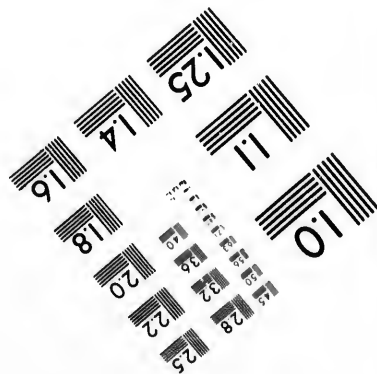
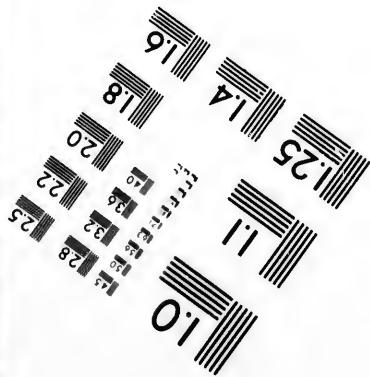
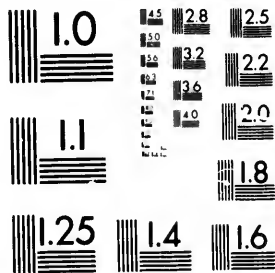


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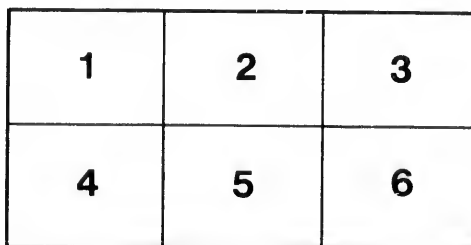
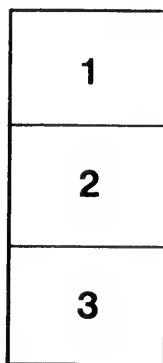
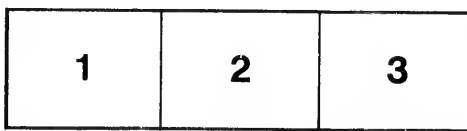
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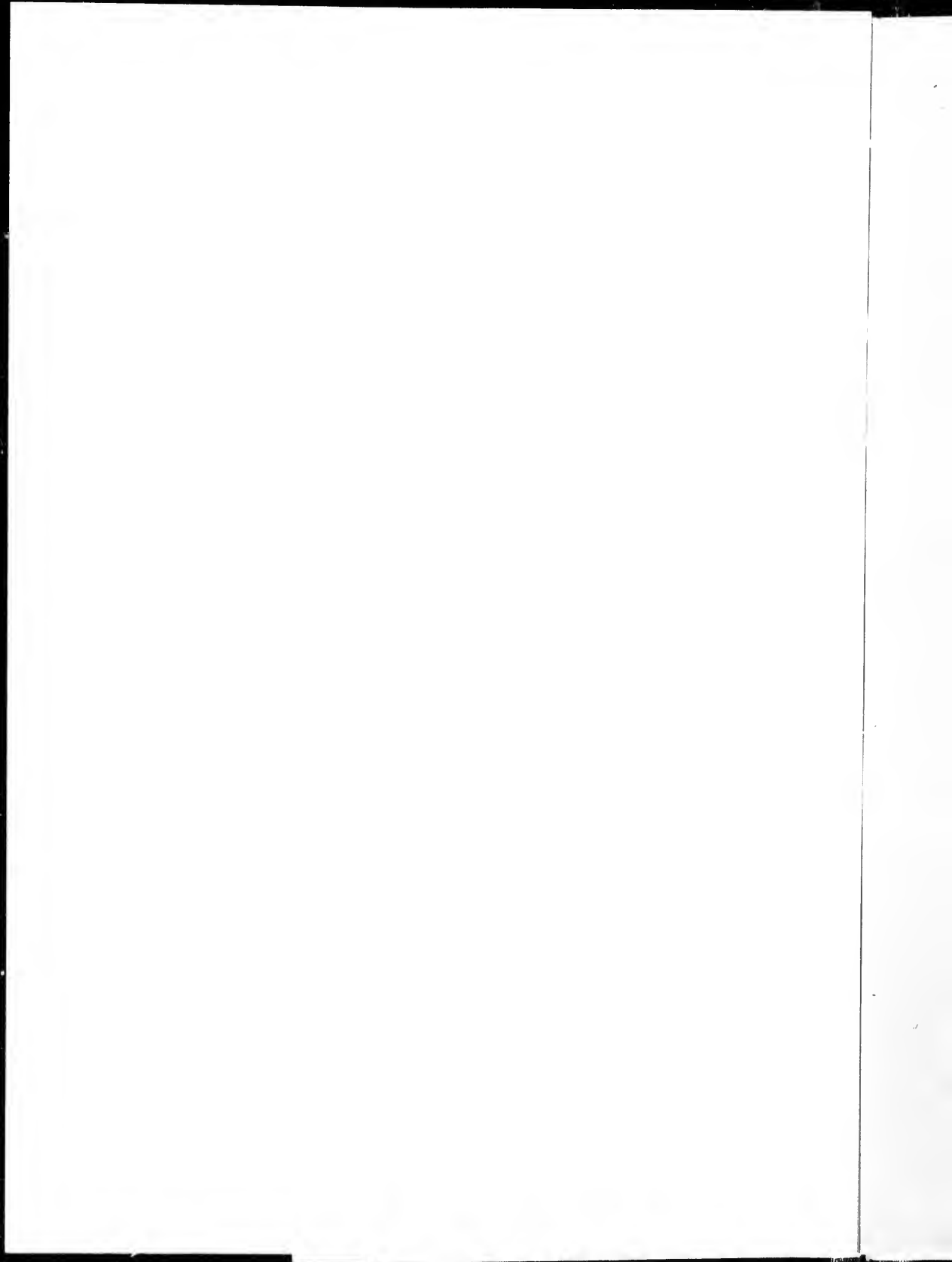
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BANQUET

TO

THE HON. F. N. BLAKE,

AMERICAN CONSUL.



ROYAL HOTEL, HAMILTON,

1st AUGUST, 1873.

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Banquet to the Honorable F. N. Blake,

AT

THE ROYAL HOTEL, HAMILTON, AUGUST 1ST, 1873.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, B. E. CHARLTON, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

1st VICE-CHAIRMAN, HON. ISAAC BUCHANAN.

2nd VICE-CHAIRMAN, COL. WM. MCGIVERIN.

PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF TRADE, ADAM BROWN, ESQ.

COMMITTEE ON BANQUET.—B. E. Charlton, Mayor; D. B. Chisholm, M. P.; J. M. Williams, M. P. P.; Adam Brown, President Board of Trade; Col. Wm. McGiverin, James Turner, John Brown, Alex. McInnes, W. T. Munday, John I. McKenzie, W. E. Sanford and R. M. Wanzer. William McCulloch, Secretary.

[From the *Hamilton Spectator*, August 2nd, 1873.]

Last evening a grand farwell banquet took place at the Royal Hotel, in honor of the Hon. F. N. Blake, United States Consul, who after holding the position of the representative of the United States in this city for several years past, leaves that responsible position, after making for himself a host of friends on both sides of the line. The entertainment was a spontaneous affair, and the esteem in which the honorable gentleman is held by the people of Hamilton was fully exemplified last night by the presence of two hundred of our principal merchants, members of the City Council and Board of Trade. The chair was ably filled by His Worship B. E. Charlton, the Mayor of the city, who had upon his right the Hon. F. N. Blake, the guest of the evening; D. B. Chisholm, M. P.; W. Thurston, Secretary of the Buffalo Board of Trade; Ald. J. I. Mackenzie. On his left Col. H. R. Myers, the newly appointed U. S. Consul Robt. Hadfield, and Adam Brown, President of the Hamilton Board of Trade, and J. Winer, ex-alderman.

The vice-chair was filled by the Hon. Isaac Buchanan, who had on his left Mr. S. E. Gregory, Consul for Norway and Sweden. Mr. A. B. Orr, British Vice-Consul, Buffalo; J. R. Drake, of the *Commercial Advertiser*, Buffalo. The second vice-chair was ably filled by Col. McGiverin, President of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway, and had upon his left Mr. Geo. J. Bryan, proprietor and publisher of the *Buffalo Evening Post*, and M. D. Woodford, Asst. Gen'l Supt. G. W. R.

The banquet was held in the large dining room of the Royal Hotel, and we must give the "Royal" credit for supplying a most *recherche* table. The room was decorated with British and American flags, as well as the flag of the Consul of Norway and Sweden. Music was profusely supplied by the fine band of the 13th Battalion.

Behind the vice chair was conspicuously displayed a large motto: "Commerce and Trade." We would mention that in front of the chairman was Messrs. W. McCulloch, Secretary of the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Railway, Mr. Munday, the agent in this city of the American Express Company, and William Wallace, Esq., Superintendent of the H. & L. E. Railway.

After grace had been said, the Company sat down to a repast prepared after the usual style of the "Royal," at the conclusion of which the secretary, Mr. Wm. McCulloch, read the following letters of apology from gentlemen unable to be present.

FROM HON. ANSON S. MILLER, CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, July 28th, 1873.

Adam Brown, Esq., Chairman Banquet Committee, Hamilton, Canada.

DEAR SIR: Your kind invitation to the banquet intended for the Hon. F. N. Blake, the retiring United States Consul, on the evening of the 1st of August, prox, has just reached me, and I hasten to make you my respectful acknowledgments, and to express my regret that pressing engagements forbid me the pleasure of attending in your beautiful and enterprising city of Hamilton. Your proposed honor to Mr. Blake is very gratifying to his many western friends, for although born, bred, educated, and admitted to the Bar, in revered New England, he belongs to the great West, where he came at an early

day and settled, commencing business in this city. Subsequently he removed from Illinois to Kansas, then a territory, and took an active and efficient part among the people, and in the first legislature, to advance and consummate the Free State movement, which after a terrific struggle was crowned with a triumphant success; after which he was called to a position in the Navy Department at Washington, where he discharged his duties with marked fidelity and ability, and was appointed Consul for Fort Erie by our lamented Lincoln. Over four years ago President Grant appointed Mr. B. Consul at your city, where his course has been highly satisfactory to his own Government, and I suppose to your people. His legal and commercial knowledge, courteous and gentlemanly deportment, sound judgment, and un-

swerving integrity qualify him eminently for the position of Consul. His return among us will be greeted with a hearty welcome.

Had our kindred peoples been represented respectively by officials as genial, pacific and honorable as our friend, all matters of difference would probably have been settled peacefully through the arbitration of international justice, that higher law which is the outgrowth of Christian civilization. By a happy coincidence your banquet is on the evening of England's great and glorious emancipation day. Hoping that the occasion may be one of happiness to all concerned,

I am very respectfully,
Your obd't serv't,
ANSON S. MILLER.

FROM COL. T. E. ELLSWORTH, COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS, SUSPENSION BRIDGE.
SUSPENSION BRIDGE, NEW YORK.
July 28, 1873.

Adam Brown, Chairman of Committee, Hamilton.
Sir: I thank yourself and the committee for the invitation to the banquet to be given to the Hon. F. N. Blake, at Hamilton, on the evening of the first proximo, and sincerely regret that an engagement from which I cannot be relieved, will compel me to forego the pleasure of being present thereat.

My relations with Mr. Blake, both official and private, have engendered an esteem for his qualities such that I would not permit any ordinary matter to prevent my uniting in person with his friends at Hamilton on the occasion of this their testimonial in his honor. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,
Your obedt. servt.,
T. E. ELLSWORTH.

FROM CAPT. DORN, BUFFALO

BUFFALO, July 25th, 1873.
Adam Brown, Esq., Chairman Banquet Committee, Hamilton.

My DEAR Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge with many thanks the kind and hearty invitation this moment received from you to attend the banquet to be given by good friend Mr. Blake, American Consul at your city on the occasion of his retiring from the position. Nothing would have given the writer more pleasure than to be present at that time. Unfortunately on the 31st of July I have to leave Buffalo to carry out a long-standing appointment. Allow me to say to you, gentlemen, that you honor every American citizen in honoring Mr. Blake. The peaceful bonds of commerce and amity which cultivate between nations and peoples are far more potent and lasting than the treaty made from the effect of the cannon's mouth and the diction of the sword. Again thanking you personally for the honor you confer upon me by the invitation and for my countryman,

I am, dear Sir, for you and associates,
very respectfully your obliged
and obedient servant,
E. P. DORN.

FROM COL. A. D. SHAW, U. S. CONSUL, TORONTO
CHAUMONT, N. Y., July 28th, 1873.

Adam Brown, Esq., Hamilton, Ontario.

DEAR Sir: Your kind letter of 21st inst. inviting me to attend a Banquet to Hon. F. N. Blake, the retiring U. S. Consul, at Hamilton, on the 1st August, has been forwarded to me here, where I am stopping with my family, on leave of absence.

I regret exceedingly that I shall not be able to be present on that occasion, for it is always very gratifying to unite in doing honor to public officials who have well earned the respect and commendation of the community in which they live.

Mr. Blake was an active participant in the stirring events of early border life in turbulent Kansas, when contending factions struggled to make her "free" or "slave," and his manly work, in connection with that of the Immortal Lovejoy and others, resulted in the adoption of a State Constitution, broad in its freedom, wise in its freedom, and one in every way worthy of the good and brave men who secured it to the State.

His official connections, in later years, are well known to you, and the proposed action of the citizens of Hamilton will be, I am confident, a source of great gratification to one who has always endeavored, in the faithful discharge of his duties, to cultivate the most friendly relations between the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

I am, sir, very respectfully yours,
ALBERT D. SHAW,
U. S. CONSUL, Toronto.

Hamilton, 1st August, 1873.

ADAM BROWN, ESQ., Hamilton,
Chairman Committee.

My DEAR Sir,—It is with very great regret that I most unexpectedly find myself unable to be present at the dinner to be given to Mr. Blake by his friends in Hamilton this evening, on his departure from Canada.

We all know that official duties can be performed in two very different ways—one by doing all that can be demanded, the other by a zealous co-operation and interest in the welfare of those having duties of an official nature to perform, and our friend Mr. Blake

has always been one of the latter. I am sure he will be very much missed in Hamilton, where he has endeared himself to so many of our citizens.

So far as the Great Western Railway Company is concerned, we shall very much regret to lose his kind co-operation and assistance, which will, I fear, be seriously felt not only by our Company, but by the Hamilton merchants generally.

Wishing him every happiness wherever he may be in the future,

I am,
Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH PRICE.

Hamilton, August 1st, 1873.

My DEAR Sir,—I regret very much that I am prevented by indisposition to be present at the Banquet in honor of the Hon. F. N. Blake, U. S. Consul, on the eve of his departure to perform these duties elsewhere. Mr. Blake has succeeded in commanding the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact during his stay in Hamilton, and I join with you all in wishing him every happiness and prosperity in the future.

Believe me, sincerely yours,
A. McINNIS.

A. BROWN, ESQ.

Hamilton, 1st August, 1873.

Mr. Mayor,—I very much regret that I cannot be present this evening at the Banquet in honor of Mr. Freeman N. Blake, ex-United States Consul at this port. If I had been able to be present, I should have been glad to testify to the high esteem in which Mr. Blake is held by all the officers of this railroad with whom he has had business relations. All are very sorry he is going; his polite and prompt mode of conducting the business of his consulate having greatly facilitated the shipping interests of the railway.

Wishing him all success and prosperity in whatever position he may hereafter be called upon to occupy,

I am, yours very truly,
JOSEPH TAYLOR.

THE TOASTS BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman then rose to propose the toast. He said he was about to give the time-honored toast which, in every land beneath the old Union Jack, stands first on the orders of the day on all happy gatherings like the present, and he was proud to say that in no part of the widely extended British Empire was that toast which marked the inherent loyalty of our nation more enthusiastically received than in our Dominion. The spotless purity of life and conduct of our noble Queen needed no feeble eulogy from him; indeed it would be as foolish in him to attempt such an eulogy as to talk of something whiter than the sun, or purer than crystal. Gentlemen, "The Queen"—God bless her.

Band: "God save the Queen."

The next toast was: "The President of the United States." The chairman said he had the honor of asking them to join him in a toast to do honor to the head of that nation, which is our nearest neighbor; that nation speaking the same language and governed by similar laws with our own, which both nature and circumstances had combined to make England's most suitably in the world's enlightenment and progress: that nation with which we wished to enjoy the most intimate relationship, both of a neighborly and commercial character. We were willing to barter and trade with them to their heart's content, to give them our goods for theirs, our daughters for their sons or *vice versa*, to swap almost anything we had but our flag. This was the first opportunity he had had of publicly recognizing Col. Myers, the newly appointed American Consul at this port. He bid him a hearty welcome to Hamilton, and hoped he would find himself very comfortable and entirely at home.

Band: "Star Spangled Banner."

The toast was replied to by Col. H. Ray Myers, now U. S. Consul here. When rising to respond, the Col. was most lustily cheered. His reply is condensed as follows.

He said: Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for your kind and friendly expressions and generous allusions to the President of my country, and I assure you that no man in the United States or in England is more desirous of maintaining the intimate friendly relations existing at present between the two countries than President Grant, (hear, hear,) and while he is a *great soldier*, yet no man more

than he appreciates the blessing of peace, and I feel satisfied that there is no man in your country or in mine, who will do more than he to maintain it. (Great cheering.)

He thanked the gentlemen for the heartiness with which the toast had been honored, as well as for the kindness with which he had been received. He referred to the pleasant relations now existing between the nation which he represented and that to which he had just been accredited a representative, relations which he trusted would be continued through a long succession of years. He felt proud of being accredited to such a nation, and rejoiced exceedingly that the scene of his official labors was to be among the people of Hamilton, in whose praise he had heard so much. He assured those present that his coming to take the place of his respected predecessor, did not indicate a change of policy on the part of the United States towards this country. There was no idea of changing that policy. Whatever of fairness and amonity had been received at the hands of Mr. Blake, would be awarded by himself; and he trusted his career among this people would be such, that whatever kindness they had extended to the gentleman he succeeded, would be merited by and awarded to him also. He could assure this large and intelligent company gathered here to do honor to his predecessor by this magnificent banquet, that the people of the United States appreciated the kind manner in which the Canadians received and treated their representatives. He praised the Canadians, and spoke of the lasting amity that should exist between them and the Americans. The Colonel resumed his seat amid rapturous applause, having created a very favorable impression.

The chairman then gave in succession the toasts.

"The Prince of Wales and the Royal Family."

"The Governor-General and Lieut.-Governor of Ontario."

"The Army and Navy and Canadian Volunteers."

Col. Sprout, responded in a very eloquent speech to the last toast.

The next was the toast of the evening.

The *Chairman*, in introducing the toast, said he now had to remind them of the occasion which had brought them together. The honorable *guest* on his right, after a four years residence in your city, and another four years in this vicinity, was about closing his official career and taking his departure from amongst us. On such an occasion, what more fitting than that his attached friends and the leading men of the city, whose business had brought them in contact with him in the past, should assemble as they had done to-night, and in that splendid banquet bear testimony to their attachment and to the faithful, courteous, attentive and capable manner in which he has discharged the important duties of his office. (cheers) During the period mentioned several important pages had been added to the history of our country. Our Dominion had had its birth and been cabled to England, the Reciprocity Treaty under which we had prospered, had been abrogated, but we prospered still. We would be glad to see it renewed, but not at the sacrifice of our national dignity or honor. The Fenians had been repulsed, and that invasion had placed the hon. gentleman in a most delicate position, but he thought they would bear him out in saying that he had so acquitted himself in that affair as at least to give neither his own government or ours any cause of complaint. But that page of our history to which he wished to draw more particular attention, was that which related to the opening up of a very important trade between our city and the new Province of Manitoba. Mr. Blake had been the medium for passing our goods through the United States to the red River country, and he questioned very much if that trade would have attained anything like its present very considerable proportions if an incapable or disobliging official had held the position of United States Consul at this port; uniformly attentive, both to our merchants and to the wants of the public and other strangers, he has still found time to furnish his government with ample statistics of our exports and imports, and much information valuable for reference. But he had endeared himself more particularly to our citizens by identifying himself in a quiet way with every local movement, whether of an educational, benevolent or commercial character, that would tend to the progress and well-being of the people; at the same time he has observed a becoming dignity that has reflected honor on the Government that selected him as its representative. (Cheers.)

Mr. Blake's summer sky in Canada had not, however, been without its clouds. We had been called upon to sympathize with him in his family bereavements, and he was leaving behind him in a neighboring cemetery touching mementos of his sojourn here.

He earnestly trusted that wherever he went he might soon find a rapidly widening circle of warm friends such as those who now bid him a hearty God speed. (Loud applause.)

He begged to present an address which expressed the feelings of the hon. gentleman's Hamilton friends far better than any remarks which he might make.

ADDRESS.

"To Hon. F. N. Blake, U. S. Consul:

"Sir:—The banquet to which you have been invited to-night expresses to some extent the esteem in which you are held by the citizens of Hamilton, but we feel it due to the sentiments which have caused this gathering to give them expression in an address which may serve as a memento of the occasion. Four years you have held the position of U. S. Consul at this port, and, while in you your country has had a faithful representative, you have also been to the business community of this city a courteous and attentive officer, doing everything in your power to ensure celerity and accuracy in the discharge of duties which required no ordinary tact and ability to give satisfaction to all. We commend very highly, on the one hand, the prudence with which you have kept aloof from all questions in which your actions would be likely to be misunderstood by our people, and on the other hand, the hearty sympathy which you have manifested in every movement for the general good; in all such movements you have been, not alone the representative of another country, but one of our own fellow citizens as well, co-operating as heartily and cordially with us as if this had been your permanent home. To promote friendly relations

between the people of your country and of ours is a work which commends itself to all good citizens of either country, and we are glad to be able to bear testimony to your praiseworthy conduct in this respect. We believe it is but the uncolored truth to say that all who have had the pleasure of your acquaintance here have received a more favorable impression of the people of the United States than they had before. We beg you to accept our assurance that wherever your new field of labor may be allotted, you will be followed in it by the heartfelt esteem of the people of this city, and we shall hear of your prosperity with the pleasure which friendly feelings kindle. With hearty good will we offer you our earnest hopes for the health, comfort and happiness of yourself and family. May you and they be long spared to lives of usefulness and honor, and may we, your friends in Hamilton, obtain a place among your pleasant recollections. On behalf of your Hamilton friends.

B. E. CHARLTON, Mayor.

The toast was honored with prolonged cheers, the band playing "Ho's a jolly good fellow."

MR. BLAKE'S REPLY.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—

It has been said, the lack of power of expression deprives the world of many a noble sentiment. Be this as it may, many of us know full well it is often impossible to find language to express the emotions that possess and control us; yet, believe me, gentlemen, however meagre my words may seem to night, my heart is eloquent. A generous friendship makes the whole world kin.

Allow me to return my most hearty thanks for the cordial good will manifested towards me during my residence in Hamilton, arising more, perhaps, from the kindness of your hearts than from any real merit I may possess. And I would thank you more particularly, gentlemen, for this present expression of your esteem. That I consider myself honored, and that I shall look back to this occasion as one of the bright pages in my life, you may be assured. As we grow in years we are apt to look backward for the sun-lit spots, and enjoy in retrospect what younger people do in anticipation.

Eight years ago last March, President Lincoln sent me to Canada to represent a nation which his wisdom and sagacity had freed from the stigma of human slavery, and upon the fourteenth of the next month he sealed the emancipation of the black man with his blood. In the language of your Poet Laureate—

"He knew the seasons, when to take
Occasion by the hand, and make
The bounds of freedom wider yet,
By shaping some august decree,
Which kept his throne unshaken still,
Broad-based upon his people's will.

Then came the administration of President Johnson, during which transpired the Fenian Raid, and for a few days Canada was the scene of the only warlike demonstration on this continent, and I believe at that time, in the world. But those exciting scenes belong to the past and I see no reason to-day why peace as well as prosperity should not abide within your borders.

To be sure, I have heard it intimated in some quarters that you would like to annex Maine, my native State, and New Hampshire to the Dominion; but upon reflection I think you must conclude you have quite enough territory of your own, and to improve and utilize this would be more practical and practicable than to cast longing eyes upon your neighbor's lands; for even if we do not love our neighbors sufficiently to give them our inheritance, we can at least come near enough to the Bible rule to leave them in peaceable possession of their own.

A little over four years ago I removed to the Consulate at Hamilton, receiving a new commission from President Grant, our former General, whose policy "to fight it out on this line," conquered the Rebellion and made an end of the civil strife.

This foreign shore of Ontario washed by a chain of glorious lakes and rivers, I have found a goodly land to dwell in, and although the nationality of these same lakes and rivers may be somewhat mixed, they have proved an equal blessing to the countries they separate, and in fact the United States and Canada have many blessings in common.

The freedom of opinion which has done so much for the political and religious liberty of the United States has not been confined to that portion of the American Continent. The same freedom prevails throughout Canada to-day. The same industry and enterprise have secured to you prosperity and happy homes, and in other countries genius, science and energy are soaring above the high places of birth and pageantry.

Even the Japanese are awakening to a sense of the value of this progressive element and have not only employed foreign teachers to initiate the rising generation into the good old English tongue, but have chosen an American to revise their statutes, and have constituted him Court Lawyer. I am glad to find that the city of Hamilton is also proffering aid, in the way of useful inventions, to their Japanese brethren, one of your enterprising manufacturers having this week sent to Japan the useful, invincible and omnipresent sewing machine.

A missionary work doubtless, but one which our disinterested friend devoutly prays may prove remunerative.

The various agricultural implements, machines for simplifying and economizing labor, the wonderful stretches of Railroad intersecting the country at every point, the numerous manufactures springing up wherever we gaze, point out for your country and for mine, triumphs greater by far than those of war, for the former develop the means of supporting our population, while the latter ministers to its destruction.

The progress of manufactures in Hamilton during my term of office has been most marvellous, showing your encouragement of home industries, which, together with home products are a security in time of peace and a support in war.

Men of fine talent and great energy are at the head of these industries. The status and dignity of labor is secured, the mechanic finds no barrier to his progress, the skilled artisan may not despair of reaching the highest round in the ladder of success.

Your railway extensions have attracted great attention. Projects for the development of your rich country conceived by the wisdom and foresight of your leading merchants, have been carried, in some directions to completion, while others of importance are in sure progress, giving to this city the influence of a commercial centre at the head of Lake Ontario. The projection and completion of the railway connecting this Port with Southampton on Lake Huron, is an enterprise of the greatest value to the commerce of this city and to all the fertile region traversed by it.

That branch of it now nearly finished, starting from Palmerston and approaching the Lake in the direction of Kincardine, is the capstone of the monument of this good work for your people. The practical carrying out of this enterprise, and the providing of ways and means, has been accomplished by two well known gentlemen, Col. McGivern and Adam Brown, who contributed largely to this end, not only by convincing argument, but by the happy faculty of saying a pleasant word at the right time, and I consider the man who can do this naturally and opportunely, a public benefactor.

A little commendation upon an occasion where, for instance, a *bonus* is in question, does not come amiss; it does no harm and frequently accomplishes great good.

One likes to have his own estimation of himself confirmed upon another's lips, and if it were not for the occasional good word of a friend, one might almost fall into the bad habit of doubting his own merit. My friends, give a kind word when you can, not confining yourselves to railway campaigns, and accept a word of praise when you may, for you have earned and richly merit the public approval you receive.

In the North looms up "Hog Bay," of euphonious name; but *what is in a name*. Doubtless our good friends particularly interested in the road in that direction would appreciate its advantages under *any name*.

This road, as I understand, proposes to make connection with Montreal, through the New Pacific Road, and will perform a neighborly office for our Toronto friends, providing a means of transit for the produce of their surrounding country to the port of Hamilton. I do not hear that they are grateful, *some people never are*; my sincere wish is that success may attend the undertaking as well as the gentlemen interested in it.

You have also bound Brantford to your commerce, with ties as strong as the iron rails over which its products and that of the surrounding country are borne to your port.

But I think the Lake Erie Road is a standing monument of your great patience and perseverance.

This road, forty miles in extent, was I believe commenced some twenty years ago, and you will know from the fact of invitations having been sent out (by the contractor) at two several times for its formal opening, that it is very near completion; and although a *well seasoned road*, is somewhat erratic, and seems opposed to formal openings. Yet I hope our successful friend of Great Western reputation, now in charge, will bear us in remembrance as heretofore, when the opening trip is really made to that distant shore.

The opening up of the surrounding country by these various roads brings additional business to the Consulate. The value of invoices verified at this port for the last four years is ten millions, ninety-three thousand, nine hundred and thirteen dollars, indicating a healthy state of the increasing wealth and productiveness of the country.

It is also interesting to myself, as it might be to you, to trace the rise and progress of the commerce on the great lakes. In 1679, one hundred and ninety-four years ago, De LaSalle, a French Jesuit, with the consent of the Indians then in possession of this vast country, built, at Schlosser, the nearest port above Niagara Falls, the first vessel that ever sailed upon the upper lakes, named "The Griffin."

From 1764 to 1789, only eighty-four years ago, we are informed there were but six small vessels upon all these waters, and to-day their surface is whitened by over two thousand sail, employing more than twenty thousand men. By the means of your efficient canals these great inland seas, with their connecting rivers, are united with the ocean, and I am sanguine enough to believe that before long we shall see the great couriers of the ocean come surging up Lake Ontario and Burlington Bay, and delivering their precious cargoes at this port without the necessity of breaking bulk as at present.

These lakes and rivers constitute an inland navigation equal in extent to twenty thousand miles, and in area to the twenty-fifth part of the Atlantic Ocean.

This water communication is capable of being extended two thousand miles farther, by the course of the Red River, Lake Winnipeg, and the Saskatchewan, to the base of the Rocky Mountains.

To Mr. E.H. Walker, former commercial editor of the *Buffalo Advertiser*, I am indebted for some of these figures, and his reports on the commerce of the country are deeply interesting and instructive. The territory which these waters traverse contains five hundred thousand square miles, and is capable of sustaining a population of thirty millions, and the recent discovery of precious metals will insure its early settlement, the completion of these continuous water communications, and the construction of the Great Pacific Railway across the continent.

I have often experienced a sense of gratification and pleasure as I have noticed the growth of your country the last few years. Nor do I love and value my own country less than I appreciate and esteem yours, for I am not sure that the man who can see no good in any other land will be the most loyal to his own. I am not sure that in time of peril his arm would be the strongest or his heart bravest. Prejudice, envy and ill feeling are not the motive powers that always nerve the arm or lead to success. The love of country is a strong sentiment in every human breast.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
This is my own, my native land.

Gentlemen, this sentiment is not original, but it is *expressive*. If any of you would like to realise the unavailing anguish of spirit endured by a poor unfortunate, to whom the privilege of nationality was denied, I would cite you to a small volume published several years ago, and entitled "*The Man without a Country*."

Gentlemen, the *honors* of his position would make your blood run cold. I pity the man who cannot say of his country

"With all thy faults, I love thee still,"

for nations, like individuals, have their shortcomings. Perhaps some of you may demur to this doctrine, perchance having in your minds eye some of the fabulously perfect people that exist in every community; if so, I can only reply: "From all blindness of heart, from pride, vain-glory and hypocrisy, Good Lord, deliver us," or, in the words of the eminent Brooklyn preacher, "Deliver me from a person who never does wrong, and knows it! Deliver me from a man whose tongue never made a mistake, and who keeps a note of the fact! If there is any one thing more provoking to a sinner—and we are all sinners—than another, it is one of these consciously perfect folk." But, my friends, if we are not quite infallible, and do not consider others so, we can at least be charitable; in the words of the martyred Lincoln, "*with malice towards none, with charity to all.*"

And now having trespasssed on your good nature so long, permit me to offer the following toast, and I do so with the greatest pleasure, as I feel that it conveys my heartfelt wishes, it is

"*The Corporation of the city of Hamilton, and prosperity to the city.*"

The Mayor called upon Alderman Mills and Mackenzie to respond. They did so.

The chairman then said that he transferred to the Vice-Chairman the charge of the banquet for the remainder of the evening.

TOASTS BY THE VICE CHAIRMAN.

Hon. Isaac Buchanan, Vice-Chairman, in his happiest manner introduced the first toast on his programme:

"May the good feeling between the United States and Great Britain be perpetuated and extended."

Little had been left for him (Mr. Buchanan) to say of the honored guest of the evening, who however well knew that there was no one present who entered more into his gratified feelings on the occasion, (applause.) That the good feeling between the United States and Canada should be perpetuated is the universal sentiment in this assembly, and is very nearly so also throughout the United States and Canada among the two people; and he trusted and believed that the day has gone by when any government in America would be so insane as to set up a government interest contrary to the interest and wishes of its people. He as confidently as fondly believed that both people are determined to act upon their mutual experience and to insist that the question how to secure the largest and best paid employment for their own producers, (how to find markets in a word) must hereafter be the first question in American politics (applause). Parties may take different views of how to attain this most patriotic end; but no party should be tolerated, and no man listened to on the hustings, who does not recognize the employment of our own people to be the first question in our national politics (applause). It was for this control over their local legislation the battles of the the American Revolution were fought, and it was to secure this that we in Canada struggled for, and achieved, responsible or parliamentary government in Canada. It was for realities of legislation not forms of government that our countries in their different ways struggled, our populations even yet, after a hundred years existence, having no time to give to the comparatively useless discussion of forms of government; satisfied as we are that a God-fearing Republic will be more blessed than a godless monarchy, and *vice versa*. In a word the desideratum is statesmen as well as people who act under the feeling of God's perpetual presence, and who believe in it, as a great truth that

"Except the Lord build the house,

"They labor in vain who build it;

"Except the Lord keep the city,

"The Watchmen watch in vain."

(much applause.)

It is thus clear that the practical object of both people is the same; and though we in Canada believe that patriotism in legislation can be carried out here under a monarchial form of government (if once we are free from European public opinion) as well as under a Republic, and that we in Canada have the additional advantage (as we suppose it) of a fixed or continuous executive, we of course know and readily admit that the reforms in public opinion in England, from which have flowed the legislative freedom yielded to Canada, would never have occurred but for the warning of the American Revolution, (applause). We do not believe that by their Revolution the Americans secured any higher personal liberty, but we see and rejoice that by the setting free of their legislation from aristocratic influence and foreign class interests in the mother country, the United States have been allowed to expand their country as no country ever was expanded before, a glorious example which Canada hopes to be allowed to imitate more and more. (cheers.) England has appeared to have been the darling child, and right hand of Providence, all her blunders turning into blessings! and America seems now to take up this role. (laughter.) The United States from their great prosperity had before the war never thought at all on that greatest of all subjects "money," but by the necessities of the war they have had forced on them all that the highest intelligence could have dictated, and in their magnificent national currency have now a heritage such as no people ever had on earth before, and which makes America the great exemplar and sheet anchor of human liberty, the freeing of the blacks being nothing in comparison with the setting free of labor while as well as black from the cruel tyranny of capital which the issue of legal tender paper money has gone so far to accomplish for the United States. (much applause.)

No conspiracy against humanity was ever so machivallian, or so fatal, as the aristocratic class interest, and hard money conspiracy against mankind in England has been. England had paper money forced on her at the end of last century by the necessities of the continental war, and through it she triumphed not only in her wars but in the far greater achievement of securing the prosperity and happiness of her own domestic industry, or in other words of the great mass of her people. It was seen that the question of labor and the question of money are one question, the solution of the one being the solution of the other—plentiful and therefore cheap money being a convertible term for plentiful and well paid employment—but the people in those days had no Legislative power to

guard this great blessing even if they had the intelligence, which we may fairly infer they had not seeing that even in the present day, after the working classes have got votes, they seem humbugged into the idea that the possession of the power to reform is reform, and they do not exercise the power given them by their votes to do away with class-legislation, the opposition to which cost hundreds of their fathers their lives on the scaffold and at the block, ten years before the Reform Bill passed; and the operation of which class-legislation has caused and still causes the degradation and misery of the proletarians it has created, and of the better class who have been ruined by its hard money and contraction of the currency. (Applause.)

So in the helplessness legislatively of the democracy of England, the power of the money market was omnipotent in Parliament. It did not suit the money lenders to have the article they dealt in (money) plentiful or cheap. What was life to all others was death to them. They were like the fabled animal in the desert that lived on the cast wild which was death to all other animals. (laughter.) So they got appointed in the House of Commons in 1816, what was called the *Bullion Committee*, with the object of forcing a return to specie payments, not having the decency even to wait till the Continent was securely pacified. And so had was their cause that for five years they failed in producing any report likely to carry in Parliament, and would have continued to fail, had not the Ministry (Lord Castlereagh being the instrument) bought off the aristocracy or landed interest. The Ministry admitted that the object in returning to specie payments was to put down prices, and restrict the circulation, and offered by special legislation, (by the Corn Bill in fact) to secure the landed interest against reduction of price, showing them also that they would have a great advantage in having everything else made cheap by the contraction of the currency. The fact that the price of money was by their usury law fixed at 5 per cent, was used also as an argument for gold being fixed in price! I do not object to the repeal of the usury law or of the Corn Bill, which its base inception justified, even if there had not been necessity for this from the land of England being so limited a quantity; but I say that in common justice to our own industry the fixed price of gold should have been repealed at the same time that England opened her ports to foreigners. The gold England would require did not exist in England nor in the world, the world's annual production of gold in 1846 being only six million pounds sterling, and the result was that in 1847 there was the most heart rend-

ing distress, the result of England's one-sided Free Trade, and things looked more threatening in England than in France, though the Revolution occurred in the latter country; England being providentially saved by the discoveries of gold in California and Australia. (Applause.)

What should have been done in England, at the Free Trade Era in 1846, is what should still be done, viz:— to make Bank of England notes a legal tender to the extent she now holds gold, compelling her never to hold less gold than at present, and to go on increasing it as the wants of the country require this. In all this history and explanation, my object has been to expose the root of bitterness which has been such a curse to England and all connected with her, and all who have copied her monetary legislation, feeling it the greatest kindness we can do to the United States to warn them against a return to specie payments, which we believe would cause such a contraction of their currency as would result in wide spread distress, such as the world has never yet witnessed. My long experience has taught me that more than nine tenths of our evils have a legislative cause, and, therefore, may have a legislative cure, and that nothing can be more fabulous than the often quoted lines of the poet:

"How small of all that human hearts endure,
"The part that human laws can cause or cure."
(Great applause.)

The toast was duly honored, and the band playing "Canada, Fair Canada."

Mr. Bryan of the Buffalo Post responded to the toast.

He expressed the very great satisfaction which he experienced in having been honored with an invitation to attend the banquet which was given as a mark of the respect entertained by the prominent business men and the citizens of Hamilton generally toward the Hon. F. N. Blake, who had so ably, modestly, and unflinchingly discharged the delicate and important duties pertaining to the position of United States Consul. An additional cause for gratification on the part of the speaker consisted in the fact that he was an English-American citizen, proud alike of the noble land of his adoption and of the land whose flag had braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze. Mr. Bryan then proceeded to pay an eloquent tribute to the grand historic greatness and power of Great Britain and her illustrious achievements on behalf of civilization, progress and constitutional liberty. He expressed the opinion that an overwhelming majority of the people of the United States cordially, earnestly and heartily desired to cultivate and perpetuate to all coming time those relations of peace and those sentiments of mutual respect and esteem which now so fortunately exist between the two great English speaking races of the world. The Geneva Treaty was the great event of the nineteenth century. It meant "peace on earth and good will toward men." Finally, Mr. B. proposed as a sentiment, "May the Cross of St. George and the glorious Stars and Stripes ever float in calm and harmony, and may each nation emulate the other in advancing and perpetuating the priceless blessings of constitutional freedom."

The toast was enthusiastically received.

The next toast, given by the Vice-Chairman, was

"The Senate and the House of Commons of Canada, and the Legislative Assembly of Ontario."

Mr. Buchanan would only recommend the honorable members the cherishing the

sentiment of the last toast as among their highest duties as legislators, for Canada has no other precedent from whose experience to gather wisdom than the adjoining Republic a country in the same circumstances as herself; and it were the greatest practical disloyalty to legislate so that Canadians will have anything to envy in looking across the frontier. (applause) According to this rule Canada must have the advantage of paper-legal-tender at the first moment, and this will soon render her independent of England in building her Pacific Railway, and enlarging her canal system to admit of sending vessels to reach the head of Lake Superior. In this respect Canada will set an example to the world, being able to commence with her paper money, where the system of the United States it is to be hoped will end, free from the two causes of depreciation, over-issue, and possible insecurity, every Greenback being secured by the precious metals, a consummation which a few years will make very easy for the United States. The Dominion paper of Canada can easily be secured, ever penny by Gold or Silver, by simply disposing of the debentures which are now security for eighty per cent of it. We have ten millions of Dominion notes, and at present only two millions of gold against them, the rest of the security for them being eight millions of Dominion Debentures which are really no additional security at all. (laughter.)

Canada must repudiate the principle introduced by Sir A. T. Galt of raising revenue for the government from the circulation of Dominion notes, this being a bad feature which renders his plan only a fair weather measure, formed as it is of specie paying paper of which he has to remove from circulation (in order to keep up the proportion of gold held, viz, twenty per cent.) five times the amount of notes which may be drawn by gold, which there might be a difficulty in doing in bad times. What Canada, as well as England, wants is a paper legal tender secured every penny by gold. We want a paper money in which gold may appreciate to its value as a foreign exchange, (for which alone gold is wanted,) which it will do in paper secured entirely by gold and therefore free from either of the two causes of depreciation—insecurity and over issue. Practically this paper money will not really be in circulation but in the banks vaults to suit the purpose for which gold is now wanted. We would thus come back to a circulation of bank notes entirely of which our experience in Canada has been so favorable. (Applause.) To humanity, as well as to the United States and ourselves, and to England too, we can render no service so incalculably great as in this way to co-operate in preventing the return to specie payments; and in discarding the monstrous error of the legal tender which is a synonyme of confidence being an exportable commodity; and in establishing the great patriotic principle that money should be a thing of or belonging to a country, not of or belonging to the world—should be the hand-maid of home trade and home transactions alone, and not of the foreign only as at present. (Applause.)

The Hon. G. Alexander, of Woodstock, acknowledged the toast on the part of the Senate, and Mr. D. B. Chisholm, M. P., for the Commons.

The Hon. Mr. Alexander, after some lengthened remarks respecting the position the public affairs of the Dominion, observed, that as a member of the Senate, he had very great pleasure in coming here to day, to unite with them in doing honor

to a gentleman, who during the period, that he had occupied the position here of Consul of the neighbouring Republic, had discharged the duties of that mission with great ability and judgment. Mr. Blake had also in the discharge of his duties been distinguished for the graceful courtesies of life, which ever commanded esteem, and which have endeared him to all who have known him. The diplomatic and consular service is one in which those courtesies are duly cultivated. Might we hope, to see a little more of these amenities in our political conflicts—or at all events a little more charity and mercy in the judgment pronounced upon all officials here.

The omission of Canada had produced public opinion of which any country might feel proud, men whom the late Lord Palmerston, and Mr. Gladstone have declared to be Statesmen of no mean ability. But, Mr. Mayor, we came here to-night, not only to do honor to Mr. Blake, but to express how sincerely we rejoice with the citizens of the United States, that all causes of misunderstanding between the two countries have been entirely removed, and that the most cordial and amicable feelings now exist between the Great Republic and ourselves (hear.) If the enterprise displayed by our neighbors in developing this magnificent continent, has astonished the old world, we ought surely to rejoice in their success. They are like ourselves, descendants of the Great Anglo Saxon Race, whose mission it is to carry civilization and Christianity to the most remote regions of the earth. We are both of a kindred race, with community of language and traditions. They are the elder born and have entered upon their national existence a century before us, and naturally their population and volume of their commerce is immeasurably beyond ours. But Mr. Blake, will tell his fellow citizens when he returns amongst them, that although only in the morning of life the people of this Dominion are now displaying a fine enterprise. We have already the Great Western Railway, a road second to none upon this continent, as regarding all its appointments, and many others such as the Wellington Grey and Bruce, are being constructed to develop our valuable territory. But I trust that Mr. Blake will not fail to tell them also, that although this country has prospered more, since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, than it ever did before, that still we shall always be prepared to term the most favorable consideration to any future treaty which will draw our commercial relations more closely together.

Mr. D. B. Chisholm, M. P., next responded by thanking them for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast. He said if the Hon. Mr. Alexander, a veteran in the Legislative Halls of Canada, felt a delicacy in speaking on this subject, how much greater must the feeling be with himself, who but a few months ago had been taken from among the people and elected to the high and responsible position of a member of the House of Commons of Canada. Mr. Alexander had paid the present House of Commons of Canada a very high compliment, but he was satisfied that the compliment was no greater than they deserved. He believed that the highest ambition of the present House was to be as nearly as possible like the Commons of England, an institution that had been in existence at least since the days of King John in 1215, and which had been improving ever since, so that as a deliberative assembly it stood unequalled, and challenged the admiration of the whole civilized world. (hear.) He thought he might be permitted to say, without causing any offence, that a large major-

ity of the present House of Commons of Canada were men who had the interest of Canada at heart; and while he did not wish to introduce party politics to disturb the delightful harmony of the present occasion he felt it to be his duty as a member of the House of Commons to say that while to some persons there seemed to be a cloud resting upon distinguished members of that House, he believed that this cloud would be dispelled and the characters of the men who had been assailed would be found to be beyond reproach, at all events, so far as any attempt would be made to convict them of being traitors to the best interests of their country.

The last parliament of Canada had the opportunity of ratifying the Washington Treaty, a treaty which he had strongly upheld from the first, and which was destined to do more for the best interests of Canada than any other act of modern times, (hear) It had been the privilege of the present House during last session to admit into the confederation Prince Edward's Island, and nothing more remained than to admit Newfoundland and this vast confederation which was destined to be of such great importance to this continent, would be complete. Once complete and formally consolidated, and the Canada Pacific Railway in operation, a bright and prosperous career would certainly be the destiny of this fair Dominion.

They had met together this evening to pay a parting tribute of respect to the guest of the evening, the American Consul, the Hon. F. N. Blake. He would fully endorse everything, and more, that had been said in Mr. Blake's favor this evening. It had been his pleasure to be intimately acquainted with Mr. Blake, especially during the years 1871 and 1872, when he (Mr. Clisholm) was Mayor of the city, and he must say that he never had met a gentleman from the United States or from any other country for whom he entertained a greater degree of respect. He had upon all occasions been courteous and gentlemanly, and while in every instance he jealously watched the interests of the country that he represented, he had both the tact and kindness of heart so necessary for a man in his position, that enabled him to maintain the dignity of his own position and be on the very best terms with the people of this country. (Cheers.)

He was sorry that Mr. Blake was going to leave Hamilton, not only on public grounds but he felt that in losing Mr. Blake he was parting with a warm personal friend whom he had learned to esteem and love. He was glad to see that in Colonel Myers, his successor, we had a gentleman who entertained the same kindly feelings towards the people of this country. He felt it to be a great pleasure and privilege to be present at this banquet; it was a great pleasure to meet so many gentlemen from our sister cities of Buffalo and Toronto, and to hear from their lips such kindly sentiments expressed towards the people of Canada, and he could assure those gentlemen that these sentiments were reciprocated in the highest degree by the people of this country; and he trusted the day was not far distant when the peace which now so happily existed between the two countries would be more firmly cemented by even closer commercial relations than now existed, and when in fact reciprocal trade between them would be revived never more to be abrogated, but firmly and lastingly perpetuated. He was in favor of lasting peace between the United States and Canada, and any Canadian who did ought to disturb that peace was not only an enemy to his country, but an enemy to the whole human race. (Cheers.)

"Our other distinguished guests" was then proposed, the names of the Secretary of the Buffalo Board of Trade, and Mr. Hadfield and the British Consul at Buffalo, and the Vice Consul of Norway and Sweden at Hamilton being coupled with it.

Mr. Threlton, Secretary, and Mr. Hadfield responded for the Buffalo Board of Trade, Mr. Orr, British Consul at Buffalo, and Mr. Gregory, Swedo-Norwegian Consul, also responded.

S. E. Gaskooy, for Norway and Sweden said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, being called upon to respond to the toast just proposed, and with which my name as vice-consul for Norway and Sweden was associated, I have great pleasure in returning thanks on this occasion to the name of the country I have the honor to represent. I sincerely echo the sentiments so eloquently expressed by the distinguished guest of the evening, the Hon. F. N. Blake, whom we all so heartily honor. "That friendship be perpetuated between this country and the United States." Let us also earnestly seek to perpetuate the friendship and good will of all nations. The large emigration now coming to these shores from many foreign countries, is the best evidence we could have of the deep interest Canada is attracting—and favored as it is at present with peace and great prosperity its people cannot too highly estimate the importance of securing the friendship and good will of all nations, and especially those nations from which Canada is now reaping the greatest benefit, either through commerce or emigration. This city, from its highly favorable position, can boast of being one of the most important points in America for the arrival and departure of emigrants from all parts of the world. My friend, Alderman Mills, in his remarks this evening, stated that not many years ago this city was but a village of 500 inhabitants. Little did the worthy Alderman dream at that time that within a few years it would contain a population of over 30,000 inhabitants and become a leading manufacturing and commercial city, and one of the most important points in America for emigrants. From a table very kindly furnished me by one of the most efficient officers in the service, Mr. Rae, Government emigrant agent for this port, I find that in the year 1874 45,955 emigrants from the old world arrived here via the St. Lawrence and the Suspension Bridge, of which 10,187 settled in different parts of western Canada, and the remainder passed on to the western states.

A few years ago commerce and emigration to Canada was almost exclusively with the mother country. But now the enterprising merchants of this city trade directly with the largest and best markets of the world, while her energetic manufacturers send forth their manufactured wares to many distant lands, and foreign nations have deemed it necessary to establish consulates for the protection of their people and international commerce.

These facts are all marked indications of the rapid progress of this Dominion, and point to a day not very far distant when a new nationality will exist on this continent, and while ever adhering to the free institutions of the mother country, will in language, religion, habits and customs harmonize with the neighboring great nation.

"The Railway Interests of the Continent" was the next toast given by the Vice-President. Col. McGivern, President of the W. G. & B Railway, responded.

Col. McGivern, in reply to the toast, said that it gave him great pleasure to find that he had been considered worthy to have his name associated with it. It was true that he had been connected with railways to some little extent, and he and his friend Adam Brown had been successively Presidents of a Company that had built about 170 miles of railway, and if they might believe their opponents the work only had cost \$30,000. (Laughter.) There were two kinds of financing in railways, one financing with a large deficit at your bankers and credit for more it needed. This was simple enough. But he claimed that the Wellington, Grey and Bruce Company understood thoroughly all the principles of financing, and the financing they had done on an empty treasury and without any particularly large amount of credit (laughter) He was greatly pleased to participate in the present gathering, and to assist in paying a deserved compliment to their guest, Mr. Blake. In their railway enterprises they had always had that gentleman's active sympathy, and if his position was such that they could not also have his active support, he, (the speaker) was sure that it was not his fault. The toast opened up a subject of such vast scope that it was impossible to grapple with it in an after dinner speech. The time was not very long ago either, when the railway interests of the continent would not have been a large subject to handle, nor was the period very remote when there was no such interest at all. Let them try to picture in fancy what the continent would be now without its railways. The rushing messengers which were born of the genius of George Stevenson, had now become so incorporated with our commercial and industrial system that it was impossible to conceive what it would be without them. The iron bands which now stretched from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the North to the South on this continent measured not less than 60,000 miles in length. He was proud to say that so far as the Canadian railway system was concerned the city of Hamilton occupied the position of a pioneer in its promotion. It was from this city the suggestion first came that municipalities should be allowed to take stock in railways; that is what gave the first impulse to railway construction in Canada. It was in this city, too, that the bonus system had its origin, and that was the power which led to the recent revival of railway progress. (Hear, hear.)

It is always allowable on occasions of this kind to depart from the text which one is called upon to speak to, and availing myself of this privilege I have great pleasure in saying that my past intercourse with Mr. Blake has been of the most pleasing character, and I believe in making that statement I express the feelings of the people of the whole of this section of Canada. (Hear, hear.) He has been amongst us some time and we have been enabled to form a very high estimate of his character. By his rectitude and the willingness he has at all times displayed to promote the commercial interests of Canada, while at the same time he endeavored to promote the interests of his own country, he has endeared himself to the citizens of Hamilton with whom he was immediately associated, and I am sure that every one here regrets that circumstances should have occurred to call him away—let us hope, to a sphere where he may find more scope for his abilities. We have found him to be a sincere American

gentleman, and although we may have differed in our political views, although we may prefer our own national flag that has braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze," at the same time we respect the Star Spangled Banner under which he has the honor to serve. His people and our people have the same feelings and the same sentiments, speaking the same language, and there is no reason why we should not go on forever in co-accord together. We have a country here extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, which for many years has been united by an iron band with the great country across the border. And while we have the spirit of enterprise in this country; while we have men in Canada who carry out great railway enterprises, and whose ambition it is to unite the two countries by the great modern civilizer, we can feel satisfied that there are public spirited men in the United States who desire to reciprocate with us in this common object. I feel proud to see the representatives of that great country here on this occasion. I speak as one of the business men of Hamilton and as a citizen of Canada, and I am proud that we are assembled here to welcome that gentleman, and I hope interchanges of courtesy will continue to be more and more frequent between the people of Canada and the people of the United States than they have been in the past.

The speaker then gave a sketch of the railway progress of Canada, and concluded a most eloquent speech amid loud and continued cheering.

Mr. Buchanan, Vice-president then proposed "the Agricultural, Manufacturing and Commercial interests."

He was delighted to see the proper order of the great interests now adopted, there being no doubt that agriculture is our chief interest, and manufacturing the second great interest, his own, or the mercantile class being only middle men however beneficent their influence might be on the country. In agriculture the productions of Canada are now superabundant. He remembered the infancy of the country when it was not so, and when that man was thought the patriot who made two blades of grass grow where one grew before. But now this is all changed, production can take care of itself in Canada, and he is the practical patriot who by patriotic legislation finds the best markets for the now redundant produce of Canada—creating a home market to add to the foreign one, by the creating and encouraging of home manufactures. (applause.) He (Mr. Buchanan) had long seen that to secure that Canada remain a *relaxing*, she must be given all the advantage of a *country*, and he explained the particular views he had long enforced on the public men of England and Canada by reference to the following extract of a letter addressed by him to the convention that met in Toronto, in November 1859, which was published at the time to put into the hand of every member of the convention, and to supply a copy to every member of both Houses, of both the Imperial and Canadian and Washington Legislatures.

To the United States, and more especially to the Western States, as making the St. Lawrence the great highway of America, free trade and navigation with Canada would give great development, would give, in a word, all the commercial advantages of annexation.

The natural policy of Canada is seen clearly therefore to be the establishment of AN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, such as exists among the German States. Under this the United States and Canada would neither of them levy any customs taxes on their interior frontiers, but only at the seaports from Labrador to Mexico—the same duties being levied and each country getting its share in the proportion of its population.

Let it be therefore resolved, that for an commercial system, the principle should be adopted by Canada of an American Zollverein, or, in other words, free trade with America, but not with Europe. And this Reciprocity Treaty can only eventually be secured and rendered permanent, by the British Government adopting the great principle of decentralizing the manufacturing power of the Empire—a principle which would aggrandize the British Empire and be an incalculable benefit to the working classes in England, Ireland and Scotland, as creating a great healthy demand for them as laborers abroad, in place of an artificial and precarious demand for their labour at home. To preserve the Empire, Britain has to yield the selfish principle of centralizing which has ruined Ireland and India, so far as such countries could be ruined, and cost us the old American colonies. The principle of decentralizing the manufactures of the Empire is a principle which would secure for the Empire an enormous additional trade and influence.—Through the instrumentality of some one or other of her dependencies (which might be called England in America—England in Australia—England in India, &c., &c.) she could secure Free Trade for all her dependencies (which might be called England in America—England in Australia—England in India, &c., &c.) with countries that could never agree to Free Trade direct with England, without giving a death blow to their comparatively comfortable populations which have plenty of food and clothing to pay the foreign labourer who comes among them, but which are not possessed of the *money* to send abroad for foreign labour in the shape of goods, even if this was not cutting the throat of their own manufactures; for instance England could never get Free Trade with the United States in manufactured goods, but if she cut the throat of the United States as she would by sending the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada, thus throwing down all the interior Custom Houses between Canada and the United States; which done, the Englishman, by carrying to Canada and manufacturing his goods at our endless water powers, will be able to save the percentage charged on the same goods going direct from England to the U. S. and bundles of mill-owners now in uneasy circumstances in England, would, under such an arrangement, immediately transfer to Canada their machinery and, in cutting the infinite benefit of the population it is removed, and to the aggrandisement of the Empire. And this is the main thing wanted by the Canadian farmer, *permanently*, as giving him a market on the spot for his roots and spring crops, thus rendering rotation of crops possible, while it would give him also that which is so valuable to him at the present (until he gets his rotation of crops established), the superior market for his barley and white wheat furnished in the United States by the Reciprocity Treaty.

He (Mr. Buchanan) hoped that the United States and Canada would meet each other in the spirit of the old lines:

- Who seeks a friend must come disposed
- To exhibit, in full bloom disclosed,
- The graces and the beauties
- That form the character he seeks,
- For it is an union that bespeaks
- A reciprocal duties."

The problem we want to prove is that the United States and Canada may become an industrial and commercial unit, without the alteration of our present political relations. (Applause.)

With reference (said Mr. Buchanan) to former remarks of mine to-night about the necessity of paper money for Canada, I am asked to explain wherein lies the advantage of the Issue of paper money if the Government is to hold gold to the *whole* amount. I answer there would be no advantage to the *Government*; but there would be incalculable advantage to the *people*, and especially to the *producers* of Canada. It is only by means of an emblematic legal tender—by which means the foreigner would get paid to the same value in some other commodity, including gold, at its value or market price in Canada—that our own producer can be put on a par with the foreigner who gets the Canadian market price for his importation, but has not to pay the Canadian price under the law of supply and demand for his gold or foreign Exchange; and except by allowing the law of supply and demand to affect the price of gold as well as other commodities there is no other way to get men of money to co-operate in discouraging over importations—seeing that the effect of these is to give them less gold for their money; And, more important still, the making out legal tender not an exportable commodity

does away with the foreign trade as a cause (and it is now the great cause) of ever recurring monetary distress and panic in the country. (Applause.)

George Roach, Esq., for many years President of the Hamilton and Wentworth Agricultural Societies, responded.—

Mr. Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Gentlemen.—It is with very great pleasure I rise to reply to a part of the toast proposed by our Hon. Vice-Chairman, and I am proud he estimates so highly the agricultural interests of this glorious Dominion by naming it first on the list. Farmers are not expected to be expert at making speeches; for this reason I did not expect to be called upon on this occasion. I shall not therefore occupy much of your time, more particularly as our worthy friend, Mr. Adam Brown, has told you that he did not wish to reply to a previous toast, he having been set down to reply to another more important, having reference to the great interests of Commerce, for which he is so happily qualified by his power to instruct in extended oratory. This is not the time or place to propose suggestions in regard to agriculture. This all commanding and honored industry is now in its full career; but whatever may be the wonders it has already excited, we have reason to believe greater triumphs are yet to come. All the forms of productive art are everywhere multiplying; new methods discovered, and new implements and machinery are invented; but let no one suppose we have reached the limit of advancement. Our Canadian farmers do not fall behind those of our neighbors on the other side of the line, as to intelligence and enterprise; and in their relation to agriculture and the improvement of stock, we claim they are far in advance of agriculturists in every portion of the new world. We can and do exhibit the finest display of horses and cattle, sheep and swine, of the various breeds, that are to be seen in America. We can not only *Importers*, but very large *Exporters*; and to our honored guest we are greatly indebted for the influence he exerted some short time since in securing the admission of breeding animals to the States free of duty (hear, hear), placing our stock on equal footing with stock imported from beyond the seas. For heretofore a duty of twenty per cent, was required to be paid on all stock that was exported from Canada for breeding purposes. I believe the clause in the statute exempted only such stock *as crossed over the seas*, so that on all purchases made here was assessed this duty. I speak from personal knowledge, for I happen to know the efforts he made to secure this boon to our farmers and to those of the states, and for this our honored guest is entitled to our heartfelt gratitude. While I have, in my intercourse on official business, found him exceedingly particular in his requirements, I have found him also obliging, and desirous on his part, that there should be the least delay and trouble in sending animals forward to their destination in the states. And before I sit down, permit me, on behalf of the Agriculturists, to thank him for his courtesy and attention to our more particular interests. I assure you it is a very great gratification to me to have this public opportunity, on an occasion where so many join in heartfelt respect to him, to acknowledge his good services and amenities on all occasions, which have tended greatly to advance the welfare of our own country as well as his own which he has so ably and faithfully represented in Canada for more than eight years. (Cheers.)

Mr. R.M. Wanzer replied ably for the manufacturing interests.

Mr. Adam Brown, President of the Hamilton Board of Trade replied for Commerce

Mr. ADAM BROWN said: I feel it to be a peculiar pleasure to unite with others in this city to pay a compliment to the honorable guest of the evening. Mr. Blake had for some years filled the position at this important point of Consul for the great nation across the border. He discharged his always delicate duties in a manner reflecting great credit to himself—by a dignified fidelity to his own country, and, at the same time in a courteous and pleasant manner to the people of Ontario. (Applause.) Gentlemen occupying the position from which he now retires are apt, by unreasonable people, to be regarded as obstructionists; but they should remember that international laws must be respected, and the man who discharges the duties required by the two countries impartially, truthfully and pleasantly, is one who deservedly commands respect. (Hear, hear) Mr. Blake has done this, and he has had the peculiar faculty—as a public officer representing the Republic adjoining us—of making everything smooth in the formalities which are necessary at all Consulates. As merchants having transactions with him, in any here can testify to what I have said, I should, however, perhaps have first thanked you for coupling my name with the commercial interests of the country; but I felt impelled to pay a tribute to our friend in passing. I can assure you I always feel it to be an honor to speak in response to this toast. The merchant, however, is to be no more respected than one belonging to any other calling, except in so far as he may deserve it. Still the British merchant is regarded the whole world over as a representative of integrity, enterprise and thorough work; (cheers) and what was true of the old stock is true of the new—both in Canada and the United States—for they and we, though war had once fired its horrid torch between us, were all shoots from the grand old tree. Neither of the branches had degenerated, they had no cause to be ashamed of the stock from whence they came. (Cheers.) I cannot say that, like England, our commerce was co-extensive with the globe, but it was fast becoming so. We have busy men among us whose energies seem bounded only because they cannot get further. To-day the goods of Ontario go to supply our new made Province of Manitoba, and, in return we can take all the furs they can send us. The products of the soil, the forest and the mine of Canada are increasing into immense volume, and go to almost every country; and while we may not, as does England, send its cotton productions to the East to pay for her importations. We see enterprise in other shapes striking out in that direction. I feel proud to say that the great Wanzel of Hamilton was shipping sewing machines to Japan, and his circulars in the Japanese language were already printed. (Cheers.) The commerce of Canada is in a most prosperous condition. The country is being rapidly opened up by railways, and men seem to buckle to with a will everywhere. Through railways commerce will extend and grow and push its way into all part of this vast continent. Everything that tends to bring men from distant parts together, encourages trade and industry. Swift locomotion through a country brings in its train a sort of liberal enlightenment. (Applause.) It seems to teach men, too, the value of the arts of peace. Railways are the pathways of peaceful commerce. In war, commerce does not flourish. There may be a spurt, but it is not genuine. Peace

is the great stimulant of commerce. (Hear, hear.) This was a fitting occasion to follow up the point. Allusion has been made to the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty; it was a good thing, but when it was annulled it taught our people self reliance; caused us to find new outlets for our productions and manufactures, still I shall hail the day with gladness when that treaty is renewed. (Cheers.) Let the two great nations abreast of each other forever march abreast in the great task of bettering the world. (Cheers.) Let that be the rivalry between them. Let them dot the seas with the white sails of their commerce. See what triumphs commerce has achieved. See how it has knit the earth together by the ties of common interest. (cheers.) Many a man has originated great ideas in relation to commerce, as a proof, the traffic of India and China, and yet he may not have lived to see the full fruit of his work; but still the good work goes on. My gallant friend Col. Spratt has told you that when ten thousand men were called for by the government to defend their hearths and homes, thirty thousand left their plough and responded—(cheers)—that would turn out if necessary—(cheers)—still, all should seek to cultivate the best and most friendly relations with our neighbors of the United States. Nothing is so cementing as commercial intercourse, as free as it can consistently be made. Already has the tide turned in favor of peace; once we thought it right to go to war to extend our domain, or resent some fancied or real insult, no matter what the suffering or what the slaughter, but men and nations are being better taught now. What a glorious thing to think of, that the two most enlightened nations of the earth have thought alike on the greatest subject that, I may say, has ever occupied their attention (cheers) in case of dispute, to appeal to the arbitration of common sense and calm discussion rather than the sword. (Loud Cheers) Nobly done! Right that two nations having a common origin, claiming the same history and enjoying the blessings of freedom of thought and action, should lead the way in this grand work. They have inherited the same laws as ourselves. Laws which have taken centuries to make, I may say almost perfect and which have been cemented with the best blood of a nation—(Cheers.) Proud are we of our beloved Queen for her action in the great movement. Her heart has often been wrung for her brave suffering soldiers. She will now be foremost among monarchs to inaugurate a new method of treating with national disputes, and blot out the horrid curse of war from the earth. (Cheers.) This grand effort to extinguish the horrors of war originated I believe in the United States Senate, I shiver with joy when I read the motion—may history honor the name of the noble man who conceived the thought—the idea is one to inspire the poet—(Cheers.) Let us hope that we are done with the age of war and are entering on a period of peace, in which commerce and every industry shall flourish; when, instead of ambition seeking new lands to conquer by the sword, commercial enterprise will pant for new fields of effort; when national jealousy shall cease—when there shall be no more conflict and no more carnage. (Cheers.) This meeting to-night is a fine chapter in the history of the two countries, and the time is coming when the fruit shall be seen. I do not desire to enter into politics, but I would

sacrifice anything, anything but national honor, to secure peace between us, and I know our friends across the border feel as we do. (Cheers.) We each glory in our country, he is no man who does not. (Cheers.) But I feel in my inmost soul that the task of civilizing and enlightening the world is to do the work of England and America. (Applause) The day is hastening fast when that action shall have the strongest bulwarks, which has the best educated and most enlightened people, progress and enlightenment is to-day the aim of the two great nations whose flags are so peacefully entwined in this room, all they are doing is to that end—the modern dragon of fire is the messenger of civilization man is permitted to control the elements to do his bidding, under seas and over lands, the lightning carries the message of the merchant, uniting as it were, the whole earth by an unseen power in mutual interest. (Cheers) the great Parliament of man whose constituency is the whole earth, has a noble mission before it in the interest of progress and peace.

I have trespassed too long on your patience, (no no, go on) and will conclude these hasty observations with a few lines by Mackay, which I know you will receive with cordial sympathy.

There's a good time coming, boys,
A good time coming;
We may not live to see the day,
But earth shall glisten in the ray
Of the good time coming.
Cannon-balls may a't the truth,
But thought's a weapon stronger;
We'll win our battle by its aid:
Wait a little longer.

There's a good time coming, boys,
A good time coming;
When war to all men's eyes shall be
A matter of equity
In the good time coming.
Nations shall not quarrel then,
To prove which is the stronger;
Nor slaughter men for glory's sake:
Wait a little longer.

(Loud and continued cheering).

Mr. William Thurston, Secretary of the Buffalo Board of Trade, in his reply to the toast "our guests from abroad," said, Mr. President, and Gentlemen, you have assembled here to do honor to the late Consul of the United States at this port, Mr. F. N. Blake, and it is really quite gratifying to me to be present and hear kind and cheering words that have been spoken in his favor. Mr. Blake, as our representative of a great nation, has been cordially received and warmly appreciated by you while acting in his official capacity. I hope that his new field of labor may be both profitable and pleasant; and that in years to come the episode of this evening's gathering and banquet will afford him cheering recollections. (Applause.)

I have to thank you most heartily for the expressions of good will and friendship that you have uttered by word and extended by hand to the citizens of the United States dwelling in Buffalo, and especially for the members of the Board of Trade—a body second to none in honorable dealings, actuated by sound commercial principles, and warm hearted and generous men. (Applause) I will not trespass upon your time to dilate upon the immense commerce of our beautiful city, its manufactures, its charities, its thousand and one attractions as a place of business or a haven of rest; but I cannot help remarking that in your city are the same evidences of industry, wealth and means of happiness—in fact are visible on every side. I celebrated the birth of your Dominion in this city and have watched the development of your nation and city's growth with great pleasure. May your nation's childhood grow into a noble manhood; may years never to

be finally numbered be yours among the enlightened God-fearing Christian nations of the earth, with commerce and industrial pursuits, the summit of human ambition in the hearts of all; and may war, with its attendant horrors be only spoken of as a cursed thing of the past, to be loathed and shunned.

It would be gratifying to me an hundred of republicans if our trade relations were made more intimate by a freer commercial intercourse obtained by the abolishing or modification of custom duties on both sides of the line—surely there should be statesmen found in either country to solve the problem, which divested of all narrow prejudices, is a very simple one.

May commerce, that great leveler of factions, annex the Dominion of Canada and the United States together—each country carrying out its allotted mission of political existence in its own way; and side by side, mutually encouraging and supporting each other, work out the problem of national life, viz: giving the greatest happiness to the greatest number of its citizens. (Applause.)

Deeming on an occasion like this that short speeches are better relished than lengthy ones, let me express my thanks for the hearty welcome extended to me and through me to the Board of Trade of Buffalo—and as I observe at the extreme left of the worthy chairman my friend Mr. Hadfield who is, like myself, a citizen of Buffalo, a gentleman well known to many of you, and one with whom you should be better acquainted, I am sure I cannot do a kinder act than to introduce him to you and ask him to continue my remarks, feeling well assured that you will be gainers by the introduction. (Applause.)

Mr. Robert Hadfield, of Buffalo, in reply to the same toast, said, I did not expect to say anything on the present occasion, still less to be brought before you as I now am; but have observed with deep gratification, the friendliness of the farewell testimonial you are rendering to our esteemed friend Mr. Blake, on his leaving the post he has so long and so happily occupied, of Consul of the United States at this port. (Applause.) Since his residence in Canada, there have been some trying times, and stormy scenes, and they afforded opportunities for one in his position to gain a base, spurious and temporary reputation, not unattended by a certain art of popularity, by pandering to the passion of evil-minded men, exciting ill-will between the two great nations, which above all others are best fitted for mutual esteem and friendship. (Applause.) From the intimacy with which I was honored by Mr. Blake, I knew at the time when, what to some men might have been temptations were offered, how instinctively he cast them aside and labored quietly, privately, and with the approbation of his own conscience, to promote amity between your country and that he so worthily represented. In your approbation to-night, he receives some portion of his reward.

Gentlemen, I trust the sun of good-will between us has arisen, and will never again be obscured. What I may say on this subject is of course, derived principally from my knowledge of the United States, the country of which I am a citizen, and you can, to some extent, judge of the depth and warmth of my feelings on this subject when

I tell you that while my child and grand-children were born in the great country near us, on the other side of the lakes, I and all these of my race who preceded me were, as far we can trace their origin, like most of those whom I see around me to-night, natives of that little island on the other side of the Atlantic, among whose many magnificent and marvellous achievements, the chief is that she has peopled this continent with men industrious and free. (Applause.) Of the ill-will which did exist in the United States towards Great Britain, and was chiefly the offspring of the revolutionary war, I need say no more than that it concentrated upon what are known as the Alabama depredations and claims. They were the head and front of the whole javelin of hatred; so deeply have I been for many years interested with this belief, that I felt compelled several years ago to call upon one whom I had long known, the late W. Colden, who was then confined to bed, suffering from exertions of the celebrated stand he had made at Buffalo, where he made his last public appearance out of parliament, and to him expressed my strong convictions as to the best means of promoting these international relations which we all know he had so deeply at heart. The treaty ultimately made at Geneva gave a practical form to the best wishes, thoughts and efforts of multitudes of the friends of the people of our race in both countries—whatever may be its merits or defects in each particular, it is not needful for us now and here to discuss. It is a more pleasant duty to tell you that ever since that time a very gratifying change has taken place in the sentiment expressed by the friends and public men of the United States towards the government of Great Britain. [Applause.] Doubtless the good fruit will be more and more abundant. It is when I think of the extensive and fertile territory and future population of those regions of this continent over which the shades of the two or three of the leading nations of Western Europe is now diffused, that I begin to appreciate the value of a good understanding between the old country and the new, especially to those whose homes are, as those of their descendants will be, in either of the two young nations on this side of the Atlantic. What will be the power of our race, which when its powers were confined to a minute territorial portion of the Old World led mankind, be when it has fully occupied this vast continent?

Reference has been appropriately made this evening to the commercial relations of the Dominion of Canada and the United States. No practical question in political economy can be more plain, than that unimpeded ingress, egress, and exchange of the products of industries between the people of the two countries would confer upon both advantages to those arising from the same free development of mutual interests which may exist between the different States of the Union, and on the other side of the frontier between the several provinces of the Dominion. Enlightened self-interest and mutual good-will point to the same conclusions. The high tariff of the United States may for the present postpone any reciprocal beneficial arrangement for these purposes, but I trust the time is not far distant when such a consummation may be attended, and the

strong bonds of mutual interests may yet more closely unite the people of these two young and progressive nations, and by the overrated prosperity which must arise from them, be not only profitable to all who are connected with either countries, but also furnish to the world at large one more proof of the advantages of unrestrained commercial intercourse. (Great cheer.)

A. B. Orr, British Vice-Consul at Buffalo, responded next to the toast, and said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I thank you for the hearty greeting bestowed upon me as one of your guests. I can assure you it affords me great pleasure to be present and take a part in this gathering, doing honor to Mr. Consul Blake, on his retirement. I have had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance for the past eight years, a portion of which time he was placed in rather a *critical international* position, and can bear testimony to the fairness and impartiality in which he discharged his duty, and to the urbanity that has always characterized him in his official capacity. I am sorry he is now about to leave you, trusting it is only to occupy a more advanced position in the service of his country. (Applause.)

At this late hour of the evening there is little left for me to say, especially after the eloquent remarks of previous speakers. It is gratifying to me to meet so many present representing the commercial interests of the Dominion on an occasion like this; it tells me that you are alive to the best interests of Canada, and that in assembling to do honor to a foreign officer in his retirement from his post, you bear testimony to his faithfulness in the performance of his duties, (although at times they may have been unpleasant to him to perform.) He must feel honored thereby.

I, for one, regret that it was necessary on the part of the United States Government to abrogate "the Reciprocity Treaty." I have always believed that it was of mutual benefit. The then unrestricted use of American approaches to the seaboard, was a convenience to Canada, and the traffic in transportation was no doubt profitable to the Americans. I have always been of the opinion that the two countries raising a surplus of similar productions were only competitors in the outside world, but as matters stood previous to the abrogation of the treaty, Canada and the United States were of mutual advantage to each other. (Applause.)

I trust, gentlemen, that the wisdom of the representatives of either country, may by legislation soon restore the old commercial relations; if not on the old terms—as near as possible to afford a just position to either country. I trust that the present cordial feeling now existing between the two great commercial and Christian nations of the world may ever continue.

To the satisfactory progress, in both commerce and production, in the Dominion, I can bear testimony; to the enterprise displayed in the advancement of manufactures and the enlargement and improvements of your own "Ambitious City," all who visit it can testify.

Again I thank you for the cordiality extended to us as guests. (Applause)

The toasts of "The Press" and "The Ladies" were then duly honored, after which the company separated.

CORRESPONDENCE:

BOARD OF TRADE ROOMS, }
HAMILTON, July 7, 1873. }

Hon. F. N. Blake, Hamilton.

Sir,—At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trade held here to-day, the following motion was unanimously carried:

Moved by D. Moore, Esq., Vice-President, Chairman, seconded by Adam Brown, Esq., and Resolved, "That on the retirement from this port of the Hon. F. N. Blake, United States Consul, the Board of Trade of Hamilton feels it a duty to him to express the deep regret of the merchants as well as the community generally on the occasion, he having not only been an admirable official, doing all that could be done to facilitate the trade between the countries, but having done much to create and perpetuate that good feeling which should characterize the intercourse of near neighbors like the people of the United States and Canada."

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obed't serv't,

(Signed), Wm. MacKAY,
Sec'y.

REPLY.

U. S. CONSULATE, }
HAMILTON, July 11, 1873. }

Adam Brown, Esq., President of the Board of Trade, of Hamilton:

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the resolution passed by the Board of Trade on the 7th instant, transmitted to me by Wm. Mackay, Esq., secretary, in which the merchants of Hamilton are pleased to express the favorable opinion they entertain of the manner in which I have discharged the duties of my office, and of the influence of my course of action in connection therewith in other respects. I beg to assure you, and through you, the community generally, for whom you speak, that I am deeply sensible and gratefully appreciative of this unexpected expression of esteem and confidence, on the occasion of my retiring from this Consulate.

It is in the interest of commerce and trade that the two nations to which we respectively belong have entered into a special compact to give effect to such laws, customs and regulations beyond their respective jurisdictions as are in force and exercise within the same. To secure harmony in the full and free exercise of the laws, customs and regulations, to watch carefully over, and to promote the commercial and general interests of the nation he represents, consistently with a due regard for the rights of the nation to which he is accredited, are among the Consul's most delicate and important duties, and if he can faithfully serve his country in that capacity, and at the same time foster and encourage the spirit of harmony and friendship between the different powers, I believe he has successfully fulfilled his trust. On this assumption I am gratified to find from the terms of your resolution that you consider I have, as Consul at this port, *discharged my duty*, nothing more, while holding that position, and I hope and trust that the same friendly feeling and facility of intercourse which now exists between my country and yours, may long endure, and strengthen with coming years, and I have great satisfaction in my firm belief, from the present complexion of the times and current events, that such will be the case.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

FREEMAN. N. BLAKE.

72974

