

### PARLIAMENT.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

[Debate on the Bullion Report concluded.]

The Report was brought up, and the Resolutions read a first time.

On the question of their second reading,

Mr. FULLER rose and said:—Mr. Speaker, if any Hon. Member who has spoken has alluded to my financial knowledge, I am only greatly surprised, and very much obliged to him. But he might as well have talked upon any thing else. For, Mr. Speaker, I don't like this business at all. I think that it is a humbug. I think that it is the greatest humbug that ever was put upon the country since that affair of the Duke of York. There is no depreciation; or I know nothing at all about the matter. I can't understand how they would make out that there is any depreciation of the currency of the country. No, Sir, this is all the attempt—this is all the system of the base, the cowardly faction, who are undermining the credit of the country. (Cries of order, order!) Yes, Sir, the faction that originates every thing independent of—but, Sir, I go to other things. Some Gentlemen, Sir, say the guinea is worth 28s.—It is now worth 21s. and some say it is worth 24s.—Why, then, if this be the case, why not say so? Why not speak of it why not raise the guinea at once, to 24s.? I don't pretend to puzzle myself with these things; but I say, let the country be firm; let the country keep up the credit of its currency, and all will go well. (Hear, hear!) There are various reports as to what went with the gold, some say it has disappeared, and some say it has been hoarded on the sea-coast, in order to send it off by the first boat that comes, to take it to the Continent. No matter for that. What should hinder our having a circulation of our own, that nobody could take from us? The people would make no objection, they would take any thing for money; they would take talles-cantons, for change, if they would not take in their pockets. (Loud laughing.) If we adopt this plan, we may do it every as long as we like. We can make a circulation of any thing, if we will only agree about it. (Hear, hear!) We can make coin of leather or paper-shells; and if we can only keep up its credit for a year, we shall have found upon its credit at the end of it. He, that is, the Emperor of France himself, will be in despair of ruining us, he will see that nothing can shake the stability, the firmness, the strength of the British Empire.—I wish I could see a gentleman here (laughing)—I mean, Mr. Speaker, I wish I could see a Gentleman in his place (Mr. Sheridan) that was here the other night, when we were talking about the play-houses. A great man, a noble person, Sir, I would have given him a hundred play-houses. Sir, he always came forward, he always spoke when there was a matter, when there was a question; whenever, in short, the country was in danger, he forsook his party, and spoke his mind. He would certainly have spoken now, and I only wish he was here to speak. He would have put down this man, conspiring set. (Order, order!) Sir, I wish to see the time of the House taken up so many nights one after another, with this tiresome question. It gives me to see much labour and exertion about this Bullion Report. Why, Sir, it won't make a bit better figure in the papers, than that nonsensical dispute between you and me. (Hear, and laughing.)

Mr. C. ADAMS maintained that gold bullion was not the standard of our currency; that Mint coin, and Mint coin only, was; and that paper, as referable to coin only, was not in the smallest degree depreciated.

Mr. THOMPSON contended, that the present difficulties of the country arose out of the state of its foreign trade.

Mr. MARRYAT could not speak in too high terms of the public credit of this country; but was persuaded that it could be best upheld by securing, with the least possible delay, the utility of cash payments. No person could deny the utility of paper. Paper gave velocity, and coin solidity to currency. A noble Lord behind him in a former night had proved, that no depreciation had taken place in Scotland, when he stated that not even a post-boy in that country could be prevailed on to take a guinea rather than a note. Whatever might be the feeling on this point in Scotland, he was satisfied that there was not an individual of that country in London who would not give a preference to a guinea. In the Noble Lord's own country, on the contrary, there was a manifest depreciation. The Hon. Gent. here read two advertisements from a Cork paper offering, on the part of Mr. Healy and a Mr. O'Keefe, the highest price for guineas, doubloons, &c. This, he contended, proved that there were in that country two prices, and consequently a depreciation. That a Noble Lord (Castlereagh) had also found out a new standard in a sense of value. If the Noble Lord were to receive a card of invitation to dinner, his sense of its value would be that it represented a dinner; but what would the Noble Lord think of his standard, if on proceeding to the dinner, to which he was invited, he should get no dinner, but be desired to keep his card, or be offered another in exchange for it? (a Laugh.)

On the question that the resolutions should be agreed to.

Mr. CANNING wished to ask the right Hon. Gentleman whether he intended to affirm by his resolution, that the King had a power by his Prerogative to alter the weight and fineness of standard coin?

Mr. VANSITTART replied that he had adopted the law as laid down by Sir M. Hale.

Mr. CANNING contended that the point was regulated, not by the King's Prerogative, but by the 11th of the King.

Mr. ROSE said, that the civil law always understood that such prerogative lay in the Crown, but nevertheless that Parliament had some times interfered.

Mr. PONSONBY could not let his resolution pass without warning the House of the extreme danger of affirming this right of debasing the coin of the realm to be vested in the King by prerogative. He denied that such was the law. As far back as the 1st Act of Edward III. this point was mentioned, and there was no such power given to the Sovereign. The King might certainly alter the denomination of money, and he had no right whatever to mix the coin with any alloy beyond that fixed by the legal standard.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCH. rose to support the Resolution, and contended that any opposition to his principle came wholly from those who were content to vote for the very same principle in the resolution proposed by the Learned Chairman of the Committee. He contended at some length for the right of prerogative, as laid down by Sir Matthew Hale, and could not help wondering at the anxiety of those to find fault with it proposed by an opponent, which their antipathy considered perfect when offered by a friend.

Mr. HORNOR denied the similarity between his resolution, and the present, which he considered as laying down for certain that of which Hale was doubtful, and Blackstone denied. The only thing which Sir M. Hale built his doubts on was an old report of a case in Ireland by Sir J. Davis. He called on the Attorney-General for his opinion on the point of law.

The ATTORNEY-GEN. on the short consideration which he had given to the subject, seemed inclined to coincide with the opinion professed by Chief Justice Hale. He indicated the authority of Sir J. Davis, whose reports, though Irish, were always considered sound law.

It had been repeatedly related, and so exaggerated had ever been better tried by the test of ridicule. On its being negatived, he would substitute others of his own, by which the whole of what had been proposed by his Hon. Friend would be got rid of. Among them there was not one which should be viewed with a greater degree of suspicion than that by which our difficulties were referred to the state of our foreign trade, consequent on the distress of the enemy. It went to divert the attention of the country from the real source of the mischief, and its appropriate remedy, that was, a reduction of our paper. He would not admit the doctrine that the measure would cause the ruin of the country, on the contrary, its salvation would be the result. His Hon. Friend had talked of a madman in Abyssinia, the amount of whose insanity he was sure could not exceed that of those persons who imagined that all the necessary necessaries of war were to be remedied by Bank restrictions. But this measure was not now considered as a temporary expedient to enable us to bear up under more than ordinary difficulties, and its continuance was now advocated, not on the former system, but as part of one from which the country was to derive permanent benefit. This doctrine had been doctored in substance by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it was fraught with mischief to the country, and he did indulge a hope that he should be able to prevail on the House to rescind it. He was averse indeed, to name a day when the Bank should be compelled to resume its payments; it was admitted that it could not do so at present, and who could pretend to say, that as imperious obstacles would not exist at the end of two years. He enquired that even the continuing resumption of payments now fixed on was liable to much objection; there was no period when gold would be more difficult to attain than immediately after a peace. He thought it would be sufficient if the principle were acknowledged by Parliament, that a Bank restriction was justifiable only by necessity; he wished it to be kept as it was in its origin; entirely separate from commercial concerns; it was imposed merely in order to enable the Bank to supply such sums as might be necessary for the transactions of the Government; and subsequently, a disgraceful partnership, disgraceful at least to one of the contracting parties, had taken place between the Bank and the people. A loan of three millions had been required for the public service, in assenting to which it was perfectly natural for the Bank to require a corresponding advantage; it was granted, and the loan repaid to a similar amount. In all this he did not concur the Bank in the least to blame. The proprietors had sought a fair and legitimate project, and if those who managed the public interests had made use of their assistance for the accomplishment of numerous projects, as they were a Corporation not having any, strictly speaking, political duties to perform, their acquiescence could not be imputed to them as a crime. He hoped that the House would, like this, state a disposition to restore advice to that state from which it would have been most fortunate if we had never departed. He would then propose an amendment to the third Resolution. After the word "That," should be inserted, "That it is highly important to the public welfare, that the restrictions imposed on the Bank's cash payments, should be removed at a period when it appeared proper by Parliament for the public safety; and that during the suspension, the Directors of the Bank should regulate their issue of paper accordingly;—bearing still in mind, that at a period, perhaps not far distant, they would need to resume their cash payments."

Sir JOHN SUNCLIFF, after a few preliminary observations on the general tendency of the Bullion Report, recommended to the House to look abroad to the state of countries that had Bullion. China, with its population of 333 millions, had no coin; but there was enough of Bullion at least in China, and the Chinese called (and it was a coincidence extremely well worth observing by the House)—they actually called it by the name of "cash." What then became of the argument, that coin was necessary?—The Chinese could do without coin. That was a plain, an obvious, a demonstrable thing. They had silver, it was true, which passed in commerce; but they had no coin.—(Hear, hear.) He would like to be the Chairman of the Bullion Committee proving the necessity of coin to a Chinese Mandarin.

The paper of England could not fail, because it was never issued, but for real value, such as merchants bills and Government securities. It had all the advantages of a gold or silver currency, it could be exchanged for goods; it could buy any thing, if a man had but enough of it.—(Hear, hear.)—It could buy an estate; it could buy the best house in London, and the best furniture; still, provided a man had enough of it.—(Hear, hear.)—There were six obvious advantages attending a paper circulation; 1st, that it was easily procured, and easily secured; 2dly, that it might be produced to any amount; 3dly, that it allowed the gold to go out of the country; the advantage of this was evidently of the highest order, if the Government of the country had any occasion to export gold. (Hear, hear.) 4thly, that its manufacture was not so expensive as that of coin; 5thly, that it rendered us independent of other countries for a medium of circulation; and 6thly, that paper money had a magical influence on the prosperity of a country. And was it in the contemplation of any man, was it possible that any man could advise us to throw away all those inestimable advantages which arose out of paper currency? And who were the persons who called so loudly for Bullion? A set of speculating politicians, metaphysicians, modern Maduex who would turn every thing they touched into gold. (Hear, hear!) The ancient Phrygia must have looked with delight upon the lucubrations of the Committee. His spirit inspired the Report, yet he (Sir J. Suncliff) believed that it

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Mr. A. BARRING contended, that before any law was adopted, it was necessary to look more closely into the financial system of the country. He could not see, nor did he hear it urged by any Gentleman, why it was more necessary to remove the Bank restrictions at this period than any former period of the war. He concluded by declaring his strong objection to the proposed amendment.

After a few words from Mr. HUSKISSON, the question was called for, and a division took place, when there appeared in favour of Mr. Tierney's amendment 174—Against it 76—Majority 98.

The question was then put on the remaining resolutions of Mr. Vansittart (save the last) to each of which Mr. Horner moved his Amendments, which were severally negatived without a division.

would not be a dip in the Thames, the Tread, or the Shannon, that would help them to get rid of their metallic phrenzy. It was saying of the Friedrich, "that it was likely, that they would be metaphysicians had no influence on the *Waterford Chronicle*."—There were three links in the Empire; an established Religion; an established Government; and an established Currency. No would it become the House of Commons, to shake one of those links? The House might decide on the present question as they pleased; but it was a firm belief, that in their vote upon the present measure, they included the fate of a powerful Empire. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WILBERFORCE, in allusion to some expressions of Sir J. Suncliff in a former debate, said that though the Honourable Baronet had changed his mind upon the currency, he had no right to suppose that others had done the same upon other subjects. The Honourable Baronet had changed his mind just in time to be made a Privy Councillor. (A loud cry from the opposite side.) Well, it was not just then, if the Honourable Baronet would have so; but it was just then that the Hon. Bart. had signified his determination to publish a pamphlet on the question, and that pamphlet on the Government side. (Hear, hear.) It was, however, not fair to impute to him (Mr. Wilberforce), any of the venality which the Honourable Baronet might feel.

Mr. MANNING opposed the amendment proposed by Mr. Tierney, because it appeared to be not markedly decisive in the line of conduct which the Bank ought to pursue.

Mr. HUSKISSON felt disposed to support the Resolution of the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Tierney), although it was not altogether so explicit as he wished. He observed, that much credit had been given to the Bank of England for their issue of bank notes; he was ready to allow that considerable experience had been experienced by the public from this circumstance; but he thought the Bank were themselves gainers by the operation, as they read that at 6d. which they were enabled to get in the market at 5s.

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ON THURSDAY, the 6th of June next, at 12 O'CLOCK, at the Stores of Mr. SAWYER, ALDERMAN of London, an Account of whom it may Concern, about Five Hundred and Sixty Logs of LIGNUM VITÆ, of different Dimensions—TERMS AT SALE.—WM. H. HENNES, Collector.

Custom-House, Youghal, May 25, 1811.

TRAMORE HOTEL. WILL open on Sunday, the 2d of June. There is a HOT BATH in the Hotel, for the accommodation of LODGERS. Tramore, May 23, 1811.

FLAX SEED. WILLIAM ROBINSON has a few Hbls. Prime New York FLAX SEED remaining unsold, which he would dispose of on reasonable Terms. May 20, 1811.

TO BE LET. THE HOUSE in which THOMAS NIXSON resided in King-street, with or without a large YARD and COUPLED HOUSE, on the Quay.—Application to be made at said House. May 21, 1811.

NEW FLAX SEED. JUST ARRIVED to HENRY H. HUNT and Co. a small quantity of prime new FLAX SEED, warranted, which will be sold on reasonable Terms. Waterford, May 18, 1811.

WILLIAM HAIN, GOLDSMITH, JEWELLER, and WATCHMAKER. NO. 29, DUNSTON STREET, DUBLIN. (Lately removed from No. 11, East-street.)

RESPECTFULLY submits to the Nobility, Gentry, and his Friends in general, that from the very liberal Patronage already experienced, he has been induced to extend considerably his Manufactory and Establishment, and solicits their Attention to a NEW AND VERY USEFUL ASSORTMENT of the above ARTICLES, manufactured under his own immediate Inspection, on such Terms, as he flatters himself will be found to chain a decided Preference. W. H. has directed north of his Attention to an improved Style in the Manufacture of RACE CUPS, GOLD BOXES, for Corporations and other Public Presentments, which has been found equal, if not superior, to any made in London.

W. H. Those who may be pleased to favour him with their Commands from the Country, may rely on his punctuality, and W. H. undertakes to forward the same at his own risk.

TO BE SOLD. ON THE LANDS OF CAMLIN, NEAR ROSS. FIVE HUNDRED Acres, one Road, six Parishes of OAK WOOD, of 15 Years Growth. It lies within a Mile and a Half of Ross, and convenient to the River Barrow.—Application to be made in Writing, (Footed) to JAMES NEAVE, Esq. St. Margaret's, Broadway; or, at Rockfield, Wexford. April 15, 1811.

RHLEA TO BE LET OR SOLD. COLONEL ST. LEGER will let or sell, the HOUSE and LANDS of KILLEA, from the 25th of March next, consisting of a HOUSE, walled-in GARDEN, well-cropped, with about 10 Acres of LAND, of which a Lease of 25 Years is yet unexpired.—Colonel St. LeGER has also 19 Acres of Ground, which he will let with the House, or separately.—The House, &c. is in perfect repair, fit for the reception of any Family.—The situation and beauty of the place is well known.—Application to be made to Colonel St. LeGER, who will show the Premises. Killea, March 15, 1811.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS. TO BE LET, FOR SIX OR NINE MONTHS, AN IMMEDIATE POSSESSION GIVEN, THE HOUSE, GARDEN, and OUT-OFFICES of LAKEVIEW, delightfully situated, within one and a half Mile of Dunmore, and 3 of Waterford.—For further Particulars enquire at said House. May 21, 1811.

S. B. The Tenant can be accommodated with GRASS for one or two Cows.

NEW NORWAY TIMBER AND DEALS, JUST ARRIVED to M. P. and M. FARRER, a well Assorted Cargo of the above Articles, which they will sell on the most reasonable Terms.—Kent HOPE, in Pockets, also for sale. Waterford, 1st May, 1811.

SILK MERCERY, LINEN DRAPERY, &c. &c. JAMES WALL. RESPECTFULLY begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has just received an extensive Assortment of SILK MERCERY, LINEN DRAPERY, &c. &c. All of the present Stock are entirely fresh, new, and fashionable Goods, purchased at the best manufacturing Houses, and will be disposed of on very encouraging Terms. Waterford, May 14, 1811.

By Authority of the Prince Regent. ARTHUR BIRNIE begs leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he is now selling TICKETS and SHARES for the LOTTERY, which will be drawn the 1st of June next, being THE KING'S BIRTH DAY.

The Scheme which has been fixed upon is the best that could possibly be adopted, and it is as follows.—

SCHEME.		
4 Prizes of £20,000 are	£80,000	
34 " " " " " " " " " "	1,000	34,000
34 " " " " " " " " " "	500	16,000
34 " " " " " " " " " "	250	8,000
1,000 " " " " " " " " " "	25	25,000
1,000 " " " " " " " " " "	10	20,000
2,000 " " " " " " " " " "	5	10,000
20,000 Tickets		£50,000

As the Price of Tickets will certainly rise, an early Purchase is recommended.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF WATERFORD. THE ASSIZE OF BREAD.

By Order of His Worship the Mayor of said City. THE Middle Price of Wheat and Flour (taken by Act of Parliament to form the Assize) was last week 42s. 6d. per Barrel, besides an Allowance of Eight Shillings per Quarter, by Act of Parliament, on White and Refined, for the Benefit of the Baker, and Ten Shillings on Household.

WHITE ASSIZE. HOUSEHOLD.		
lb. oz. dr.	lb. oz. dr.	lb. oz. dr.
Penny Loaf, 0 3 7	0 5 7	0 7 5
Two-Penny, 0 7 6	0 11 6	0 15 2
Four-Penny, 0 15 4	1 7 3	1 14 4
Six-Penny, 1 2 3	2 3 4	2 13 2

All other Sorts of Loaves are to weigh in Proportion, and besides the two initial Letters of the Baker or Maker's Name, the White Bread must be marked with a W, the Refined with an R, and the Household with an H.—and the Weight must likewise be marked upon each Loaf, otherwise to be seized. And the several Bakers and Dealers in Wheat, Meal, and Flour, are required to make due Weekly Returns, on every Saturday, before Twelve o'clock, of all Wheat, Meal, and Flour bought or sold by them, according to the Act of Parliament for Regulating the Assize of Bread, or the Penalties will be levied according to the said Act.

MAY 28. CORNELIUS BOLTON, Mayor.

PARLIAMENT. HOUSE OF LORDS, MAY 16. DISSENSERS. Earl STANHOPE said, he held in his hand a Petition against the Bill relative to Dissenters, signed by upwards of two thousand persons, and he had no doubt that if the Bill was persisted in the Petitioners would insist that instead of thousands must be counted by millions.

than another in which he thought it impolitic for the Legislature to interfere without a real and absolute necessity, it was on Religious subjects. However laudable the object of his Noble Friend might be, still it ought to be considered that the good to be attained by the change proposed was trifling, and that the inconvience sustained in consequence of the agitation and alarm that prevailed, was very great. Under these circumstances, he suggested to his Noble Friend the expediency of not proceeding any further, and of withdrawing the Bill.

Lord HOLLAND had heard the Noble Earl (L. verpool) oppose with much satisfaction, but regretted that the Noble Earl had not delivered those sentiments at a former period, when this measure was first announced, which might have tended to prevent much of that agitation and alarm that has since prevailed.

The Petition presented by Earl Stanhope was then ordered to lie on the table. An immense number of Petitions against the Bill, from congregations of Dissenters in different parts of the country and in London, were presented, signed by many thousand persons.

Earl STANHOPE presented several. Earl GREY several. The Earl of MOIRA eighty. Lord HOLLAND upwards of one hundred. The Earl of ROSLYN several. The Earl of LAUDERDALE a considerable number. Lord FRSKINE upwards of two hundred.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE one hundred. A few of the Petitions were read at length, stating a serious apprehension that the Bill would materially affect the privileges enjoyed by the Dissenters under the Acts of the 1st of William and Mary and 19 George III. and praying to be heard by Council against it.

The rest, which were stated to be of the same tenor, were read short, merely stating the names of the places from whence they came, and in several instances, the numbers who signed them.

One of the Petitions presented by Earl Grey, was from the Dissenting Ministers of the three denominations. Another, presented by the Marquis of Lansdowne, was from a number of persons who had met in London, consisting of 600, many of whom, including the Chairman, his Lordship stated, were Members of the Church of England, and some of them benefited Clergymen, who felt the importance of preventing those Dissentions, to which this measure, if persisted in, must unhappily give rise, and were anxious to live in peace and harmony with their fellow subjects, the Dissenters.

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After the Petitions had been presented, and ordered to lie on the table, which, from the vast number of them, took up a considerable time, the Order of the Day was read for a second reading of the Bill, and

Lord Viscount SIDMOUTH rose. His Lordship expressed his regret at the misinterpretation and misconception, and he was afraid he must add, misrepresentation of the objects and provisions of the Bill which had gone abroad. He, of course, could not be acquainted with the grounds upon which the numerous Petitioners whose petitions had just been presented objected to the Bill, but if he was to consider their objections as founded upon the Resolutions which he had seen published, the objects of the Bill had certainly been grossly misrepresented. The chief object of it, he contended, was merely to give an uniformity to the Toleration Acts, to prevent them from being differently construed in different counties, and thus the law from being different in one county to what it was in an adjoining county. One of its principal objects at the same time was, to prevent persons without any moral or intellectual qualifications from electing themselves to the exercise of the most important duties that could be exercised by man, and the proper exercise of which was of incalculable importance, and still further to prevent persons from obtaining licenses as preachers and teachers, merely for the purpose of exempting themselves from those civil duties to which their fellow subjects were liable. Respecting this latter part of the subject, his Lordship read some Resolutions passed at a Meeting of the Wesleyan Methodists, stating that persons had obtained Licences at the Sessions, for the mere purpose of exempting themselves from civil duties, and directing the penalty of expulsion against any member of their connection applying at the Sessions for a License as a Preacher or Teacher, unless previously approved of for that purpose at a quarterly meeting.

Relative to the qualifications of those who sometimes applied for Licences, his Lordship cited an instance at Stafford Sessions, where a man, who could neither read nor write, took out a license as a preacher and teacher. As to the point of moral qualifications, his Lordship read a letter he had received, stating an instance of great depravity in a preacher who had obtained a license. It was to prevent as far as possible those abuses, that he had framed this Bill, and requiring the certificate of six householders, of the sobriety of life and conversation of the person applying for a license, was, he

had conceived, so moderate a measure, that he had no idea it could be objected to. With respect to the Minister of separate congregations, it was provided in the Bill that there should be a certificate of six Members of the congregation of which the person applying for a license was Minister. With respect to itinerant preachers, the object proposed, that there should be a certificate of six householders; whether the words be "reputable and substantial," or merely "Householders," might be easily settled in the Committee, so as to obviate all objection. With respect to profligate, it was proposed that they should have a license for a limited period, and he had an idea of substituting for six householders the certificates of three dissenting Ministers. In proposing these remedies for what was an acknowledged evil, he had conceived that he was proposing what would be considered beneficial. It surely was highly desirable that the law should not be differently understood and differently construed in different counties, and it was of the greatest importance that the high duties of religious instruction should not be committed to depraved or ignorant persons—to persons who had no other call to the exercise of those duties than their own self election. Far be it from him to object to the low situation in life of the persons applying for licenses. Upon that ground he never had the slightest intention of urging any objection, his object being that there should be security as far as it could be applied for their moral fitness for the exercise of the most important duties of religious instruction. He had had communications upon the subject from several Magistrates, complaining of the situation in which they were placed with respect to the construction of the law; and he had understood from the communications he had had with several respectable Dissenters, that they were desirous that some such measure as this should be adopted, or at least that they approved of it. He was much astonished after this at seeing resolutions advertised upon the subject, with the name of a Member of Parliament to them, with whom he had also had communications. It was with deep regret that he observed the misrepresentation and alarm that had arisen; but all ground of misconception might be removed by going into a Committee on the Bill. He had not the remotest intention in proposing the Bill of infringing upon the Toleration Laws. He rather wished to make the Bill one of comprehension than one of exclusion; and if it was thought that its provisions tended to exclude any class of Dissenters, he was most desirous that other provisions should be so framed as to include them. He was aware, that from what had been said by his Noble Friend (the Earl of Liverpool), the Bill might be prevented from going through the House this Session, but he wished to put it to the Government and to their Lordships, whether it was fit that Magistrates should continue to be placed in the situation in which they were at present, uncertain how to act, or in what manner to interpret the law. It was surely highly desirable that the law should be clearly defined.—It was still more of the greatest importance that, as far as possible, the duties of religious instruction should not be committed to improper hands. With these objects in view, he conjured their Lordships to allow the Bill to go into a Committee, where, he was convinced, all the objections to it might be obviated. It was not his intention to oppose any motion that any Noble Lord might make respecting the Bill; but he trusted their Lordships would not object to its going into a Committee. His Lordship concluded by moving, that the Bill be now read a second time.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY, although he was satisfied that if it had not been conceived the Toleration Act was infringed on, the present Bill would not have been so much opposed, was convinced that no such infringement was in reality intended. But although no persecution was intended, and although some misconception might exist on the subject, the flood of Petitions which had been laid upon their table, ought to convince their Lordships of the necessity of stopping short for the present. However he might lament what he conceived to be the errors of the Protestant Dissenters, it was to be recollected the Bible was the foundation of their religious belief, as well as that of the Established Church, and was, or might be, in the hands of every Member of the Empire; and it was to be recollected that the best of interpretations were, and the interpretations of men, and that the best of men were liable to error. He was sure that so long as the church of England should endure as a Church, the Dissenters would not be disturbed by the Church of England; and as he was so Prophan, he did not wish to forget what might happen to them after it was no more. The Noble Viscount who brought in the Bill, stated that he had brought it in, as he conceived, under the sanction of the Dissenters, but the Dissenters had not thought fit to appear; but they were the best judges of what was for their own interests. He therefore conceived that more injury than good would result from persisting in the measure, and he thought it would be better not to attempt to pass the Bill against the opinions of the Dissenters.

existence of the evils complained of by the Petitioners there could no reasonable doubt be entertained; and when it was considered what must be the inevitable consequences of not timely remedying those evils, and how fatal their longer continuance must be to the trade of the country, and to the health of the people, it really appeared to him, as if the present question was, in effect, whether it was the interest of Ireland that the Irish Revenue should be allowed by the Legislature to exist at all? Since the great reduction of the duty on spirits in Ireland, he believed there was no gentleman, who had not been for any time in that country, who must not have been sensibly struck with the rapid and lamentable change in the general habits and morals of the people. He spoke from his own knowledge, when he said that this change was felt among the lower orders of the city of Dublin to an extent that would of itself be sufficient to awaken the attention of Parliament to this very important question; and here it was to be remarked, that even if the reduction of the tax had the desired effect, and did not injure the revenue, still they should pause before they made the vice and dissolute habits of the people the source of public revenue.—But to try the question upon the only ground upon which it was ever attempted to be supported, namely, as a means of suppressing illicit distillation, he put it to the candour of the Right Hon. Gentleman to say, whether the reduction had any such effect. The Right Hon. Gentleman, in introducing the measure to the House, frankly avowed that he did so as a mere experiment to suppress illicit distillation. The now asked the Right Hon. Gentleman if the experiment had not totally failed? And would he, after it had so failed, blindly go on in adhering to a plan which had not only fallen short of its avowed object, but had proved equally injurious to the morals and the revenue of the country? Moreover, if the Right Hon. Gentleman was determined to persist, he for one would not go along with him, believing, as he did, that by resorting to a system of equitable taxation, fairly apportioned between the two trades, which decreased of them every encouragement, namely, the Brewer and the Distiller, there might be raised upon both, without opposition to either, such a revenue as might fully answer the supplies of the country, without resorting to any further local taxation; and in this opinion he was supported by a Resolution of the Dublin Brewers, entered into the 7th of this month (which he read). With respect to the immediate question, it was a question of facts, and by the testimony of those facts ought to be decided—let them but look to the facts, and they could not long hesitate. He therefore, before he said down, would take the liberty of stating one or two of those facts, and leave them to the House, without any further document. The first (proved by the documents on the table) was, that no still had taken out licences in any of the districts where illicit distillation was known to abound; and that little or no spirits had been transmitted into those districts by the licensed distilleries in the other parts of the country. The other statement went to prove the great increase of disease in consequence of the immoderate use of ardent spirits, in consequence of its cheapness, as would appear from the report of the Sick Poor institution in Dublin—the year 1810 had a number of patients on the books of the institution of 1806 more than the year 1809; the want of employment felt by the poor at this period, and the reduction of the price of spirituous liquors from the effects of the distillery regulations of last year, must have had a tendency to produce this increase; drunkenness, which appears prevalent to an alarming degree, making the body more susceptible of disease and less able of support under it. Upon the whole, as this reduction had not, nor, in his opinion, could not do what it professed to do, but as it had already done much to impair the revenue of Ireland, to injure the health and vitiate the morals of the Irish people, he would most cordially second the motion; however, he would state on fact more (it has been already stated), but a fact so strong, so singular, cannot be too forcibly impressed upon the House: he should conclude by reading it from the Report of the Fever Hospital, Dublin, by which it appears that in nine months, since spirits became so cheap, the average monthly number of patients admitted has been 167, and the average number of deaths 14 in each month; whereas, in the twenty months preceding, during which time spirits were very dear, the monthly average number of patients admitted was only 85, and the average of the deaths only six in each month. He called on any Irish Member to deny the fact itself if he could, or answer, if possible, the conclusions to be drawn from it.

Mr. FOSTER wished the House would indulge him while he stated shortly his view of the facts mentioned by the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite. He had at the outset to declare his readiness to suffer the business to go to a Committee of the House even now, if it was the wish of the Right Hon. Gentleman. It was a notorious fact, that the Distilleries of Ireland had been always much annoyed by clandestine distillation, and the Legislature had passed a law which had made considerable progress towards effecting a remedy, when the prohibition took place. After this, he thought that the town lands should be made answerable for the unlawful stills, and he fervently recommended, at the suggestion, and with the advice of persons well acquainted with the subject, that the duty on spirits should be lowered, as the high duty operated as a sort of premium to the illicit distiller. The experiment had only commenced on the 10th June last, and at that period licences were taken out for three years, to give an assurance to the distiller of the fair trial of the measure, reserving, of course, a right to the Legislature to alter or annul it. Now, if the system was to be changed at the end of one year there would be no faith hereafter in the assurances held out by Government, which might have induced persons to hazard large capitals in building distilleries in places where there had been none before.—In opposition to what had been said, of the experiment not having succeeded, he would beg leave to read an account of what had been done by the Revenue officers in those districts where illicit distillation chiefly prevailed. It appeared that in the North of Ireland, up to the 24th of December, 1810, there had been seized—

572 stills,
38 Kegs,
314 Wrens,
5662 Implements and Tools,
2532 Gallons of spirits,
150,000 Gallons of Pot Ale.

As to the circumstance of immoderate drunkenness being produced by the lowering of the duty, he granted that it might have produced some effect at first, when the prohibition being removed, the people reported to quit more greedily from having been deprived of them for a time. In order to show what the licensed distillers had to contend with, whose interests, however, he did not mean to put in competition with the brewer, he would read, with the permission of the House, a letter dated the 10th of December, and written by one of the Commissioners of the Revenue, who was sent by the House to ascertain the state of illicit distillation.—[Here Mr. F. read the letter, which stated, that in a village where there was no licensed distillery, there were less than thirty-three town-mills employed four days in the week in grinding corn for the unlicensed stills; and there was a vessel laden with those illicit spirits. It was stated in the petition, that the duty had been lowered from 3s. 8d. to 2s. 6d.; whereas the duty was never more than 4s. This also stated that in England it was 8s. 9d. thus including the Malt duty, while they omitted it in the other. The brewers had not complied in 1807, when spirits were lower; but the fact was, that the prohibition had given them a great hold of the market, and they naturally complained that they found some competition. It was a singular circumstance that attended the Malt Duty, that prior to 1798, twelve hundred thousand barrels had paid duty—yet, notwithstanding the Irish distilleries had increased, the duty had fallen to 717,000 or 690,000. He did not know how to account for this in any other way than that the brewers had not exerted themselves to give to the people good and wholesome liquor, which they would be induced to prefer to spirits; and they could not expect that the Legislature was to make exertions for the brewers, if they did not exert themselves. He had no hesitation in saying, that he looked chiefly to the Brewers and Distillers for revenue, because it was the most productive and least oppressive of any source; but he would not yield to the remonstrance of a certain number of the Brewers of Ireland, because he knew, by doing so, he should injure their trade. He should recommend slow proceedings, and entreated the House to consider before they set aside an experiment which had not been fairly tried, and when, by doing so, they would break faith with the licensed distiller, and enable the illicit distiller to sell his spirits at a higher rate, to the injury of the Brewer. With this impression, he should not, however, oppose the motion.

Mr. H. MONTGOMERY thought it would be more advisable to refer the Petition to the Committee on Irish Finance above stated.

Mr. J. NEWPORT thought the Committee on Irish Finance had quite enough to employ them, without this business. With respect to what had passed, he never should be influenced by a false shame, in disavowing that he had been originally friendly to the measure against which the Petition was directed.—He then conceived it had two views—the one, the licensing of small stills; and the other, the lowering the duty on spirits. From the first he had expected some advantage, which was prevented by the operation of the second—and he believed he might say that, in those counties where illicit distillation most prevailed, there had been no licensed stills. The question, on the whole, resolved itself to this—whether the increased immorality and drunkenness which arose from this measure was to be an object of consideration or not? The good of the people of Ireland should be the first object—that of the revenue the second.

Mr. HUTCHINSON supported the motion, and said that all the brewery interest of Ireland had signed the Petition, and not a few unknown individuals. It was not now his intention to go into the merits of the question, as he would have another opportunity for doing so; but there were one or two points which he would beg leave to notice. The Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. F.) had said that the brewers had no reason to complain, as spirits were higher now than in 1807; but he would ask him whether the brewers were in the same situation now as then, or had they obtained any advantage which left them as they were prior to this measure? He must object to the continuance of the experiment for one day, if it was injurious to the morals of the people.

Mr. GRATTAN said that he should be inclined to have the Petition referred to a Committee above stated, and to have witnesses examined.

Mr. FOSTER assented to this proposition.

The motion that the Petition be referred to a select Committee was then carried, and the following Gentlemen appointed the Members to compose it.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Grattan, Mr. Foster, Mr. Cannon, Sir John Newport, Lord Castlereagh, Col. Barry, Mr. Ticho, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. W. Taylor, Mr. Parcell, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Thompson, &c.

MONDAY, MAY 20.

Mr. GRATTAN presented the Petition from the Irish Catholics; on which he observed, he would not trouble the House by saying any thing at present farther than that it lies on the table. An Hon. Friend of his had already given notice that he meant to move its being taken into consideration on Friday, the 21st inst. Ordered to lie on the table.

THE BUDGET.

The CHAN. of the EXCHEQUER then moved the Order of the Day for the House going into a Committee of Ways and Means.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee, Mr. Lushington in the Chair.

Mr. P. RECEVAL said, that with considerable satisfaction he should submit to the Committee the Loan for the service of the present year, as he had no doubt the terms would meet their approbation, being, as he conceived, highly advantageous to the Public. Before entering on this statement, however, he thought it necessary to remind the House of the sums already voted for this year, with their respective destinations, that the Committee might have a more clear view of the sum to be provided for.

For the Navy they had voted £20,576,374  
Ireland £14,299,422  
Army £3,988,491  
Establisment of the Army £3,000,000  
Unprovided Extraordinaries of the Army £67,000

Making for the Army a sum somewhat above 21 millions; more, no doubt, than in some former years, but rendered necessary by our armaments abroad.

Ordinance	£3,190,378
Miscellaneous	2,500,000
Vote of credit for England	3,000,000
Vote of credit for Ireland	900,000
Victual Subsidy	400,000
Portugal	1,100,000

Making in all a sum of 54,308,453l. already voted by the House.

He then expressed his regret respecting the Sicilian Subsidy, that by mistake he had neglected to lay the papers before the House, when the sum of 400,000l. was voted for that purpose. On examination, however, he had no doubt of the House being satisfied with respect to the items. There was a separate charge for Ireland of 113,116l. one million on Exchequer Bills, and 600,000l. interest on Exchequer Bills for Ireland; from which, if they deducted the proportion of the joint charge for Ireland, of which his Right Hon. Friend (Mr. Foster) would give a statement, and provide for, there would be left the sum of 49,550,000l. to be provided for by Great Britain. The Right Hon. Gen. then entered into a detail of the Ways and Means he wished to submit to the Committee, in order to cover this sum.

The surplus of the Consolidated Fund

Last year	£1,303,258
This year	3,000,000
The War Taxes	3,000,000
The Lottery	1,000,000
Exchequer Bills	3,000,000
Exchequer Bills on Vote of Credit	3,000,000
Annual Duties	3,000,000
Loans	18,241,000
Total	29,546,258

Making in all a sum of something above 49,000,000 to meet the charges of the current year.

He then justified the estimate he had made of five millions for the surplus of the consolidated fund of this year. He took the customs this year at 15,121,000l. last year, having taken the customs of 1811 at 14,532,331l. they produced 500,000l. more, and he did not think it unreasonable to estimate them this year at the sum of fifteen millions, as there was no ground to apprehend their decreasing.—On the head of Excise, he had calculated on its average produce for the last two years. The year before the last it produced 16,380,625l. last year it produced 17,339,312l. he therefore estimated its produce this year at 17,167,000l. being an average of the produce of the last two years.—The Assessed Taxes he took at 6,800,000l. He was justified in this estimate, as they had produced last year 5,781,000l.—The Stamps he estimated at 5,200,000l. having produced last year 5,302,000l.—The Post Office last year produced 1,270,000l. He took it this year at 1,280,000l. making an average of the whole produce of the last three years.—The duty on HAWKERS and PELLS he estimated at 106,000l.—The Land Tax at 1,138,500l.—The Tontine 21,000l.—Crown Lands 26,000l. The total favors amounting to 25 millions. The surplus of the consolidated fund of last year, 5,753,715l. which was a greater surplus than had been known in any former year. The War Taxes he calculated at 20 millions, conformably to the average produce of the last three years. Due from the East India Company 100,000l. on account of tea duties. The property tax last year produced 11,800,000l. which was 400,000l. more than he calculated by, though less than the preceding, owing to the balances that were still due. The amount of the arrears from 1804 to 1810 was 2,240,000l. The Assessed Taxes now in arrears were six millions, which, added to the arrears of the property tax made eight millions, which, added to 11 millions of Property Tax made 20 millions. The War Taxes he therefore estimated at 22 millions. He came now to the third head, the Loan for the year, and trusted that the Terms on which he had been able to negotiate it would meet their approbation. The House would recollect that 12 millions of Exchequer Bills had been funded, the interest on which was 622,193l. The sinking fund to be provided for, 720,716l. He then entered into a statement of the Loan contracted for this day.

The interest upon this loan was 355,937l. the charge for sinking fund 106,122l. and charge for management 3244l. making a charge in the whole of 465,403l. Add to this the charge on the sum borrowed in the 5 per cents, and the Exchequer Bills funded 700,116l. and the whole charge to be provided for this year would be 1,215,519l. It might be satisfactory to the Committee to be informed, that the total charge per cent. on the loan was 6l. 4s. 11d. on the 12 millions borrowed in the 5 per cents, and on the Exchequer Bills funded was 6l. 8s. 9d. The rate of interest upon the loan was 4l. 11s. 11d. the rate of interest upon the former 12 millions, 5l. 3s. 8d. Though there appeared this difference between the rate of interest on both, if the amount of the Sinking Fund upon each were considered, it would be found that very little difference indeed existed between them. When the sum raised in the 5 per cents, last year was only 8,500,000l. the charge created upon it was 6l. 4s. 7d.; whereas, upon 12,000,000l. raised in the present year, the whole charge was but 6l. 5s. 0d. being only 5d. per cent. more than the charge of the last year. This arose from the 5 per cents, not having any depression correspondent to that which the 3 per cents, had undergone. The difference was greater between the charge on the sums respectively raised in the 3 per cents in consequence of the alteration in the price of that stock. Last year the charge had been 5l. 13s. 3d. this year it was 6l. 4s. being about 10s. higher. He felt more satisfaction in the advantage derived from borrowing in the 5 per cents because it confirmed the policy with which, with a firmness which might have been construed into obstinacy, he had persevered in his determination to take a large portion of the loan in the fund.

It now remained for him to put the Committee in possession of the Ways and Means by which he proposed to provide for the charge which he had just explained to the House. He meant to repeal the duty on hats, as it became every year less productive, and gave rise to much fraud. It might be said that he ought to find out some tax of a similar description before he gave up this; but, in repeating it, he did not think he was giving up much. The House had already voted more than was really wanted, and no new tax would be necessary. (Hear! hear!) He then referred to the Additional Duties on Spirits, of which the several Bills were in progress. The Duty on foreign Timber would produce 620,000l.—The Duty on Cotton Wool from America, 35,340l.—Duty on Powl and Ashes, 75,000l.—Additional Duty on Foreign Linen, 75,000l. These duties would not fall on our own manufacturers, and he trusted they would operate to discourage foreign imports, which was so desirable in the present state of the Country. These Duties had all been already voted. These sums, with 864,000l. from the war taxes, would give 1,215,500l. which was more than he wanted, and left a balance of 300,000l. There was a 600,000l. surplus from the Consolidated Fund, which would not be wanted for the service of the year, and which might be applied to the charges of the Irish Loan. Two millions had already been borrowed for Ireland, and four millions more to be borrowed, would make seven millions; which, to prevent any new taxes in Ireland, might be partly provided for from the Consolidated Fund in England. This would be an accommodation to Ireland, and a proof of our wishes to assist her. He then entered into a long detail of the increasing produce of various duties, a proof of the opulence and prosperity of the country, which was particularly exemplified in the increasing consumption of wine, notwithstanding the high duties. They could not go through the country in any direction without seeing proofs of this increasing prosperity. (Hear! hear!) He concluded by moving, "that 12 millions be raised by annuity, to provide for the service of the current year," which having been read from the Chair.

Mr. BARKING was of opinion that the additional duty on the import of American Cotton Woods would operate unfavourably on the manufacturers of this country. The additional duty on foreign timber would have also the effect of excluding it, tho' he allowed it was desirable to encourage our American colonies.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed, that the several Bills were in progress through the House, and might be discussed in any of their future stages. He did not doubt of obtaining a sufficient supply from our own colonies.

After some further observations from Mr. ROSE, Mr. BARKING, and Mr. C. WYME, this and the other resolutions were agreed to.

IRISH BUDGET.

Mr. FOSTER then rose to state the Supply, and Ways and Means for Ireland.

The Unprovided Debts	4,205,000
The quota for Ireland of the joint expence of the current year	6,569,000
Which in Irish Money, was	7,116,000
Deficiency on the part of Ireland for the last year	1,920,000
Which in Irish Money, was	2,110,000
The whole making a sum of	13,224,000
To meet this sum he took the surplus of the Consolidated Fund of last year at	740,000
The Revenue of the year	4,500,000
The Loan	2,500,000
Loans to be repaid in Britain	1,000,000
Treasury Bills	4,500,000
Making a total of 13,618,119l. being 200,000l. beyond the sum wanted for supply.	
To meet this charge, it was necessary to provide for the two millions and a half Loan, and the one million Treasury Bills. The Loan was procured in this country at a 4l. 14s. 11d. per cent. Though Ireland was a thriving country, it was desirable not to let the whole weight fall on her. On general principle he wished to lay down was, to equalize, where it was possible, the duties of the two countries.	
He proposed an additional duty on Tobacco which would amount to	221,000
An additional duty on Hemp	8,000
Which according to the British standard, would amount to	229,000

The charge on the Loan of two millions and a half was 150,000l. and with that on the Treasury Bills would amount to 200,000l. which was under the sum to be raised by tobacco and hemp. He proposed, however, also a duty on timber from America, equal to that in this country, except staves, which it was desirable to exempt, as being so necessary for Ireland, in sending her provisions to this country, and supplying the Navy. He intended also to impose on Cotton Wool imported in foreign ships a duty of 1l. 5s. 6d. per cwt. which would raise it to the same standard as in England. He proposed also to remove the duties on hats in Ireland, as the produce of the duty was, at any rate, but small. He said, that there had been, during the last year, a considerable failure in the Imports of Ireland, which necessarily produced a diminution in the revenue; but that the exports during the last year had been considerably greater than at any former period, which fact he deemed a proof of the internal prosperity of the country. The returns made by the Custom House did not show nearly the amount of the exports, because immense quantities of provisions were constantly exporting for the use of the army and navy, which were never entered at the Custom-House. It was true a great part of the exports was raw material, consequently not so beneficial to the country as those which had undergone some degree of manufacture, but it was a proof of what Ireland was capable of producing. He stated his full conviction, that at a very early period Ireland would become extremely opulent, as she had progressively done for some years back. It gave him the highest satisfaction to reflect upon so cheerful a prospect, produced entirely by the uniform liberality wherewith Ireland was treated by the English Legislature, in the education of the youth, improving the morals of the people, establishing Charities, erecting Light-houses on the Coast to increase the security of the trade, and generally improving the country. For these valuable advantages he thought the Legislature entitled to the gratitude of every true Irishman. (Hear!)

Sir J. NEWPORT said it had often fallen to his lot from time to time, to call the attention of the House to the growth of the Irish debt, and the inaccurate manner of arranging the rate of contribution at the time of the Union. He was willing to make every acknowledgment to the liberality of the United Parliament for its present inclination to assist Ireland to pay off a debt which it was impossible that she could pay herself. He admitted, too, that Ireland had improved since the Union, but did not think it followed that she would not have improved with greater rapidity if the Union had never taken place; she had not carried in her improvement capacity for taxation. In order to accommodate the millling orders of society, and inspire them with a relish for those comforts to which they were not at present sufficiently inclined; the present generation in all probability would not live to see that change, but such changes were wrought, he should disapprove of extending the Property Tax in Ireland. There was a proportion of the Property Tax which, most unjustly, as he thought, was directed from the Irish Exchequer to England. This ought to belong to Ireland alone, and if it had been allotted to her, and appropriated to the discharge of her necessities, she would not now be obliged to call for relief. The Revenue of Ireland had made no progress adequate to the debt, and it was a fact, of which the Right Honourable Gentleman could not be ignorant, that as soon as any Tax was attempted to be increased upon Tobacco, Wine, or Tea, the consumption of those articles fell off, and the produce, instead of advancing, fell back. As to the statement that much of the provisions intended for the consumption of the Navy did not appear in the account, it was certainly true; but it was equally true at the present moment it never appeared in the books.—As to the Grants for Education, he knew of no such thing. A Commission had certainly been appointed by his (Sir J. Newport) investigation to inquire into the state of the different schools, but no grant had yet been made in furtherance of any plan, and he hoped that no religious distinctions would be made in the final proceedings to which that Commission might lead; he would state positively that none was intended by those who first suggested its appointment. As to the fact of the Merchants being relieved from fees, it was undoubtedly true; but if he was rightly informed, they would rather pay their former fees than experience the inconvenience to which they were exposed in consequence of the present regulation. The building of the Light-houses was an expence defrayed by Ireland herself; and, therefore, would scarcely be selected as an instance of the liberality of Great Britain. No instance had occurred for the last three years, in which by separate charge amounted to within 1,000,000l. of the joint charge; this was one of the effects of the rate and quota of contribution adjusted at the Union, which, so long as it was acted upon, would render the payment of the debt impossible, notwithstanding the promise given at the time, that the consequence of the Union would be to diminish the expenditure by 4,000,000l. in the time of war, and by 500,000l. in time of peace. The Right Hon. Gentleman had produced only 3,700,000l. and yet he persisted this year in taking it at the same rate.—Why should he go on with this fallacy? Would it not be better for Parliament to know, and to meet the evil day? With regard to the taxes proposed, if he (Sir John Newport) were to select any one article upon which he would be most unwilling to increase the duty, that article would be tobacco. All former attempts to remove the Revenue from it had been unfortunate; and he was not sure but that lessening the duty would

have been a better way to improve the produce. If Ireland had gone sufficiently into the culture of hemp to supply the consumption, he would readily have agreed to the tax proposed; but as that was not the case, the Committee would do well to pause before they adopted it. Of the taxes on cotton wool, and American timber, he should only say what applied equally to the British taxes, that he deprecated every thing which looked like commencing a war of duties with America. He had considerable connections with her, which he hoped would long continue. With respect to the staves, he understood that the duty on those from British America was to be taken off, but not on those of the United States; and here again the Right Hon. Gen. should be sure that he would get a sufficient supply from British America.

Mr. GRATTAN said he did not accuse the House of illiberality towards Ireland, but he thought she did not receive that encouragement to which she was entitled.

The CHAN. of the EXCH. maintained that Ireland was capable of bearing all the burthens imposed upon it by its increasing exportation of its productions. The question was put upon each of the Resolutions, and carried without opposition, and the Report ordered to be received to-morrow.—Adjourned.

LONDON.

TUESDAY, MAY 21.

On Sunday the following Bulletin was shown at St. James's Palace:

Windor Castle, May 19.

His Majesty is quite as well as he was last week.

We understand at length the satisfaction to announce a most glorious, and as there is every reason to believe, a total Defeat of the French army under Massena. The following are the particulars, as they have reached us from various quarters:

It appears that Massena (whom we have not yet the official accounts), had attempted to throw a passage into Almeida, and on the 2d sent a division of his force to make this attempt. It failed, though the garrison made a sortie to frustrate it. On the 3d a similar attempt was made with a similar result. This was preliminary to a more general affair on the 5th—Massena then brought up the major part of his troops, and those then, as we hear, into the Val de la Mula, that far from Almeida. Lord Wellington had foreseen this movement and was prepared for it. The whole of the force on both sides was not engaged, about 20,000 on each side of the enemy—On our General Pack's division, and a division of Portuguese troops, the 71st Regiment was in the van, and led to bear the chief brunt and violence of the conflict; it suffered consequently the most, and fell in Officers was great. The enemy fought with the desperation of men wishing to retrieve their disasters and disgrace. Massena is reported to have been in the field himself, encouraging his troops by his example, and doing all that a skilful General could do. But his competitor, Lord Wellington, was in the field also, and to him Victory again proved faithful. After a sanguinary fight, the French were completely defeated, and driven off the field, with the loss of about 5,000 men, which loss was increased by the number of men drowned in crossing three rivers. They no longer thought themselves secure on the banks of the Aguado, in the neighbourhood of Ciudad Rodrigo; but took the direction of Salamanca—Lord Wellington pursuing them. This is the substance of the intelligence; some further details will be found subjoined: many of them may be incorrect; but the main fact that a great victory has been achieved by our arms we believe to be well founded, and most heartily do we congratulate the country upon it.

BRISTOL, MAY 20.

Yesterday evening arrived in this port, the brig Swah, John Healey, Master, in seven days from Oporto, with the following important information, with which we are favoured by Mr. Sawtell, merchant, of this city, in fullest confidence of its truth.

Captain Healey states, that on the 11th inst. (the day before he sailed) an express arrived from Lord Wellington to the Governor of Oporto, giving an account of a general battle having been fought between the Allied Army and the French under Massena, on the 3d, 4th, and 5th instants, near Almeida; that on the 5th the French were completely defeated, with the loss of 4000 men killed in the field, and 700 taken prisoners, besides numbers drowned in their retreat across three rivers. Lord Wellington said at the time of writing his dispatches he was in pursuit of the remains of the French army towards Salamanca. The loss on the side of the Allied Army was 1200 killed. Several British Officers fell, particularly those of the 71st Regiment. Almeida had not fallen when Lord Wellington wrote, but was daily expected to surrender for want of provisions.

A number of letters were sent on board the Sarah after the news reached Oporto, and she was assisted over the bar with extra pilotage, by express orders from the Governor.

In the present state of the wind, and considering the greater distance of Lisbon, the regular packet-station from the scene of action, Lord Wellington's dispatches to Government cannot be expected to arrive very speedily.—Bristol Mercury.

Mr. Healey is a most respectable man, and he adds, that he heard the letter from Lord Wellington read on the Exchange the day before he sailed.

The regiments said to have distinguished themselves at the 3d, 3d and 6th Cadaceros, 71st, 7th, 79th, 5d, and Chateaux Britanniques.

"LLOYD'S COFFEE-HOUSE, Tuesday morning, May 21.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BRISTOL, DATED MAY 20.

Arrived the Sarah, Healey, from Oporto, from whence she sailed the 12th inst. Capt. Healey, who the day before he sailed from Oporto, an express reached the Governor of that place, with an account from Lord Wellington, of his having defeated the French army under Massena, in an action fought near Almeida on the 3d, 4th, and 5th inst. in which the French lost 4000 in killed, and 700 in prisoners, and the allies 1200 in killed. Lord Wellington was pursuing them towards Salamanca.

"LLOYD'S, Tuesday, 15 at Noon.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM OPORTO, MAY 11.

Between Almeida and Agueda battles have been fought on the 3d, 4th, and 5th instants, between Lord Wellington's army and Massena, who was coming to relieve Almeida. On the first day the Allies made from 800 to 1000 prisoners; on the 4th and 5th, there was severe fighting, the result of which was, that the French were compelled to retreat toward Salamanca, leaving, as it is said, more than 4000 killed and wounded in the field.

The official details of those glorious successes we suppose you will here by the time this gets to hand. Colonel Frant is just arrived, having come down by water from Regia; and the whole of his division will be back to this place by the 16th inst. People here, as you may imagine, are much pleased, and we may now consider ourselves as perfectly free for some time, if not for ever."

We understand, from an eminent manufacturer in Birmingham, that an immense order has been issued by Government for muskets, such as the Russians use. This looks as if we were to be on an amicable footing with that country.—Caledonian Mercury.

Waterford, May 28. 1811.

FLAX SEED.

WILLIAM ROBINSON has a few Hds. Primo New York FLAX SEED remaining unsold, which he would dispose of on reasonable Terms. May 20. 1811.

TO BE LET.

THE HOUSE in which THOMAS NEVINS resided in King-street, with or without a large YARD and COCHING-HOUSE, on the Quay—Application to be made at said House. May 21. 1811.

TO BE LET.

FOR SIX OR NINE MONTHS.

AND IMMEDIATE POSSESSION GIVEN.

THE HOUSE, GARDEN, AND OUT-OFFICES of LAKELVIEW, delightfully situated, within one and a half Mile of Dunmore, and of Waterford.—For further Particulars enquire at said House. May 21. 1811.

N. B. The Tenant can be accommodated with GRASS for one or two Cows.

WILLIAM HAMY, GOLDSMITH, JEWELLER, AND WATCHMAKER, No. 20, DUNE-STREET, DUBLIN. (Lately removed from No. 11, Rutland-street.)

RESPECTFULLY submits to the Nobility, Gentry, and his Friends in general, that from the very liberal Patronage already experienced, he has been induced to extend considerably his Manufactory and Establishment, and solicits their Attention to a New and VERY SUPERIOR ASSORTMENT of the above ARTICLES, manufactured under his own immediate Inspection, on such Terms, as he flatters himself will be found to claim a decided Preference. W. H. has directed much of his Attention to an improved style in the Manufacture of RACE CUPS, GOLD BOXES, for Corporations and other Public Presentments, which has been found equal, if not superior, to any made in London.

N. B. Those who may be pleased to favour him with their Commands from the Country, may rely on his punctuality, and W. H. undertakes to forward the same at his own risk.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION.

ON THURSDAY, the 6th of JUNE next, at 10 O'clock, at the Stores of Mr. SAMUEL ALLEY, of Oughter, on Account of whom it may Concern, about Five Hundred and other Lots of LIGHT ARTICLES, of different Dimensions.—Terms of Sale, Custom-House, Young's, May 24. 1811.

CITY OF LONDON TAVERN, LONDON, APRIL 26.

A numerous and high respectable Meeting held this Day, in pursuance of public Advertisement.

JOHN WHITMORE, Esq. in the Chair.

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

1. Resolved, That the uniform, good, and patriotic conduct of the Portuguese Nation, during the French invasion, and the consequent sufferings of a great proportion of that brave and loyal people, entitle them to the benevolent consideration and assistance of every individual in the Empire.

2. Resolved, That the Meeting, feeling most sensibly the distress and wants of the unfortunate sufferers, and convinced that the vote of Parliament, although liberal, is not adequate to the humane intention, is anxious, not only, to contribute individually, but to contribute collectively, in the most general and efficacious manner, as an object so truly benevolent and praiseworthy.

3. Resolved, That a general Subscription for this purpose be now opened, and that the different Bankers of this Metropolis be requested to receive Subscriptions.

4. Resolved, That for further promoting such desirable object, a Committee be now appointed to solicit Subscriptions and superintend the application of the same; and that all money received shall be paid into the Bank of England, in the name of the Chairman, and three of the Committee.

5. That the Committee do consist of the following Gentlemen:—

[For the Names of the Gentlemen who form the Committee vide the London Papers.]

6. Resolved, That these Resolutions, with a list of Subscriptions, be published in the London and Provincial Papers.

7. Resolved, That the Chairman be requested to call a General Meeting hereafter, to report the amount and application of the Money received.

J. WHITMORE, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the Chair, the Thanks of the Meeting were unanimously voted for his very able, disinterested, and patriotic conduct in this general cause of humanity.

Books being opened, Subscriptions were received, amounting to £57,384 0

58. Mark-Lane. WM. SCOTCHER, Secretary.

LONDON.

Further Subscriptions will be received at the several Bankers in the Metropolis; and at the Bar of the City of London Tavern; in Lloyd's, John's, and Tom's Coffee-houses; and in the different parts of the Empire.

N. B. A Meeting of the Committee will be held at this House every Tuesday, preceding the next, at 10 o'clock, where Subscriptions and informations will be thankfully received.

Waterford, May 21. 1811.