

red upon the first action. This cause was tried by a special jury in February last, when after a patient hearing the Jury gave a unanimous verdict for two hundred and ninety-two pounds in favor of the Plaintiff. This was an important case for the Sheriff and he had the advice and assistance of four of our most able advocates Messrs. Stuart and Black, Vallières de St. Real and Thompson, by whom the defence was managed with consummate address; both at the trial and on the motions in arrest of judgment and for a new trial which were made in behalf of the defendant, his counsel urged to exhaustion every point which made for him on all branches of the question of the liberality of the Sheriff under our Provincial system of jurisprudence, without allowing the minutest clerical error to escape them. The Court, however rejected both of these applications and on the motion of Mr. Gagy, the Plaintiff's Counsel, pronounced judgment in conformity with the finding of the Jury; during the delivery of which the Court expressed their surprise and regret, that since the creation of the Sheriffs in this country the Legislature should have omitted to regulate and define by express enactments the duties and responsibilities of those officers.

27th May.

GRAND FAREWELL BALL TO THE COUNTESS OF DALHOUSIE.

This long expected and much talked of Fête took place last night at the Union Hotel. Intended as a farewell compliment to the COUNTESS of DALHOUSIE, it may be supposed to have derived its greatest attraction, in the estimation of all who were acquainted with her amiable condescension and affability, from that circumstance. We feel justified in asserting that the decorations and arrangement were equally worthy of the hosts, of their noble guests, and of the subject. Our limits will not permit us to give an elaborate description. The company began to assemble in considerable numbers about nine o'clock, and by ten, we should imagine not less than four hundred persons were assembled in the ball room, with whom the admirable taste displayed in the *tout ensemble* of the apartment was an unceasing theme of delighted expression. On entering the room, the first agreeable sensation, undoubtedly, was the splendid *coup d'œil*,

which embraced drapery of the most pleasing involution, brilliant transparencies, appropriate medallions and rested finally on the fragrant accumulation of the choicest green-house plants, which occupied the space under the principal chandelier, and diffused a lasting aroma through the room. On closer examination, it was soon perceived that every decoration that vegetable and artificial beauty could bestow had been successfully applied by the taste which directed the whole. The walls had been newly coloured, a beautiful pink hue—white muslin curtains, festooned with pink, surmounted by pink hangings, and bordered by roses, extended along the whole interior facade, and occupied the upper spaces of the arches at the end of the Ball Room.—Opposite the Orchestra, were seen two very appropriate transparencies representing *figurantes*, from the models, we presume of Lady Hamilton by Romney; and in the niches formed by the other windows stood female figures of plaister of Paris, in the midst of beautiful roses and geraniums, fresh from the garden and hothouse, over which was suspended this delicate caution;—“*La beauté et le parfum sont tout ce que nous pouvons offrir.*” This was read in English in other parts of the room.—We have mentioned that in the centre, on the floor, was a charming collection of flowers and plants, contained in a very handsome railed fence. At the head of the room on three steps, was raised a crimson state sofa, to which the COUNTESS of DALHOUSIE was led on her entrance by HIS EXCELLENCY SIR FRANCIS BURTON in full court dress. Above this a magnificent canopy of white and pink muslin was erected, crowned with the coronet of the Earl dom, & surmounted by a transparency of the family arms on two shields united, with the Dalhousie supporters. On either side of state sofa was a transparency, presenting each a different view of Dalhousie Castle, a beautiful gothic structure of great antiquity standing in the midst of beautiful grounds, and embellished by gardens in the highest state of cultivation, as her Ladyship will no doubt find them on her return. There was no part of the decoration which gave us more pleasure than this, as it shewed a taste and feeling in the selection of ornaments which did honor to the projectors; and we are sure there was nothing which was more justly ap-