

security of the country. If the Parliament would give those enlarged powers to the Magistrates, he thought much good would accrue from it. These deluded and unfortunate men had, on all occasions, shown great respect to the judgment of Parliament, and he hoped they would now bow to that opinion as they had before done. It was the unanimous opinion of his Majesty's Ministers, that measures of the nature he had described were absolutely necessary; and having thus explained their nature, and the extent to which they were meant to go, he would not detain the House longer at present, but would read the motion which he intended to conclude. His Lordship then moved "That leave be given to bring in a Bill for the preservation of the public peace, and to enlarge the powers of the Magistrates in the disturbed counties."

Mr. WHITBREAD felt it his duty to declare, he was by no means satisfied with the present mode of proceeding. He had endeavoured in the Committee to procure the examination of witnesses, but he had been overruled, though he had in one instance seven out of seventeen, and in another nine out of 10, in favour of his proposal. The Noble Lord had stated to the House, that there was an army existing in the country not raised by the King, nor at all liable to his control. He called upon the Noble Lord to shew on what ground he had stated such an army to exist; he denied positively that such was the case; nay, so far from an army, he would undertake to say there was no evidence of there being a regiment—not a company—nay, not even half a company of such persons as the Noble Lord had so emphatically described. The real truth of the case was, that we had a very extensive manufacturing population, brought from want of employment into a state of the most deplorable distress, out of which dreadful state all those assemblies had arisen. The evidence before the Committee clearly and fully shewed, that these unhappy men had no leaders; that they had no settled plan, nor any means whatever of rallying round any standard against the Government of the King. Let the House coolly and dispassionately ask this simple question—Where did it originate? The answer was plain; Nottingham; and there, tho' it had been carried to a very great extent, it was now well known that the place was, at present, and had for some time been, perfectly quiet. It was equally well known, that this very Nottingham men have been brought in, according to the regular and established law of the land—that on those trials they have been convicted, and have expired, by their lives, their offences against the law. He directed to the burning of West Houghton Mill, and stated that the persons who had been guilty of that offence had been tried, convicted, and paid the forfeit of their lives. What occasion was there, therefore, for new laws? In the affair of D an Moor, there was a very large mob who assembled with their faces blacked, and among them were ten Local Militia men, who blacked their faces in a similar way, though sent there as spies, and to act as witnesses against those who might afterwards be taken up for thus assembling; and yet in this very meeting, the man who was the leader, and whose name was Hurst, had not his face blacked. One of these Local Militia men, in the effluence of his zeal, proposed, it seemed, that they should go and burn the work-house; to which one of the mob resolutely objected, and said, that by so doing they would burn many helpless and innocent persons; to which the other replied, no matter, so we carry on the grand mischief. Here were men employed as spies, abetting and inciting the multitude to more daring and desperate acts of violence; and for all these acts together, the House was applied to for the purpose of arming the Government with new laws, and to invest them with extraordinary powers hitherto unknown to the Constitution. The House would, he hoped, recollect that the Noble Lord had been intimately concerned in measures of a similar nature in Ireland.—They would not forget that Lord Camden was a Member of the present Administration, and that, during his rule in Ireland, such dreadful scenes were exhibited, as that the bare mention of them agitated and revolted the minds of Englishmen merely to contemplate in idea. He then condemned the system of searching for arms. There were many instances in which persons, by having arms, had courageously and effectively defended themselves and their property, and saved both from ruin and devastation; and yet, by the proposed system, you would deprive those of arms who would use them in their own defence, and in support of the laws. One reason for the distress occasioned by the Orders in Council; and now that the manufacturers were likely to be set to work, and that there was a prospect of a plentiful harvest, he saw no occasion for investing either Military or Magistrates with additional powers; though, had the Noble Lord confined his measure to the concurrent jurisdiction, he would not have opposed that. One thing was clear to him, viz. that we must expect these kind of things till we obtained a Peace. An Hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Huskisson) had shewn them, that unless our resources were better managed, we must be compelled to make Peace, and he (Mr. W.) was convinced Peace was the only remedy for all our grievances; and, however the declaration might be viewed, he felt it his duty to say, that in his opinion, there had never been a moment for making proposals for Peace more favourable than the present. Knowing there would be another occasion, he was unwilling to detain the House longer, and concluded by saying he should oppose bringing in the Bill.

Mr. WILBERFORCE, alluding to the observations of the Hon. Genl. who preceded him, on the subject of Peace, thought that, by suffering evils like the present to exist, without any adequate restraint, we should place the country in such a situation, that we should be unable to treat for Peace

on a proper and honourable footing, and to obtain such terms as would be consistent either with our security or our honour. It was impossible for him, connected as he was with that part of the country which was the scene of disturbance, to contemplate the necessity for the provisions now proposed to be introduced, without feelings of a most painful nature. In his opinion, his Majesty's Ministers had set about this business in a right spirit, and continued to be actuated by it. They appeared to him not to wish to outrun the absolute necessity of the case. In spite of the unpopularity which might attach to it, he would say, that if Government had asked for larger powers, not for the purpose of carrying them at once into execution, but for the sake of, as it were, feeling their way cautiously, he would have consented to bestow such powers on them. His Hon. Friend, (Mr. W.) had observed, that the powers already conferred on the Magistrates had not been executed.—It was easy for Members, sitting there at their ease, to talk of the way in which laws might be carried into execution.

He jets at scars, who never felt a wound. The Magistrates said they could obtain no information on oath against any individual, and therefore could not execute the laws as they stood. The measures of amputation and burning of houses in the disturbed counties were not for the purpose of giving evidence. His Hon. Friend had referred to the Irish rebellion, and said that it made him view the present measures with the greatest alarm. He had heard it stated by persons of veracity, well acquainted with the Irish rebellion, that they were astonished to observe so many particulars, exactly the same in the case before our eyes, and in that of Ireland.—[Hear, hear.]—It was certain that the strongest measures were recommended, but they did not originate in the fear of these wretched Magistrates, as they had been represented; they were asked for by persons of the coolest heads, and of the bravest hearts, but his Majesty's Ministers were unwilling to resort to them until they were indispensable.

With regard to the source of the disorders, it was a subject of great delicacy, but he could not avoid stating thus far. He could not agree that they proceed from an interruption to commerce, or a scarcity of provisions. He must state that the disease was, in his opinion, of a political nature.—Alas! Alas! He wished he could believe that the disorders were owing to any accidental or temporary causes.—[Hear, hear.]—The high price of provisions, and want of employment, undoubtedly increased the discontent; but this disease arose from causes of a more deep and general nature. It arose from the palaces taken, in certain mischievous publications, to alienate the affections of the people from the laws and Government of this country, and to stir them up to measures mischievous to the community, and ascribable to themselves. [Hear, hear.] But he would not enlarge on this subject; it was too gloomy to dwell on. Was it not known that letters were sent to individuals, threatening assassination and burning of houses, and that these threats were but too often carried into execution? Was he to be told that all this was trifling? No! No! It must be a great and serious cause indeed, which could show itself in such alarming effects—then grave, decent, and orderly persons could be so far misled, as, under the forms and ceremonies of religion, to bring themselves to contemplate the commission of the most horrible and atrocious crimes without remorse. [Hear, hear.] It showed a diseased state of mind, which seem to subsist all the ordinary moral feelings of our nature. No! they were certainly not going too far in entrusting the Government with such powers. As to the searching for arms, he did not expect much effect from it. The greatest good he anticipated dived from the power given the Magistrates of suddenly seizing persons assembled together, and subjecting them to a mild punishment, which might prevent the necessity of ever having recourse to a more severe one. There was nothing, in his opinion, in the measures, which could give the smallest reason to conclude, that they were actuated in any wise at present by passion.

Mr. WHITBREAD explained. Sir FRANCIS BURDETT always contemplated with jealousy every innovation on the old laws of the country, which, in the long run, would always be found the most beneficial. The Honourable Member who had sat down (Mr. Wilberforce) seemed prepared to say that Ministers seemed prepared to go any lengths that Ministers might demand, even the lengths that had been gone to in Ireland, if necessity should require it—that is, he was prepared to go the length of inflicting torture for the purpose of producing confession—for that was the system which was adopted in Ireland; a system of torture applied to produce confession by the Government of the country. He saw from the gestures of the Honourable Gentleman that he did not assent to the proposition as he now stated it; but he appealed to those Gentlemen who heard him, if what he said was not to that effect. [No, no.] The Honourable Member had said, he was prepared to go even farther lengths, if circumstances should require it; and he proceeded to make some observations on that subject, which he contended could receive no other construction. He hoped the Noble Lord was not entering on that bloody career which was run by the Government of Ireland. The Hon. Baronet proceeded to ridicule the idea of the appointment of a Secret Committee, to enquire into this business. What secret came before them which did not appear in all the newspapers? There was another subject to which he would allude, one of great importance, though not one in which many, perhaps, would occur with him. If attended to, indeed, it would go to remove many of the causes of our present discontents—he meant reform among themselves. He would not, however, dwell upon it now, as he intended before the present Session

closed to bring it at large before the House. With regard to the measure proposed to meet the occasion, he should abstain from saying any more till the Bill was brought in and the scope of it more generally understood. He was of opinion, that the laws, as they at present stood, were sufficient, if they were rigorously enforced, which he could not think they would be.

Mr. CANNING, as a Member of the Committee, whose Report was on the table, was of opinion, that the measure proposed by the Noble Lord was as well calculated to meet the case before the House, as any that could possibly be devised. If his mind had any bias, it would lean rather to the granting a great extent of power, than to the abridging that which was called for. Not, as founded on the Report—but as connected with other circumstances, which, though he believed them, had not sufficient evidence attached to them, to authorize their being brought into the Report. But, on the face of the Report, such facts were stated as left no alternative but to call on the Legislature to provide for the safety of the country during the recess. The Honourable Gentleman then replied to the objections offered to the measure by Mr. Whitbread and Sir F. Burdett. Although the evidence did not bear out the exact form of words made use of by the Noble Lord, when he spoke of "an army," still it could not be denied that an armed force existed.—That men were drilled, and that arms were stolen, was proved—and though these circumstances might take place at the extremities of a county, it would be going too far to suppose, that the men who were drilled, and the arms which were stolen, were near to meet.—The measure, he thought, was completely justified, although he was not of opinion that the mischief had its root in political designs.

Lord CASTLEREAGH contended that the evidence which was required in the Committee had not been produced, because it was the general opinion that if produced it would not have materially affected the general result of the enquiry. With regard to the objections of an Hon. Member under the gallery, that the Act for searching for arms would not be effectual, because not prompt enough, he must say, that all idea of taking them by surprise, or by any general and immediate exertion, was out of the question. Such a mode of proceeding would be most offensive, and most irritating. In Ireland, however, the effect of a similar measure had been, that Government obtained the possession of 100,000 arms, not by surprise, but by its gradual operation. With respect to the plans that were pursued in Ireland, he wished to say a few words, and especially upon the detestable imputation that torture was sanctioned or authorized by Government. He could assure the House, that as far as he knew, there was no instance of torture being inflicted with the authority or knowledge of Government. It was true, that, during those dreadful times, in the absence of all law, martial law was proclaimed, a measure which had received the sanction of the United Parliament after the Union. By that law the military had power to inflict the same punishment upon the rebels as was inflicted upon soldiers for offences; and the Hon. Baronet would not doubt that torture; but he denied that even that punishment was ever inflicted for the purpose of extorting evidence, with the knowledge or permission of Government. He did not say it was not done; but he affirmed most solemnly it was never done with the sanction of Government. He would now allude to a libel against himself which had been published by a person now in confinement for it. He was there charged with the legal murder of a person named Orr, in the year 1797; but it did so happen, that he was not in office till seven months after that transaction took place, and which he thought was a very good *dubbi*. But though not in office, he begged to be understood that he was perfectly prepared to defend every measure of Lord Camden's Government. The person he alluded to went to Ireland and got affidavits, two of which were suffered to be read by the Court. One of them charged him with an arbitrary act in transporting a man for seven years—but he was transported under the sentence of a Court Martial. Another affidavit stated, that he (Lord Castlereagh) had been present at the infliction of corporal punishment on a rebel; in point of fact, however, he had never witnessed such a scene in his life, not even by accident. With persons, however, who had never been in Ireland, he did not hope to make his peace; their hostility, indeed, was the best proof that he had done his duty. Any one who knew him, however, knew that it was foreign to the feelings of his heart to lend his counsel or aid to any measures that might seem harsh and cruel, except when he was conscientiously convinced that such measures were necessary for the safety and tranquillity of the country.

Colonel SHIPLEY stated, that the torture was inflicted in Ireland; that he himself had seen it so inflicted, by order of the High Sheriff for the county Tipperary. He had there seen a man dragged in the market-place, more severely than he had ever seen a soldier dragged, and without any Court-Martial. During the rebellion, he had witnessed such scenes every day; men were tied up and dragged to make them give evidence. He did not say that it was with the knowledge of Government, he spoke only of facts.

Lord CASTLEREAGH admitted the case of the Sheriff of Tipperary; but said that he had been, in consequence, convicted upon two actions, and fined in both.

Mr. TIGHE supported the measures intended to be adopted; but objected to several of the statements of the Noble Lord with respect to Ireland.—He was just entering the doors of the House, when he heard him say, that Government had obtained possession of 100,000 arms, from which an English-

man might suppose a hundred thousand stand of arms was meant. It was no such thing, however. Those arms were all pikes, and they were merely pikes of parade and show, and made up for the surrender to the emissaries of Government, when they came in search of them. [A laugh.] As a proof, he would state, that not twenty-four hours after those 100,000 arms were lodged in Dublin Castle, the rebellion broke out, and every rebel had a pike in his hands.

Mr. HUTCHINSON regretted that the Noble Lord, whose caution in debate was usually such as to prevent him from laying himself open, had, on that occasion, uttered things which would almost call upon those to speak in that House who never spoke before, and who, he was sorry to add, must reply to him by an unqualified contradiction of what he had asserted. The Hon. Gentleman observed, that he had listened with considerable distrust and apprehension to the first notice which was given respecting the introduction of new measures, the object of which might, indeed, be defeated, but the consequences of which, he feared, might be of a very ambiguous nature. When, however, he heard the Noble Lord talk of the possible necessity of assembling Parliament for the purpose of adopting yet stronger measures, and, in addition to this, heard him deny the existence of torture in Ireland, during the unfortunate period of the rebellion, his alarm was not a little increased. To the fact of the practice of torture having prevailed, particularly in and near Dublin, at that time, he could pledge himself. It had been asserted that they were not authorized or approved by the Government; he could, however, state from his own personal knowledge, that atrocities, the most cruel, had been perpetrated in the very seat of the Government, under its eye, and within its hearing.—[Hear, hear, hear.] He had seen the victim of these outrages paraded through the city, and exposed, for the purpose of adding indignity to torture, to the gaze of the metropolis. He wished, therefore, that those Honourable Members who were ignorant of what had taken place in Ireland, should be on their guard before they committed the liberties of this country to the discretion or the mercies of that Noble Lord. He had himself, at a time when he was in a Yeomanry Corps, on one occasion interfered to dissuade the Captain of the Guard from suffering the infliction of the torture in the presence of the troops. He had seen persons who had suffered, afterwards brought into the Castle-yard, and exhibited, covered with blood, in the straw. It was melancholy to recall such recollections, and he wished they could be buried in oblivion. When that rebellion broke out, although no man had been more hostile to the Government than himself, he cheerfully lent his support and exposed his person in its defence. It was his belief that Lord Camden had disapproved of the proceedings of that day. He deemed it necessary to make these observations after what had been indirectly introduced into the debate. Upon the subject immediately before the House, enough had certainly been proved to call the attention of Parliament, not, however, to enact new laws, but to give full operation to those in existence. [Hear, hear.] He viewed with jealousy any power of entering private houses, and the indolent license, so far as it regarded the female members of families, that was too often exercised in Ireland, strengthened his objections to any authority of this kind. After all, every evil under which the country was now labouring might be traced to that fatal system of policy which had been maintained for the last 20 years. To alter that system, and recur to radically sound principles of government, was, in his estimation, the best means of allaying the discords, by removing or alleviating the distresses of the People. [Hear, hear.]

Mr. W. SMITH approved of the object of the Bill, but must at the same time express his belief in the statements made relative to the practice of torture in Ireland, and he took therefore this opportunity of saying, that no condition of things in this country, which he could imagine, could ever justify the adoption of similar proceedings.

Lord CASTLEREAGH again declared, that the Government of Ireland had never lent their sanction and authority to the practices alluded to.

Mr. CROKER rose to make a few observations on one of the statements made by an Hon. Gentleman (Hutchinson) on the other side of the House. He had said, that he himself had seen two dead bodies exhibited in straw in the Castle-yard. He (Mr. Croker), being then on guard as a private volunteer, had seen the bodies brought in. They were the bodies of two men who had fallen in action with the King's troops, leaders of the rebel party, and the purpose of exposing them was, that they might be recognised, and their names ascertained. [Hear, hear.] Having stated this from his own personal knowledge, it was possible that others might be enabled to contradict the other statements of the Hon. Gentleman.

Mr. MARTIN (of Galway) declared his conviction, that neither the Lord Lieutenant of that day, nor any of his confidants, gave their countenance to atrocities, which, however, were certainly committed to the full extent that had been stated.

Mr. HUTCHINSON explained. He had said nothing but what he knew to be fact; and the Hon. Gentleman opposite (Mr. Croker) had better take care how he ventured to deny any assertion of his.—[Cries of Order, order.]

Mr. RYDER vehemently condemned the language of the last speaker, as altogether unusual and unwarranted by the practices and decorum of the House. He trusted that neither his Hon. Friend behind him, nor his Noble Friend by his side, were to be intimidated by the menacing expressions of that Hon. Gentleman. [Hear, hear.] With respect to the incidental discussion which had taken

place, he should not regret it, if it had the effect of rousing the people the inevitable blessings of tranquillity. Dreadful as had been the scenes in Tipperary, this country had often witnessed atrocities equally revolting. An Hon. Baronet (Sir Francis Burdett), distinguished for his contempt of all constituted authorities, had mentioned the case of a woman who had been banged at Lancaster for stealing potatoes. The facts of the case he begged leave to state.—A farmer, who had brought his potatoes to market, on finding the shops shut, returned, and was followed by the mob. The woman in question gained possession of his cart, and sold the whole of the potatoes at her own price to the multitude. This was the offence, and it was too characteristic of the disorders and turbulence which prevailed.—He was fully convinced that revolutionary principles were at the bottom of these disturbances, and that the temporary distress that was felt was only the pretext.

Mr. HUTCHINSON explained, that he had not meant any disrespect either to the Hon. Gentleman or to the House. He persisted in the truth of his former statement, and certainly disapproved of the last expression of the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Croker), in which he seemed to express his confidence that all his (Mr. Hutchinson's) statements might easily be disproved.

Mr. ROBINSON observed, that his Hon. Friend had not contradicted the Hon. Gentleman, but had merely explained his own statement.

Mr. FULLER said.—Sir, I rise upon a point of order.—The Gentleman speaks of a dead body wallowing in its blood.—What, after the circulation of the virus is stopped—pooh, ridiculous!—[Hear, hear.]

The Bill was then brought up and read a first time, when Mr. WHITBREAD gave notice that he should divide the House on the second reading.

Lord CASTLEREAGH obtained leave to bring in a Bill to repeal certain Acts, and to amend others, respecting the religious worship of Protestant Dissenters. He stated that, in consequence of certain objections at the Quarter Sessions, doubts had arisen as to the question of qualifications. The object of the intended Bill was to place the Dissenters in the situation in which they practically stood previous to such objections.

Mr. W. M. SMITH expressed his satisfaction at the introduction of such a measure, though it did not go the length to which he could wish it to extend.

The Bill was then brought in, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday, 14th. Friday, three o'clock.—The old story: Davis, 41, Hunt 2.

Lord CASTLEREAGH gave notice, that he would on Monday move for leave to bring in a Bill raking the offence of aiding French Privateers a felony.

The other Orders of the Day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned till Monday.

On the 9th, a numerous Meeting of the persons denouncing themselves "Friends of the Liberty of the Press, and Freedom of Discussion," was held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, to celebrate the liberation of Mr. Cobbett—Sir F. Burdett in the Chair; when near 600 persons sat down to dinner. As soon as the cloth was removed, the Chairman gave.—The Prince Regent may be called to mind the declaration of the Prince of Wales, that the Crown is held in trust for the benefit of the People. This toast was drunk without any of the usual demonstrations of applause.

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The next toast was—"Our sincere Congratulations on the release of that able Advocate of Parliamentary Reform, and zealous Opposer of the Flogging System, William Cobbett."

This called up Mr. Cobbett, who observed, that he should not have felt it necessary to have trespassed longer on this occasion than merely to return them his thanks, had it not been for a letter which appeared in *The Times* of that morning, charging him with inconsistency, and adding extracts of opinions, stated by himself, in *The Porcupine* and *Political Register*, condemning the conduct of Sir F. Burdett, whose case he now espoused. He was ready to acknowledge he had, at one time, disapproved of the conduct of the worthy Baronet, but ten years' experience had shown him that he was wrong; and he was not in any degree ashamed of acknowledging his error.—[Applause.]

On the health of the Chairman being given, Sir F. Burdett returned thanks.

Several other Gentlemen delivered their sentiments, about nine the Chairman quitted the Chair, and soon after the Meeting broke up.

The Edinburgh Papers contain a long account of a landing effected by a flying British squadron at La Coruña, near Matanzas, in which the English are said to have been beaten off with considerable loss. We have no doubt but this will turn out to have been a most dashy and successful enterprise on the part of the British, when we receive our own accounts. The foreign papers do not mention the names of any of the ships or officers employed.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19.—The King chose and ordered his own dinner to-day, and partook of it very heartily soon after one o'clock. He continues in the same state he was in previous to his late attack.

COCKE, the Actor, is arrived in town from his dramatic excursion in America, and yesterday he appeared at a concert in the Covent-Garden Buildings, under his steady friend, Field-marshal Harris.

The Captain of an American vessel, arrived at Liverpool, states that in lat. 40. N. long. 54. W. he fell in with the *Margate*, French privateer, who informed him that they had captured 5 sail of English and Indianmen.

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BRISTOL ELECTION, JULY 10.

THURSDAY EVENING.—Our contest, if contest it can be called, begins every hour more and more "hot, steady, and unprofitable." The Election for a Sergeant to the Infirmary, in the room of the late Mr. J. P. Noble, has thrown the Candidates for a seat in the great Council of the Nation entirely into the background, and made them a mere "Little-Go." In the first instance 812 persons voted in a few hours, whilst the latter amount polled 6. In this manner we keep moving, in spite of the reiterated hints of Mr. Arthur Palmer, "that the Sheriffs are very anxious to get on with the Poll." Whenever Mr. P. ventures to cast a significant eye up to Mr. Hunt, as much as to say, "Tis at you I am talking," Hunt smiles, and replies, "get on as fast as you please, but do not hurry me."—There is a Fabius for you! You cannot conceive any thing much more ridiculous than the scene in Court. Imagine to yourself the *big wig* of this Court (as Cobbett calls it) sitting at each other from nine in the morning until four in the evening, compelled to take a part, day after day, with grave faces, in this most miserable farce; and exposed to the uproar and jokes of a dirty rabble. I will give you one specimen of our wit, and *ex uno disce omnes*: When a Blue presents himself at the bar, Mr. Sheriff Buckley demands—"for whom do you vote?" and at the same moment one of the mob demands—"You, Sir; who kissed the kitchen girl, and cut up all the tallow?" The answer to both questions of course is, "Mr. Richard Hill Davis!" To render this the more piquant, that Gentlemen, as in duty bound, takes hold of a three-cornered chap, rises, bows, and says—"Sir, I am very much obliged to you."

Hunt's party the other day actually spoiled the *Cap of Liberty* upon a stake, *à la Franciscan*, style, and that within a few feet of very bench upon which lately was seated the terrible Sir Vicary Gibbs, our Recorder! It was, however, torn from the banner, when he afterwards passed along the street, and was carried off in triumph.

Mr. Hunt harangues his myrmidons, as usual, from one of the brass pedestals opposite the Exchange; and yesterday, when during his speech his antagonist passed in his carriage, he first directed the attention of the mob to him with his finger, then turned round, and lifting up the flaps of his coat, he said—"..... *scelerata desunt*, not being decent!"

General State of the Poll on Thursday evening.—Davis, 1685; Hunt, 208.—Majority for Davis, 1477. Friday, three o'clock.—The old story: Davis, 41, Hunt 2.

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General State of the Poll on Thursday evening.—Davis, 1685; Hunt, 208.—Majority for Davis, 1477. Friday, three o'clock.—The old story: Davis, 41, Hunt 2.

On the 9th, a numerous Meeting of the persons denouncing themselves "Friends of the Liberty of the Press, and Freedom of Discussion," was held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, to celebrate the liberation of Mr. Cobbett—Sir F. Burdett in the Chair; when near 600 persons sat down to dinner. As soon as the cloth was removed, the Chairman gave.—The Prince Regent may be called to mind the declaration of the Prince of Wales, that the Crown is held in trust for the benefit of the People. This toast was drunk without any of the usual demonstrations of applause.

The next toast was—"Our sincere Congratulations on the release of that able Advocate of Parliamentary Reform, and zealous Opposer of the Flogging System, William Cobbett."

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