Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esq., *President.*

Directors—J. W. LAWRENCE, S. K. FOSTER, C. H. EVERBROOKS, JOHN ANDERSON. *Solicitor*—J. M. ROBINSON, Esq. *Secretary*—ISAAC WOODWARD, Esquire.

☞ Applications for Insurance against Fire to be made at the office of the Secretary, Wiggins' Brick Building, Princess-street. May 23.

WILLIAM WEDDERBURN,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
—OFFICE—
No. 13, NORTH SIDE OF PRINCESS STREET, SAINT JOHN, N. B.

WILLIAM H. LESTER.
GROCER and Provision DEALER.
CORNER PRINCESS AND CHARLOTTE STREETS.
Goods sent to all parts of the City free of charge
September 19, 1855.

NOTICE.

SEASONED PINE, LUMBER of every description, large and small, SCANTLING, REFUSE BOARDS, and DEALS, LATHS and PICKETS. For Sale at No. 1 Lumber Yard Jeffery's Hill, FROST & CO.
St. John, May 12, 1856.

6. 40, Germain-Street.

JAMES LUDLOW,
Tailor and Draper,

WOULD invite the attention of his friends and customers to his present Stock of Goods, which has been completed by recent arrivals per ships *John Duncan*, *Middleton*, and *Courier*, consisting of West of England CLOTHS, FUR BEAVERS, VELVET CLOTHS, PATENT BEAVERS, BALTIC and EXTRA PILOT CLOTHS; WAISTCOATINGS, in Berlin, Silk and Velvets. TROUSERINGS in endless variety,—these goods he can recommend as being superior to any yet seen in this Market, and in making them up no care shall be spared to sustain the preference he has hitherto received.

To the Officers of H. M. Army.

J. L. would beg to state that having been for years employed in the CUTTING DEPARTMENT of *HARTT'S Military Tailors*, 26 Pall Mall, he is prepared to execute in a superior style all orders with which he may be entrusted.
St. John, Oct. 31, 1856.

Valentine & Co.'s Express,

FIRST TRIP BY THE "EMPEROR."

VALENTINE & CO'S EXPRESS will leave this City on MONDAY, the 8th March next for EASTPORT, CALAIS, PORTLAND, BOSTON, and other parts of the United States.

☞ All Parcels, Packages, &c., forwarded with dispatch.

ANSLEY & TUFTS, AGENTS.
March 5. No. 2 & 3 South Market Wharf.

Furniture & Upholstery Ware Rooms.
No. 87, head of King Street.

DRAWING ROOM FURNITURE; DINING Room Furniture; BED ROOM Furniture—of different designs, in Mahogany and Walnut.

—ALSO—

HAIR MATTRESSES, MOSS MATTRESSES, GRASS MATTRESSES; STRAW MATTRESSES.

—ALSO—

Cheap CHAIRS and BEDSTEADS, in great variety. For sale by the subscribers.
March 12. J. & G. LAWRENCE.

Diseases of the Eye and Ear.

JOHN SKINNER, M. D continues to give special attention to the Medical and Surgical treatment of Diseases of the EYE and EAR, with general practice. Artificial (*enamel*) Eyes inserted, where the organ has become shrunken or lost, having the colour and motion of the natural eye.
OFFICE—(in Vernon's Brick Building,) corner of King and Germain streets, St. John, N. B.
January 11.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
Fire and Life Insurance Company

Established in 1836—Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament.

CHIEF OFFICE—37, Castle Street, Liverpool, 20 & 21 Poultry, London.

THOMAS BROCKLEBANK, Esq., *Chairman*; J. C. EWART, Esq., M. P., and F. HAYWOOD Esq., *Deputy Chirmen*; SWINTON BOULT, Esq *Secretary.*

BRANCH OFFICES AND AGENCIES.

Europe—Manchester, Hamburgh, Lisbon, Stockholm. *United States*—New York, New Orleans Boston, Philadelphia, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, San Francisco. *British America*—Montreal Halifax, N. S., Saint John, N. B., Saint Johns, N. F. *South America*—Rio de Janeiro, Valparaiso Demerara. *Australia*—Sydney, Victoria, Adelaide Swan River. *New Zealand*—Lyttleton, Wellington, Auckland. *Tasmania*—Hobart Town, Launcester. *East Indies*—Bombay, Calcutta, Ceylon Cadras, Manilla. *China*.—Canton, Hong Kong hanghai.

Capital, Two Millions Sterling.

Paid up Resources, £749,251 15 8, Sterling.
CONSTITUTION—UNLIMITED LIABILITY.
Fire Premiums Received in 1855, £186,271 16 11, Sterling.

Business—Insurance against Loss or damage by FIRE, on every description of Property.
Losses paid promptly on proof of claim.
NEW BRUNSWICK BRANCH; OFFICE 98, Prince William Street, St. John.
(No Charge for Policy.)
April 25. EDWARD ALLISON, *Agent.* Prince Wm. street.

FRENCH PAPER HANGINGS.—Received per Steamer:—1 case superior French PAPER HANGINGS, all new styles.
☞ For Sale at cost and charges.
July 3. B. O'BRIEN.

To Farmers, Travelers, & Citizens.

THE Subscriber has refitted and renovated his Hotel to meet the Spring business, and where Travellers will find every comfort desired. He returns thanks for the very liberal share of patronage which has been awarded to him, and assures his numerous customers that every effort will be made as heretofore, to benefit.
His House is No. 15, Charlotte street, and reference is respectfully asked of former visitors.
Experienced Grooms always in attendance to see that Horses are properly attended to.
May 22. WM. YOUNG.

Oysters! Oysters!!

JUST received per steamer "Adelaide," from Boston:—12 bbls. Prime OYSTERS—fresh from the beds. Also—On hand, a few barrels of Fresh Shediac Oysters, which will be served up in any style required, at
JAMES KENNY'S
Eating House Water street.
N. B.—MEALS served up at the shortest notice —Day and Evening. J. K.
St. John, N. B., August 29.

Gents. Dress Shirts.

A Few Dozen London made Gents. Volkomen Dress SHIRTS, superior to anything made in the City, as regards style or durability.
August 7. THOMAS R. JONES.

ST. ANDREWS ALE.—Just received, a small lot of St. Andrews Steam Brewed ALE, very superior. For saleby
Nov. 14. JOHN McCOSKERY.

LIVERPOOL HOUSE COALS.—Landing ex "John Duncan"—60 chals Liverpool House COALS, which will be sold low if taken from alongside. JOHN WALKER.
May 29. Ward-street.

MILK PANS AND BUTTER CROCKS—*white ironside.*—A shipment of these Goodsare daily expected.
FRAS. CLEMENTSON,
August 7. Dock-street

[continued from first page]

constant and profitable employment in locating the land claims of the numerous settlers. The range of my business extended over a wide scope of country, following the line of the settlements as they struck deeper and farther out into the wilderness. From the nature of my employment I was necessarily much in the woods, often entirely alone, and soon acquired the love of adventure, and the indifference to personal peril, which seemed the spontaneous production of a wild and roving life. The country was comparatively a wilderness. With the exception of the growing settlements which here and there dotted the surface, an unbroken expanse of forest stretched out apparently to illimitable distances in all directions. Sheltered in the woody retreats, the wild beasts and the Indians held a divided sway, and surrounded the path of the adventurous intruder with multiplied perils. Fierce wars raged between the hostile tribes, or between the receding Indians and the encroaching whites. But, as the white population increased, a new and more formidable peril was introduced to menace the traveller, and annoy the solitary dwellers in the wilderness.—Gangs of desperadoes infested the highways, and filled the country with scenes of violence and of blood. It became unsafe to travel alone, and especially in the night. The solitary or the belated traveller, in some of the more sparsely settled portions of the country, was almost sure to lose his purse, and often his life, at the hands of individual plunderers, but more frequently of confederated robbers. The law was utterly powerless to protect the travelling public. Personal prowess and vigilance, pistols and daggers supplied the place of a police.

"Living in the midst of such scenes and excitements, my nature, naturally fearless, soon acquired a spirit defiant of all the dangers which then encompassed the exposed life I was leading. Still I was always wide awake when abroad, and ever keenly on the watch when I had occasion to pass from one place to another in making my surveys. I always went well mounted and well armed, and travelled, especially when unaccompanied, only in the day. On one occasion I had been locating claims at some distance from my place of residence which was in a settlement now embraced in the county of Cumberland, and, having been absent for several weeks, I had become exceedingly anxious to return home. Mounting my horse about mid-day, I hoped, by dint of hard riding, to reach a noted stand on my return route by sunset. In this, however, I was destined to be disappointed. The roads were miry from rain and frost, and my horse, in spite of the solicitation of whip and spur floundered so slowly along them, that the day closed when I was still many miles distant from my place of destination. I rode on in the deepening darkness, chilled by the keen October air, and revolving almost unconsciously in my mind the many tales that I had heard of robbery and assassination committed upon belated travellers like myself. The glimmer of a light through the dense woods, and the welcome bark of a dog, betokened a human habitation near the road. A slight call brought the occupant to the door, who readily consented to entertain me for the night. I dismounted, and my host, a stout, tough-looking man, inviting me to enter his cabin, immediately led my horse to the stable.

"Entering the open door of the house, I found a cheerful fire blazing and crackling upon the hearth. The room was small, but close and comfortable. A side door revealed another apartment, which, as I conjectured, was the one I should occupy for the night. The furniture of both rooms was scant, almost to destitution. I saw no other inmate. The spirit of loneliness seemed to hover over the place as I entered.

"Seating myself upon one of the three-legged stools near the fire, I stretched out my numbed hands and feet to receive the grateful heat. The comfort of returning warmth in a few moments diffused itself over my whole person. I felt even exhilarated, as the torpidity of cold passed off, and my mind ceased to recall the grim memories and traditions which haunted me during my very lonely ride.

"Suddenly a most peculiar and thrilling sensation shot along my nerves, and flashed like an instantaneous glow all over me. I had never before, and have never since, experienced any sensation at all similar to it. It was like, and yet most unlike, the nervous shuddering produced by the shock from an electric battery. I felt at the same time a sort of dread—an apprehension, quite vague and indefinable—that danger of some kind was near me. My first thought was, that sudden and serious illness of some sort had seized upon me. I rose from my seat and walked across the room. Every step that I took seemed to increase the tingling sensation in my body and the apprehensiveness, changing rapidly to terror in my mind. An impulse, which I did not care, or attempt to resist, drew me towards the door through which I had entered. I stepped out, and felt at once entirely relieved in both body and mind.

"I was perplexed, but not alarmed, by the singularity of the occurrence. Feeling entirely relieved, and the night air being quite cool, I went back into the house and resumed my seat by the fire. I had scarcely seated myself, when the nervous tremor and sense of dread returned with redoubled violence. They came as at first, suddenly, and without premonition of any kind. My nerves seemed to quiver with a sort of vibratory thrill, and the mental emotion amounted to absolute horror. I leaped up and sprang out of doors. The same result followed as before. In an instant the tingling thrill vanished from my body, and the shuddering horror passed from my mind.

"I was almost stunned with amazement. I scarce knew what to think or what to do. Still believing that the phenomenon was entirely natural in its character, produced, perhaps, by the sudden transition from cold and darkness to light and warmth, I ventured once more to enter the room, and resume my seat by the fire. I had scarce touched the stool, when I sprang from it with a shriek of horror and alarm. Every nerve in my body seemed to be on fire. The hair of my head stood on end. My heart beat violently; the perspiration burst from my forehead, and I shook all over with a terrible and undefinable ague-fit of terror and alarm. Rushing to the door, I felt the agony of mind and body pass from me as soon as I had crossed the threshold.

"A few steps from the door, I met the grim landlord returning from the stable, with my saddle and bridle swung across one of his sinewy arms. I requested him to re-saddle my horse, as I had decided to go to the next stand that night. He remonstrated strongly against the undertaking —urging the darkness of the night—the distance of the route, and the danger of robbery or of assassination.

"I did not care to reason the matter with him, much less to disclose the motive for my resolution to go on, in defiance of the perils he so eagerly arrayed before me. The peremptory tone in which I repeated the call for my horse, without the least notice of what he was saying, put a stop to his expostulation. He returned to the stable, and in a few moments brought me my horse. I offered to pay him for the trouble I had given, but he sharply and positively declined to receive any compensation. Having examined the priming of my pistols, I bade my sullen host good-night, and rode off. At a late hour of the night I reached the cross-road tavern, and, after partaking of a good supper, soon found oblivion for the events of the day in a deep and refreshing sleep."

"But, Mr. Rolyat," said I, "this does not seem to me to have been a presentiment."

"Wait," he replied, "until you have heard the conclusion of the matter, and you will then be better able to judge whether it was or not.—Time passed on. The events which I have just related had almost faded from my memory. I had married and settled where I am now living. Kentucky had become a State of the Union, and I saw a busy and thriving population dwelling where I had seen a wilderness, inhabited only by the wild beasts and Indians. It was a wonderful transformation, and I can even now scarce credit the evidences of the mighty change which I had of late witnessed.

"At length business called me to the County seat of a neighboring county. On my arrival, I found a large crowd assembled to witness the execution of a noted criminal who had been convicted of robbery and murder, and sentenced to be hung. I am by no means partial to such spectacles. I think that they are brutalizing in their effects on the mind and the feelings of the spectator. But, somehow, I felt a desire to be present at this execution. It was rumoured that the convict intended to make a confession at the gallows of all his evil deeds. This inflamed my curiosity, and so I went with the crowd to the place appointed for the awful expiation.

"An immense concourse of both sexes, as was customary in that day, was present. The place selected for the execution was at the base of some high hills, which formed by their declivities a natural amphitheatre for the accommodation of the spectators. The day was bright and still.—Nature in her silent beauty seemed little in harmony with the awful spectacle which we were about to witness.

"Habited in his grave-clothes, and escorted by the military and the ministers of the law, the criminal at length arrived. He ascended the platform under the gallows with a firm step, and then looked round with an air of careless indifference upon the vast assemblage. The sheriff whispered something intended for his ear alone. He arose and advanced to the side of the platform that faced the bulk of the crowd. The murmur of expectation was succeeded by universal silence. Every one seemed eager to hear what he was about to say.

"Standing near the platform, I had a full view of the criminal. He was an old man, apparently more than seventy years of age. His hair was white and thin. His person was stout and thick set. His eyes, which were fierce and peculiarly malignant in expression, glared with hate and scorn as he surveyed the expectant crowd. The bronzed face, upon whose adamantine features no line of sensibility or kindly feeling was visible, attested a life of hardened villainy and crime. As he stood there, in the full blaze of the mid-day sun, deficient in look as in attitude, and apparently utterly indifferent to his impending fate, he looked to me like an incarnate demon, about to utter some fierce malediction upon the whole human race.

"He began his confession, and spoke for more than an hour, in a harsh and most repulsive tone of voice. I heard with the utmost distinctness every word that he uttered. I believe that some one wrote down, and afterward published, the leading points of the confession. I will not weary you with a recital of its horrible details. He was, as it seemed, born with the instincts and the aptitudes which make a man the villain almost from his cradle. He grew up with favorable opportunities for indulging his appetite for crime, and he became a murderer and robber by profession.—Many and dire were the deeds of pillage and blood which he committed in the State of his nativity, and the sword of the avenging law slept peacefully in its scabbard, so far, at least, as he was concerned.

"Allured by the hope of both pillage and impunity, he came with the rushing tide of emigration to Kentucky, in the days of its early settlement. He built his cabin in the loneliest solitude of the wilderness, or in some mountain gorge near the highway, that he might rob and murder the unwary travellers who became his guests. After a few successful feats of his murderous skill in one section, he took the precaution to remove to another, thus multiplying the chances against detection, and enlarging the field of his operations. Many an adventurous traveller, who had come to Kentucky in search of a new home, had gone down beneath his hand to a bloody grave, and left no sign of his taking off. He revelled in blood, and became, for a robber, almost rich with his murderous spoil.

"So skillfully were his plans laid and executed, that they never failed of success. The selection and the fate of the victim followed each other by a sort of inevitable sequence. This unvarying success was attributable to his mode of assassination. He assaulted no one in the daytime, or in the company of others. It was only in the dead hours of the night, in his own cabin, and upon the solitary traveller disarmed by sleep, that he ventured an attack. The suppression of all evidence of his crimes was comparatively easy and safe, in the lonely and unfrequented spots where he dwelt.—Hence he had escaped detection, and even well-grounded suspicion, through a long career of crime.

"As the population of the State increased, and the police of the law became more vigilant, he retired to the mountainous and comparatively uninhabited districts, practising his grim trade upon a reduced scale of profit and crime.

"'I took it into my head,' said the convict, 'that this young surveyor must always have about him, in his travels, considerable sums of money, arising from fees paid him by the settlers for surveys, or from deposits made with him to be paid into the land office for government warrants. He was, consequently, in my eyes, a rich booty, and, as he occasionally passed by my cabin, I hoped in time to have him for my guest. The wished for event came at last. Once, on his return home from a surveying excursion, he was belated, and called at my cabin to spend the night. I was overjoyed when, on going out to take his horse, I saw, by a momentary flash of the firelight upon his features, that it was the wily surveyor who was about to become my guest. I led his horse to the stable, and te went in to the fire, for it was a raw night in October, and he apparently almost benumbed with the cold. I fully purposed in my heart to murder him in his bed, and possess myself of his money. While stabling the horse, I arranged in my mind the details of a plan for his assassination. This was easily accomplished, for I had only to repeat what I had often done before. There was a door opening from my own room into the one in which I lodged the few guests that called upon me. It moved without noise upon its well-greased hinges, and fastened by a latch on the side next to the head of my bed. Through this thin board partition I could hear the slightest movement, even the breathing of a person in the adjoining room. As soon as my guest had fallen into the deep sleep which comes on after the fatigue of travel, I purposed to steal with noiseless step to his bedside, and kill him with the knife I always used on such occasions.

"'Having fed the horse, I returned to the house with my mind full of the murder I had planned and determined to execute. I met the surveyor in the yard, hurrying with a quick step from the house. In an excited and most peremptory tone of voice he requested me to saddle his horse, saying that he decided to go on to the tavern at the cross roads. I told him that it was a long distance to travel alone on such a dark night, and that there was even danger of robbery and assassination, as there were robbers about, and a man had been murdered by them in the neighborhood only a few days before. He seemed to pay no attention to what I said, but repeated in a louder and firmer tone of voice, the call for his horse.

"'Somehow, I felt awed by his manner and voice, and immediately brought him his horse.—He rode off, and I afterwards heard that he reached the tavern safely, but at a late hour of the night. I have never seen him since, as I soon after changed my residence to a distance from the region in which he made his surveys.'

"These revelations of the criminal," continued Mr. Rolyat, "thrilled me with horror. I recognized in the gray-haired culprit my host of the wilderness cabin, and the surveyor, his intended victim, was unmistakably myself. All the events of that nearly forgotten adventure came back to my memory. I recalled every incident of that terrible night—the thrilling sensation, the mental horror, the thrice-repeated agony of mind and body that I endured. Of these mysterious events I felt sure that the long deferred explanation had come at last. I could not fail to recognize a providential interference to rescue me from the peril that encompassed me.

"The recollection of those events, the scene which was transpiring before me, and, more than all, the awful certainty that a presentiment had been vouchsafed to deliver me from the impending death, impressed me so powerfully, that I hurriedly withdrew from the crowd, despatched my business and returned home. From that day I became a firm believer in presentiments."

These are the facts related by my venerable friend. I shall attempt no explanation of them, but shall close, as I began, with the declaration that I have no faith in presentiments.

EFFORT OF ENGLAND TO MONOPOLIZE THE TRADE OF AMERICA.

[From the Paris Journal de L'Empire.]

The astonishing enlargement and increase of the trade and commerce of the Western States and Provinces of North America—a development which has taken place only within the last few years—has for some time past excited much attention, and awakened a lively interest both in England and America.

The great expedition which is about to start from London in a short time, having for its object the exploration of the regions of the far West which belong to England, has been evidently fitted out with no other view but that of determining the course and direction to be given to the immense trade of western America, which by the commercial enterprise of both countries has within the last few years assumed such gigantic dimensions. It is indeed pretended that the object of this great expedition is merely of a scientific character. It is ostensibly put forth to the world that it is a mission entrusted with the business of exploring the several countries which are still under the government of the Hudson's Bay Company. It is known that the regions under the sway of this Company comprise immense territories, which are altogether unknown at the present day, and which are, the greater part of them, still in the same wild and savage state as when they were first created by the power of the Creator of the world; they are countries where the feet of men have never yet trodden, where the echo of the sound of the human voice has never yet been heard. The expedition of which we here speak is commanded by Colonel Elliott, of the Royal Engineers; it consists of a company of sixty engineers, and will be accompanied by a troop of forty men under the command of Captain Haig of the Royal Artillery. On arriving at Vancouvers it will be reinforced by a hundred men, as pioneers, selected from the most experienced and hardy servants of the Hudson's Bay Company, and will then push on and go ahead, as the mercy of Providence may please to favour it.

But we who live in the world, and who are not altogether blind to the progress and proceedings of such kind of things as these, are not to be deceived, nor to be made dupes of as to the real purpose of such an undertaking—England and the United States are both of them fully sensible that the time has arrived when the sceptre of the commercial world must be grasped and held by the hand of that power which shall be able to maintain the most certain and most rapid communication between Europe and Asia. It is not merely by the Isthmus of Suez, or by the Red Sea, that henceforth the trade with the East is going to be carried on. The eastern continent of Asia will be waked up to a new commercial activity from other ports, and especially from the several ports of the Chinese Empire. Consequently, the empire of the world, in a commercial point of view, will henceforth belong to that one of the two powers of England and America which shall be the first to find means to establish a direct road across the continent of America whereby to communicate most rapidly with the great East on the Pacific side, and with Europe on the Atlantic side.—This will be the great highway by which the products of the Old World will have to be carried to the Eastern world. Such a road is wanted in order to transport with abundance and celerity both the multitude of emigrants and the abundance of the products demanded by civilization.

Hence it is that the victory which is to give the empire of the world will be gained by that Power which shall be the first to establish the first line of Railroad across regions and countries which as yet are unknown and unexplored. The struggle for the attainment of this great victory is well worth the trouble and expense which it will cost; for the empire of the seas and the commercial dominion over the whole world are the great stakes which are being played for. There can be no doubt but that the English expedition to which we have referred has no other object in view but that of preparing for the construction of a great transit road, to pass directly through the English possessions in America, by which road the Asiatic and European worlds will be, as it were, united together.

The expedition, it is said, will land at Chagres; from thence it will cross the Isthmus of Panama; it will then penetrate into California, and then, passing through unknown and unheard of defiles, over terrible and craggy mountains, it will pierce into territories yet unexplored, which lie on the borders of the Pacific Ocean, and then proceed through vast deserts and virgin forests to some port of Canada on the Pacific. Four years have been fixed upon as the calculation of the time which will be required to accomplish the purposes of the expedition. No dangers which they may encounter can affright or appal these bold and adventurous travellers. A regular post communication will be established by means of Canadian trappers and travellers. These are a race of men who sprung from French ancestors; they still speak our language and retain the traditions of our country. By means of them, as a running post, established at different and suitable stations, news from the expedition will be regularly given to the English government as it progresses on its march. The British government, will then, no doubt, immediately set to work, according to the information communicated by the expedition, and begin the railroad at the several points pointed out by the engineers of the expedition. In this way it is that we shall soon be witnesses of one of these grand and peaceful revolutions which, in all ages of the world, have played a greater part in deciding the fate of the human race than all the great and most decisive battles that have ever been fought, or all the completest conquests that have ever been made.

NEW GRANADA.—After a long struggle between the Liberalistas and the Priest Party Senor Florentine Gonzales, Attorney General of the Nation, a liberal-minded man who was educated in Europe recommends as the best alternative, to his Countrymen, in an official report, to apply for admission into the North American Union! New Grenada is pressed down by a debt of forty millions of dollars, on which the interest is annually increasing, while the treasury exhibits a yearly deficiency of $600,000 to $1,000,000.

The Chronicle.

St. John, N. B., May 7, 1858.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, April 16, 1858.

Last week one would not have been rash in predicting a Ministerial crisis in a fortnight or thereabout. The India Bill No. 2, seemed to unite so many parties in opposition to its provisions, that if the government clung to their scheme and refused to part with, or at all events seriously to modify it their defeat and downfall might have been expected. Seeing this, and knowing that as the ex-premier had another India bill before the House, the defeat of the Derby ministry on this question would assure a return to Palmerston, Lord John Russell set to work to devise some plan by which so disastrous a contingency should be prevented. On Monday evening therefore he proposed that both bills should virtually be abandoned, and that the House should proceed to pass resolutions involving each distinct principle necessary to be affirmed respecting the future government of India Mr. Disraeli eagerly embraced an overture which promised to extricate the government from a most dangerous position, but wanted to throw the responsibility of bringing forward these resolutions on Lord John. This however the House would not hear of; and finally the Chancellor of the Exchequer had to take the subject into his own hands and promise to propose these resolutions on Monday week. Some people are malicious enough to affirm that the whole scheme was carefully concocted between the government and the noble member for the city, and the Palmerstonians are furious at seeing their expected prey escape them. Animated by these feelings, they are endeavoring to get the House of Commons to declare that to proceed by way of resolution will be merely a waste of time, and that the safest, as well as the most convenient course will be to discuss the two bills in Committee as was at first proposed, dismissing altogether the precedent of 1813, which Lord John raked up with such industry and research.

On Tuesday there was a good deal of interesting discussion in both houses. Lord Campbell's Libel bill, to protect newspaper publishers from prosecutions for *bona fide* and faithful reports of public meetings, was thrown out in a thin House by an overwhelming majority. A more reasonable proposal, as well as a more unreasonable decision respecting it, have seldom been recorded even in the House of Peers. Newspaper proprietors therefore still remain amenable to prosecution for libel for publishing, however innocently, full and true reports of speeches delivered in Parliament or elsewhere, which Brown, Jones, or Robinson believe to affect their character. In the Commons, Mr. Disraeli announced that Sir James Hudson is not to be recalled from Turin on account of his singular blunder about the Cagalinri despatch, but that Mr. Erskine, the unhappy Secretary to the Embassy, who certainly was the chief offender, has been suspended and ordered home to explain his conduct. As Lord Malmesbury, however, has already pronounced the poor gentlemen's written explanation to be inexcusable, one does not see what additional effect is likely to be produced by an oral explanation. Then the great Batt case was discussed, or rather the scandal that has arisen out of it, for Sir James Graham, the Chairman of the Committe to which the case was referred, declared the honorable and learned member to be acquitted on the charge of being corrupted by Ali Moorad. Sir John Trelawney however thought the opportunity a good one for proposing a resolution stigmatizing the conduct of the members who receive rewards in consideration of services to be rendered in parliament. The better opinion nevertheless seemed to be that cases of corruption of this kind were sufficiently provided for by the inherent rule of the House under which in times less pure than the present, even a Speaker and a Chancellor of Ways and Means have been expelled for receiving bribes of £1000 and 20 guineas respectively. The resolution was therefore was withdrawn, but it was understood that the discussion was to serve as a solemn warning to all members of the long robe who are in the habit of receiving large fees for professional advice given out of doors and who then speak on the same subjects if they happen to be brought before parliament. The budget comes on next Monday, and the rumour is that Mr. Disraeli proposes to provide for the deficit expected in 1858-9, by simply renewing the Exchequer bills which fall due in the current year.

The Bernard trial is at this moment the greatest feature of metropolitan attention. The evidence adduced is much the same as that published in the preliminary examination; but a little freshness has been thrown into the case by the efforts of Mr. James, the prisoner's advocate, to write down some of the police witnesses as spies. Clever Serjeant Rogers, for an example, was asked whether he had not attended certain refugee meetings in this unpopular capacity; but he naturally declined to give himself so unflattering a designation, and the Judge, on being appealed to, said he learned Counsel might draw what inference he pleased as to the witness's conduct, but he was not justified in making the Sergeant do so. Much of the interest is taken away from a knowledge of the fact that no final decision can be pronounced by the present tribunal. The points of law, which were of considerably greater importance in this case than even questions of fact, have been reserved for consideration by the 15 Judges, so that Bernard's sentence depends of course upon the ultimate decision of there learned persons, whether the jurisdiction of the English courts extends over foreigners who conspire in this country to commit murder abroad, or are accessories before the fact. The Crown lawyers themselves are not very sanguine that the decision of the full Court will be in their favor.

From India comes the expected news of the capture of Lucknow. This intelligence, however, will not be received with entire satisfaction. It seems that 50,000 of the enemy have escaped in the direction of Rohilcund and Bundlecund. An unfortunate delay in the advance of the force under Sir H. Rose appears to have upset all the calculations of the Commander-in-Chief. It was thought that Oude had been so perfectly invested that very few rebels could escape. But the nicest strategy is often upset. War is very much a game of chance, and as only 2000 Sepoys were slain during the siege, the remainder have dispersed to do what mischief they can elsewhere. This is rather a serious business. It is a question whether the enemy were more formidable when concentrated than when dispersed. Nor can we predict with certainty, that because 117 guns were captured in the city, the military organization of the Sepoys has therefore been destroyed. During the Indian mutiny we have had too many instances in which artillery seems to have sprung almost from the ground. Put to flight one day, the enemy seems to be but little the worse on the next; and in the present instance, we may perhaps learn by the next mail, that the mutineers are showing a very formidable front in some other direction. It is evident that no very obstinate defence was made at Lucknow, for during the whole operations the telegram says that only eight officers were killed. —The rescue of Mrs. Orr and Miss Jackson, the capture of 117 guns, the submission of the principal landholders, and the fact that the townspeople and villagers being protected, were resuming their ordinary occupations, are the principal items of news with which we are now in possession.—Our next tidings will be the success or otherwise of the army in its pursuit of the flying foe.

The Queen, according to an arrangement just made, will visit Birmingham in the middle of next June. Aston-hall will then be opened, and the Mayor will obtain the object of his ambition in a Knighthood. During her visit it is announced that her Majesty will be the guest of Lord Leigh, at Stoneleigh-park. The Prince of Wales is now on an Irish tour. He left on Saturday for Cork, to the great disappointment of the Dublin folk, who thought as matter of course that he would make the capital his first landing. His Royal Highness will explore the Lakes of Killarney, and then will turn up at Dublin in time for the Viceregal ball, and the nuptials of Lord Eglinton's step-daughter. Upon his arrival in Cork the people were taken completely by surprise, but his incognito was soon penetrated, and he was cheered by crowds of loyal Irishmen on his departure for Blarney and Castle Bernard. The Prince during the summer will go on a continental tour, of course visiting his sister.

A remarkable turn has been given to the inquest on the bodies of the 15 persons who perished by the fatal fire in Bloomsbury. On a post-mortem examination of the bodies, unequivocal proofs of the presence of arsenic were discovered. This seems strange and unlikely; but the evidence of Mr. Calvert, a mineralogist and metallurgist, goes to clear up the matter. This gentleman occupied rooms, divided only by a thin partition wall from those in which the lamentable destruction of life took place. In them was a collection of arseniate of cobalt, nickel ores and minerals, which upon combustion would throw off poisonous fumes, and the medical evidence taken on Tuesday goes to prove beyond question that the vapour thus given off, was inhaled by the unfortunate sufferers from the fire, and rendered them incapable of exertion. This accounts for the mysterious manner in which the deceased met their deaths, for they were but slightly burned, and also rendered it evident why they were prevented from making any efforts to escape. Mr. Calvert has been advised to employ legal assistance at the next sitting of the jury;—but it seems difficult to attach blame to this gentleman for a fatality which he could hardly have foreseen, and with which he had so little to do.

MUTILATIONS IN INDIA.—A correspondent of the *London Times* writes as follows:—"It is time that those who know something of the real state of the case should each contribute such facts as have come under their actual observation, tending to prove the falsity of those would be philanthropists who are endeavoring to slur over the atrocities perpetrated during the Indian revolt with a view to shield the dastardly perpetrators from a righteous punishment. I am myself a sufferer from the Indian mutiny having lost five of those nearest and dearest to me and only escaping myself by a miracle having to walk upwards of seventy miles through the Delhi district then in no quiet state without any covering, save a pair of white trousers. It may therefore, perhaps be permitted me to know what was going on. Every one who was in the camp at Alipore 55 miles distant from Delhi on the 5th of last June may remember the trial of a zemindar for the rape and subsequent mutilation of an English lady escaping from Delhi. A native woman instigated by jealousy laid information against him in the first place and subsequently others from the village came forward and proved the charge. He found her wandering in the fields, almost exhausted, she poor girl having walked nearly forty miles under a burning sun, the thermometer 110 degrees in the shade He then stripped her and made her under a tree in front of the village for all the villagers to stare at and after two hours of this torture led her away to a clump of trees where after endurin every torture that could be heaped upon a woman she was murdered. The brute when brought before the court did not deny the charge, but boasted the manner in which he had slain the innocent. There is one case for you worthy of being bracketed with the first victim to the *bona logue* at Meerut where the first victim to the mutiny was Mrs. Chambers. A butcher tore her out of her carriage as she was going to church and ripping her up, cut her babe's head off before her dimmed eyes. Many a resident in Meerut can tell how another lady being missed was found by a patrol of the 60 rifles stripped and hanging by the punkah ropes in what has been her drawing room. It is not to be expected that men should come forward and show the dishonour cast by the "mild Hindoo" on the most cherished, and this is perhaps the reason why it is so difficult to obtain proof of what is never doubted of in India. Or perhaps the sufferers in most instances did not survive the torture and we can hardly expect natives of Hindostan to come forward and criminate themselves!'

The London *Times* of the 7th inst., contains an article in reply to that of the last Paris *Patrie* on the Suez Canal and the English occupation of the Island of Perim. The *Times* says, England has done everything for Egypt, and she alone is interested in the traffic across the Isthmus; and takes care to remind the *Patrie* that, in one of the conflicts in which the British arms have preserved Egypt to the Porte, "a great French army and fleet, led by the first of modern Generals, was utterly defeated and destroyed." As to Perim, it "can only possibly belong to the Sultan of Turkey or the Imuam of Museat. If either of those potentates choose to make a reclamation we shall know how to deal with it; but any other State will only lose its time and temper by interfering with the question."

MR. THOMAS ALLSOP.—The *Birmingham Daily Press*, in which the announcement was first made that Mr. Thomas Allsop had offered to surrender himself to answer the charge of conspiring to assassinate the Emperor of the French, if the government would guarantee the expenses of his defence, has published a letter from a relative of that gentleman. The writer reiterates Mr. Allsop readiness to fulfill his offer, requests the public to suspend their judgment, and emphatically asserts his innocence of the imputed crime. He also states that he believes a communication has been made to government on the subject, the issue of which will be made known in a few days.

The Spanish Government is about to reinforce its squadron in the Gulf of Mexico by two ships of the line. A belief appears to prevail in various quarters that Spain is on the point of some great outbreak, which may lead to important results, and this view appears to be arrived at from the publication of a decree relative to the public safety, and applicable to the whole kingdom. In this programme the capital is to be specially provided for.

DISCOVERY OF AN ANCIENT MS. OF THE GREEK TESTAMENT.—It is stated in an Athens journal that a manuscript copy on parchment of the Gospels, and bearing the date 480, has been recently found in a garret of a house in that city. It is said to be in good preservation and has been deposited in the public library of Athens.

The Greek papers contain a paragraph which show how they settle breaches of promise of marriage in King Otho's civilized realms. The jilted maiden took the law in her own hands, and, having watched her opportunity, pounced upon rival, and cut her head clean off. Both parties were shepherdesses, and this little pastoral drama took place at Cyparissia, a very few stadia from Athens.

We (*Malta Times*) understand that during the stay of the Siamese ambassadors at the Imperial Hotel, one of their servants having been guilty of some trifling offence, was foolishly laid on the floor and bastinadoed until he became insensible, and restoratives were obliged to be used to bring him to his senses. This gives an idea of the low state of civilization of the country and government represented by these ambassadors.