THE LATE BRIGADIER GENERALS NICHOLSON AND NEILL.

[From the London Times.]

As our readers are already aware, from another portion of our impression, Delhi and Lucknow have not fallen into the hands of our victorious army without the loss of some able and gallant officers, including Brigadier General Neill and Brigadier General Nicholson, the latter of whom is reported as having died of his wounds received at the capture of Delhi. Both of these Generals a few short weeks ago were mentioned in the London *Gazette* as having been promoted to the Companionship of the Bath in reward of their distinguished Indian services, which now, alas! have been drawn to so sudden a close.

General John Nicholson, of the 27th Bengal Infantry, was an officer of no ordinary experience and promise. At the time of his decease he was in command of the Punjab division. He was the son of the late Dr. Alexander Nicholson, who owned a small landed property in the County of Down, and who died a few years since, having practised with considerable success as a physician at Virgemont, county of Dublin. His mother was a sister of Sir James Weir Hogg, late Chairman of the East India Company, and formerly M. P. for Beverly and Honiton.

John Nicholson was born at Virgemont on the 11th December, 1822, and having received his early education at the Grammar School of Dungannon, county of Tyrone, obtained from his uncle a direct appointment to India in 1839, where he arrived in the July of the same year. At the very outset of his career in India he gained some practical experience in war. The conquest of Cabul, as our readers are aware, was followed by the revolt of the Affghans. At the period of the murder of Sir William M'Naghten and the massacre of the British troops at Jugdulluck, Nicholson was in the fortress of Ghuznee, under Colonel Palmer, and shared with him the dangers of the siege.—There is no need to recapitulate here the details of that event; it is enough to say that the British force found themselves shut up in the citadel, and having suffered the extremities of hunger, were forced to capitulate on honourable terms. How these terms were broken and how Nicholson was forced to give up his sword is now a matter of history, as is also his imprisonment with his comrades in Cabul and his subsequent restoration to liberty on the arrival of the gallant Sir Robert Sale and Sir G. Pollock, the real heroes who retrieved the disasters of Lord Auckland's Indian administration. We next find General Nicholson serving in the Sutlej campaign of 1845-6. At the time of the outbreak of that war he rendered important service to Sir Henry Hardinge by watching and reporting the movements of the Sikhs. He was also present at the bloody battle fields of Moodkee and Ferozshah, and received a medal for his gallantry in action.

In the second Punjab campaign we find the name of General Nicholson almost inseparable from that of Major Herbert Edwardes, the hero of Mooltan. It would be foreign to our intention here to recount all the events which led to the outburst of that war, which was so decidedly settled at Sadoolapore, Chillianwallah, and Goojerat. It is sufficient for our purpose to inform our readers that while the siege of Mooltan was still proceeding Nicholson was sent to seize the fortress of Attock, which he succeeded in taking. As soon as his services could be spared he accompanied Lord Gough in his advance, and was able to render Sir J. Thackwell material assistance in transporting his forces across the Chenab just previous to the battle of Ramnugger. He had the satisfaction of seeing his name mentioned in the despatch of that gallant and distinguished officer in the following terms:—"To Captain Nicholson, assistant to the resident at Lahore, I beg to offer my best thanks for his endeavours to procure intelligence of the enemy's movements, for his successful efforts to procure supplies for the troops, and for his able assistance on all occasions." After the battle of Chillianwallah his friends had the additional gratification of seeing his services in that engagement acknowledged in Lord Gough's despatch side by side with those of the late lamented Sir Henry M. Lawrence. Nor was he less distinguished on the field of Goojerat, where Lord Gough finally routed and crushed the Sikh forces, and after which he particularly recommended, in his despatch addressed to the Governor General of India, "that most energetic political officer Captain Nicholson," as deserving of reward and promotion.

For his service in the Punjab campaign Captain Nicholson was promoted of special brevet to the rank of Major in the army, and received the additional honours of a medal and clasp. He had been engaged in civil employment in the Punjab for some few years before the outbreak of the recent mutinies, having had under his charge the Dera Ishmail Khan district since January, 1852. Of his activity and energy in his civil capacity in the Punjab, and of his gallantry in defeating the rebel forces sent out to intercept the siege train on its way to Delhi, we have spoken too often recently to make it necessary to add any fresh meed of praise. The previous mail, it will be remembered, brought home tidings that Colonel Nicholson was among those who were wounded in the storming of Delhi, and now we regret to have to enumerate his name among those who have since died of their wounds. Colonel Nicholson's commissions, we should add, bear date as follows:—Ensign February the 21th, 1839; Lieutenant, January the 13th, 1842; Regimental Captain, with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, March the 20th 1848.

Brigadier General James George Smith Neill, of the Madras Fusileers, was a native of Scotland, and was truly one of whom his native county, Ayrshire, will be proud. He was the eldest son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Smith Neill, of Barnweill and Swindridgemuir, and succeeded at the death of his father to a small landed property between Ayr and Glasgow, where doubtless he looked forward to spend the remainder of his days when he should have retired from active service; but it has been ordered otherwise. He was born about the year 1810, and entered the 1st European Fusileers (Madras) in 1826. He first saw some active service, we believe, in the first Burmese war, under the Governor-Generalship of Lord Amherst, when he was for a time in the Adjutant-General's department. He was, however, compelled to return to England on furlough at the close of the campaign, owing to the inroads made upon his constitution by exposure while on field service. For a short time, about the year 1835 and 1836 he held the command of the escort of the Resident at the Court of his Highness the Rajah of Nagpore, and about the same time he married Isabella, daughter of Colonel Warde. More recently he took part in the second Burmese war under Lord Dalhousie. On the outbreak of the war with Russia in 1854, he volunteered for active service in Turkey, and showed considerable ability while in command of the Turkish Contingent. Returning to India at the close of the war, he took command of the 1st Madras European Fusileers, one of the most gallant and distinguished regiments belonging to the service, though recently characterized by Sir Archibald Alison in his speech at Glasgow as 'new to fame.'

On the breaking out of the recent mutiny, being sent up to Calcutta with his regiment, he relieved Benares, and pressed on with forced marches to Cawnpore, in the capture of which he assisted. Our readers will not have forgotten his decision in the matter of the high-caste Brahmins of that place, whom he forced to degrade themselves by washing with their own hands the bloodstained floor which was the scene of the atrocities of Nena Sahib. During the subsequent absence of General Havelock he held the command of Cawnpore, and was recently intrusted with the command of a Brigadier. He is represented to us, by those who knew him of old, as a strict disciplinarian, but at the same time one who never spared himself.

SARDINIA.—Though the ecclesiastical party will still be in a minority in the new Chamber, it will now be much stronger than before, and the position of the ministry may be somewhat insecure. It is said that, if defeated, they will appeal again to the country, and that the liberal party, being aware of their danger, will return a triumphant majority.

SPAIN.—The Queen has given birth to a male heir, which is doing well. It is to be christened Francisco de Assis; had it been a princess, it was to have been christened Turis ma Conception. The young prince will, according to the laws of Spain, bear the title of Prince of the Asturias, as heir presumptive to the throne.

THE SEPOYS AND THE BAGPIPES.—A corporal of the 78th Highlanders, writing from Cawnpore to his friends in Glasgow, says that while on the march they met the Sepoys, and had an engagement with them near the Ganges. While the engagement was going on, it fell to be his duty, in company with another soldier, to carry a wounded Highland piper to the rear. They hoisted him shoulder high, and were proceeding on their way, when they saw a Sepoy on horseback coming in their direction, with his sword drawn. The piper, after going through the ordinary manœuvres of loading a gun, lifted the longest shank of his pipes to his shoulder and pointed it to the Sepoy's head. No sooner had he done this, than the Sepoy turned tail, and ran off helter skelter.

BELGIUM.—The elections have terminated, and the result, we rejoice to say, is a complete triumph of the liberal party. The Chambers will consist, it is said, of 70 liberals, and only 38 of the papal or priest party.

FULFILMENT OF HINDOO PROPHECY.—The only sort of news to which the public have cared much to listen for the last five months, have come in one direction, namely, from India. England now sends back tidings to Calcutta as unexpected, as exciting, as revolutionary as India has ever sent about itself to England. It is possible to delay but not to avert the doom of the East India Company. Its reign is about to cease. The Company's Raj is closing; a marvellous and unparallelled chapter in the volume of history is near to its last page. Thus the prophecy of the Mohammedan Insurgents comes out more curiously true than any of us believed when our fears were at the panic point. The anniversary of the battle of Plassey has not, to the exact day or month, seen the destruction of the Company's rule; yet the century reckoned from Plassey, just as the hundredth year is waning, is rung out by the knell of an expiring sovereignty. For more than a generation the power of the East India Company has been declining, and it will now perish together with the Mogul dynasty. These ambiguous and double-edged prophecies which seemed to promise success to the Revolt have thus in one sense been accomplished; but, in their other sense they have been found by their dupes as wounding and fatal as were the Delphic oracles that hurried on the King of Lydia to his ruin. The Company's *Raj* is expiring, but the Queen's *Raj* is about to begin; the Insurrection has only been the occasion of hastening a transition that all were expecting; and the hand which dethrones the Directors is that, not of the King of Delhi, or of the Nana Sahib, but of Viscount Palmerston."

AUSTRALIA.—Recent Port Philip papers contain a report of the select committee of the Legislative Assembly to whom was referred the consideration of the question of a Federal Union of the Australian Colonies for legislative purposes. After prolonged and deliberate consideration of the question of national policy, they report that—

"They are unanimous in believing that the interest and honor of these growing States would be promoted by the establishment of a system of mutual action and cooperation among them."

The Government 'Lands Bill' had been thrown out in the *Upper* House; but the Haines Ministry had resolved not to resign in consequence. The Bill to abolish State aid to religion had been rejected by a majority of 1.

MEXICO.—The Liberalistas are out of humor with General Comonfort, for shrinking from his duty. In place of falling, like a man, if it were necessary for him to fall, he has shown that he has succumbed to the priest party in opposition to which he was elected. He has opened Congress and taken the oath of the Constitution. In his inaugural speech the President appears to insinuate that he accepts office upon condition of certain radical reforms in the constitution. He has announced various projects as in reserve. They have not yet been presented to Congress. The fact is, Comonfort hardly knows what to propose. He would like to retrograde, but dares not.—He is desirous of conceding to the clergy: 1st—The proclamation of Catholicism as the religion of the State; 2d—The conferring of political rights on ecclesiastics; 3d—A modification of the law of expropriation, or the law Lerdo, so as to favor the clergy, &c. M Juarez is violently opposed to these views. He has already tendered his resignation once, but withdrew it for the purpose of employing his official influence to combat Comonfort's demonstrations of weakness.

GREAT FIRE IN CHARLOTTETOWN.—On Tuesday morning, the 22d inst, about 6 o'clock, the inhabitants of Charlottetown were aroused from their slumber by the alarming cry of "Fire!" Flames were first observed issuing from the roof of the building in Water Street, recently occupied by Messrs. Peebles as a blacksmith's forge and blockmaking shop, which spread with great rapidity, and speedily communicated to the adjoining buildings. The tobacco manufactory of Mr. G. F. C. Lowden on the west, and the dwelling-house and out-buildings of Mr. Samuel Batt, Blacksmith, on the east, were soon enveloped in flames and totally consumed. From the dwelling of the latter, the devouring element passed to the new three story building belonging to Mr. Thomas Williams, Sail maker, formerly of this City, but now in New Zealand the lower portions of which were occupied by Mr B. Davis, as an Auction Mart, and the upper story by Mr. Cobb, as a sail loft. This building was also totally consumed, the flames, meanwhile, communicating in their destructive progress with the handsome two-story dwelling of Robert Longworth, Esq., which, notwithstanding the most strenuous and persevering efforts to prevent it, was also burnt to the ground. Here, fortunately, the progress of the flames was arrested. Between Mr. Longworth's dwelling and Mr. James Connell's brick building a vacant space of several feet intervened; and Mr. Connell having taken the precaution to protect the gable and roof of the latter with wet blankets, &c, his building fortunately escaped without sustaining any injury.

The origin of the fire as at present involved in mystery. Various rumors are afloat respecting it; and we trust, for the credit of all parties concerned, that a thorough investigation will at once be instituted by the proper authorities and the result laid before the public.—*Monitor.*

A CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIAL SCIENCE.—Some people, mostly old gentlemen, demand to know, what is the use of teaching people music, or, as fine speakers say, "cultivating the musical faculty of the population?" The use is this; that if you could improve the musical taste of the British Public, they would not stand organ grinders any more, and your sight would no longer be offended with grinning vagrants, and your ears with "*Keemo, kimo.*"—Punch.

The Chronicle.

St. John, N. B., January 8, 1858.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, December 18.

Fuller intelligence from the seat of war, the spot on which the hopes and fears of so many thousands throughout the empire are rested, gives us greater confidence of a speedy and successful issue to our operations in Oude. On the 9th of November Sir Colin Campbell telegraphed from Cawnpore that all was right at Lucknow. If this means what it appears to convey, it would seem that the garrison could hold out until reinforcements reached them. Our beleaguered countrymen and women would not long be kept in suspense. Concentrated at Alumbagh, within three miles of the Residency, though not able to communicate with it, was, at the date of the last advices, Colonel Greathed's Delhi column of 3,000 men, with plenty of provisions. The Commander-in-Chief was also about to march to the same spot with troops estimated at nearly 7,000. These would altogether constitute an irresistible force, and Nana Sahib with his murderous crew have, we hope, enjoyed their last triumph, and must prepare for their final annihilation. We write of these things involuntarily in the present tense, though the tragedy has no doubt long ago been played out.

A supplement to the *Gazette* of Tuesday contains an interesting despatch from General Havelock of the mode in which the relief of the Residency was accomplished by the force under his command. The advance through three miles of streets of flat roofed houses, each loop-holed, and forming a fortress in itself, was a most perilous operation. From the language employed we gather that a rush was made through the town, that the men could not even stay to carry off their wounded officers and companions. No fewer than 461 officers and men fell in this bloody progress—a proportion to the whole number of those engaged which shows how fatal must have been the enemy's fire. It is to be hoped that the greater part of these were at once killed, but the wounded too were left in the hands of a merciless foe. What these "mercies" are we may gather from the experience of Delhi, where our wounded soldiers were chained to stakes and burned to death; or were horribly mutilated and left to die in agony. General Havelock's despatch is dated Sept. 20th. It seems to have been forwarded by native agency, in a quill, or in some other secret manner, and the language is disjoined and the document in some parts incomplete. Another letter from an officer in the Residency, which is dated Sept. 27, and is believed to contain the latest from the garrison, is written in a very sanguine strain, and declares that our soldiers have plenty of food and ammunition, good quarters and stout hearts, while the enemy though numerous are cowardly, and are in want of iron and lead for their artillery. If this letter is to be credited there need hardly be fear for Havelock and Outram. Sir Colin Campbell on his part had a narrow escape of capture by a party of the mutineers whilst travelling between Benares and Cawnpore. It seems that he was riding in a carriage unattended by any escort, and that had the enemy's troopers made a dash they might have taken him and all his staff prisoners with the greatest of ease. Here is one of the chances of war. As it is, relieved from this premature termination of his labours, Sir Colin will now assume the command in Oude, and as his force will be strengthened by constant arrivals his task will not be difficult.

Bushire has been evacuated, and the Island of Karrak is now the only piece of Persian soil holden by our troops. Even this will be surrendered when it is known for certain that Herat has been given up, and the other conditions of the treaty complied with. Having just finished this little affair with Persia we can now turn our attention to another antagonist. China with its millions upon millions of inhabitants remains to be chastised. The work will now, it seems, not long be delayed. Canton is to be occupied, that is the first point resolved on. Then, if the Court of Pekin remains obdurate, the supplies of rice will be cut off from that capital, the teeming population of which will, it is hoped, when half-starved, force the government to accede to the demands of the barbarians. It seems that General Ashburnham, the military Commander of the expedition is going, (in fact has before this gone) to Calcutta with his staff following the army which he was to have led. The naval authorities will thus have the honour and glory of capturing Canton, and they have received some reinforcements of mariners from home, whose number appears very small in comparison with the work to be done, were it not that one remembers what kind of an enemy the Chinese have always proved themselves. It is doubtful whether the French will take any part in the attack on Canton as they have no quarrel with Commissioner Yeh; but Baron Gross, their Plenipotentiary, has arrived at Hong Kong; the greatest cordiality exists between him and Lord Elgin; and the future operations in regard to Pekin (should any be necessary,) will no doubt be undertaken jointly.

The two Houses have made very quick work of it. Most people supposed they would follow the precedent set in 1852, and continue their labours up to Christmas eve. But Lord Palmerston has a prompt manner with him, and having determined upon attempting to have nothing but the Indemnity Bill, there was really no reason why the winter session should be prolonged. The measure just referred to was acknowledged by all to be inevitable, and was agreed to without opposition in either House. As to General Havelock's pension, the feeling was quite the opposite. Nearly everybody was of opinion that, in conferring upon the gallant officer a title descendible to his son, the pension ought to have been made descendible also; and it was considered, moreover, that £1000 per annum was not an adequate reward for such services as he had rendered. Seeing the general impression existing among the members—and hearing too that the Havelock family are poor, and depend entirely upon the pay received by the male branches—Lord Palmerston consented to reconsider the subject, and if necessary, make a new proposal. In February a great variety of topics will come up for treatment. Lord John's Jew Bill, Mr. Duncombe's attempt to seat Baron Rothschild by resolution of the House of Commons, Sir George Grey's Corporation Reform Bill, and lastly, India will prove highly spiced dishes for discussion. It is much to be doubted whether our representatives will come to the bottom of such a bill of fare by August, 1858.

Before Parliament assembles our young Princess will be borne—a Royal bride—across the seas. On the 25th of January the Chapel Royal, St James's, will be the scene of a ceremony which is to be modelled on the marriage of the Queen and Prince Albert.

At the time we write the *Leviathan* has not reached her "native element" although the sum expended upon the operations connected with the launch already amounts to £80,000. Mr. Brunel speaks confidently of completing the launch at the next trial, and even if successful it is said the cost will not be less than £100,000. The cost of building a dry dock would have been about £50,000. For this the shareholders would have had perfect safety in the launch, and the dock itself would afterwards have paid at least ten per cent on the money expended in building. Surely this would have been better than throwing away £100,000 with nothing to show for it. Mr. Brunel has evidently miscalculated. Is he right in attempting to slide iron upon iron? We have an idea that he procures adhesion by the contact. However we shall rejoice to hear that this long and troublesome affair reaches a successful issue.

LATER FROM EUROPE.
IMPROVEMENT IN THE MONEY MARKET.

HALIFAX January 21 1858.

The Niagara from Liverpool, 10.30 A M, 9th, arrived here 12.30, A. M., Saturday, January 21.

Money Market.—On the 16th there was a further decided tendency to relaxation among the discount houses, and selected bills were readily negotiated at from 8½ to 9 per cent, demand at the Bank was very light: funds were buoyant, owing to continued influx of gold to Bank, and consequent expectation of speedy reduction in rate of discount.

Several failures announced.

At Hamburg rate of discount receded to 9 per cent.

On the 17th there was increased confidence and a rise in funds under influence of Atlantic's news and specie money in good supply and applications at Bank light.

Official statement of affairs of Western Bank of Scotland shew liabilities over eight millions nine hundred thousand sterling, and a deficiency in the assets of over 300 000.

THE LEVIATHAN.—Operations were resumed upon the Leviathan on the 16th, but with most tremendous pressure vessel was only moved about three feet, when work was suspended *sine die.* No less than three hydraulic rams, one powerful crab or windlass, and the double chains which drag the vessel towards the river having been all burst or broken—*Times* thinks half the hydraulic presses in the Kingdom will be required to overcome difficulties.

Admiral Sir F. Beaufort is dead.

Another public meeting in favour of reform for India has been held in London

FRANCE.—Rumoured in Paris that Emperor intends to remit portion of punishment incurred by the *Presse*, and that a general amnesty for press offences will appear in Moniteur on New Year's Day. Also said that decree of exile which exists against Generals Bedeau and Changarnier is to be repealed.

Bank of France reduced rate of discount to 6 per cent for all descriptions of bills; additional confidence was inspired by this, and funds closed on 18th at 67.50.

BELGIUM.—The Belgian legislature commenced its session without any formality.

On 15th Prince DeLigne was appointed President of Senate

Was officially announced that Duchess Brabant was in interesting condition.

THE HAGUE.—In the second Chambers a resolution in favor of abolition of usury law was adopted after an important debate.

SPAIN.—An amnesty for political offences in the transatlantic possessions of Spain has been granted. Meeting of Cortes postponed till January 10, when Queen will open Session in person.

SARDINIA.—Legislative Session opened at Turin 14th. King in Speech hoped for cordial co-operation in the development of liberal principles, which are the immovable basis of the national policy; and referring to continued interruption of relations with Austria said civil and commercial intercourse of the two countries was not in the least disturbed thereby.

RUSSIA.—A despatch from St. Petersburg announces an important victory over the Tcherkesses—a great number being killed and a number of villages burned.

NORWAY.—Commercial crisis in Norway continued very severe.

SWEDEN.—A number of new and important failures is reported in Sweden. Government proposes to borrow 12,000,000 thalers to assist merchants.

DENMARK.—Bank of Denmark advanced nearly 2,000,000 francs to a house charged to maintain relations between Banks in Denmark and Germany.

VERY LATEST.

By Tel. to Liverpool.—London, Saturday morning—Times City Article. Funds opened with great steadiness this morning, and experienced before close of business further advance of 1-2 per cent. Bank return was expected to be very favorable; and it shows a further increase of £1 331,366 in stock bullion. Both bullion and reserve, even supposing £2,000,000 of over issue to be deducted from the latter, are now higher than in April last, when rate of discount was only 6 1-2 per cent.

In Stock Exchange the supply of money is abundant; and in discount market best paper can be readily negotiated at from 8 1-2 to 9 per cent. At bank demand continues limited, and resources of the establishment are augmenting with such rapidity, that a reduction from the minimum rate of 10 per-cent. seems hardly likely to be delayed beyond Thursday next.

At Hamburg the crisis appears likely to be partially subsiding.

A memorial has been presented to Lord Palmerston praying him to make provision for granting suffrage to certain classes by virtue of their educational acquirements. The memorial is signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Oxford, several noblemen and a large number of gentlemen connected with the Universities.

Mr. Verhagen, a distinguished liberal, has been elected President of the Belgian Legislature. A moderate course of action is expected from the victorious liberals.

MARKETS.

Consols, for account, 92 2-4.

In Cotton, a downward tendency has been still further developed.

Breadstuffs generally improved.

Provision market continues inactive.

Sugar declined 6d to 1s per cwt.

Coffee unchanged. Rice depressed. Tea irregular and rates favorable to buyers.

Nothing doing in Molasses.

Timber.—Yellow Pine 16d to 20d; Red 13d to 15d. Spruce 16d to 17d. Birch 16d to 20d.

Deals—£7 10 to £8 10s.

Freights.—Boston, 17s 7d; New York, 5s 7s 6d; New Orleans, 8s to 10s.

SHIP NEWS.

Arrived—18th, American, Liverpool; 12th, Arthur White, Gravesend; 11th, Frank, Dublin; 16th, Harmonides, Robert A. Lewis, Liverpool; 11th, Themis, Dublin.

☞ To-morrow, Saturday, will be the last day for receiving names in the Draft for the Fishery.

[From the New-Brunswicker.]

COMMON COUNCIL.

A special meeting of the Common Council was held on Tuesday last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of the difficulties between Mr. Crosby, the lessee of the Corporation Steam Ferry Boats, and the Board. The whole matter had been referred to a Committee of the Common Council to report upon, and the Council had to decide at that meeting whether they would accept of Mr. Crosby's propositions, or go on with the suits instituted by the Corporation against Mr. Crosby, as Judge Wilmot had come down to try these causes, and the Court was to open that day. The Committee consisted of seven members, four of whom signed the following Report, and two a minority Report, one of them, Alderman Strange, refusing to sign either:—

The Committee appointed by the Common Council to take into consideration the several matters connected with the suit now pending between H. B. Crosby and others and the Corporation, have attended to that duty, and respectfully submit the following Report:

The Committee assembled at their room on Monday the 4th inst. at 11 o'clock a. m., and were met by Mr. Crosby and his Attorney, Mr. Duff, who on behalf of Mr. Crosby laid before the Committee two propositions for their approval, as follows:—First, that the Corporation repay him the amount of £1500 and cancel the lease, and take back the boats.

Second, or he would keep the boats and pay £250 a-year rent from the 1st April 1854, for the period of ten years, the Corporation to deduct the amount of rent at that rate out of the monies already paid by him, the residue of these monies to be applied in payment of the purchase money of the boats—Crosby to keep the boats in proper repair and running on the ferry, and to give satisfactory security on the boats and otherwise for the faithful performance of his contract.

At the expiration of the lease, the Corporation to have the refusal of the boats at a valuation, and to pay for any permanent improvements on the wharves and boats.

These propositions are made without prejudice to the legal rights of either party in the suits now pending in the Court, if no arrangement being effected.

(Signed) H. B. CROSBY.

4th Jan. 1858.

Neither of which proposals can the Committee recommend to the Common Council for their approval. The Court then adjourned at 1 o'clock p.m. and met again at 3 p.m.

Wm. Wright, Esq., came before the Committee, and on behalf of Mr. Crosby laid before them the following proposal, viz:—that Mr. Crosby should give up to the Corporation the two boats, the lease of the ferries, and all the properties, rights and privileges connected therewith, provided the Corporation should relinquish all claims against him, and his endorsers from the suits now pending, and pay him £500, with interest, in ten years, by a bond.

After a deliberate consultation of the whole matter, your Committee are of the opinion that the proposal should be accepted, and therefore recommend the acception and adoption by the Common Council. Respectfully submitted

JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER,
EDWARD B. PETERS,
JOHN McGRATH,
CHARLES KETCHUM.

The minority Report, after noticing the propositions submitted by Mr Crosby, from which the signers dissent, express their willingness to do all in their power to grant any reasonable measure of relief to Mr. Crosby or any other gentleman indebted to the Corporation, but state:—

When a proposition is made to this Board for a reduction in one of its leases from £1200 to £250 per annum, together with several other heavy abatements; we, as members of the Common Council, sworn to a faithful discharge of our duty to the public, feel conscientiously bound to oppose and record our votes against the adoption of any measure by which we believe the City Treasury will be deprived of several thousands of pounds. We are therefore opposed, and recommend to the Board the adoption of the following resolution—

Resolved, That it is not expedient for this Board to interfere with the suits now pending between the Corporation and Mr. Crosby in their present stage. Respectfully submitted.

S. K. FOSTER,
THOS. McAVITY.

A warm discussion ensued on the reading of these reports. Alderman Fairweather argued that it was better for the Board to settle the matter at once by agreeing to Mr. Crosby's proposition. Several other members followed on the same side, thinking that the first loss was the easiest to be got over—that Mr. Crosby had made a bad bargain, and if the suits were pressed he would be ruined, &c. Aldermen Foster and McAvity contended that Mr. Crosby had entered into a contract with the Corporation—that he was bound by that Contract, and that in justice to the Citizens, they could not support so extraordinary a course of proceeding.

His Worship the Mayor spoke energetically on the subject, denouncing the majority report. He said it would be a very bad precedent to set, and would lead to very mischievous results. The report gave no valid reasons why Mr. Crosby should be relieved from his obligations, and he pronounced it the wildest which had ever been submitted to that or any other Board.

After some cross firing between the Mayor and one or two members of the Board, the amendment to the report, signed by Messrs. Foster and McAvity, was put, when only four voted in favour of it, viz., Aldermen Foster, McAvity and Strange, and Councillor Coxetter.

Alderman Fairweather then moved that the report be accepted, and the recommendation carried out, when Councillor Lockhart moved that the original motion with the words, "and pay him £500 with interest in ten years by a bond," be struck out, be adopted, which was lost.

The report was then put and carried by the following division—Yeas, Aldermen Fairweather, McGrath, Peters, and Ketchum, and Councillors Reed, Wilson, Colwell, and Adams. The other members voting in the negative.

As much excitement prevails among the citizens respecting this decision of the Board, we would merely remark at present, that when Mr. Crosby leased the steam ferry, which was nearly four years ago, he agreed to give £1200 per annum for the ferry for ten years, and £3250 for the boats. He has since paid £1035 on account of the boats and £3000 for the ferry lease leaving a balance of £1500 against him for the ferry. This sum the Corporation by their vote on Tuesday relieved him from, and gave him at the same time £500 in the bargain! The people must naturally come to the conclusion that they have a singular set of men at the Council Board to transact their business; we shall refer to the matter again.

☞ The arrest of the filibuster Walker is arousing the ire of the fire eaters in the United States. Among certain members of Congress the feeling of indignation at his capture is very great. A dispatch from Washington of last Saturday says that on Monday the Committees on Foreign Relations in the Senate and House will offer resolutions calling upon the President for all the information in the possession of the Government touching Walker's movements in Central America; and that the President will communicate a short message to Congress in which the views of the administration will be set forth. While the President will reiterate, in strong terms his objections to the filibustering movements, referring Congress to his recent message upon that subject, he will, at the same time, disavow and condemn the act of Com. Paulding. In reference to recalling Paulding, the Administration will not attempt that at present.

ASTOUNDING DEVELOPEMENT.—One of the disaffected Smashers has in an article which recently appeared in one of the Morning papers, showed that the little Chief of the Railway Board has been manufacturing the grossest favouritism towards some of their party, as large and extensive contracts have been entered into without even an advertisement appearing for tenders. Not only are Locomotives costing thousands of pounds, built without an opportunity being afforded for others to tender, but a number of costly passenger Cars to be built are given to an individual under similar circumstances. The job given to Mr. Marshall for making iron shoes, as a reward for the leather he has worn out in running for his party, may be allowed to pass, as it was reported he wanted a Deputy Sheriffship. The government may therefore be excused in getting rid of his claims in this manner. The disclosures of a Smasher has been like the throwing of a fire brand among tow—the greatest consternation is visible among them—this is only the beginning of the end. The secrecy and mystery connected with the management of Railway affairs by the one man power is opening the eyes of numbers who have been disposed to view the movements of the present party with favour. The public are certainly being imposed on in a way we believe they are not prepared to submit to. Mr. Jardine may be a very honest man, at the same time if he has any favorites to reward, let him do it at his own and not at the expense of the public.

BARRING & BROTHERS.—The Government organs confess that the Provincial Bonds are selling at a premium. Had it not been that the late Government declined completing the arrangement made with Messrs. Barring, by Mr. Fisher, the premiums instead of being credited to the Province would have gone to enrich the English Bankers. A little time will suffice to prove the superior financial abilities of the late over the present Government. When the party in power left office over eighteen months ago, the Provincial chest was empty, and if they were to leave it to-morrow it would be in the same condition. What little financial character they enjoy is the result of a policy they inaugurated when first clothed with power, viz. of puffing one another. They passed the word round you cry me up and I'll cry you, and so they have been at it ever since, and so they will keep at it, so long as £600 per annum can be made out of it.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.—This Book for the Ladies' exceeds anything of the kind on the broad-side of the Atlantic. We have received the January number which excels all Godey's former efforts. The plates are beautiful and it is filled with the choicest reading. For sale at all the Book Stores.

Commodore Paulding, of the United States Squadron at Nicaragua, has arrested the filibuster Walker and his force at Punta Arenas, and sent them to the United States. The American Government it would appear has a strong desire to countenance fillibustering, and have thought the Commodore has exceeded his instructions, and consequently ordered him home.

☞ At a Special meeting of the Saint John County Grand Loyal Orange Lodge, the following Resolution was submitted and carried unanimously—

Resolved, that this County Grand Lodge will use all lawful means in their power to frustrate the attempt to have the Bible excluded from our Common Schools, and request our Sister Lodges throughout the Province to co-operate in the good cause.

OBITUARY.—It is a melancholy duty at any time to record the death of an individual friend or acquaintance, but how much more so at this festive season that of one in the springtime of youth and hope. On Saturday morning, the 2nd instant, BEVERLY ROBINSON, Junior Esq, Barrister-at-Law, after an illness of a few weeks duration, was called away from earth at the early age of 26 years. It is only necessary to mention his name in a community where he has been so well and so favorably known, to draw forth a universal feeling and expression of sympathy for his bereaved family. His uniformly excellent deportment and upright conduct in public and private were such as to command that measure of respect and esteem which only the deserving obtain; and it is not too much to say of him that no young man in St John gave greater promise of a long life of usefulness to society and of honor and credit to himself. It will be a ground of thankfulness and a pleasing reflection for his parents to know that he, their only son, to whom they looked with all confidence and in all human probability, as their support and comfort in their declining years, was held in such deservedly high estimation in the community. In society his death has occasioned a void not to be easily filled up.—*British Constitution.*

A very interesting meeting of Teachers connected with the several Sunday Schools of the Church of England, in this city, was held last Thursday evening in the School Room of St John's Church—The Rev. Dr. Gray and the Rev. G. M. Armstrong were present on the occasion. The proceedings were opened by singing a hymn and prayer; after which reports were read by the Superintendents of three of the schools, shewing the state and prospects of each, and the number of teachers and children in attendance. There are four schools in the city, with 93 teachers and 1010 children, the average attendance of children being 715. A very excellent address was then delivered by Dr. Gray, full of counsel and encouragement to the teachers, and also by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong, and after singing a hymn and prayer, the meeting separated.

The amount contributed by the congregation of St. Luke's to the Rev. W. Harrison, as a Christmas donation amounted to £105. This is extremely honorable to all concerned.—*Witness.*

We are requested to give notice, that the annual meeting of the subscribers to the St. John Orphan Asylum, for the election of Directors, according to the act of incorporation, for the ensuing year, is to be held on Monday the 11th instant at half-past four o'clock, P. M. at the Grammar School, Horsfield street.

CALVIN CHURCH.—The new Presbyterian Church, which we noticed briefly last week, was dedicated to God on Sabbath last. Services were held morning and afternoon by Rev. Mr Alves, the pastor, and in the evening by Rev. Mr. Ferrie. The church was literally crowded, and the galleries, which are yet unfinished, contained at each service over two hundred people. Many were unable to get a seat anywhere. One circumstance deserves particular notice, viz: that though a Presbyterian Church, still we saw present many persons belonging to other denominations of the Church of God. Methodists, Baptists, and Episcopalians were there, and we trust that no very long time will elapse when a unity of all denominations will take place, according to the spirit of the Gospel; when, instead of individual congregations the anti-Christ of the age will have to contend with a united Church.—*British Constitution.*

It is stated that the Halifax and Windsor Railroad will be open in a few days. On the 30th and 31st ult. an engine and passenger carriage made the through journey.