

RAMSEY'S Waterford Chronicle

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1811.

FRENCH PAPERS.

Paris, February 13.

MINISTERS OF THE STATE OF THE ARMY IN PORTUGAL, AT THE

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but if a doubt exist, I should think that the following

case, which I take this opportunity of communicating

to your Lordship, such completely remove it.

About the month of October, 1808, it was intimated

to me, that information of a *fact* had been obtained

by publishing Major Hogan's Appeal. Having

employed Gorman to publish that pamphlet, I felt

it my duty to prepare for his defence, as well as for

my own—and as soon as I received official information

of the Attorney General's intention, I let about the

necessary preparations—Gorman was furnished

with briefs, and I expended about 100*l.*; but a few

days after I was apprised of the filing of the

criminal information. Gorman was taken into custody

under the statute which invests the Attorney

General with the power of holding any man to bail

against whom he thinks proper to file a criminal in-

formation. Gorman was detained in prison to days

before bail was had to satisfy the Crown Solicitor.

Why any distinction was made between Gorman and

me, or the other persons against whom criminal in-

formations were filed for the same publication, I

never never had an opportunity to ascertain, nor can I

confer the cause. However, Gorman was confined

on finding bail; but he was ruined in his circum-

stances, by the report of his confinement, and was

under the necessity of accepting the office of clerk to

the Attorney General, which was a heavy burthen to

him, as he was a man of advanced age, in the most

degraded condition, and in the most abject poverty.

Notwithstanding the imprisonment and sufferings of

him, notwithstanding the expense which I incurred,

and the anxiety of mind which I suffered, the

Attorney General never attempted to prosecute his

information. But Gorman and I were not the

only persons subjected to expense and anxiety upon

that occasion; for criminal informations were also

filed against the Proprietors of The Star, The

Tribune, and The Examiner, and also against Mr.

Bayly; yet not one of these informations has been

followed up. From these facts, particularly Gor-

man's imprisonment, it will appear to your Lordship

and to the public, that the Attorney General has it

in his power to deprive any man in England of his

liberty and property, while that Learned Gentleman

is subject to no responsibility whatever, and while

the individual aggrieved is without any adequate

means of legal redress. I think it my duty to make

this communication to your Lordship, and I hope

that every member of the Press will contribute, by

all the means in his power, to forward your object.

I am, my Lord, with all the respect and regard

that I can feel towards an honest man, your Lord-

ship's obliged obedient servant,

P. FINNERTY.

King's Bench Prison, Sunday.

CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Yesterday's Meeting was held at the Crown and

Anchor Tavern, convened by public advertisement,

for the purpose of taking into consideration the best

mode of afflicting Mr. Finnelly.

About one o'clock Sir Francis Burdett arrived.—

He was received with considerable applause.

Sir Francis Burdett having taken the Chair, rose

to address the Meeting. The Honourable Baronet

observed, that it could not but have been noticed

what powerful, and but too successful, attacks had

of late been made on the remaining vestiges of our

liberties. The long-cherished right of Englishmen, the

right to complain, had been attacked; and if the

country did not manfully come forward in support

of that right, it was in danger of being lost. De-

spite the people of England of the liberty of the

press, and through what medium could they then

send forth their complaints to the world? De-

spite them of that, and then where would be the

liberties of the country? Let them have the liberty of

the press, and they would defy the efforts of power and

the strokes of corruption. That the liberty of the

press had of late been attacked most powerfully,

and but too successfully, no man could deny; and

the manly and honest manner in which Mr. Finnelly

had come forward in vindication of himself, and in

support of the remaining vestige of the liberty of the

press, entitled him to the thanks of the country.—

Mr. Finnelly had stepped forward to endeavour to

have the expiring liberties of the country, and the

people ought to support him. (Applause.) In

supporting Mr. Finnelly, they would be endeavour-

ing to save their expiring liberties. (Applause.)

He would say a few words with respect to the law

of a libel, as it was phrased. The "Law of Libel"

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to prove the truth of what he had said in produc-

tion of what he had written, he was told that *that*

truth was no justification. He was happy to hear

that Lord Holland was going to bring before the

House of Lords the exertion of the practice of filing

criminal informations, *ex officio.* He felt much con-

fidence in that Noble Lord, but he would rather

trust that Noble Lord should let things remain as

they were, if he did not go to the root of the evil.

The Honourable Baronet then dwelt at considerable

length on the obligation Mr. Finnelly had con-

ferred upon the people, by his late manly and

able exertions, on the state of Ireland and this

country; and maintained that nothing could be ex-

pected without reform in the Representation of the

people. In conclusion, he contended that the

liberty of the press was of vital importance to

the people. The violation of the country de-

pendent upon the liberty of the press.—(Much

applause.)

Mr. Newman Wood then said, that he had

been called upon to propose the Motion of Resolu-

tion which had been prepared, and which he did not

cheerfully. He had not the pleasure of knowing

Mr. Finnelly personally, but he considered him as

a most able, ardent, and strenuous advocate for

the rights of his fellow countrymen and for the cause

of humanity. He thought that there were other

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