Whilst these efforts were being made for the restoration of Lord Cochrane to the Navy, Mr Butt who had been convicted together with his Lordship, and who had frum the first testified to Lord Cochrane's innocence appeared to have formed a resolution that his sentence should not be reversed, until he also profited by the act. With this purpose, he wrote three letters to Lord Cochrane broadly hinting that his silence munt be bought with money. Finding no attention paid to his communications he addressed to those in power a number of letters accusatory of Lord Cochrane; but as the infortune of the poor man had evidently clouded his reason, and as his letters made no secret of his object, besides contradicting all his former statements they were disregarded, so far as his restoration to the navy was concerned. There is, however, abundant reason to believe that they were relied on by adverse parties in the Cabinet, for referring his Lordship's restoration to honours at the same time with his rank. Even if they did not prevent the reversal of the sentence, in place of the free pardon which was substituted in its place at the last moment. That Lord Dundonald should have been pardoned merely for an offence never committed, was a source of unhappiness to the day as his death. For thirty years he in vain attempted to obtain a rehearing of the case on its merit, each succeeding government declining ~~referring~~ to reopen the matter.

At first Lord Cochrane announced his intention of refusing the restoration to rank unless accompanied by the restitution [1] to honours. It was however intimated to him, that however indifferent he might be as to the restoration to rank, he could not refuse it without abandoning the ground on which he had petitioned his Majesty. The Government should pledge to comply with the petition if its contents could be established; they therefore were in the dilemma of either granting it payeor of declaring the association of friend to be well founded. This every member of Lord Grey's government believed not to be the case, though their predecessor, amongst whom was Lord Ellenborough had by refusing the prayer, or rather by withholding it from the King in effect, confirmed the decision of Lord Ellenborugh in 1814. Even seventeen years afterwards they decided to let the calumny continue to rest on Lord Cochrane rather than cast the blame on their party. The new Cabinet was composed of different mean, who were anxious that justice should be done irrespective of party. Amongst those who took up the matter the most warmly were Lords Gray and Durham.