The Liverpool and London

FIRE AND LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Annual Report of the above Company for 1857 shows that they have:—

Cash paid in on Shares, - -	£198,622 6 6
Reserved Fund, - - - - - -	214,616 11 11
Life Fund, - - - - - -	531,209 13 10
Fire Re-Insurance Fund, - -	153,121 4 6
Accumulated available Re- - - sources - - - - -	£1,098,569 9 9
The Premium in Fire Risks in 1857 were, - - - -	£289,251 6 4
The Fire Losses paid in 1857, -	165,240 7 6

New Brunswick Agency.

The above Company continue to Insure from Fire, every description of Property,—their Premiums are moderate—and all claims are promptly adjusted and paid by the Agent.

The Company's Life Tables will be found to compare favorably with those of other Companies: One half of the Premium may remain chargeable upon the Policy, if desired.

In addition to the above available Capital, there is no limit to the liability of the Shareholders, the security thereon is unquestionable.

EDWARD ALLISON, Agent,
May 21. 89 Prince William Street.

FIRE AND LIFE
ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY
LIVERPOOL and LONDON.

Agency for New Brunswick.
Princess Street, Saint John.

Extract from the Sworn Balance Sheet of the above Company to 31st Dec., 1856, filed in the office of the Provincial Secretary, pursuant to the Act of Assembly 19 Victoria, Chapter 45.

ASSETS.

	Sterling.
Loans and Investments on Freehold & other securities. §	£442,464 16 2
American Investments, -	34,703 7 6
Premises Dale St., Liverpool, -	13,600 0 0
Do. Lombard St., London, -	4,580 13 11
Cash due by Agents, &c., - -	5,420 14 6
Do. do. in Bank, - -	2,243 19 6
Do. do to meet unclaimed Dividends, - - - - -	212 6 6
New York Branch, - - - -	33,600 18 4
Cash on hand, - - - - -	299 10 9
	£538,378. 12 9

CAPITAL, -	£2,000,000.
Subscribed for, -	1,656,100.
Paid up, - -	276,413.
Fire Premiums for the year 1856, - - -	£151,733 9 6
Fire Losses for 1856, - -	88,905 10 9

All descriptions of property taken at fair rates, and losses paid promptly on reasonable proof of loss—without reference to the head Establishment.

JAMES L. KAYE,
May 21, 1858. *Agent for New Brunswick.*

Mutual Insurance Company.

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER, Esqr., *President.*

Directors—J. W. LAWRENCE, S. R. FOSTER, C. H. ESTABROOKS, 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 H. LESTER.

GROCER and Provision DEALER.

CORNER PRINCESS AND CHARLOTTE STREETS.

Goods sent to all parts of the City free of charge
September 19, 1856.

WILLIAM WEDDERBURN,
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.
—OFFICE—

No. 13, NORTH SIDE OF PRINCESS STREET, SAINT JOHN, N. B.

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.

Valentine & Co.'s Express,

FIRST TRIP BY THE "EMPEROR."

VALENTINE & CO'S EXPRESS will leave this City on MONDAY, the 5th March next for EASTPORT, CALAIS, PORTLAND, BOSTON, and other parts of the United States.

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

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.

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.

S. 40, Germain-Street.

JAMES LUPTON,
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, BEAVER and EXTRA PILOT CLOTHS; WAISTCOATINGS, in Berlin, Silk and Velveta. 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 *HART'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.

Furniture Ware-Rooms,
87 KING STREET.

THE Subscribers are constantly Manufacturing at their establishment, King Street: Drawing, Dining, and Bed Room FURNITURE in the most modern designs, together with every article in the Upholstery Department, viz. Hair Moss, Grass and other *MATTRESSES* &c.

All of which they offer on the most favourable terms.

jan 21 6i. J. & G. LAWRENCE.

GRASS MATS at 6d each; Best quality Gent's Calf BROGANS, at 7s. 6d. per dozen.
B. O'BRIEN

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S LAST MOVE.

[From the London Advertiser.]

We already stated that a letter had been written by Lord John Russell to one of his political friends, expressing the most unqualified disapproval of the Derbyite India Bill, and saying that it ought to be opposed and thrown out on the second reading. Our informant *says* the letter of the noble Lord.—About the same time—namely, one day last week, Lord John wrote a similar letter to a member of the late Cabinet. By a curious coincidence the letter in question reached the ex-Minister referred to, while the leading members of the Palmerston Administration, were assembled together for the purpose of deciding on the course which they ought to adopt with regard to the India Bill of the Derby Cabinet. The letter, therefore, of Lord John Russell, urging the propriety of opposing the second reading of the bill, was regarded as having arrived most opportunely to remove any doubts which some of the ex-Ministers might have had as to the expediency of adopting that course. In accordance with the gratification which the receipt of Lord John's letter afforded, it was agreed that an answer should be returned to his Lordship to the effect that the late Ministers cordially concurred in the wisdom of the course he had suggested. At the same time he was requested to move, as an amendment to the motion for the second reading of the bill, that it be read a second time that day six months. That however, the noble Lord declined to do; but requested the expression of his hope that it would be done by somebody else.

While matters were in this uncertain and unsatisfactory state, information was communicated to the leading members of the late Administration, that Mr. Ayrton, member for the Tower Hamlets, had undertaken to move as an amendment to the motion for the second reading of the bill, that it be read a second time that day six months. Everything, therefore, looked as promisingly as could be wished for the defeat of the Derby Bill, and, as a natural consequence, for Lord Derby's resignation of office. But a day or two before the assembling of the session, it occurred to Lord John Russell that the result of the success of Mr. Ayrton's amendment, would be the inevitable restoration of Lord Palmerston to Downing-street—a contingency which he could not contemplate with any special satisfaction, because he had, until then, made sure of being the new Premier himself. Accordingly, without the slightest hint to any of the members of the Palmerston Ministry with whom he had previously communicated on the subject, he determined on becoming a Marplot on this occasion,—just as he had so successfully proved in the latter days of the Aberdeen Administration. Evidently carrying out a plan concerted between him and Mr. Disraeli, Lord John made a proposition the most astounding that was ever gravely submitted to the House of Commons,—to set aside the Ministerial Bill for the moment, and to take up afresh by way of resolutions, the subject already so thoroughly discussed, and then when the House had agreed on the resolutions to take up the bill again and read it a second time *pro forma*, in order to introduce into it in committee the principles so settled. Of course, a proposition which gave the Ministry at any rate another week's life was greedily caught at. This course is utterly without precedent, and is founded on no semblance of reason or principle. The usual forms of the house are found quite sufficient for the purposes of full and free discussion, and we do not doubt they would be adequate in this instance. Indeed, the real objection is not that it would be too difficult, but too easy to come to a conclusion. The resolutions are proposed, that the bill may not be discussed. It must not be discussed because it is sure to be rejected because it would probably bring down the Ministry with it, and thus render probable that most awful of all results, the formation of another Government, in which Lord John Russell would have no place.

(Correspondence of Liverpool Journal.)

Paris Gossip.

The crisis is now fast approaching, and everybody *feels* it. That financial crisis which, having been put off, first of all from month to month, then from week to week, has at last arrived at that point when it becomes a delay merely from day to day; and we have the sword of Damocles suspended by a spider's web over our heads, glittering all the more before our blinking eyes for the intense light thrown upon it by the flaming asservations and burning denial of the government, which, reliant upon expedients merely because they will not fail as yet, hopes to the very last that they will not fail it now. The strangest rumor has been afloat today, and one which *must*, if true, drag with it into the abyss the Emperor and the imperial dynasty, the empire and the whole system of French government. This terrible rumor declares that the Cour des Comptes has peremptorily refused its sanction to the debt of 180 millions declared in the budget, and that the Emperor, to whom the information of this refusal was conveyed in no measured terms, just after that of the Senate to accord an additional grant for the further embellishment of Paris, gave way, at the moment, to the most awful burst of passion he has experienced since his marriage. In the paroxysm he is said to have launched forth into the most awful threats, disclosing the reason why he paid the whole of his mother-in-law's (Madame Montijo) debts in Spain, reversing the general order of things, and bought the magnificent palace of Villedra in the name of the Empress Eugenie. This, of course, is nothing more than palace gossip, and may be but the echo of men's thoughts upon contemplation of this extraordinary method of appropriating the funds of the nation. The truth is, that this proceeding of the Cour des Comptes is regarded as the most serious opposition yet met with, and the most alarming for all parties. It has long been predicted by the republicans, although not thought to be so near. The Cour des Comptes is beyond the reach of vengeance. Its members are chosen for life, and no decree can touch them.

We are, indeed, upon the eve of some terrible change—the words of Donoso Cortes ring in our ears with an appalling knell,—"A little while," said he, in his famous speech before the Cortes, "and France will have given to the world the spectacle of a cataclysm such as history has not yet recorded in her annals, and before which the horrors of her *jacqueries*, of her St. Bartholomew, and the barren terrors of her great revolution will appear like the mild and frolicsome gambols of children." It is an error to suppose that the army is devoted to any system.

WHAT WILL NAPOLEON DO NOW?

[From the New York Tribune.]

When George III. said to Nelson that the belief was that Bonaparte would effect his invasion into England, the Admiral replied that he would have to do it by land, for the English fleet would not permit it by water. Such an insuperable difficulty exists not now. No one will pretend to say that the landing of the French is at present impossible. It is agreed that the French naval skill, in all details, is vastly improved, and how far it equals the English can only be affirmed by actual trial. The prodigious sums spent on Cherbourg, only about sixty miles south of Southampton, are nothing more than an evidence of the chronic exasperation of France against England, and a threat that at some time or other she may seek to vindicate the defeat at Waterloo. What gives further value to the possibilities of a war between France and England is the meeting between the Emperors of Russia and France. "Kings talk most freely alone." On the strength of this interview the military and naval stock of both countries has been rising. Russia is increasing her naval force and laying her railroads to the south. What if the co-imperial secret should be—Russia may take Turkey while France invades England." Napoleon I., unmoved by the sight of 80,000 carcasses rotting in the snow in Russia, proposed to Alexander I. a conquest of Turkey. The present Napoleon never fails to say that his Government is a continuation of the first empire. While the Treaty of Paris was being made, the French Government lost no opportunity of complimenting Russia at the expense of England; and since the Opera-House explosion, the *Moniteur* on the one hand, and the English press on the other, have sung requiems over the dead and buried, *entente cordiale*. England, by the verdict on Bernard's trial, refuses to succumb. She throws down the gauntlet as defiantly as in the days of Oliver Cromwell. She shows all her old and best blood. We look with interest to see what the Prætorians will do; and, above all, what his master will do.

WILLIAM HENRY HERBERT, the distinguished writer, known as "Frank Forester," has committed suicide in New York. He was a native of London, and was the oldest son of the Hon. and Rev. Wm. Herbert, Dean of Manchester. He was the author of several novels, among others, "Cromwell," "Marmaduke Wyvil," and "the Roman Traitor." Three months ago Mr. Herbert was married to a very beautiful young lady in New Jersey, but very shortly after their union, their felicity was interrupted by the meddling of troublesome persons, who induced his wife to leave him very abruptly. Every effort to effect a reconciliation was thwarted by these same parties, and Mr. Herbert finding his happiness at an end, deliberately shot himself, leaving a letter to the press of America, of an extraordinary character.

The Chronicle.

St. John, N. B., May 28, 1858.

That rats know when a house is about to fall, has worn into a proverb, and the axiom, as it would of late appear, has extended itself to the "Press-gang." Hence we find the "RATS" of the *Constitution*, like the rats of the dwelling, and by a similar instinct, preparing to abandon their house, that is now evidently tottering to its downfall, a warning note of which is to be found in the leading article of that paper of 19th instant:—

"That the present Government are fast losing ground in the opinion of the people, is beyond all question. We see the evidences of it daily."

That the *Constitution* is weatherwise and provident is evident from its sensitiveness to the slightest shift of wind. It has been by turns Conservative and Radical, and unless a larger share of the spoils be meeted out to satisfy its exacting propensities; if we have any skill in divination, it will shortly "turn again," but whether the *speculation* will prove as profitable as on the last occasion of its proselyting, remains to be seen, we opine it will not, as deserters are rarely to be trusted a second time. It is not however much to be wondered at that it shows symptoms of turning tail upon its party; as the whole of the Smasher press has either openly condemned the barefaced jobbing and corruption of their party, or like the *Courier*, after denying their baseness up to the point of detection, settled down into guilty and sullen silence. In reviewing the course pursued by the Tilley government, from the first to last, it has been a system of fraud, deceit, and peculation. Its attempt to obtain office was marked by violence, misrepresentation and undisguised bribery. It deceived the people by representing that the Conservatives were a do-nothing government, and that if *they* obtained office they would originate and carry to completion many wise and Liberal measures. How have they redeemed those promises? why by originating literally NOTHING—if we except an Election bill, which disfranchises 300 of the freemen of the city, and enfranchises a greater number of persons, who have nothing to represent, being neither freemen nor freeholders, but who it is expected for the boon extended to them, will vote for *the Party*, who have openly adopted the mote, that "to the victors belong the spoils."—The corrupt way in which they have repaid out of the public Chest the sums of money contributed by their Partizans to swell the BRUNSWICK FUNDS is not even denied by them, and has had the effect of disgusting the honest portion of their supporters at the last election. If we look for a proof of that economy which they so loudly boasted before they obtained office, it is abundantly to be found in their giving Jobs, such as was given to their "sledge-hammer canvasser," (Marshall) at double the prices it would have cost, if put to fair competition; or we may look again to their Contingent bill, which gave to every member of the House 15 reams of paper, or 500 quires—more than many of them could use in a lifetime. But this was Smasher economy, and who shall gainsay it? If we look for faithful or even handed justice (another of their war cries) it is to be found in all its purity in their *sham* advertising for Tenders, and compelling them with stipulations that no mechanic could comply with, in order that they might (as previously arranged) give them to their Smasher friends, when none of those conditions would be exacted; while another spicy little Job is to be found in their granting to their "Learned Hog" £300 for murdering Napoleon's good French, in the shape of debates, for the enlightenment of the French, (who could not read) of Madiwaska and Shediac. But it is even worse than useless to attempt in a mere newspaper article a recapitulation of the thousand and one blackleg tricks played on the cards of the Puritan Smashers, suffice it, that their days are numbered and the Province is about to be relieved of the incumbers that has sat so heavily during their "Reign of Terror."

The feeling manifested in this community of late upon the acts of the present administration seems to have in nowise abated, on the contrary the long pent fire at disappointment after disappointment is becoming more and more, day by day, clearly developed. The ranks of great Sunsherdom have experienced to the whole Province the truth of the adage, that "when rogues fall out honest men will get their dues." Blasted hopes and disappointed honors have given to the fond idols of liberism a vacant stare and an idiotic appearance, and instead of Tilley being now an idol of gold, he has changed to a monument of brass. The test of the assayer has been applied, and instead of the finer qualities of imperishable wealth been embodied in his political statute, he has been found to be a counterfeit—as have as some of his predecessors—and now his party have resolved no more to trust to bright appearance, the glittering exterior, but rather to bow on shame and confess the imposition.

Let us briefly recapitulate the history of Liberal administration for the last six months.

When the present government obtained the reins of power it was with the understanding, based of solemn pledges, that great and glorious reforms would be effected. Upon their *independence to act*, even at the sacrifice of emolument, was secured for them the voluntary vote of the people; but, ah, how have these pledges been redeemed? how their independence been characterized? Not a single measure had they the manliness to bring before the country. Not one act of reform can the people lay their fingers on and boast its Liberal parentage.

The School question, so long a source of agitation to the province, and so FAITHFULLY depicted by Smashers as requiring immediate remedy for many evils, came to the country not as a *reform*, neither as a *government* measure—no, it was exhibited to the gaze of the country a deception. It was the "old child" of half a century which stood upon the floor of the House. Its face was washed, its hair cut—the grey locks plucked out. It was dressed in the modern style, and at the training school was taught to blubber that the world might think it but an infant, but when it *spoke* the hoarse gruff voice of mature years, yea of old age, convinced all that a base deception had been practised, and that the child in appearance was the old man in reality. It stood there with its time worn predelections—with no Bible in its hands—just as it was educated 40 years ago, Here was a political thimble-rigging *botched*.

Again, the Emigration scheme, so long and loudly talked of, was allowed to pass by untouched. Amid the rivalry of these North American Colonies, when emigration at the present time is fruitful of agitation, and the day not far distant when the resources of our own country must be brought under the influence of a healthy system of agriculture in order to its sustenance. We say that amid this rivalry what ought not our government have done to encourage the settlement of millions of acres of waste land? Some wholesome scheme should have been devised which would have attracted to our shores a lively emigration, and thus secure an agricultural country. But nothing was done, and we suppose never will be under the present administration.

The *independence* of our government is evidenced in the recent appointment of Sheriff of this City and County. For days hon. members met and parted. Fisher pledged and Tilley pledged. The latter—far seeing politician—pledged to Harding the Shrievalty—bartled the most honorable office in the gift of the government for *help to secure himself to £600 a year*. Noble, generous, honest man. The champion of the Sons of Temperance bequeathed the Sheriffship to James A. Harding, who only 3 years ago applied every nerve to destroy the Prohibitory Law, and succeeded to. The choice of Liberism—the *star of Smasherdom*—pledged by letter the office of Sheriff to a man who 3 years ago stood upon the Conservative platform and went arm and arm with the Gray administration. Strange consistency, yet nevertheless true.

We have now pointed out a few facts connected with the Fisher and Tilley government. We do not desire to apply the dose too heavy this week, but leave our readers in anticipation of an election to consider them well, for rest assured, as the people have been deceived once so will they be deceived again.

THE BALLOT.—An Irish gentleman named Nicholson, has done much to perfect the system of vote by ballot in the distant colony of Australia, and as will be seen by the accompanying extract, has been highly complimented in England on his success. We recollect seeing Mr. Nicholson's system published some time since, and it is in perfecting the details where Mr. N. has rendered such signal services, both in protecting the voter, and, if not altogether destroying, at least rendering completely hazardous, all corrupt practices and purchasing of votes. We should like to see the system enquired into, and carried out in every particular in this Province. One part of the plan would involve an educational qualification to some extent: thus, *all* the tickets are furnished by the government, or the corporations, as the case may be, with the name of every candidate printed thereon—the voter is shown to a private desk, or place supplied for the purpose, when he *strikes out* with a pencil the names that he does not wish, instead of, as generally practised elsewhere, of handing in the name which you *do* require. The ticket, as an illustration, would be thus:—

"For Mayor.
Wm. O. Smith,
Stephen R. Foster,
Isaac Woodward."

The voter, whose qualification in every respect has been before determined, strikes out two names, leaving his favorite legibly on the ticket, which he folds and hands it to a person appointed for the purpose. Even this small portion of the system would be of eminent service, and save the candidate the trouble of sending a *friend* to each polling place, to detect, if possible, how any particular person voted, by the color of his ticket or some peculiar way in which it happened to be folded, and thus utterly defeating one of the main objects of vote by ballot:—

"The compliment paid in London this week to a gentleman named Nicholson, who has been the instrument of introducing into the Australian Colonies the ballot as a protection to a voter, is a remarkable event, not merely as showing the growing popularity of this mode of voting, but as proving also the deep interest which a number of distinguished men take in its success. Among the names attached to the address presented to Mr. Nicholson, on the occasion, is that of Mr. Grote, distinguished formerly as a great London banker and a member of Parliament, but still more distinguished of recent years as an Platonist, for Mr. Grote's "History of Greece" will live as a work of the very highest class when most of the remarkable men of Queen Victoria's epoch have been swept to oblivion. Mr. Nicholson's speech, on this occasion, was plain, simple, unaffected,—just such a declaration of opinion as might be expected from a man who has done so much at the Antipodes to ensure freedom of opinion for others, and the example set by the Colonists cannot fail to react at no remote day on the mother country.—Mr. Nicholson stated in substance that the ballot had very much reduced the expense of elections in Victoria, and so great had been its success, not only in that, but in the other Australian Colonies, that those who had once opposed the measure were now it warm advocates, and laughed at the existence of their former fears."

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, April 30th, 1858.

India during the week has been the battle-field upon which home politicians, as well as Sir Colin Campbell himself, have met to fight. There has been much of the retort courteous between the government and their opponents as to the India Bill No. 2, and at last, as Lord John Russell, with all his friendly disposition disapproved of it, and Lord Goodrich threatened an amendment, Mr. Disraeli was forced reluctantly to abandon his project before he moved the House to proceed by way of resolution. On Monday there was another field day, and the Reform Club, meeting in the morning, resolved that there should be no opposition to the course of government, seeing that the objectionable measure had been thrown overboard. To everybody's surprise however, Mr. Disraeli, instead of confining himself to his motion that on Friday (this day) the House do resolve itself into a Committee to consider the resolutions he has to propose, made a long defence of the defunct bill. This enabled Lord Palmerston to "cut in" with several jokes very opposite, but not very new, all directed against the right honorable gentleman for murdering with his own hand and afterwards lauding the virtues of his victims. His lordship then of course defended India bill No. 1, whereupon Mr. Gladstone started up and, characteristically enough, objected to both measures, and declared against any legislation on the subject of India the in present year. This idea was very grateful to the functionaries representing the East India Company, too glad of any proposal by which their tenure of office would be prolonged, for however brief a space. The end of it all was, however, that an amendment for postponement was withdrawn, and the House resigned itself with apparent content to the work which will be cut out for it this evening. On Monday the government sustained their first defeat, upon the question of Sandhurst, and a motion was carried against them declaring the opinion of the House that no change should take place in the system of public and competive examination by which the admission of cadets into the artillery and engineers is now regulated.

Speculation was ripe when Sir Francis Thesiger was elevated to the office of Lord Chancellor, as to the course he would pursue with regard to the Jews' Bill. All doubt is at an end, for the Lords have once rejected the Jew, and that with unusual firmness. Some of the more timid of their lordships alluded to the "consequences" to be expected from the continued opposition to the lower house, but these were soon put down, and the clause admitting Jews to Parliament was rejected with defiant language. We shall see now whether or not the House of Commons will place itself in antagonism with the House of Lords.

The results of the Paris elections are known.—Out of the three members elected, two are nominees of the government. But the third, the opposition candidate, who has been elected is Jules Favre, the eloquent advocate of Orsini, at the recent trial, and this choice of voters bears a terrible significance. The excitement caused in France by the verdict in Bernard's case has very much abated. By the way, at home nobody was surprised when in the House of Commons last Thursday evening the Attorney-General intimated that the prosecution of the prisoner upon the charge of misdemeanour would not be proceeded with. The *Constitutionnel* praises this decision, because it says that, after the verdict of the Old Bailey jury on the capital offence, a sentence of a few months imprisonment and a small fine would seem absurd. It is not likely however that the English government were influenced by this feeling. They probably thought there was no more chance of conviction at the Court of Queen's Bench than at the Central Criminal Court. Bernard meanwhile, now being a free man, conducts himself sensibly, and does not obtrude himself unnecessarily into notice. So with the jury. It was proposed by some ardent admirers of their verdict to fete them at the London Tavern. English good sense and moderation however prevailed. The jury met together and declined the invitation. It is not usual in this country to fete a man for either acting in accordance with, or in opposition to, his solemn oath. The presumption is that he will do the one and not do the other, as a matter of course, and that he is not deserving of special praise for either. Something transpired on Monday with regard to other state trials. Mr. E. James applied on behalf of Truelove, the publisher of the alleged libel on the Emperor of the French, that the trial should be taken a month or six weeks earlier than is proposed. Lord Campbell however refused the application, so the defendant will be exposed to all the inconveniences and the loss mentioned in his affidavit from having this charge so long hanging over his head.

There does not appear to be a peculiarly happy family at the board of the Great Northern Railway. Every one remembers the stormy meetings of the proprietory after the Redpath frauds—how the chairman lost his temper, and indulged in expletives not common in our public assemblies.—The recent quarrel between the two great companies who rule the North-West and the North under an iron sway, has led to fresh scenes of disorder. Not only did the feud rage between the two companies,—the result of which was that the people went to Manchester and back for 5s., and almost expected to be entertained to dinner in the bargain,—but the Great Northern waged an internecine war. The secretary quarrelled with the and the chairman, and the former was dismissed. It was said at first that Mr. Mowatt would write a pamphlet explaining the circumstances and full of damning disclosures; but it is now announced that instead of doing this, he will bring an action against the company for wrongful dismission, and try to obtain substantial damages. The shareholders, reviewing the history of their concern during the the last twelve months, will probably think that they had better have a thorough "clearing out" in their management.

Sir Alexander Cockburn, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, is so seriously indisposed that it is feared he will have to retire from the Bench.—This event occurring so soon after his elevation, would be generally regretted. It is not known who his successor would be, but is said that the present Attorney General would not accept the appointment. Why, it is hard to say, unless he is looking forward to Lord Campbell's retirement.—A permanent salary of £7,000 a year however with not much to do in return for it, is not to be sneered at. Cabvernments just now are said to be puzzled by the difficulty of finding good men at the bar who would do credit to the ermine.

A series of State balls and concerts is announced at Court, beginning on the 10th of May, while her Majesty's birthday drawing-room is to be held on the 13th. The Queen was at Aldershott during two or three days last week, and reviewed the troops. Saturday was to have been a grand field day; but the sandy soil of the heath was torn up by a high wind, and the clouds of dust prevented alike sight, hearing and enjoyment, reminding the unhappy visitor of sand whirlwinds in the desert of Sahara. So the intended sham fight was postponed, and her Majesty did not venture on horseback, as on the preceding day, clad in a scarlet riding habit, a general's jacket, with sash and feather, and all complete, but not a sword. There are at present at Aldershott 15,000 men of all arms—a very formidable muster for this country, and one calculated to inspire some degree of confidence among those who are alarmed at by the fears of an invasion. The Prince of Wales has returned from Ireland, where his reception has been very enthusiastic.

Apropos of an invasion, the *Moniteur* denies that France "is adding greatly to her naval armaments." Hereupon it is pointed out that though no actual increase may have taken place in the number of vessels, their power and efficiency have been largely added to of late. We have lately heard in our own Parliament that sailing vessels will be of no use in case of war. France is very wisely acting on this axiom, by gradually turning all her line-of-battle ships into screws, amongst which will be 35 ships of the line and 55 frigates. At the same time the enormous works at Cherbourg will be completed, and that port and arsenal will be connected by railway at Toulon and the great military depots throughout the Empire.—There is some gossip respecting a new gun lately invented by Louis Napoleon, whose knowledge of the theory of projectiles and love of artillery is well known. The story is that the invention was kept a profound secret; that the workmen employed upon it were confined within the walls of the foundry until their task was completed; that the gun is so light that it can be dragged to the field by a single artilleryman; and that the effect of its fire is most complete,—stone, bricks, cement and heavy wall altogether crumbling into dust before it.—This is wonderful *if true*; and our wonder as well as our disgust are more strongly evoked by the statement that the invention is an English one, and had been for two years refused by the authorities at our War Office before it was offered to and greedily accepted by the discerning Emperor of the French. Poor Britannia! In the midst of so many great dangers, her hour is evidently come.

LONDON, May 7th, 1858.

There is little doing in London at present beyond concert giving, which by the way is fashionable now everywhere from the Palace downwards. There was considerable excitement in the political world, but it is entirely gone, and Ministers seem to be left to make the most of their position. The resolutions on the government of India do not carry the danger they were supposed to carry from Palmerston and his tail. Russell and his tail, and the Peelites too, seem to have resolved upon legislating for India without regard to faction. This is altogether contrary to general expectation, but not the less true. There now every probability that the Derby government will stand over the session, whatever may be said to the contrary, especially if Mr. Disraeli pursues his present tactics.

Of domestic or commercial news we have little to report. The Funds rise and the money is reported plentiful, yet tradesmen complain and say that unless something "turns up" they cannot carry on. What it is that is turn up we know not, neither could we say what would be the right thing to effect the improvement desired. Perhaps if government started extensive works, as they do in France on such occasions, the example would be good, and the impulse consequent upon it prove decisive. It is worth the trial at all events, for people are not now grumbling without cause.

There is no accounting for parliamentary tactics, or else one would be tempted to enquire what will be the upshot of the existing feud between Lord Palmerston and Lord J. Russell. Certain it is that the liberal party cannot hope to retain office for any long term unless a reconciliation takes place. At present their House is divided against itself, and so sure as Lord Palmerston proposes one thing Lord John suggests another, and *vice versa*. Thus on Tuesday evening when Mr. Gladstone in a speech an hour and a half long, brought forward his motion on the subject of Danubian principalities, the ex-premier opposed it, and supported the government, whereupon Lord John Russell started up immediately with a vicious air and poured forth a broadside into his noble friend with no inconsiderable effect. The Gladstone-Russell-Roebuck coalition however was nugatory on this occasion.—The government, supported by the ex-premier, achieved a decided triumph, the division list showing a majority of nearly 200 in their favor. Great must been Mr. Disraeli's exultation when he heard the numbers proclaimed. The triumph is an unusual one; the Ministry are not accustomed to victories. But after all the question was one which rather concerned the late than the present administration. Poor Moldavia and Wallachia! They were asked to express their wishes as to their future form of government. They did so through their Divans and said that they should like to be united and to be ruled by a Prince of their own selection. But then Austria and Turkey immediately opposed themselves to such an arrangement, and England, it seems, will lend her voice at the Paris conferences next week to keep the Principalities still under the *Suzeraine* of the Porte, and still deprived of administrative institutions.

This evening the House of Commons resumes its consideration of the government resolutions about India. One of these only, after two nights' lengthened discussion, has yet been agreed to; and as the most important points still remain for debate, and as the number of amendments on the paper is almost without end, people are beginning to think that after all there will be no legislation this year about India, and that John Company's life will be respited for another twelvemonths.—The Cagliari case was to to have come on in the House on Tuesday evening, but the hour was late, and Mr. Kinglake wisely withdrew. Lord John Russell is however of opinion that the question concerns the honor of the country, and the sooner the matter is brought under the notice of parliament the better. Meanwhile Mr. S. Fitzgerald announces that Sardinia is satisfied with our attitude upon the question. We are, it seems, to give her the benefit of our moral support, whatever that may be; but we advise an arbitration instead of a war. Bomba remains obdurate to the demands of Victor Emmanuel; but report says that he is more accessable to the demands for compensation to Watt and Park, preferred by the British government. The sum specified by Lord Malmesbury is said to be £1,000, which, it is given, will not be a bad salve for the sufferings and the loss sustained by our countrymen, and will gain for the Foreign Secretary no end of popularity.

A young bride,—the newly married wife of the king of Portugal—will be an interesting Court visitor for some days to come; and no end of dinner parties, and soirees, and gaiety are in store for her. It is remarked upon however as a little singular that the Queen should, having just been married by proxy, linger on the way to join her husband. "Fly on the wings of love" the poet Bunn would have said, "to him thou adorest;" but such sentiments are suited only to vulgar life, and are little adapted to Royalty. On Monday the Queen gave a grand concert, at which a good many who were invited could not attend, but still more who were not invited would have liked to be present. Who would not give a Jew's eye to hear the Titiens, Louisa Pyne, Giuglini, Sims Reeves, Belletti, Wiese, and others, in the delicate atmosphere of her Majesty's concert room? It will be noticed that the Queen encourages an inclusion of native and foreign talent. This is fair enough; and the English singers whose names we have given managed to hold their own, we don't doubt, against all competition.

Sir Colin Campbell, it is authoritively announced, is to be raised to the peerage, in consideration of his distinguished services. What will his title be? Baron Lucknow would not be a British title; but, whatever name he chooses to assume, the words "of Lucknow" will probably be added, as in the case of Williams "of Kars." The last news from India is not quite satisfactory. The Sepoys managed to escape from Lucknow in such numbers as to be still formidable; and the only difference seems to be that instead of having to follow them on one point, our troops have now to follow them into a hundred different districts.—This guerilla warfare is, as we predicted, likely to be more trying, and perhaps more dangerous than