



PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS—FRIDAY, MAY 13.

The House met at ten o'clock, and resolved itself into a Committee on the Orders in Council.—Mr. Riddout, of Birmingham, and Mr. Finlay, President of the Chamber of Commerce at Glasgow, were examined. Resumed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House went into a Committee on the Commissioners of Appeals and of Bogs in Ireland; in which a resolution was moved and agreed to, that the Commissioners of Appeals should be allowed £800 a year each for their services; and the Commissioners of Bogs £500 a year each.

Lord CASTLEREAGH moved, that the House do, on this subject, adjourn to Wednesday next.—Ordered.

MOVEMENT TO MR. PERCEVAL.

Lord CLIVE rose to make the motion of which he had given notice yesterday. All he had in view was, to commemorate the virtues of a worthy individual, who had fallen the victim of a most atrocious crime, and to place on the journals their abhorrence of the abominable act. He did not bring this forward as a supporter of Mr. Perceval's measures, but as his warm and admiring friend, zealously attached to him on account of his numerous private and public virtues; and he could assure the Hon. Gentleman opposite, with whom he had differed in political opinion, that if any of them, in coming into the House to do their public duty, had unfortunately met with the same fate, he would most cheerfully have given his vote for a similar mark of respect, merely by any of their friends to commemorate their public and private virtues. He concluded by moving an Address to the Prince Regent, praying that he would be graciously pleased to give directions that a monument be erected in the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, Westminster, to the memory of the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, late First Commissioner of the Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was assassinated within the walls of that House in coming to perform his public duty, as a mark of respect to his private and public virtues, and to record the horror and indignation entertained by that House of the atrocity of the crime.

Mr. LAMBE could see no reason for paying a tribute to the memory of Mr. Perceval, which had not been paid to Lord Godolphin, to Sir Robert Walpole, to Mr. Pelham, to Mr. Fox, or to Mr. Windham.

Mr. FULLER was sorry to see this motion proposed. He owned, that it was in his opinion unanimously, his feelings would be highly gratified, and he believed the feelings of the whole country would be in unison with his own.

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, he should give his vote for the motion, solely on the ground of its being a memorial of their abhorrence of the flagitious act that had been perpetrated, and a commemoration of those private and public virtues which those who had not strenuously opposed the political measures of his Right Hon. Friend, deceased, had expressed their highest sense of.

Mr. WHITEHEAD said, it was with infinite reluctance he found himself under the necessity of opposing this motion. He most readily acquiesced in the Noble Lord who brought it forward, and the Noble Lord who spoke last, of any intention to entrap his side of the House into any acknowledgment of Mr. Perceval's public services; but he found, the more he considered the matter, the more impossible it was for him to assent to it. They had recorded on the journals their abhorrence of the deed; and, although the intended monument might be durable, he hoped the journals of the House would be as much so. By this additional expense, no stronger record could, therefore, be made than had been made already. He was sorry he must be compelled to take the sense of the House.

Mr. CANNING, Sir G. WARRENDER, Mr. LOCKHART, and Sir C. BURRELL, said a few words in favour of the motion.

Mr. WYNNÉ thought it better, that no public monument or record should remain of such a crime; but that it should be blotted out as far as possible from the history of the country. He thought that no monuments should be erected to commemorate crimes, and that posterity should see no other monuments but what they could gaze at with pure and unmixed delight. In order to get rid of the question, he should move, that the other orders of the day be read.

After some observations from Lord MILTON, Lord DESART, Mr. WILBERFORCE, and Mr. ELLIOT, the House divided—Ayes 199—Noes 26—Majority for the Motion 173.

The House resolved itself into a Committee for the purpose of the recommitment of the resolution proposed by Mr. Sumner, viz. that Mrs. Perceval's annuity of £2000 should go to her son, on which there had been a difference of opinion.

Mr. HUNKINSON moved, as an Amendment to the Resolution, "that the Committee were of opinion, that the Prince Regent should be enabled to grant to the eldest son of Mr. Perceval the sum of £1000 per annum, from the day of his father's death, during the life-time of his mother, and that at her decease he should have the yearly sum of £2000."

This resolution was agreed to unanimously and without any observations; it being understood that whatever objections there might be to this grant,

would be referred until the bringing up of the Report on Wednesday next.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee on the Orders of Council, and proceeded to the examination of witnesses.—Adjourned.

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, RIGENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The humble and dutiful Address and Condolence of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS—We, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, humbly beg leave to approach your Royal Highness to offer our condolence, and to express our horror and detestation at the unexampled and atrocious act of assassination on the person of the Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, First Commissioner of His Majesty's Treasury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, within the walls of the Honourable House of Commons, on his way to the discharge of his important public duties.

And we trust that though the painful sensation will be long felt which has been excited by the event, yet that the national alarm may be speedily allayed, by the discovery that this horrible deed is unaccompanied with any system of sanguinary nature, instances of which have unfortunately occurred in other parts of this kingdom, but which bear a stamp unknown before to the manly and generous character of the English people.

We fervently hope and believe that the inextinguishable loyalty of the subjects of the United Empire will be exerted to prevent a repetition of so foul an atrocity.

We beg permission to assure your Royal Highness, on an event so melancholy and so much to be deplored, more particularly on account of the many public and private virtues of so distinguished a character, of your steady loyalty and unfeigned attachment to your Royal House and Person, and our resolution to support the Crown and dignity of these realms.

(Signed by order of the Court) HENRY WOODHURST, To which Address and Condolence his Royal Highness was pleased to return the following most gracious Answer:

I thank you for this dutiful Address. I deeply deplore the melancholy event that has deprived the country of a person most eminently distinguished for his public and private virtues.

I trust that the alarm which that event cannot but have excited, may be allayed by the belief, that it is unaccompanied with any system of sanguinary nature—a system hitherto certainly unknown to the manly and generous character of the English people.

Whilst I thank you for the warm assurances of your loyalty and attachment, I rely upon your resolution to support the Crown and dignity of these Kingdoms; and although I cannot but deeply regret the disturbances which have taken place in some parts of this Kingdom, I most confidently trust, that the loyal and zealous endeavours of the great body of His Majesty's people, co-operating with the exertions of those powers which are vested in me for their protection, will enable me effectually to secure their peace and happiness.

MARQUIS WELLESLEY, MOTIVES OF THE LATE RESIGNATION.

The following article is copied from The Morning Chronicle: "A Paper has been read (and indeed we have read it) which states, that the Noble Marquis felt it impossible for him to continue in office, because all his efforts for conducting the foreign department of our affairs with vigour and effect, were counteracted and nullified by the influence of Mr. Perceval in the Cabinet. The war in the Peninsula, particularly, was not maintained with that energy which gave a chance to the skill of our Commanders, and the gallantry of our troops, to make it successful.

"And here we may be allowed, by way of parenthesis, to state a fact not mentioned in the paper alluded to, but which has come to our knowledge;—that some time ago Lord Wellington stated, that with the aid of a sum of £100,000, the Spanish Government would have been able to raise and equip an army for the defence of Galicia, which would have set free, at an auspicious moment, the whole of the British and Portuguese forces, so as to enable him to advance to important offensive operations against the enemy—but Mr. Perceval declared, in the most peremptory manner, that the state of our resources would not enable him to apply any such extra sum to the war in the Peninsula. And yet he soon after, in compliance to the prevailing taste at headquarters, was quite ready to deride double the sum to the raising of extra barracks in the neighbourhood of London, Bristol, and Liverpool. Barracks certainly useless at this time, when there are so few troops in the country, and not very constitutional at any time.

"In every thing the Noble Marquis found himself crippled in the discharge of his functions, and in carrying into execution the measures which he considered to be the best calculated for the success of the great struggle in which we were involved.—And therefore, on the very day when Mr. Perceval proposed to bring in the Bill, for taking off the restrictions from the authority of the Admiralty, the Noble Lord laid his prayer before His Royal Highness, that he might be permitted to resign. And he made known this determination to Mr. Perceval in a letter, which that Right Hon. Gentleman answered in terms flattering to his Lordship. The Prince Regent earnestly beseeched the Noble Marquis to continue in place for a time at least (the obvious meaning of

which, we suppose, the Noble Lord could not take), and he accordingly assented to hold the seals; but it was with no little surprise that he learnt that Mr. Perceval had, without communicating the fact to him, and without consulting, indeed, to procure towards him the form of outward civility and confidence, made a postulated application to His Royal Highness to nominate a successor to Lord Wellesley; and had actually, at different times, procured to take his pleasure on the appointment of Earl Manners, of Lord Castlereagh, and of Lord Sidmouth, in his room. When the disagreeable proceeding came to the knowledge of the Noble Lord, he renewed his application to the Prince Regent to be permitted to resign. His Royal Highness at length said, that he should hear his determination through Lord Eldon, and two days after the seals were sent for.

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LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 13.

The King George packet, Captain King, arrived on Saturday at Harwich, with a mail from Holland; and yesterday morning, the Lady Nelson, Captain Living, the Benbow, Captain Norris, and the Lord Nelson, Captain Deane, each with a mail from Amboin. By some of the passengers in these packets, we are informed, that the Swedish ports are expected in a very few days to be open to English ships. A Messenger, with dispatches, came passenger in one of the above packets, and since their arrival, the Nimble, armed cutter, is arrived from the fleet in the Baltic with dispatches. The packets with the outward-bound Amboin and Holigoland mails remained yesterday at Harwich, detained by contrary winds.

EXECUTION OF BELLINGHAM.

This being the day appointed for carrying into effect the awful sentence of the law, on this atrocious criminal, the populace began to collect in considerable numbers in the front of Newgate this morning by half-past four o'clock, and before eight o'clock the area opposite the Debtors' door, at which the gallows was placed, the adjoining streets, windows, and even the roof of St. Sepulchre's church, were crowded with spectators. From the confined space, and the multitude assembled, serious apprehensions were entertained that, as on a former occasion, many lives would be lost; but, happily, such precautions had been taken by the Sheriffs to secure the safety of the populace, and to provide against accidents. Barriers, like turnpike-gates, were placed at proper intervals, and at places most liable to the occurrence of accidents, to resist the pressure, and contract the undulating motions of the crowd. No carts or carriages were suffered to pass, or to remain stationary, for the accommodation of those who chose to pay for getting up there, as heretofore; and a hand-bill, of which the enclosed is a copy, was posted in different places, and carried about on boards fastened to the end of poles, by constables, stationed in the area between a strong railing and the gallows:—

"Beware of entering the crowd! Remember thirty persons were crushed to death by the crowd when Haggerty and Hollwas were executed."

Bellingham, since his condemnation, has been fed upon bread and water; all means of suicide have been removed, and he had not been shaved. The Ordinary of Newgate, and two other Clergymen, visited him several times in the course of Saturday and yesterday. He appeared naturally depressed by his situation, but persisted in doing what he had done. There was no condensation of reason yesterday. The Ordinary attended at his cell between eight and nine. Bellingham seemed considerably dejected;—but on being spoken to on religious subjects, expressed himself in the same vague and incoherent manner as before—talked of the promises of the gospel—inquired the hour and place of execution—said, that life had been a weary pilgrimage to him—the bliss of heaven and the misery of earth were his constant theme. He conversed in this strain for a considerable time, and closed by hopes of a blessed immortality, and a resolute denial of any guilt in his crime!

The dejection which was apparent in the morning continued to deepen in the course of the day, and at ten o'clock he became pensive for his other offences, and begged the Ordinary not to mention the crime for which his life had been forfeited, as he had made up his mind as to that, and his determination was to die under a conviction that what he had done was in violation of his own engagements, which the country had refused to release. He passed the night comparatively awake this morning about 5 o'clock—six dressed, and washed himself, and was as usual taciturn and reserved. At half-past six he began to read several passages in the Liturgy, and some of the psalterial Psalms. At intervals he offered up devout ejaculations and extemporaneous prayers with great fervour, ease, and coherence;—such as, that Dr. Ford, the Ordinary, in the course of his attendance, was astonished, that a man who appeared so low in his mind, should be so hardened and impudent as to appear unconscious that

the deliberate murder of a fellow-creature was not a crime in the sight of both God and man. At seven o'clock the arrival of the Ordinary was announced to the Prisoner, who received the Reverend Gentleman in a room adjoining his cell, and showed him cordially by the hand. On being asked whether he was now prepared to make a confession of his guilt, he answered that he would be perfectly ready to do so; that he was prepared to meet his doom—his eyes were so that three times remained unaltered and unobscured, though he did feel contrition for his other offences, and was convinced that he could obtain forgiveness only through the merits of a crucified Saviour. The Ordinary, conceiving this sufficient to authorize him to administer the sacrament, which he did in a usual way on such occasions, the criminal received it, accompanied with becoming devotion, and apparently impressed with the importance of this holy institution. Having concluded this sacred rite, the Prisoner was informed, that the hour was now arrived when he must be conducted to the place of execution, and that the Sheriffs were in attendance to carry that painful part of his duty into instant effect. The criminal replied, "I am perfectly ready—I am anxious to die. I feel happy at the prospect of death—I shall be speedily removed from worldly concerns, and human persecutions; indeed, I feel as if I was in Heaven already." He was then conducted to the press-room to be detained of his fetters, which he did not appear to be troubled by, or weakened by anxiety and the prescribed regimen. Those who had been admitted by the Sheriffs (among whom were several Noblemen, and Gentlemen of rank) to witness the proceedings in the interior of the prison, followed them into the yard, a high wall enclosing it. The culprit, in crossing it to come to the gallows, which the lions are knocked off, viewed the spectators with perfect calmness, and looking up to the sky, observed, with the greatest nonchalant, "I think we shall not meet any more in this world, I sincerely hope we shall do so in the world to come."

My blessing to the boys, with kind remembrance to Mrs. Perceval, for whom I have the greatest affection, which, if propagated, might be productive of mischievous consequences. Bellingham was particularly interrogated by the Sheriff, to declare whether he felt contrition for the commission of the crime for which he was about to suffer, and whether he would acknowledge the justice of his sentence? The criminal's answer was, we understand, to the following effect:—"I thank God for granting me, on this trying occasion, fortitude to meet my fate with composure and cheerfulness—I feel no remorse whatever for the crime of which I have been convicted—I pity, from the bottom of my heart, Mrs. Perceval, whom I have been the instrument of making a desolate widow, and her numerous children, whom I have made fatherless. I regard them as I do my own family, whom I deplore, and this declaration I wish to be communicated to Mrs. Perceval and her afflicted family. As to the act imputed to me, my sentiments continue the same, and I trust it will prove an awful example and a salutary lesson to men in power, &c." The Ordinary again urged his request, concerning that, as the wretched culprit might now be considered as on the verge of eternity, he might make a confession of guilt, and do penitence; but he begged that he might not be any more importuned on that subject, as he had already declared, as he had already declared, was unalterable. Finding that as he had perpetrated the atrocious deed without a consciousness of sin or shame, and was firmly determined to die without remorse, he further attempts were made to induce the wretched wretch to swear from his purpose. There being no other preliminary ceremony to go through, the criminal was informed that he must now proceed to the fatal drop. He signified his assent by bowing his head, and was conducted by the executioners along the different passages to the Debtors' door, being released from his irons, he walked with a common agility, and pressed forward, as if he were first at the measured steps of the attendants.

The same apathy, hurry, and impatience, which had marked the conduct of the criminal in the interior of the prison, were observable in the exterior. Presided by the executioner, and followed by the Ordinary, the Sheriffs, &c. he stepped upon the scaffold precisely at 4 minutes before 10 o'clock; he cast his eyes on the multitude on the left, proceeded as with a hurried gait, and with as much indifference as an actor treats the stage, to the spot where he was to meet his doom. The executioner put a thin cord about his neck, and mounted the steps to fasten the rope to the beam. While he was thus employed, Dr. Ford, with great tenderness, united the criminal's neck-handkerchief, unbuttoned his shirt collar, and he begged the Ordinary not to mention the crime for which his life had been forfeited, as he had made up his mind as to that, and his determination was to die under a conviction that what he had done was in violation of his own engagements, which the country had refused to release. He passed the night comparatively awake this morning about 5 o'clock—six dressed, and washed himself, and was as usual taciturn and reserved. At half-past six he began to read several passages in the Liturgy, and some of the psalterial Psalms. At intervals he offered up devout ejaculations and extemporaneous prayers with great fervour, ease, and coherence;—such as, that Dr. Ford, the Ordinary, in the course of his attendance, was astonished, that a man who appeared so low in his mind, should be so hardened and impudent as to appear unconscious that

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