

Lord assured of the fact? Did any document appear on their table? If not, how could the foundation, how weak the basis, on which the present motion for inquiry rested? For, he would ask, did it become the duty of that House to make the newspapers of the day a ground for solemn proceeding? If facts had really happened as was stated, there were laws in Ireland to vindicate the wrong; but Noble Lords should not suffer their minds to be prepossessed on such a subject. The second ground relied upon was, the alarming situation of that country. The exigencies, it appeared, were so pressing, the danger so immediate, that no time was to be lost. His own view of the circumstances, he must say, differed widely from that of the Noble Lord. He thought no danger was to be apprehended while the Irish Government was firm, and while we were disposed to support its acts.— To him it appeared that the alleged discontents were the strongest argument against the present measure; for even if the House were disposed to do all that was required of it, the measure should seem to spring spontaneously from its own bounty and liberality, and not, as might now be imputed, from fear.— The Catholics, indeed, had assumed such a tone of determined hostility—they had treated the promulgations of Government with such contumacy, that any concession must at present appear, in the extreme degree, mean and pusillanimous. The Catholics would then be the victors, the Government the vanquished; and, like all other victors, the Catholics would press on to make new demands, and enforce new claims. If the Government had attempted to stifle petitioning, then their Lordships might have been properly called upon to interfere: for the Catholics had the same right as all the rest of his Majesty's subjects to petition; but the Irish Government had not attempted to impede the Catholics in any measure where they would not also have impeded the Protestants. The claims of the Catholics could be but equal, not superior, to the Protestants, who, if they had endeavoured to petition by convention, must have been proceeded against in a precisely similar manner.

The Government were accused of having excited discontent among the Catholics; but how had they done so? By enforcing the laws. Surely, not to those who enforced, but to those who broke the laws, should be imputed the blame of exciting discontent. The conduct of the Duke of Richmond, so far from being censurable, appeared to him to deserve praise for its conciliatory spirit and forbearance, as long as such forbearance was legally possible. For to what excess might not the principle and plan of the Convention have been carried? How had America proceeded when it wished to separate itself from this kingdom? Was it not by means of a Representative Assembly? The Government, it appeared, had exerted itself with vigour to crush a most dangerous convention. Would the Noble Lords desert them in this laudable attempt? Would they not rather second them, and confirm their acts? All that was loyal in Ireland would look to Parliament for that firm assistance which it was wont to receive from it. Should this be granted, then all the dangers with which we were menaced would soon pass away. The Noble Lord then stated, in conclusion, that had the conduct of the Irish Government been weak and pusillanimous, there would have been cause of fear; but since, on the contrary, it had been bold and determinate—since it had with persevering firmness upheld the laws against all persons who had infringed them, however high their rank—in this state of things, said his Lordship, “the number of the discontented may be great, the ranks of the disloyal may be numerous, but Ireland is safe.”

The Duke of BEDFORD strenuously supported the motion. He considered what had been advanced by the Noble Earl as not tending in the smallest degree to do away the arguments and the facts adduced by his Noble Friend. An eulogium had been pronounced on the Noble Duke at the head of that Government. He trusted, however, it would be allowed him, notwithstanding his near connection with that Noble Personage, to express himself as to this particular point, of a different opinion. The effects of the unfortunate measures of that Administration were too obvious, he thought, to allow the merits of the question to be undecided. The actual state of Ireland he too felt, with his Noble Friend, to be such as forcibly to call for the speedy interposition of the Government and Legislature of the Empire.

The Earl of ABERDEEN took a survey of the general state of Ireland, in order to examine what it was which could so urgently call for an inquiry into the condition of that country at the present moment. What most forcibly struck him, was the tone and attitude which the body of the Roman Catholics had assumed in the preparation and furtherance, as they called it, of their petition to Parliament. What was the real object of the motion which the Noble Earl had this night submitted to their Lordships' consideration? Were not the Noble Lord and those who supported him anxious rather to extend the inquiry into the whole conduct of his Majesty's Government—to canvass and criticise their proceedings under all the aspects of that conduct? This, he believed, was the true motive and object of the present motion. The Noble Lord then proceeded to vindicate the late conduct of the Irish Government, and to show that the spirit which animated that conduct was in no respect hostile to the right of petitioning, or to any other right to which the Catholics had a fair claim? Where, then, were grounds for the inquiries which the Noble Duke (Bedford) had heaped upon the conduct of that Government towards the Roman Catholics? What prejudice or severity had been manifested with respect to them? Were not the persons of the Roman Catholics held as sacred, and was not their property kept as secure as those of

their Protestant fellow-subjects? Let the Noble Duke adduce one instance of flagrant partiality towards Protestants, and of prejudice and severity against the Catholics, and he would then acknowledge there were some grounds for inquiry. The Noble Lord next entered into a vindication of the late judicial proceedings in Ireland, and contended that it was the indispensable duty of the Courts to proceed as they had done. It was not surely to be allowed, that pictures of sedition were every day to be exhibited with impunity, without any interference on the part of any of the Constitutional Authorities of the Country; that would unquestionably not be the surest means of improving the condition of Ireland. No! the prosperity and happiness of the United Kingdom would only be promoted by mutual sacrifices, by reciprocal forbearance, and by the harmony of the exertions and energies of both, as cordially co-operating against the machinations and the violence of the common enemy.—Such being the impression of his mind, he must vote against the motion for a Committee of Inquiry.

The Marquis of DOWNSHIRE insisted, that nothing had been done towards improving the state of Ireland; and that every measure of late, particularly the measure of the Union, had greatly tended to deteriorate her condition, to humiliate her pride, to sap the foundations of her prosperity.

The Earl of HARDWICKE thought the motion no reflection on the Irish Government, as it was only an inquiry into the true state of the affairs of Ireland, the result of which would show where the error lay.

Lord SIDMOUTH said, that he feared that on the present occasion he should not be able to do justice to his own feelings. The Noble Viscount proceeded to consider the conduct of the Irish Government, and of the Noble Duke at the head of that Government. There was not the least colour for any of the charges made against that Government. But why was such a motion as the present deferred until now? Why has there been no necessity for it during the last 21 years? Much had been said of the wisdom, the moderation, the patriotism of the Catholics on various occasions during that period; yet it never has been thought necessary till now to adduce the display of these virtues as a ground for granting a committee of inquiry. But it seems that some Noble Lords would have all the laws repealed upon which perhaps depend the security of property. Yes, here they all repeated; and yet talk of no securities in their roots. The House did not now even hear of the *Vos*. Yet such counter-securities were no doubt absolutely necessary; should not the King be made at least a co-ordinate power with the Pope—but would the Catholics agree to this? Would their Hierarchy submit to this? he believed not. While such a state of things remained, he must dwell not only on the opinions, but the morals of the Catholics. He could not consent, without due provision for the safety of the present establishment, to place in the hands of the Catholics high military and legislative authority. (To be continued.)

On a division being called for, the numbers stood thus:—

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LONDON.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31.

We intimated, a few days since, that Government was in possession of intelligence from Sicily favourable to the tranquillity of the island, and at the same time referring to the trial and punishment of the French spies and emissaries, who were employed to interrupt its repose. We have now obtained from thence very recent advices, as will be seen by the following “PROCLAMATION.”

“SICILIANS.

“The Commander of the British Forces on your territory has been under the painful necessity of placing several persons under arrest. It is discovered that they were in correspondence with the enemy, and that their design was to deliver over this island and the whole army of your faithful Allies to the power of those who desire only the destruction of both. But their intrigues, which have been long vigilantly regarded in secret, have been now openly declared. Sicilians, all those who are concerned in this conspiracy are not yet in our hands, but all of them are known, and we have thought it sufficient, for the purpose of the moment, to secure only those who are most active instruments in the plot.

“These days will be allowed to such individuals who are implicated, but who are not yet arrested, to seek remission for their crime by a full, sincere, and unreserved confession. There exist amongst their proofs equally strong with those which have led to the imprisonment of their principal accomplices, and it is well known that the British Commanders would not order the arrest of any persons without satisfactory evidence, as is sufficiently shown by their long forbearance.

“Let those, then, who are concerned in this conspiracy hasten to expose their partners in the crime, for the punishment of such as shall be found to be traitors to their country.

“The most solemn promise is given of pardon and protection to those who shall testify themselves to it by this prompt and fair confession.

“By order of his Excellency,

WILLIAM TAYLOR, Military Sec.

Head-quarters, Messina, Dec. 3, 1811.

An express was received yesterday from Windsor, at Carlton House, stating, “That his Majesty had refused nourishment during the day, and was not so well as in the morning.”

Our private information from Windsor states, that although his Majesty's proxym's are not so violent, yet he appeared more debilitated, and requires a more constant attendance upon his person.

The rumour is again confidently circulated, that the Marquis Wellesley had tendered his resignation to the Prince Regent, and that his Royal Highness had signified his wish, that the Noble Lord should continue to hold the seals of his office till the period when the Prince shall consider himself released from the restrictions under which his Government is now rendered so inefficient.

The Courier of last night says:—“The late rise of colonial produce and the prosperity of our chief manufacturing towns, must give great confidence in the power and resources of the British empire, as they afford a signal triumph over the machinations and the malice of the enemy!”

Lord Milton's son and heir was on the 19th of this month christened at Milton-Abbey, by the name of Viscount Wentworth Fitzwilliam. Great rejoicings took place on the occasion. The surrounding neighbourhood were supplied with home-brewed ale.

Every ship of war fit for service is ordered to be got ready. Among these are—The Albion, Hamilis, Montague, and Asia, line-of-battle ships, at Chatham. The Impregnable, 98; Superb and Excellent, 74; Timon and Pomone, 38; at Portsmouth. The Ocean, 98; Spencer, 74; Resolutionnaire, 38; and Star and Electric sloops, at Plymouth. The Duncan, 74; Seahorse, 38; and Derivation bomb, at Woolwich. The Nemesis, 28; Savage sloop, and Sentinel and Olympia cutters, at Sheerness.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

We are sorry to state, that our private accounts from Windsor inform us, that his Majesty's proxym's had increased during Thursday night and yesterday, and that it was found necessary to send an express to town at a late hour last night, to recall the absent Physicians.

There is no longer any doubt of the capture of the Pomona Frigate. We can state, on good authority, that the first information of the affair was derived from the Commandant of the French Frigate herself, which he undertook to communicate under the following circumstances. After an obstinate action, in which the Pomona was captured by the Active, Captain Gordon, not having any immediate means at hand of transmitting his report of the affair, engaged with the Commandant of the Pomona, to give him his liberty on his parole of honour, on condition, that, on his arrival in France, he would forward a letter from him (Captain Gordon) to his friends in England, merely to acquaint them with the result of the action, and that, notwithstanding he had lost a leg, nursed them, he was doing well. This proposition being gladly accepted, the French Commandant was put on shore at the port of Trieste, and, by the late vessel from France, he faithfully performed his contract, by making the communication requested to the Marquis of Huntley, through the medium of the Transport Board. The official account is hourly looked for.

A letter has been received from St. Michael's, dated the 8th ult. which communicates the extraordinary intelligence, that, by an order received from the Prince Regent of Portugal to the Governor of the Western Isles, war had been declared between the Portuguese Government and the Northern Powers, in consequence of which all Danish and Swedish shipping were seized and sequestered, and the crews put into prison.

By a private communication from Gottenburgh, we learn that no political changes whatever are expected from the King resuming the reins of Government, for this event only took place in compliance with an ancient law of Sweden, which ordains that no Prince Regent can be permitted to govern more than one year; and if necessary to prolong the Regency, the Government must be delivered over to the Regent, by the King, which ceremony, in the present instance, is expected to take place the latter end of the present month.

A vessel has arrived from the eastern coast of Spain. We are enabled to give one day more to the threatened City of Valencia; up to the 4th it had not fallen under the power of the enemy.

Waterford Chronicle.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

Since our last publication, we have received the London Papers of Friday and Saturday.—No Mail due.

The debate on the State of Ireland is of more than common importance; but it did not reach us in any thing like a perfect form, till too late an hour to proceed farther than we have done in the details. What remains, which is by far the most interesting part of the discussion, shall be attended to on Saturday.

PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLICS.

In recording the proceedings of the different Councils of IRELAND, when assembled upon public occasions, we have had the satisfaction of more than once noticing the independent and dignified conduct of the Gentlemen of the County of CLARE. These friends to the true interests of their country have at all times risen superior to the prejudices which sway the sentiments of intolerant nations, and to the timid apprehensions which restrain the weak and fearful from a manly avowal of their principles; and a bold discharge of those duties which the well-

fare of the Empire, and the privations of a distressed community of their Brethren, require at their hands. In the County of CLARE, this union between PROTESTANT and CATHOLIC, which has every where grown of late with such irresistible rapidity, and which will render the present period of Irish history memorable above all that has gone before it, stands eminently conspicuous for the finest feelings of humanity, and for the firmest determination to banish for ever all obstacles to the even and uninterrupted current of the peaceful blessings of social concord and love. When just occasions called for their interposition, the Gentlemen to whom we allude have instantly come forward, and openly declared their unalterable purpose to support those political doctrines which they believe to be not less congenial to the British Constitution than salutary to the prosperity and safety of their country. No intemperance and no bigotry have ever disgraced their Meetings. They have acted as men in whose hearts the purest patriotism reigns, whose wisdom has implanted within them a deep conviction of the perils of the times, and whose generosity would freely impart to others those rights of which they have themselves experienced the value.

We have been led into these observations by seeing in the *Limerick Evening Post*, a Journal which confers no honour upon the Press of Ireland, several resolutions entered into by the Protestants of that county we have named. At a meeting, recently held at Ennis, over which the HON. SURGEON GENERAL, and which was attended, amongst others, by Sir EDWARD O'BRIEN, Bart. Col. A. FITZGERALD, Representatives for the County, the Right Hon. W. FITZGERALD, Representative for the Borough, and Lord JAS. O'BRIEN, Resolutions to the following purport were unanimously adopted:—“That a dutiful and loyal address be presented to his Royal Highness the PRINCE REGENT, humbly praying his Royal Highness to take into his gracious consideration the UNLAWFUL RESTRICTIONS, and the UNLAWFUL LAWS and RESTRICTIONS under which our Roman Catholic fellow-subjects of IRELAND labour and are oppressed, and that our Representatives in Parliament be instructed to present and to support said Petitions.”

Looking towards the County of CORK, and taking our information from the able, independent, and patriotic Journals which distinguish the capital of that important portion of Ireland, we see the prevalence of the same noble and liberal spirit. It will be recollected, that the late Meeting of the Catholics of Cork, of whose proceedings we gave a full detail, was attended by many Protestant Gentlemen of large property, and of the most eminent personal reputation. Since that period, the general Petition of the Protestants has been forwarded to Cork, and committed to the protection of Mr. BEAMISH, a man whose name carries with it the memorial of all that is valuable in the human character, who has a large stake embarked in the interests of his Country, and who, from the silent pursuits of the Merchant, has felt it to be his duty to come forth as the advocate of the Catholics. Under his auspices, or rather under the auspices of the most comprehensive liberality, the Protestant Petition has received numerous signatures in the City of Cork. Under the indefatigable agency of Mr. BEAMISH, as the *Intelligencer* expresses it, copies of that Petition have been forwarded to COL. STAMWELL, of Kibbritain, to T. NEWBHAM, Esq. of Middleton-Lodge, and to Mallow, &c. The *Intelligencer* adds:—“In those districts of our Country, the zealous and public-spirited hands, in which the Copies have been placed, will forward effectually this great national measure.” In this meritorious work, Mr. BEAMISH enjoys the powerful aid of Dr. AUSTIN, one of the most virtuous, public-minded, beloved, and respected Members of the ESTABLISHED CHURCH, as well as of the most distinguished inhabitants of the Southern parts of Ireland. The Protestant Petition has, also, been forwarded to Limerick, to the care of Lord GLENWORTH, and the same spirit animates the Protestant Inhabitants of that great Commercial City.

In this review, we might have comprehended other Counties and other Cities; but it has already detained us too long from the object in contemplation, namely, the appearance in the City of Waterford of the Protestant Petition, and the opportunity which a simple and unassuming invitation has afforded to the Protestant Community here of giving vent to the sanction of their names. It's management has been entrusted to Mr. NEWBHAM; but, with that forbearance which equally marks his own liberality, and his respect for the independent judgment of others, and which may be regarded as indirectly enjoined by the Petition itself, he has done nothing more than lately announce that it is in his possession, and at the command of every Protestant who approves of it's object, and who is inclined to support it, he may be permitted to say, that the rank which Mr. NEWBHAM holds in society, the benefits which the City of Waterford has derived from him and from his family, the political line of conduct, so long and so well known, to which they have invariably adhered, and the unintermitted and incorruptible patriotism which has distinguished them as members of the Empire at large, are considerations which will not be wholly overlooked, and which being forward the measure in this quarter under the most favourable to its cordial reception and final success. The PETITION itself is so framed as, at once, to exclude every ground of hostility

to it's design, and to secure the approbation of all who have duly reflected on the rights of the Catholic Body, and on the solid and unanswerable arguments by which those rights are enforced. In plain and simple language, it points to their claims to an equal share in the privileges of our common Country, and concurs in the Policy and Justice which they pray for the removal of all penal Disabilities. It has not even entered into the merits of a case which has employed the eloquence of the ablest Statesmen of the age. It takes the validity of that cause as established, and calls only for that assistance of which it is authorised by principles the most exalted and immutable, which is coincident with the noblest characteristics of the British Constitution, and which promises to construct for the whole Kingdom an impregnable bulwark of security. It has not mingled with the angry discussions that disorganise the Country. It has thrown them all, on either side they may have occurred, into the shade of oblivion, and reared its dignified hopes on the broad basis of a Nation's Justice, and a Nation's Interest and Glory!

In the promotion of a cause such as this, it might be deemed superfluous, to attempt to interest in it's behalf those feelings and exertions of our Protestant Brethren, which it is itself so powerfully calculated to ensure, and which they will be willing and eager to employ for it's advancement. So interesting and so important, however, is the subject, and so new the features which this great struggle has put on, that, although our interposition be wholly unnecessary, we cannot permit the occasion to pass in total silence. A Protestant Petition, extended in it's benevolent intention over the whole of Ireland, forgetting the long fight of division and sorrow that has passed away, offering to Catholics a full participation of National Privileges, and becoming the Advocate of their rights, at the bar of the supreme Assembly of the Empire, forms an illustrious era in the history of our Country. Heretofore, the pages of that history have been full of dark and gloomy horrors, the remembrance of which the heart sinks in painful dejection, and reflection passes in wonder and astonishment, that such things should have been! A brighter day now opens it's resplendent career, and forebodes a happy restoration, and a complete establishment of that concord which is the bond of society, and the rock upon which a people may smile in safety on the surrounding storms. Until the present period, the Protestants and the Catholics, professors of a Religion, inhabitants of the same land, with all their dearest interests confined within the same shores, have lived in a state of open warfare, of contending jealousies, of alienated affection, or of cold regard. A wall of separation existed between them, and the watchmen upon its towers, in times that have long gone by, rejoiced in the fury of the combatants, and drew power and splendour from their mutual destruction. The light of truth, whilst it has been long, though by slow degrees, softening down the ferocity of this dissension, and inspiring each with a fairer and a nobler policy, has at length burst forth in all it's grandeur, and diffused through the whole island one sentiment of unanimity and brotherly love. Of that sentiment the Address of the Protestants to the Imperial Legislature is, on their part, the full and unreserved expression; and it is an instrument as honourable to them as it must be beneficial to the land in which they dwell. Can we, then, be to blame, or, rather, is it not a duty incumbent upon us, if we solicit the signatures of our Protestant Brethren in support of that Address? It is, in every view, a legal and constitutional Petition, and it has for its paramount object, the prosperity and safety of the British Empire, as well as the concession of the just rights of a large portion of the population of that Empire. In this cause, we do not make an indiscriminate appeal, or think, that all considerations are to give way upon the occasion. The actions of men are the result of motives, into which it is presumptuous in others to seek to penetrate; and, here these motives are weighed with deliberation, and adapted in the conviction of rectitude, he who tries to ensure it culpable in the extreme. This principle will apply equally to the vindication of those who give the Petition their support, and to those who withhold from it their sanction, provided the intention be in both cases honest and pure.—There are men who love their Country as fervently, who stand as high in reputation, as any of their fellow-citizens, and whose opinions in favour of the unfeigned liberty of Conscience are as exalted as the Gospel in which they believe, but whose peculiar tenets preclude them from taking part in any political measure, whatever may be the subject. Such, therefore, ought upon this, as in every case of the kind, to be left at perfect freedom to pursue their wonted course. Their countenance would, indeed, be valuable, but the exigencies of the cause, neither do they impede its progress to success. A variety of other motives might be supposed, but it is enough generally to observe, that, wherever a well-founded reason of objection appears, there every ground of blame is removed. On this point, however, there is one consideration, of more than common magnitude, which it is proper fairly and explicitly to state. The Catholic cause is advancing rapidly to a triumphant issue, and it has been acknowledged by the ablest statesmen, even amongst those who are arrayed against it, that the period of its final victory cannot be far distant. Of this opinion, every day furnishes us with conclusive proofs. Let those, then, who are now, without any substantial reason, endeavour to keep back from supporting the Petition, reflect upon what their bodies will be, when the cause shall have taken place. They have at this moment the opportunity of adding their names to one of the illustrious lists that have ever appeared

upon the records of Parliament, and that, too, in promotion of the best interests of that country round which all their affections are entwined by the dearest ties. This privilege, now neglected, may for ever pass away, and unavailing regret be the consequence.

Another point yet remains to be considered, and it is one which must carry with it the most decisive influence. We allude to the concluding parts of the eloquent speech of the SOLICITOR GENERAL on the trial of Mr. KIRWAN, reported in the *Chronicle* of Tuesday. It is needless for us to say, that Mr. BURNES is one of the highest Servants of the Crown, and one of the ablest men of his time; but it is necessary to observe, that his station and his character give a peculiar importance to his opinions on the political circumstances of Ireland. In his speech in reply to Mr. BROWNE, he made a total separation between the conduct of the Catholic Committee and the cause of the Catholic Body. On the first, he passed the severest condemnation, and on the last, an unreserved approval. With his opinions in the first instance we have at present nothing to do, for the Petition applies solely to the Catholic cause, exclusive of every extraneous topic, and it is that cause alone in which we are engaged. Let those, then, who may feel inclined to refuse their signatures to that Petition on account of the presumed sentiments of Government, reflect well and deeply on the words of the SOLICITOR GENERAL. “I believe,” said he, “there is not an individual of his Majesty's Government that has a feeling of bigotry or intolerance on the question of Catholic Emancipation; its general principle no man can deny, but it is a question of great variety and complication. Penal Laws were the growth of unfortunate times, and grounded upon political principles of Government, which have now ceased to be necessary. It does not become me to discuss such a question—if I did, probably I could not dissent from my Lord Fingall.—In this, no man will differ from Mr. Barrowes. I trust in God, I may live to see the day, when the wisdom of Parliament will have achieved this desired end;—when it will leave the Catholics nothing to complain of, and the Protestants nothing to fear.—I trust, I may see them admitted into the temple of the Constitution, with the portals open as usual, to heart to receive them.” We have tried, but with all the imperfections which rapid composition of this kind unavoidably carry with them, to promote the cause of our Catholic Brethren; but, how we may, at least for the present, close our labours. Mr. BURNES has thrown around that cause the shield of his illustrious name, and it will become as to be silent. We shall only beseech those, who are dubious, or who are fearful, to take his words into their serious consideration, and to follow the great example which he has set before their eyes.

The following is a republication of the PROTESTANT PETITION:—

WE, the SUBSCRIBERS hereunto, do most humbly petition your HONOURABLE HOUSE in favour of our Brethren and Fellow-Subjects, the Persons professing the Roman Catholic Religion.

They apply to Parliament, to be admitted to the Privileges and Franchises of the Constitution.

We, their Protestant Brethren, do consider such Application to be just. We do most heartily join the Catholics in their loyal and reasonable Request; and, convinced of its Policy as well as its Justice, we do most zealously implore your Honourable House, to comply with the Prayer of said Petition, and to relieve the Persons professing the Roman Catholic Religion from all Civil and Political Disabilities.

The above Petition has been cordially received in this City, and a number of respectable Inhabitants have already given it the sanction of their names.

The sum obtained for the relief of the Sick Poor was, as stated in our last publication, £75 2s. 1d. In that amount the following Donations were included.—From James Wallace, Esq. £5 15s. 9d.—from Mrs. E. Walker, £1.—from Robert Paul, Esq. by the Messrs. M'Dougall, £1 2s. 9d.—by Mr. Benjamin Morris, £1.—and 2s. 6d. inscribed “a widow's mite.” In addition to these sums, Mr. Wakefield has received from John Davis, Esq. Mayor, £1, a fine upon a Publication.—from P. A. a Stranger, £1 2s. 9d.—from Mrs. Wall, by the Rev. Mr. Aloock, £1 2s. 9d.—and £1 2s. 9d. from a Lady, by Mrs. E. Skottowe. This subject still claims our attention, but our limits oblige us, for the present, to pass it over.

Some time ago, we noticed, in general terms, an attack made upon a house near Curraghmore. The following are the authenticated particulars of the transaction. The house is situated at Old Grange, and occupied by Mr. Tobyn. Previous to the attack, it had been twice visited by nocturnal legislators, but on both occasions in the absence of the Proprietor. At the first time, they took a gun from Mr. Tobyn's father, and at the second, they made a demand for money, with which they were obliged to comply. A little after twelve o'clock, on the night of Sunday, the 19th of January, the house was regularly assaulted by a party of eight or nine men, well armed, and, apparently at least, resolved on the horrible crime of murder. They crept at the hall-door, the kitchen-door, and at several of the windows, through the last of which the balls penetrated, but not through either of the doors, as those were of strength and thickness sufficient to resist them. On the first alarm, Mr. Tobyn immediately got out of bed, and returned the fire upon his enemies with the most determined bravery, from a which one of them received a mortal wound. This spirited and meritorious opposition compelled them to depart without the accomplishment of their design. On their quitting the

house, Mr. Tobyn opened the hall-door, and pursued them over a distance of two fields, accompanied only by a man-servant, who had no other weapon than a pitch-fork. We have been given to understand, that Mr. Tobyn had abandoned his house; but this is not the case, and it is with the highest satisfaction we are now enabled to do justice to that resolute firmness of mind, which so successfully and so honourably repelled this daring and criminal violation of domestic safety and of public law. Nor can we avoid remarking that, if these infuriated men were on all occasions to experience such a reception, the common tranquillity would soon remain uninterrupted and secure.

MR. KIRWAN'S JURY.

[From the Correspondent, February 3.]

A reward of Two Hundred Pounds has been offered by the Head Police Officer, for the discovery of the persons who had addressed to the Members individually of the Jury which tried Mr. Kirwan, letters threatening each of them with destruction, for the verdict they returned in that case. It is hardly possible to imagine a more outrageous trespass upon public justice, and thereby a greater wrong to the public, than an attempt to terrify Jurymen from their duty, and to force them to pay to fear, what they owe to solemn moral obligations and to the pure and unsworn dictates of conscience. If there be a man, who dares to practise an assassin's fraud, and by the menace of his dagger, who seeks to take men's consciences captive, and to command a verdict, in conformity with his own wishes only, we trust such a miscreant may be hunted out, and dragged before that public justice which he presumed to overawe in its most essential part, that he may suffer in proportion to his enormity. If there be such a man, we hope to see every other man's vigilance exercised to the utmost for his detection, that a bad citizen and a fool may be delivered over to the law, to meet its vengeance, unparagonably inflicted—for he is a bad citizen, who, for any transient or occasional object, however desirable, would warp the straight course of justice into any convenient incurvation; and he is a fool who does not see that a spirit of resistance may not be roused by menace, instead of the trepidation of fear; and that men may be driven to pronounce unfavourable verdicts when their manhood is, as it were, put to the test, and just to show that they were not to be terrified.

Thus much we have said under the supposition that those menacing letters are the sincere effusion of some virulent and irregular mind—but as there are several other causes to which such alarming epistles might be referred, we hope we shall be excused, if among them all we find it difficult to point out even the most probable, with the slightest confidence. We, Irish, are a nation of wags; and wags will sometimes play off unseasonable and very unavailing jokes; and it is possible that the solemn denunciation of a Jurymen, although exercised upon an interesting and arduous occasion, may not so completely rebuke the love of jocular enterprise, as to save twelve men, of very grave stamp indeed, from being the subject of very indecorous and improper amusement. It might be thought a good joke to see how a Jury in a panic would look, going to the Castle, to save their throats from a thousand knives, with all the rudiments of a Polish plot sketched in wild outline upon their faces. As we have an intention of groping through the dark and extensive regions of possibility, to discover causes for those culpable and criminal letters, we, of course, shall not reason upon the possibility that they might have been written by an enemy to the Roman Catholic, for the chance of casting some discredit upon them for a moment, or by any friends of the Jury, to hold them up as martyrs by anticipation, in order that some state favour might descend upon them to compensate for the disorder of their nerves.—We shall not examine into any of those causes, which are but possible; but we will conclude with hoping, that the author of those threatening letters, whoever he may be, whether a fanatic, a wag, a calumniator, or a speculator, may be discovered and punished accordingly, or, if he escape, that he may be disappointed.

CATHOLIC DELEGATES.

The Attorney-General announced this day in the Court of King's Bench, that it was not his intention to proceed to trial against any of the other Catholic Delegates, and that he did not mean to call upon the Court to have Mr. Kirwan brought up for judgment, upon which Mr. Barrowes rose and spoke to the following effect:—

I cannot doubt that the Attorney-General wishes well to the tranquillity of the country, and that as relinquishing these proceedings, he wisely promotes it. For the Roman Catholic Delegates, and particularly for the Earl of Fingal, I shall only say, that their uniform wish has been to conform to the law, and their uniform effort in these proceedings has been, without entertaining any disrespect to this Court, to refer the question of law to the demerit resort.

The Earl of Fingal acted under able advice in asserting a constitutional right, and was determined to submit to the decision of the law, but felt himself justified in having that law decided in the most solemn manner authorised by our Constitution.

In this spirit, at the head of the Catholics of Ireland, he gave up what he conceived to be his right, at the last approach of a Peace Officer. In this spirit he has instructed me, upon the trial which is now impending, to admit all the facts of the case, and to make no other struggle than that which is allowed me, by a general verdict, to preclude his right of appeal.

He is happy, however, that the transactions which have occurred leave it still in his power to compel a discussion of this great question, and that the Attorney-General will not always have it in his power to prevent it.—*Ibid.*

CLONMEL, FEBRUARY 1.—On Wednesday night last, between the hours of ten and twelve, a dwelling-house, barn, and stable, on part of the lands of Moorestown, near Woodroff, the property of Mr. Pious O'Donnell, of Lixfield, were discovered to be on fire, and were completely destroyed. From the circumstances which have been stated to us, and which are matter for the investigation of a legal tribunal, we have no doubt the concerns were maliciously set on fire.

One of those miserable gangs that would dictate laws to the country, a few nights ago attacked a house in the neighbourhood of Clonmel—but they were so warmly rebuffed that two of them were badly wounded, one of whom died in the course of the night. The alarm these fellows give in their progress leads to a miscalculation of their numbers—but we find wherever they are resolutely opposed, they are always defeated.—*Clonmel Advertiser.*

FEBRUARY 2.—Monday night last five men came to the house of Patrick Butler, at Four-mile-water, in the County of Waterford—and having asked admission to a friendly supper, the door was opened, when three came in, and the others held guard outside. They demanded fire-arms; but there being none, they went to the room where Butler was in bed, and one of them presented a short gun at him, and held it in that position while the others, with candles in their hands, were searching the house. Having opened a box belonging to Butler's wife, and taken out a small bag, in which she thought there was a three-guinea note, the woman made an effort to wrest it from them—but one of her fingers was broken in the effort, when the bag was found to contain nothing of value. They then broke open a chest, from which they took twenty-two guineas in gold.—They next compelled a boy to saddle one of Butler's horses, and put a collar on another; and having turned the boy loose, they locked the door and went away, uttering imprecations of destruction against the family if they dared to open it till they were clear off. The horses were found yesterday morning on the lands of Russeltown. Butler was searching this town yesterday, to see if any one came to sell the guineas, as he said he would know the men who took them away.—*Ibid.*

HIS GRACE the Lord Lieutenant has been pleased to appoint the following Gentlemen to be High Sheriffs for the ensuing year:—

Co. Antrim—John Campbell, of the Vow, Esq. Cavan—Ferdinand Thornton, of Greenfield, Esq. Clare—Thomas Mahon, of Ennis, Esq. Cork—The Hon. Hayes St. Leger. Mayo—George Mahon, of Westport, Esq. Tyrone—Robt. Wm. Lowry, of Pomeroy, Esq.

PORT-NEWS—PASSAGE, FEBRUARY 2.

ARRIVED.

Jan. 31st.—Cezrina. Dwyer. Oporto, Ballin, Auckland, and Camden Packets.

Feb. 1st.—Providence, from Cork. Davis, live Pigs, Newport.

3d.—Earl Leicester Packet; Gower Packet; Joyce, Tower, Cardiff, coals. Rocks; Morland, Backhish, Bristol, ballast; John, Beynon, Cardiff, coals. Cork; Prudent, Macklin, Portmouth, ballast; about eight o'clock at night, passed by a brig; blowing so hard could not overtake her.

3d.—Mary Ann, West, Cardiff, coals.

4th.—None.

Sailed.

Feb. 1st.—Auckland Packet, and pht back.

4th. Auckland, Camden, and Earl Leicester Packets; Nicholson, Adamson, Whitehaven—and Heart of Oak. Davis, Cardiff, Ballast; Dove, Thomas, Bristol, wheat and flour; Margaret, Mantaw, Southampton, oats and flour; Two Marys, Longquid, Bristol, provisions. &c.; Brothers, Griffin, Chichester, oats; Aurora, Wheeler, London—Prospers, Mitchell, Southampton—and Reliance, Beale, Chichester, provisions. &c.; Hope, Darling, Toole, wheat and flour; John, Flaherty, Liverpool, oats and flour; William and Thomas, Breen, and Frisco of Wales, County, Newhaven, oats. &c.; Liberty, Verrell—Industry, Holland—and Union, Williams, Portmouth, wheat and oats; Gulf of Paris, Knight, from Bristol, Cork, m. goods; Lord Collingwood, M'Eachin, from Liverpool, Limerick, white-salt, cathecuare, &c.; Morland, Backhish, from Bristol, Cork, and Jamaica, ballast; Success, Hamington, London, provisions, &c.; Brothers, Jenkins, Swansea, ballast.

5th.—None. Wind N. at 8 a. m.

MARRIED.—A few days ago, at Grannagh, in the County Kilkenny, Mr. Thomas Fogarty, of this City, to Miss Barron, daughter of the late Mr. James Barron, of Grannagh.

SMALL LOTTERY, RICH SCHEME!

TWO PRIZES OF £20,000! AND ONLY 4000 NUMBERS.

ARTHUR BIRNIE

BEGS leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that the *New State Lottery*, consisting of only 4000 Numbers, will be drawn the

18th DAY OF FEBRUARY, INSTANT.

TICKETS & SHARES.

In a variety of Numbers, are now for Sale at ARTHUR BIRNIE'S, LICENSED LOTTERY OFFICE, PATRIFORD.

TO BE SOLD.

A WELL-SECURED YEARLY PROFIT-RENT of £100, arising out of the lands of Ballymacart, in the County of Waterford, subject to an annuity of £25, during the life of a Person yet living. For further particulars apply to THOMAS SWAN, Attorney, at Youghal, during Vacation—and at No. 8, Great Ship-Street, Dublin, during Term.

Youghal, January 14, 1812.