully complied with.

A large number of communications and accounts were submitted to the Council, and among other motions the following were presented:—Moved Mr Wallace, seconded by Mr Lamb, That the Warden be instructed to Petition the Governor and Council to issue a proclamation authorizing the Counties Council to separate the Townships of Greenock and Brant from the Township of Kincardine, and make such other alterations as he may see fit for the convenience, and more effectual carrying out of the provisions of the Municipal Corporation Act in the County of Bruce, one of the United Counties of Huron and Bruce—carried.

Moved by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Girvin, That the subject of building a Court House, laid over from last meeting be brought before the Finance Committee—carried. The following gentlemen were appointed to form a Finance Committee, Messrs. Girvin, Wallace, Flanagan, Hays and Holmes, and Messrs. Woods and Fraser were afterwards added.

The Road and Bridge Committee was appointed to consist of Messrs. Young, Wallace, Flanagan, Hays and Fraser. The Committee selected to take into consideration the erection of a Court House, and County Offices, comprised Messrs. Hays, Fraser, and Holmes. The Committees were still sitting late last evening, so that we are not able this week to present to our readers the ultimate action taken by the Council upon the many important questions submitted.

TOWN COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Town Council was held on Saturday the 22nd inst. Present his worship the Mayor, and Councillors White, Horton, Henley, Story, Smith, O'Connor and Wallace.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The Mayor then stated to the meeting that he had had a verbal communication with Mr. Strachan, who agreed to become the legal adviser of the Council upon all points excepting as regards the Canada Company, whose paid Solicitor he still is, for £10 per annum.

A letter was then read from Mr. Strachan, advising as to the course the Town Council should pursue in appointing Councillors for St. Andrew's Ward. By which it appeared that as no return had been made of Councillors for that Ward, the Town Council should follow the directions set forth in the Act 12th Vict. cap. 81, Sec. 165, namely, to appoint the Councillors for St. Andrew's Ward.—Upon motion of Mr. White, seconded by Mr. O'Connor, it was resolved, That the verbal agreement between the Mayor and Mr. Strachan, having reference to his engagement as legal adviser for the present