BRITISH NEWS.

DISSOLUTION OF THE MINISTRY.

DEATH OF EARL SPENCER.—We regret to hear of the death of the venerable Earl Spencer, which took place on Monday at a quarter past three o'clock, p.m. at his country seat, Althorp-park, Northamptonshire. His Lordship has not for a considerable period taken an active part in politics, though deeply interested in them during the revolutionary war. Having been first Lord of the Admiralty at the period of the most brilliant success of our navy, his name will be ever connected with our national glory. We believe this was the most important office the noble earl held, and his services in that situation will be long remembered by the profession. By his death Lord Althorp goes to the upper house. Earl Spencer was born on the 1st September, 1758, and was consequently, rather more than seventy-six years of age. His Lordship had several sons, one of whom, Sir B. Spencer, a captain of the army, died about two years ago. Two others of his sons have been known to the public, one as a gallant officer, the other on account of the change in his religion. His Lordship was a Trustee to the British Museum, a Governor of the Charter-house, and an Elder Brother of the Trinity-house, a Knight of the Garter, &c. Through a long life, passed amidst scenes of party violence, he commanded universal respect. For many years he was a magnificent patron of the arts, and in him the lovers of bibliography will lose a most valuable and tasteful patron.

The London Times of the 15th Nov. says—

"We have no authority for the important statement which follows, but we have every reason to believe that it is perfectly true. We give it, without any comment or amplification, in the very words of the communication, which reached us at a late hour last night, or rather at an early hour this morning:

"The King has taken the opportunity of Lord Spencer's death to turn out the ministry; and there is every reason to believe that the Duke of Wellington has been sent for. The Queen has done it all."

The Chronicle confirms this information in less ambiguous terms—

"We have to communicate the astounding intelligence, that Lord Melbourne's administration has ceased to exist. His Lordship repaired to the King on Thursday, and returned last night to announce to his colleagues the event. His majesty, we learn, expressed no dissatisfaction with Lord Melbourne's administration; but he let it be understood that he considered it at an end with the death of the late Earl Spencer, and the consequent removal of the present earl to the House of Lords."

From the London Albion, Nov. 15.

We mentioned on Thursday that Lord Melbourne had gone to Brighton to confer with the King upon the peculiar position of affairs. His Lordship having with his accustomed frankness (a most un-Whiggish characteristic) stated to his Majesty the circumstances in which the administration was placed, his Majesty felt it necessary to make such changes as would give greater strength to his government than such circumstances afforded any prospect of, and pronounced the administration to be dissolved.

We presume that no man of sense and political information in this country, has been of any other opinion for the last two months, than that very important changes in the Government should necessarily take place, by the time Parliament met, or very shortly after. The death of Lord Spencer, and the consequent removal of Lord Althorp from the House of Commons, has precipitated these changes. There is no man in London at this moment [not even he who is most *likely* to be Prime Minister] who can say what the *new* arrangements will be, or what will be the *particular* character of the new Administration.

We neither expect nor wish for, a *violent* Administration. We desire to see, and we believe the sound, reflecting, and eventually the most *powerful* part of the country, desires to see, an Administration composed of known and tried men of sense, and experience, and high character—men who will support the church, and support the monarchy, but do so soberly, prudently, firmly, making allowance for facts and even prejudices, which they know to exist, but opposing steady resistance to mere clamour, and truculent assumptions of that which is not true. We desire in short to see an administration composed of such as *all* must admit to be men of sense and gentlemen—men attached to the leading institutions of the country, and very jealous of any change in them, but still with their ears ever open to reasonableness, though it come in the "questionable shape" of Reform. We must have no more characterless speculators—no more men bound to the chariot wheels of Revolution, and desiring not the stability of the Monarchy, but the applause of the mob. We must have no more tricksters,—no more gamblers in politics *for their own* advancement. The ministers we shall have now, must look to the country, and to nothing else.

It is of course known to most of our readers that Sir Robert Peel is on the continent, and almost all the leading members of the Tory party out of town. The Speaker of the House of Commons was in town up to the hour of our going to press. In our *opinion* he will have made a journey to Brighton, before we go to press again.

From the Times, November 17.

"We think it right to take this opportunity of stating that the passage (in the communication sent to us on Saturday morning) relating to the Queen, has no foundation in fact. Her Majesty had not the slightest concern with this revolution in the Cabinet. Having without examination, and under the first excitement of such extraordinary intelligence, published a statement which seemed to bear hard upon her Majesty, we have sincere pleasure in giving this decided contradiction, and in declaring our belief that the Queen is not capable of any undue intermeddling with public affairs, or of attempting—what we are sure she could not accomplish if she did—to exercise any influence upon the mind of her Royal Consort, in what relates to his sole authority as Sovereign."

With respect to the future administration the same paper adds—

"The Duke of Wellington has accepted office *pro tempore*—that is to say, he desires to reserve himself until the return of Sir R. Peel, who is at present abroad. It is believed that the Duke would be willing to enter upon the discharge of the duties of Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and cede the post of Premier to the right hon. baronet, if the latter should be disposed to take that high station in preference to any other. There is also no doubt that his Majesty has expressed a strong and earnest desire that Mr. Stanley should be included in the Government. If these things be true,—and the authority upon which we receive them compels us to believe them so,—it is obviously premature and unreasonable to declare that the administration about to be formed will set their faces against all reform. Was Mr. Stanley opposed to all reform? We do not say that he will choose to join the administration; but in the fact that the king desires that he should join it, we think we can discover, without any affectation of sagacity, a determination in favour of, not against, the removal of the reform of abuses. But it will be said that the *amount* of the reform to be achieved is a most important consideration, and that the country will not be contented with as little reform as it got last session. We fully accede to this opinion; but what did the Lord Chancellor tell the people in the north? Why, that if *little* were done in the last session, *less* would be done in the *next* session. Was there anything very promising to the country in any, or to the reformers in particular, in this? We think not; and we cannot discover the slightest ground for apprehending that, however ingeniously Conservative the Duke may happen to be, he can possibly do less than Lord Brougham threatened to content himself with doing (vouching at the same time for his colleagues) in the next session of Parliament.

"Surely some of our contemporaries err exceedingly in supposing that any minister could in these times put down reform, or that any man is to be found insane enough to let slip any opportunity of maintaining peace abroad, and content, by economy and retrenchment, at home. Such apprehensions must be affected: no rational man can seriously entertain them. We have no fear (because the event is impossible) that the march of reform and retrenchment can be impeded; and we are confident that our friendly relations with foreign powers will be maintained; for wantonly to disturb them would be to plunge the country in expenses which it could not bear, and raise up the ministers an enemy on every foot of ground throughout the empire.

"What the measures of the new administration will be, no one, we suppose will venture to predict. It should however be stated that the friends of the Duke of Wellington declare that he thinks '*a great church reform necessary and inevitable*;' and that generally, he will be found friendly to all *sound and sincere reform*.' Time will show what is meant by these general expressions.

"It is difficult we think, for any one to believe that the dismissal of the late ministers was not the result of preconcerted intrigue: yet we owe it to fairness and justice to state, that men of high character positively assert that the fact is not so. They do not, however, affect to conceal that the change which has taken place has long been a cherished project of his Majesty. Lord Melbourne was the bearer of the King's communication to the Duke of Wellington. The Secretaries of State have already received an intimation to attend the Council to-day for the purpose of delivering up the seals. Some people complain of this as rather sharp practice;—which, in truth, it is."

From the same.

The dismissal of Lord Melbourne's Cabinet says a temporary obstruction, and nothing more in the path of that great experiment which has been making during the last four years to apply to Great Britain the principles and practice of a Government directly influenced by the people. The present is not the first unfortunate incident which has occurred in the course of this momentous trial. But the experiment is one which cannot eventually fail; for the end is rooted in the heart of the nation, and happily, in the very first stage of the proceeding, the most ample means of ultimate success were provided for us, which never can, by any exertion of violence or fraud, be revoked. But in the mean time, what dreadful evils may be perpetrated! Providentially, upon the *score* of practical good government, Lord Grey's reform Cabinet was unanimous, at least its internal disagreements here no visible fruits, and the Reform Bill itself, the key of power, became the law of England. The first Grey Cabinet broke up upon the extent to which the machinery furnished by the Reform Bill should be applied to the reorganization of the Irish church establishment. The chief of that Cabinet was hustled out upon another Irish question not ostensibly connected with the church, and less through the positive treachery, we apprehend, than the meddling and morbid spirit of intrigue inherent in a well known person.

From the Morning Herald.

Few political events have created so much sensation as that we witnessed here this day on the announcement that his Majesty had dismissed the late, or rather the Melbourne Administration. In addition to this we received information that the newly constructed ministry in Paris has also already resigned. It therefore may readily be imagined, that these singular events formed the only topics of conversation during the day; and as it was inferred that the foreign policy of this country would probably be altered, of course the English and Foreign Securities, have been subjected to considerable fluctuations. Amongst certain parties an attempt had been made to raise gloomy speculations upon the change which must ensue as regards the common interests of the Country; to us, however, it appears that the most general feeling is that there is plenty of room for improvement in the different interests of this combined community—composed, as it is, of capitalists, agriculturists, manufacturers, traders, and ship-owners; indeed little has been done since the passing of the Reform Bill towards placing any portion of these great interests in a situation not exposed to constant jeopardy. Under such circumstances it cannot be wondered at that hopes should be raised by the anticipated change of measures that is likely to follow.

Speculations of all sorts have been rife here to-day as to what circumstances may have induced his Majesty to take this important step. It is not our province to enter into all of them, but the strongest impression is that the King has not been pleased with the erratic mountebanking of Lord Brougham most especially, and of Lord Durham secondly, two Peers who have adopted a Cobbett-like system of public lecturing, since it has reflected but little credit upon the House of Commons, and is likely to confer infinitely less dignity upon the House of Peers. Another opinion has prevailed that Lord Melbourne felt the difficulty of securing a leader in the House of Commons, who would be able to ensure the confidence of that body, under the late ministry, and this circumstance is thought to have left the King without no alternative but to receive the resignations of the whole of them.

The *Morning Chronicle* says—"Strange as it may appear, a Tory Administration will forthwith appear on the Stage; the Whigs deliver up the Seals of office this day, and their successors will be installed immediately. Some of the arrangements will probably be postponed until the return of Sir Robert Peel, who is now in Florence, and to whom an express was immediately sent off. The *Duke of Wellington* having been entrusted with the formation of a Ministry, is of course First Lord of the Treasury, and it is understood *Lord Ellenborough* is Foreign Secretary; Sir *C. Mackers Sutton* to be Home Secretary; Sir *Geo. Murray* to have the Colonies. What will be offered to Sir *Robert Peel* has not transpired; it is possible he may be Chancellor of the Exchequer. Lord *Aberdeen* is personally disagreeable to Louis Phillippe, and will not therefore occupy his former place of Foreign Secretary. He may possibly be President of the Council, or fill some such office. It may be taken for granted that Lord *Lyndhurst* will be Chancellor.

"A dissolution of parliament may be expected forthwith—in a fortnight we believe. Some of the Tories have already taken their measures with reference to it. Sir John Beckett, for instance, is gone to Leeds.—With the present House of Commons, the Duke of Wellington could not exist a week."

From the London Albion, Nov. 17—Evening.

It is now known that the Duke of Wellington was sent for by the King on Friday night, at the same time that Lord Melbourne left his Majesty. The Duke, who was at Stratfieldsaye, arrived at Brighton at five o'clock on Saturday. He had an immediate audience of the King, and remained for an hour and a half in conference with his Majesty. His Grace afterwards dined with the Royal party, and slept at the Pavilion. He came to town yesterday morning.

The Duke of Wellington is Prime Minister, and as we learn from the *Morning Post*, will hold provisionally the office of Secretary of State for the Home Department. We do not know that his Grace has received the Seals of that department, but the announcement in the *Post* has all the appearance of being made by authority.

It is understood that no permanent arrangement will be made until Sir Robert Peel has been communicated with. An express was despatched to Italy for Sir Robert, whose return may be looked for in about three weeks.

In the mean time all that can be confidently asserted is, that the whole of the late Administration is finally out, and that there is neither hope, nor suspicion, of its return to office.

It is rumoured that the Speaker, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, and Lord Ellenborough, will all act with the Duke of Wellington in the new Administration. We state this merely as a rumour of a probability.

Among the Conservative party we observe the most cordial disposition to act with firmness, with calmness, and with union. From all present appearances nothing can be more improbable than that there should arise any practical difficulties from such shades of difference in political sentiment, as the public may suppose (and with reason) to exist among the party. In short there is every reason to believe that a strong, prudent, moderate, resolute Government will be formed, and so far as we can see, the public have no doubt that such will be the case. The Funds are rather better than they were in the morning.

The impression of the *truth* seems to become stronger and stronger every hour—namely, that the Whigs have destroyed themselves. They were in a state of weakness and difficulty, which, when fairly stated to his Majesty, as it was by Lord Melbourne, left his Majesty no other course, as a patriotic Monarch, but to call to his Councils, men who are able and willing to conduct the Government without sacrificing the Church and the Monarchy, and the institutions which sustain them. It had moreover become apparent that as any vacancy occurred in the Government, it could not be filled up by the Whigs, without altogether sacrificing the respectability and responsibility of the office, to the *necessity* of the case. The late instance of the Solicitor-Generalship, which they had to bestow upon an almost unknown gentleman, made a very strong impression at Court, and it was aggravated to something unendurable by the proposition to make Mr. Littleton Chancellor of the Exchequer, only because he was likely to be returned to Parliament if appointed.

The Whigs in trying to ruin others have ruined themselves—they have done their worst—let them not now think of mercy from those they have so much wronged, and so long endeavoured to insult.

ALMON OFFICE, *London, Nov. 17.*
Second Edition—Four o'clock.

Lord Lyndhurst will, we believe, be the new Lord Chancellor.

Sir James Scarlett, it is probable, will be the new Chief Baron of the Exchequer, with a Peerage.

Sir C. Wetherell, Attorney-General.

Mr. Pollock or Mr. Follett, Solicitor-General.

The following Noblemen and Gentlemen were with the Duke of Wellington, waiting the arrival of the King:—Lord Lyndhurst, Lord Maryborough, Lord Jersey, Lord Rosslyn, Lord Cowley, Sir C. M. Sutton, (the Speaker) Sir H. Hardinge, and Mr. Goulburn.

Expresses have been sent off to the Earl of Aberdeen and Sir George Murray, who are both in Scotland.

LONDON, Dec. 14.

New French Ministry.

The new French Ministry is composed almost entirely of fresh materials.—M. Persil being the only member of the old Ministry who is retained. It is composed as follows:

The Duke of Bassano, Minister of the Interior and President of the Council; M. Teste, Minister of Commerce; M. Bresson, of Foreign Affairs; Gen. Bernard, of War; Charles Dupin, of Marine; M. Passy, of Finance.—*The Duke of Bassano* was born at Dijon in 1763, and of course is 71 years of age.

LONDON, November 17.

Dissolution of the New French Ministry!

Express from Paris.—We have received by express the French Papers of Friday and Saturday, and the *Gazette de France* dated yesterday. Their contents are interesting and important.

The Ministry named by the King of the French, on Tuesday last, existed but *three days*. On Thursday night MM. Passy and Teste, Ministers of Finance and Commerce, resigned. On Friday morning M. Charles Dupin, and at noon the same day the Duc de Bassano and General Bernard followed their example.

The cause assigned for this extraordinary proceeding is the impossibility the new Ministers found of being other to the King than mere automatons. MM. Teste, Passy and C. Dupin, the leaders of the Tier's *Partie*, were, it will be recollected, the most active among the majority of the late Chamber of Deputies that rejected the Bill that would go to authorize the payment of an Indemnity of a million sterling to the United States, for injuries done to American commerce under the operation of the Berlin and Milan decrees. In the first Council at which the new ministers visited the King, its actual President, re-introduced the question, and on it the Tier's party, it is understood, determined on resigning, the King being in favour of the measure. The Due de Bassano had given offence by saying that the accession of himself and his colleagues to power might be regarded as the commenced restoration of the revolution of July—and finding himself deserted by the other three ministers just named, he made a virtue of necessity, and gave in his resignation. Gen. Bernard retired merely because his colleagues had done so. This is all we feel it necessary to state on this part of the subject.

The King was reconstructing his Cabinet with much of its old *materiel*, including MM. Rumonn, Thiers, Persil, and De Rigny.

SUMMARY.

The news of the dissolution of the Ministry has caused a very strong sensation in the City. Many members of the Court of Common Council have agreed to meet in Guildhall this day, at 12, to prepare a requisition to the Lord Mayor for immediately assembling the Court to consider of the measures to be adopted at this important crisis.

The committee of Dissenting Deputies have held a meeting, and passed the following resolution—"That as to church rates, no measure can be satisfactory which will not relieve Dissenters from all compulsory contribution, direct or indirect, for the maintenance of the edifice used by and for the worship of the Established Church; and that they are not able to devise any means of effecting this but by the total abolition of all church rates." *The London Patriot*, one of the organs of the Dissenting body, observes, in reference to this resolution, "Of course care will be taken to prevent its being supposed that such an abolition of church rates as Lord Althorp's bill of last session affected to enact, would be satisfactory to Dissenters. The substitution of a tax over which they would have no control, for one over which they have a powerful control—the present to an Establishment of a good round charge upon the land tax in lieu of a troublesome and uncertain church rate, under the pretence of relieving the Dissenters—would not be tamely submitted to.

Despatches were received yesterday at the Colonial Office from Sir Colin Campbell, Lieut. Governor of Nova-Scotia: from Sir Archibald Campbell, Lieut. Governor of New-Brunswick; and from Lieut. Governor Young, of Prince Edward Island.

Death Warrant of Charles the First.—The reported loss of the death-warrant of King Charles the First, proves erroneous, that document being safe in the possession of the Librarian of the House of Lords, in whose custody it had been placed. Owing to the existing state of the building, it will be deposited by him, for security, in King Edward's Tower, with the MS. Acts of Parliament.

It is understood that the riband of the garter, vacant by the death of Earl Spencer, will be conferred either upon the Duke of Sutherland or the Duke of Hamilton.—*Morning Post.*

Destructive Fire at the Thames Tunnel.—This morning, about one o'clock, a fire broke out on the works of the Thames Tunnel, leading to the shaft at Rotherhithe, about a hundred yards from the scene of the late disastrous conflagration in Church-street. In a few minutes after the first alarm was given, several workshops and sheds were in flames, and the fire soon extended to other buildings and erections connected with the works of this great undertaking. A long range of buildings and workshops belonging to the Thames Tunnel Company, were reduced to ashes, the private residence was gutted, and very few articles saved. It is said the loss to the Thames Tunnel Co. alone will exceed £2000. The Tunnel is uninjured, nor will there be any suspension on the works on account of the fire.

The will of Sir Charles Flower has been proved for £200,000, independently of his freehold property, which is of great value.

The income for the past year of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, was £54,767 9s. 7d.; of the London Society, £45,158 3s. 8d.; and of the Baptist Society, £11,998.

Earl Grey, at his rent day held at Alnwick, on Monday, returned 10 per cent on the rents of his village farms.

At the collection of rent for the last year's crop, Lord Douglas kindly made a deduction of 20 per cent on the rents of the tenants of his estates in Forfarshire.

Trade of the United Kingdom.—The total amount of the declared or real value of the *imports* into the United Kingdom, for the year ending on the 5th January, 1834, was £39,667,347. The *exports* of British produce and manufactures during the same period was £35,521,558.

The malt made in the year ending 5th April, 1834, was—England, 4,257,000 quarters; Scotland, 551,000; Ireland, 256,000. The duty paid on the whole was £5,197,669.

Paper.—The amount of paper made in the United Kingdom, in 1833, was 67,397,861 lbs.; the duty upon which was £752,274.—The exports of paper, in the same period, amounted to 3,163,433 lbs.

Bankrupts.—The total number of bankrupts, from the beginning of the year 1834, to the end of October, was 725.

Several commercial failures have lately occurred at Hamburgh. One Jewish firm in the wool trade, is mentioned as deficient between 70 and £80,000.

We hear of a great number of bankruptcies at St. Petersburgh, Hamburgh and Berlin. Two houses in the latter city have failed for a million of dollars.—*Brussels paper.*

A vessel is announced as about to sail from Liverpool, on a voyage round the world, in which cabin passengers may be accommodated at £150; and that similar trips are to take place every six weeks.

It is a curious fact that in the parish of Great Waldingfield, Suffolk, just a century ago the population amounted to 678 persons, and the poor rate to £84. At this time the number of inhabitants is the same, but the poor rate is £1,108.

There is not now a county in Ireland where the principal landed gentry have not undertaken to pay the tithes of their estates to the clergymen.

At present, Scotch dresses, plaids, &c. are all the rage in Paris. Scotch ribands are also much worn, both within doors, and outside when promenading.

A Woman Suffocated by an Oyster.—On Sunday evening last, an old woman named Ann Tootal, residing in Watson-street, died under the following singular circumstances:—She was taking a walk along Deansgate with another female, when she was attracted by some oysters in a cellar opposite the end of Bridgewater-street. She purchased one and swallowed it, but complained that it was too small for the money: and with a view of getting a larger one, she crossed the street to another dealer. Here the largest oyster that could be found was opened for her, but, in her haste to swallow it whole, it took a wrong direction and got completely fastened in her windpipe. She screamed out loudly, and was conveyed into Mr. Mann's surgery, but, in a few minutes and before any efforts could be made to extricate the oyster, she was a corpse. On opening the threat after death, the oyster was found completely filling the entrance of the windpipe, and fitting in it as closely as a cork in a well-corked bottle. The deceased was 75 years of age.—*Manchester Courier.*

Emigration from Ireland in 1784.—In the House of Commons of Ireland on Saturday, April 24, Alderman Warren begged leave to inform the House of the alarming degree to which Emigration was now taking place; many ships lately sailed with multitudes of people on board; and there were now three ships in the harbour, each of which would carry away perhaps 300 persons. He had gone on board those ships, and he was sorry to find the persons emigrating were not the profligate, the idle, and the dissolute, but the sober, the honest, and industrious country people, many of them from the counties of Wexford and Kilkenny, Spinners and Combers, who declared they tore themselves away from their native country because they could not procure subsistence in it. This, the Alderman said, was an evil that ought to be stopped, not by any coercive measure, but by making the people happy, and finding employment for them at home; he therefore mentioned the subject, that gentlemen might consider it during the recess; and declared that the man who could devise an effectual remedy would be entitled to the thanks of his country indeed. The question of adjournment to the 11th of May was put, and passed unanimously.

EAST INDIES.—*Sickness and Mortality in Calcutta.*—The great heat which has prevailed for some days with an unclouded sky, most unusual at this period of the year, has produced many fatal cases of fever and a very considerable number of cholera, both among Europeans and among the natives. The latter, if we may judge from what has happened in families within our knowledge, are dying with awful rapidity, and there is a good deal of sickness about in every direction.—*Calcutta, June 1.*

ST. CLAIR RIVER, MICHIGAN.—Both banks of this stream are being settled with a population of the very best kind. They are hardy and industrious, and with assurance of a never failing ready market, are encouraged to go to the very extent of their powers as producers for their neighbors below. There are also among them many persons of intelligence and education, who would do honor to any community. The cause of learning cannot fail of support among such men. On the Canada side are numerously highly polished English families, whose means afford them every comfort and luxury in this rich and fertile land.—Their proximity to each other enables them to preserve their former social habits, and though in a strange land, and in a wilderness, yet they retain many of the privileges and comforts they had at home. They are men of ready capital, and anxious to make the most of it for their children. A few years will find the St. Clair River lined on both sides with farms under the highest state of cultivation; and the convenience of a pleasant and rapid conveyance up and down the river will induce many to make their residence there. The utmost amity prevails between the settlements on both sides of the river, and their deportment towards each other is that of neighbours and fellow-citizens of one community, rather than subjects of distinct foreign governments.—*Detroit Courier.*

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1834.

☞ The friends of the BIBLE SOCIETY will perceive from an Advertisement in this day's paper, that the Annual Meeting is Postponed for the present, on account of the unfavourable state of the Weather.

By the arrival of the November Mail, after a passage of 31 days to Halifax, (having been unusually detained at Falmouth,) we are put in possession of London papers to the 17th ult., from which we have transferred to our columns the most important and interesting matters. These are, especially, the Ministerial changes in England and France. In the former, by the death of Earl Spencer, his son, Lord Althorp, takes his title and seat in the House of Peers, and of necessity, therefore, vacates his office as Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Premier, Lord Melbourne, having thus lost the right hand and stay of his Ministry, had no alternative but to resign the seals of office, in conjunction with the other Ministers of State, which resignations had been unhesitatingly accepted by his Majesty. Various are the speculations of the English Journalists relative to the formation of a new Ministry, and the policy likely to be pursued; and as, at present, every thing of the kind is and must be wholly speculative, we have presented to our readers a variety of such conjectures and comments, gleaned from the principal London papers. One thing, however, appears to be admitted by all, that the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel are most likely to resume office; and it is greatly surmised that their Cabinet will be modified by a combination with some more Whiggish individuals, particularly Lord (late Mr.) E. G. Stanley. In the absence of all positive or authentic information, it would be useless for us to speculate upon such uncertainties, but we may at least venture to express an idea on the principles, though not on the *materiel* of a new cabinet. We confess ourselves to be neither Whig nor Tory, in the extreme sense of the word, for we abhor *ultra-ism* in either case. "*In medias tutissimus ibis*," is our favourite motto, and we cannot help thinking that such a course will be most acceptable and beneficial to all parties. To expect that any Ministry purely Tory could now direct the affairs of the British Empire, would be preposterous; and we sincerely hope no such attempt will be made. Reform and Retrenchment have already made too rapid strides—the British people have become too well acquainted with their rights and their strength, to render it possible for any party or set of men now to stop the progress of public improvement. Reformation must progress: the spirit of the times will not suffer it to retrograde; but it may be allowed to progress with prudence and moderation. Some of those bearing the name of Whigs have shewed too evident symptoms of rash and violent radicalism, not to have given rise to *some* misgivings in patriotic breasts, lest the march of alteration should be too impetuous and irrestrainable. Reform must be confined to *reform* alone, to render it beneficial and permanent in its effects; the sudden and total revolution of all existing institutions, prosecuted with indiscriminate zeal, can be productive only of anarchy and confusion; whence it was desirable that the reckless impetuosity of the *ultra* Whigs should in some degree be attempered. A Ministry, therefore, based on these principles, would be most likely to operate beneficially for the British nation. But it is quite evident, that if the Duke of Wellington is entrusted with the formation of the new Cabinet, he must most materially modify his ancient principles; he must bring down his own and those of all his colleagues to a standard comporting with the spirit of the times, so that, while he shall steadily determine to preserve in security the nucleus of all those venerable and sacred institutions which have reflected so much glory upon England and so greatly contributed to her political prosperity, he shall yet ungrudgingly permit the excision of all those corrupt excrescences, which long continued abuses and the present state of society requires. Reform, indeed—prudent, but efficient and positive reform, as we have already said, must progress, whether the Duke of Wellington or any other individual be at the head of affairs. The problem, then, to be solved, is, will his Grace, if so situated, thus accommodate himself to the demands of those whose affairs he is to direct? And this problem can never be solved by our speculations: time alone can prove it: the Ministry must be appointed before its operation can be seen; but we venture to predict that, at any rate, the principles we have detailed must prevail.

The sudden demise of the *new* French Ministry, after a reign of three days, again throws the affairs of that nation into confusion and incertitude. This fresh instance of instability is singularly in accordance with the sentiments we have below expressed in relation to Canadian affairs, which were in type before we received this information. It is evident that the "Citizen-King" is a mere despot, and it is difficult to foresee what will be the result of all these violent changes and caprices. Our American neighbours, perhaps, will not lament on finding that those of the late Ministers who had previously been the most active opposers of the bill of indemnity to the United States, are those who are least likely to resume their seals. Perhaps a new Ministry, following the bent of the royal inclination, may yet cause the cash to be honourably handed over to our Yankee friends, and thus prevent the contemplated expensive display of their military prowess.

The Duke of Bassano, the late *new* and new *late* Prime Minister of France, is father-in-law to Mr. Baring of London.

Want of space last week prevented the insertion of some observations we had prepared on our own Electioneering matters, and frustrated our intention of adverting to those of our neighbours. We now fulfil a part of our postponed design.

The editorial article copied into our last number from *Neilson's Quebec Gazette*, has acquainted our readers ere this with the results of the late elections in Lower Canada; and we doubt not that they, as well as ourselves, have contemplated those results with the utmost disgust and indignation. The virtuous struggles of a really oppressed people are ever characterized by patience and moderation, by temperate and respectful remonstrance, and, (if need be,) by constitutional resistance, and humane and merciful action; while the turbulent commotions of a rebellious and discontented faction are equally marked by intemperate language, infuriated, rash, and unreasonable measures and demands, brutal violence and promiscuous mischief. That these latter have abundantly been the leading features in the whole proceedings of the now dominant partisans in Lower Canada, no one can deny; and arguing, therefore, from the foregoing premises, the inference is equally plain and undeniable. The conduct of the "*resolutionists*," (we had almost said "*revolutionists*,") in the late Canadian elections, has been violent and disgraceful in the extreme; and if the poor merit of *consistency* be their aim, they have indeed, in their personal performances, acted admirably in conformity with the spirit of their 92 infamous resolutions. Virulence, mendacity, outrage, treason, rebellion—appear to be the component parts of all their sayings and doings; the prime instigation and the ultimate object of all they have hitherto uttered or enacted. It is lamentable, it is disgusting, to perceive the peace and tranquillity of a fine country, and a people who might be among the happiest on the face of the earth, thus wantonly disturbed by the audacious violence of a seditious faction; a faction having no other ground for their proceedings or reason for their assertions, than the monstrous bugbear of their own perverted fancy. They have created a spurious terror, and are now furious at its imaginary effects. Can they, indeed, give a lucid exposition of those terrible evils they so much affect to decry? Can they array in a reasonable form and consistent detail all those oppressions, persecutions, prejudices, partialities, misgovernments and high-handed dominations concerning which they vapour and fume thus furiously? Or is it not, rather, the fact, that these innumerable ills are the mere offspring of hypochondriacal or malevolent minds; and the malicious turbulence of the clamorous populace only the operations of evil passions, ripe for mischief and disturbance? Discontented, wilful children continually render themselves and every one around them unhappy and wretched, by restless indulgence in imaginary causes of complaint, and by pettish rejection of real indulgences and comforts: this is common, it is natural to frail humanity, whether of tender or mature years; but how ridiculous as well as irksome are the querulous complainings of causelessly dissatisfied mortals; and how fraught with evils are the example and conduct of such perturbed and restless beings! The proceedings of the agitators of Lower Canada have exactly this appearance in the eyes of rational men: they struggle for they know not what, and rave and bluster they know not why. Let us at least congratulate ourselves, as loyal subjects and true Britons, that it is amongst those of French extraction that this factious spirit is evinced and cherished. True to their original nature, they can neither live in peace themselves, nor suffer others to enjoy that tranquillity which they desire and deserve. *Old* France herself is continually the theatre of anarchy and change. Nothing can content that proverbially mercurial nation: excitation is the very life and soul of their existence; and versatility in every thing the end and aim of their